

## Information sharing schemes

Improved sharing of information between different organisations and professions that may be involved with a family violence case was a key recommendation of the Royal Commission, with a particular focus on increased sharing of information about perpetrators. At the time the Royal Commission reported, risk assessments were largely based on information from and about the victim, with little information known about the perpetrator. This was based on an understanding that information about the perpetrator could not be shared without consent due to information privacy legislation.

The new part 11 of the *Family Violence Protection Act 2008* which commenced in 2018 also enables improved service coordination and for information to be contributed to the CIP. The CIP was a recommendation of the Royal Commission. It is a process whereby family violence professionals can request a report about a perpetrator of family violence that brings together information from different government agencies. Currently reports are generated manually because most of the agencies' information systems can't work together automatically. This service is currently only available for staff in The Orange Door sites and one other organisation and would require significant investment to allow it to be accessible to all family violence services. Professionals who are using the service have advised that it is making a significant positive impact on their ability to conduct fast and comprehensive risk assessments.

