

2026

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

(As presented)

(Minister for the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence)

Domestic Violence Agencies Amendment Bill 2026

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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
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(As presented)

(Minister for the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence)

Domestic Violence Agencies Amendment Bill 2026

A Bill for

An Act to amend the *Domestic Violence Agencies Act 1986*, and for other purposes

The Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory enacts as follows:

1 Name of Act

This Act is the *Domestic Violence Agencies Amendment Act 2026*.

2 Commencement

(1) This Act (other than the provisions mentioned in subsection (2)) commences on the later of—

(a) the day after this Act's notification day; and

(b) the commencement of the *Domestic Violence Agencies (Information Sharing) Amendment Act 2024*, section 3.

Note The naming and commencement provisions automatically commence on the notification day (see [Legislation Act](#), s 75 (1)).

(2) The following provisions commence on a day fixed by the Minister by written notice:

- section 4
- section 28
- section 30
- schedule 1.

Note 1 A single day or time may be fixed, or different days or times may be fixed, for the commencement of different provisions (see [Legislation Act](#), s 77 (1)).

Note 2 If a provision has not commenced within 6 months beginning on the notification day, it automatically commences on the first day after that period (see [Legislation Act](#), s 79).

3 Legislation amended

This Act amends the *Domestic Violence Agencies Act 1986* and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1.

1	4	Part 2
2		<i>omit</i>
3	5	Meaning of <i>information sharing entity</i>—pt 3
4		Section 14 (1), definition of <i>information sharing entity</i>,
5		paragraph (b)
6		<i>substitute</i>
7		(b) any of the following under the <i>Education Act 2004</i> :
8		(i) a government school;
9		(ii) a school-related institution;
10		(iii) a non-government school;
11	6	Section 15 heading
12		<i>substitute</i>
13	15	Information sharing purposes
14	7	Section 15
15		<i>omit</i>
16		to the extent necessary for
17	8	Section 15 (a)
18		<i>before</i>
19		any of the following purposes
20		<i>insert</i>
21		to the extent necessary for

1	9	Section 15 (b)
2		<i>substitute</i>
3		(b) in accordance with division 3.5 (Disclosure and use of
4		information for secondary purposes etc).
5	10	Requirements for information sharing
6		Section 16 (2) (a) (i) and (ii)
7		<i>substitute</i>
8		(i) cultural identity; and
9		(ii) gender identity and sexuality; and
10		(iii) religious or spiritual beliefs (if known); and
11	11	Section 16 (2) (b) (i)
12		<i>omit</i>
13		cultural sensitivities
14		<i>substitute</i>
15		other cultural rights
16	12	Section 16AG heading
17		<i>substitute</i>
18	16AG	Functions and independence of information sharing
19		coordinator
20	13	New section 16AG (2)
21		<i>insert</i>
22		(2) The information sharing coordinator is not subject to direction from
23		anyone in relation to the exercise of the coordinator's functions.

1	14	Division 3.5 heading
2		<i>substitute</i>
3	Division 3.5	Disclosure and use of information for
4		secondary purposes etc
5	15	Section 16AI heading
6		<i>substitute</i>
7	16AI	Disclosure and use of information for secondary
8		purposes etc
9	16	Section 16AI (1)
10		<i>substitute</i>
11	(1)	An information sharing entity may disclose or use information
12		disclosed to it under this part—
13	(a)	for 1 or more secondary purposes; or
14	(b)	with the consent of the at-risk person or connected person to
15		whom the information relates.
16	(1A)	For subsection (1) (a), each of the following is a secondary purpose :
17	(a)	to comply with a mandatory reporting requirement under the
18		<i>Children and Young People Act 2008</i> , section 356;
19	(b)	to comply with a reportable conduct requirement under the
20		<i>Ombudsman Act 1989</i> , division 2.2A;
21	(c)	in accordance with the <i>Health Records (Privacy and Access)</i>
22		<i>Act 1997</i> , schedule 1, principle 9 (1) (b) or principle 10 (2) (d);
23	(d)	in accordance with the <i>Information Privacy Act 2014</i> ,
24		schedule 1, TPP 6.2 (c) if a permitted general situation
25		mentioned in that <i>Act</i> , section 19 (1) (a) exists;

- 1 (e) in accordance with another territory law if the disclosure or use
2 is to lessen or prevent a serious and urgent threat to the life,
3 health or safety of an individual, or to public health or safety;
- 4 (f) in accordance with another territory law prescribed by
5 regulation if the disclosure or use promotes the objects of
6 this Act.
- 7 (1B) A disclosure of information under this division may be made to
8 another entity, whether or not the other entity is an information
9 sharing entity.

10 **17 Section 16AI (2), new note**

11 *before note 1, insert*

12 *Note 1A* See also s 15 (b) (Information sharing purposes) and s 16AS (Certain
13 people to be told about disclosure and use for secondary purposes etc).

14 **18 New section 16AI (3)**

15 *after the notes, insert*

- 16 (3) In this section:
17 *TPP*—see the [Information Privacy Act 2014](#), section 13.

18 **19 Certain people to be told about disclosure for protection**
19 **purpose**
20 **Section 16AQ (2)**

21 *substitute*

- 22 (2) The information sharing entity must keep the at-risk person or
23 connected person informed about disclosures made under this part.

24 **20 Section 16AQ (3) (a)**

25 *omit*

26 , in writing,

1	21	Section 16AS heading
2		<i>substitute</i>
3	16AS	Certain people to be told about disclosure and use for
4		secondary purposes etc
5	22	Section 16AS (1)
6		<i>omit</i>
7		for a purpose other than a protection purpose under section 16AI
8		<i>substitute</i>
9		under division 3.5 (Disclosure and use of information for secondary
10		purposes etc)
11	23	Section 16AS (2), except note
12		<i>substitute</i>
13	(2)	The information sharing entity must tell the at-risk person or
14		connected person about the disclosure or use.
15	24	Section 16AS (3) (b)
16		<i>omit</i>
17		, in writing,
18	25	New section 16AWA
19		<i>insert</i>
20	16AWA	Delegation by chief police officer
21		The chief police officer may delegate a function under this part to a
22		police officer.
23	<i>Note</i>	For laws about delegations, see the Legislation Act , pt 19.4.

26 **Disclosure and use of shared information**
Section 16AX (3) (b)

omit

domestic and

27 **New section 16AXA**

insert

16AXA **Disclosure of information—courts**

(1) This section applies to an information sharing entity required under a disclosure requirement to give information or produce a document that the entity holds only because it was disclosed to the entity by another information sharing entity (the *disclosing entity*) under this part.

(2) The information or document is taken not to be in the possession, custody or control of the information sharing entity for the purpose of meeting the disclosure requirement.

(3) However, if the disclosing entity consents, in writing, the information sharing entity may give the information or produce the document.

(4) This section does not affect any requirement to give information or produce a document that an information sharing entity holds otherwise than because it was disclosed to the entity under this part.

(5) In this section:

disclosure requirement, to give information or produce a document, has the meaning given by the *Evidence Act 2011*, section 131A (2).

document includes part of a document.

1 **28 Dictionary, definition of *council***

2 *omit*

3 **29 Dictionary, definition of *family violence***

4 *omit*

5 **30 Dictionary, definition of *member***

6 *omit*

1	Schedule 1	Territory Records
2		Regulation 2009—
3		Consequential amendment
4	(see s 3)	
5	[1.1]	Schedule 1, item 7
6		<i>omit</i>

Endnotes

- 1 Presentation speech**
Presentation speech made in the Legislative Assembly on 24 September 2026.
 - 2 Notification**
Notified under the [Legislation Act](#) on 2026.
 - 3 Republications of amended laws**
For the latest republication of amended laws, see www.legislation.act.gov.au.
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