



## Third Action Plan 2016-2019

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### Third Action Plan – Women with disability

A recent survey found that twenty-two per cent of women and girls with disability had been affected by violence and women with disability were at particularly high risk of sexual violence.<sup>1</sup> Women with disability are also more likely to experience multiple incidents of violence by a male perpetrator.<sup>2</sup>

Many women with disability find it difficult to access appropriate support services and payments. This can discourage them from leaving a violent relationship.

In addition, many service providers do not recognise the forms of violence experienced by women with disability or respond appropriately to their needs.

Through the First and Second Actions Plans, a range of research, training and primary prevention initiatives were developed. Under the Third Action Plan, governments will build on these initiatives to improve the services provided to women with disability experiencing domestic and family violence.

#### Key national actions

- Supporting the development of integrated, responsive and more accessible services for women with disability.
- 1800RESPECT exploring how technology can be harnessed to provide safe and relevant services for women with disability.
- Enhancing free, accredited nationally available domestic violence training with the development and roll out of accredited training specifically for the disability sector.
- Building a strong evidence base on the types of violence experienced by women with disability to inform future responses. This includes improving understanding of the settings where violence takes place and who the perpetrators are.
- Working with women with disability and disability sector stakeholders to explore opportunities for collaboration and identify policy priorities.

#### More information

For more information on the priority areas or the Third Action Plan, visit the [National Plan website](#).

<sup>1</sup> University of New South Wales, 2013, Stop the Violence: Addressing Violence Against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Australia, Sydney.

<sup>2</sup> Cox, Peta. ANROWS. Violence against women in Australia: Additional analysis of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Personal Safety Survey, 2012: *Key findings and future directions*, 2015.