



Take action for an equal and respectful Gippsland for all women.

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Advance

GENDER EQUALITY

02

Commit to

WOMEN'S SEXUAL HEALTH &
REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE

**Our Priorities
for Government
Action for
Regional, Rural
and Remote
Gippsland
Women.**

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Prevent

ALL VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN

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Deliver on

FAMILY VIOLENCE
ACTION PLAN

Rural and Remote Women

Women in rural and remote areas of Australia experience different health and wellbeing outcomes than those living in urban areas due to lack of access to health services, shortages of health professionals and infrastructure. Rural women experience financial insecurity, social isolation, complex barriers to equal participation and are greatly impacted by climate change.



CREATING GENDER EQUALITY

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING IS SHAPED BY GENDER INEQUALITY.

Unequal distribution of power and resources, discrimination, harmful gender norms and practices result in negative health outcomes for women and drives violence against women. Gippsland gender equity indicators are poor.

To achieve this we need:

- Commitment to a National Gender Equality Strategy that addresses women's economic security, the gender pay gap, superannuation equity and leadership opportunities.
- Commitment to an Australian Women's Health Network with a strong rural and remote lens.

WOMEN'S SEXUAL HEALTH & REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE

ACCESS TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT FOR EVERY WOMAN IN AUSTRALIA, HOWEVER THIS IS NOT A REALITY.

Women cannot access the services they require and this is amplified in regional and rural areas. Supporting women's reproductive choice is essential for women's health and gender equality.

To change this we want:

- A National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and funding to support its implementation to ensure women can access services close to where they live.
- Comprehensive relationship and sexuality education, as part of the national curriculum.

PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN IS PREVALENT AND IT IS PREVENTABLE.

Whole of population culture change initiatives focusing on the drivers of violence against women are essential, addressing rigid gender stereotypes, inequality, disrespect and discrimination.

To overcome this we need:

- Secure, weighted funding to expand regional prevention strategies.
- To invest in research to identify effective primary prevention initiatives specifically for rural and remote communities.
- Investment and recurrent funding models that reflect the nature and needs of rural and remote communities.

ENDING FAMILY VIOLENCE

FAMILY VIOLENCE COSTS THE AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY APPROX. \$22 BILLION A YEAR.

Reported incidences of family violence has increased by 6% in the last 12 months. Gippsland has significantly higher rates of family violence than the state average.

To fix this we need:

- Strong commitment to the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022.
- To address funding challenges for rural and remote services so women can receive fair and equitable support.
- Funding for rural and remote trauma and recovery services for women and children who have experienced family violence.