1. In 2016, the Queensland Government released the Queensland Violence against Women Prevention Plan 2016-22 (the VAWPP) as a framework for eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls.
2. With increasing community awareness of issues relating to sexual violence, the Queensland Government now intends to develop an overarching framework for sexual violence prevention in Queensland. The framework will span the continuum of sexual violence and build on a refresh of actions under the VAWPP. The development of the framework will be undertaken in consultation with key stakeholders, and will consider all issues related to sexual violence, including the findings of the Youth Sexual Violence and Abuse (YSVA) Steering Committee.
3. The Queensland Government announced the YSVA Steering Committee in March 2016. The YSVA Steering Committee was tasked with producing two reports.
4. The first report identified barriers to addressing youth sexual violence and abuse, specifically in Aurukun and West Cairns. The Queensland Government response to the first report accepted all seven recommendations and committed funding to address youth sexual violence and abuse in these two communities.
5. The second and final report acknowledges that youth sexual violence and abuse is a statewide issue, affecting young people in urban centres, regional towns and remote communities. The report highlighted a number of issues, including that:
   * areas worst affected by youth sexual violence and abuse also experience high rates of social dysfunction and economic disadvantage
   * youth sexual violence and abuse is a gendered issue, with young women and girls more likely to be victims
   * Indigenous young people are twice as likely as non-Indigenous young people to be victims
   * increased access to digital and communication technologies has led to an increase in behaviours such as sexualised online activity and ‘sexting’
   * the silence around youth sexual violence and abuse is a major obstacle in responding to the issue.
6. The Final Report makes 31 recommendations to bring about both short-term and longer-term, generational change. The recommendations focus on four themes: local level solutions, data and evidence, raising awareness among individuals, communities and organisations, and tackling the underlying causes of youth sexual violence and abuse.
7. Cabinet approved the development of a Queensland sexual violence prevention framework and the public release of the Final Report of the Youth Sexual Violence and Abuse Steering Committee and Queensland Government response.
8. *Attachments*
   * [Youth Sexual Violence and Abuse Steering Committee Final Report](Attachments/Report.PDF)
   * [Queensland Government response to the Youth Sexual Violence and Abuse Steering Committee’s Final Report](Attachments/Response.PDF)