

NSW Women's Advisory Council – 1 June 2026 – Communique

Attendance and Apologies:

Members who attended the meeting included:

- Associate Professor Jill Duncan OAM
- Ms Janine Farah
- Ms Karen Price
- Ms Tara Hunter
- Ms Mariam Mourad
- Ms Belinda Cashman PSM
- Professor Elizabeth Hill
- Ms Elise Coppins
- Ms Julie Perkins
- Ms Violet Roumeliotis AM
- Dr Marlene Krasovitsky
- Ms Georgia Shakeshaft
- Ms Gill White (Deputy Secretary, Social Policy and National Reform, TCO) – ex-officio
- Ms Tanya Smyth (Director, Women NSW) – ex-officio

Other attendees included:

- Emilie Priday – Principal Consultant, Emilie Priday Consulting
- Dr Astrid Perry OAM – Head of Women, Equity and Domestic and Family Violence, SSI
- Juliana Nkrumah – A/Head of Gender Equity, SSI
- Anne Campbell – Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
- Siobhan Brahe – Manager, DFSV Primary Prevention, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
- Nick Purdie – Senior Policy and Project Officer, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Gemma Worboys – Associate Director, Women NSW
- Ms Rosie Castle – Senior Associate, Women NSW
- Ms Kirsty Jagger – Senior Associate, Women NSW
- Mr Lucian Lax – Acting Associate, Women NSW
- Ms Emelie Houston – Policy Advisor, Office of the Hon. Jodie Harrison MP

Chair's Update:

The Chair updated the Council on recent activities, including attendance at the NSW Women of the Year Awards in Women's Week, and a meeting with the Minister for Women's office.

Minister's Portfolio Update:

The Minister for Women updated the Council on her recent work and priorities including those within the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Portfolio and Seniors Portfolio. The Minister also discussed events she attended as part of International Women's Day and Women's Week.

Member Updates:

Council members shared key updates from their work and networks since the 9 February meeting.

Strategy consultation session:

Members participated in a consultation to inform the development of a new strategy with the NSW Women's Strategy 2023-2026 ending this year.

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women – learnings and reflections:

Member Violet Roumeliotis, along with her colleagues Dr Astrid Perry OAM and Juliana Nkrumah, presented on their experiences at this year's United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). They discussed CSW in both a historical context and in relation to the 2026 program, with a focus on factors that impacted access to this year's meeting. Panel members also spoke to lessons that can be taken from CSW about the relationship between global and the local, especially in the Australian context.

Member-led presentation – Georgia Shakeshaft:

Member Georgia Shakeshaft presented on her work on gender and climate. Drawing on the Belém Gender Action Plan, Ms Shakeshaft spoke to how environmental and climate issues exacerbate existing issues on vulnerable women, especially those with intersectional identities. She explored current policy gaps in this space, and discussed opportunities to strengthen gender and climate responsive policy.

GEAP Presentation – Department of Communities and Justice:

Anne Campbell, executive sponsor of the Department of Communities and Justice's (DCJ) Gender Equality Action Plan, presented on the Plan, along with its coordinators Siobhan Brahe and Nick Purdie. The DCJ speakers spoke to the development of their Plan, and the intersectional approach to implementation they are taking to address uneven workforce experiences for all genders; as well as the internal gender lens analysis they are undertaking in select areas of program design and service delivery.

End of Communiqué