



# **National Housing Conference 2017**

## **Leading practice in domestic and family violence prevention**

**Debbie Georgopoulos – CEO  
Women's Housing Company**

# Leading Practice in Domestic and Family Violence Prevention

“Family violence is an entrenched epidemic that we’ve lived with since time began, so we’ve got a long way to go. But I do believe the tide is turned. It’s no longer a subject that only occurs behind closed doors”.

*Rosie Batty after receiving her Australian of the Year award on 25 January 2015*

# Incidence of Domestic and Family Violence

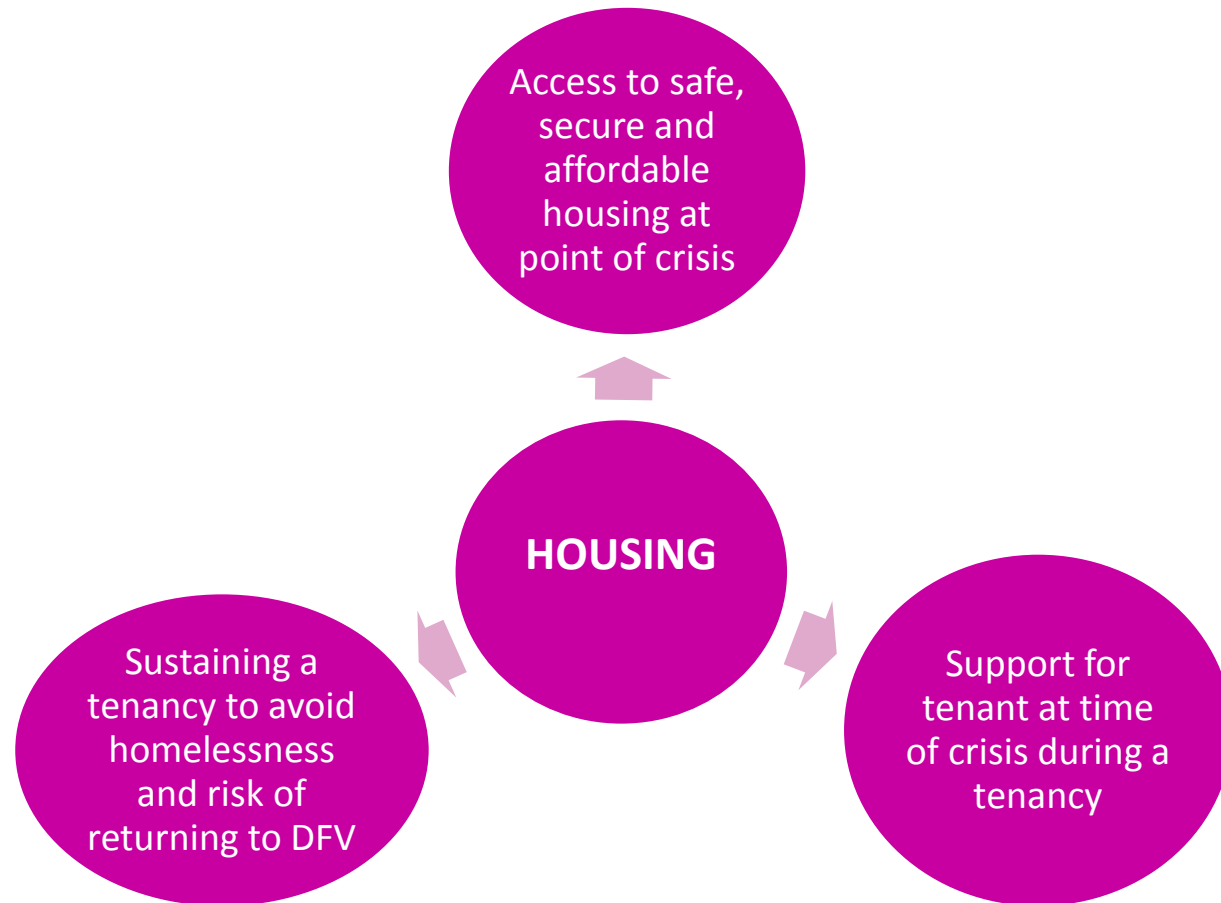
In Australia

One in six women experiences violence at the hand of someone they know

On average, one woman is killed every week by an intimate partner

One in four children has been exposed to domestic violence

# Housing is Integral to Domestic and Family Violence Prevention



# Data Snapshot

## **Specialist Homelessness Services in 2015-16**

- An estimated 38% of specialist homelessness services clients received assistance as a result of experiencing family or domestic violence
- On average, each day an estimated 57,000 people were supported
- 275 requests for assistance were unable to be met each day; over 100,000 per year

## **Social Housing in 2015-16**

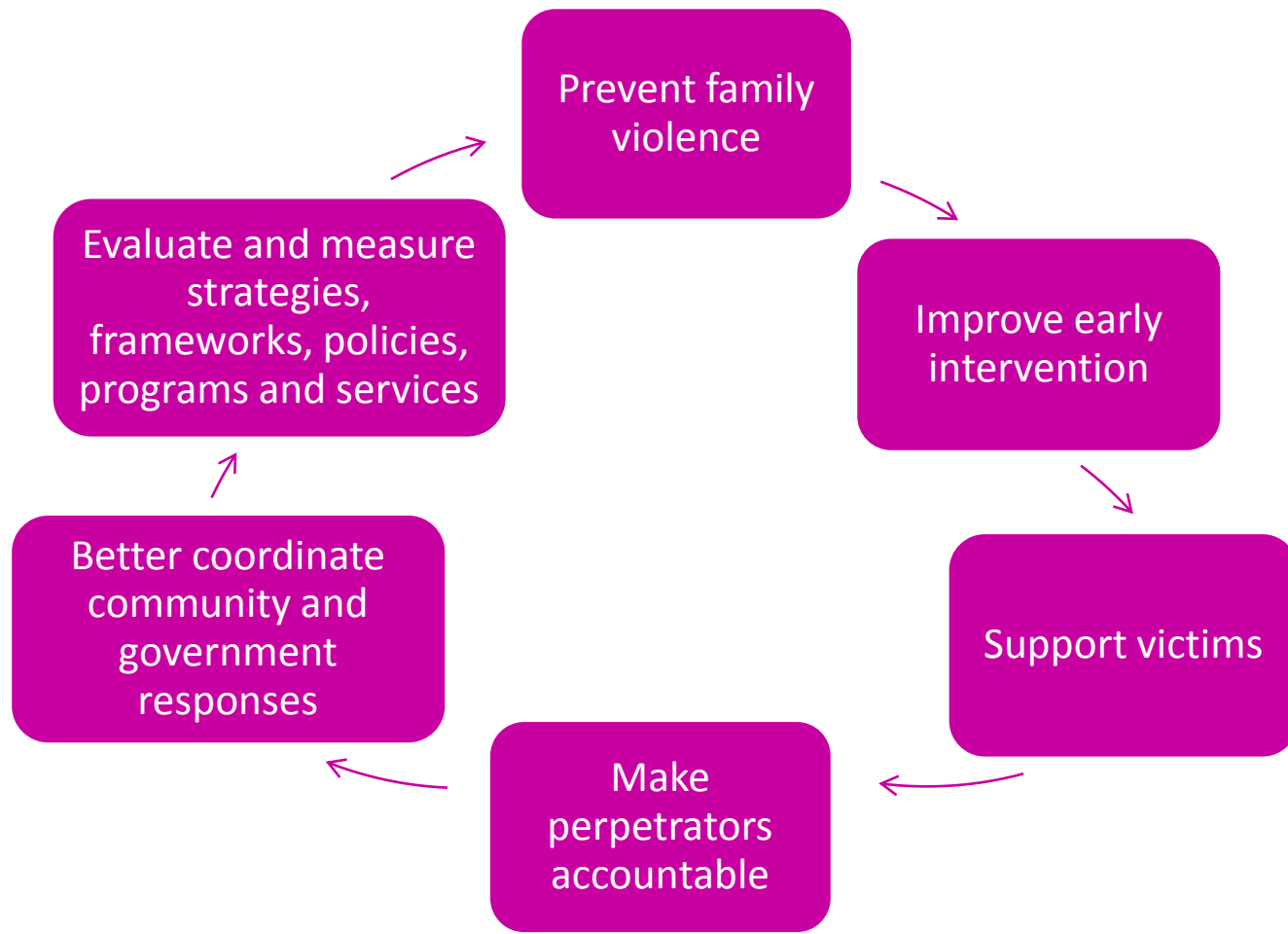
- 194,600 households awaiting social housing allocation across Australia
- Almost 60,000 households awaiting social housing in NSW

***(AIHW 2016)***

# Recent Key Initiatives

- Royal Commission into Family Violence, Victoria
- Going Home Staying Home Reform, NSW

# Royal Commission Into Family Violence Victoria



# New Approach to the Delivery of Specialist Homelessness Services in NSW

Strengthen focus on prevention and early intervention

Support people to sustain their tenancies

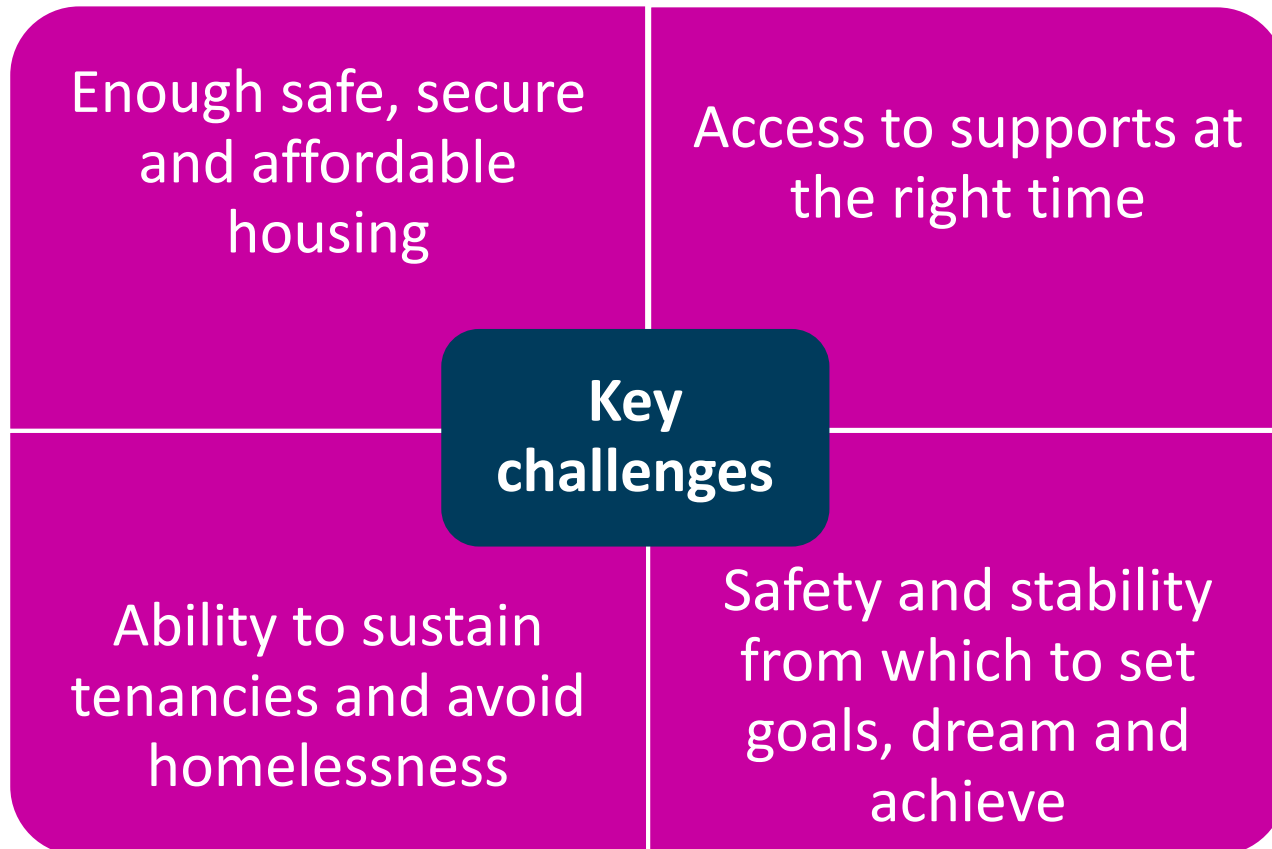
**Going Home  
Staying Home  
Reform**

Improve access into the housing and homelessness system

Strengthen the industry and introduce quality assurance



# Leading Practice in Domestic and Family Violence Prevention



Enough safe, secure and affordable housing

Access to supports at the right time

**Key challenges**

Ability to sustain tenancies and avoid homelessness

Safety and stability from which to set goals, dream and achieve

**Thank You**

