

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: Australian Institute of Family Studies      Question No: SQ16-000441**

**Topic: Women's Legal Services Australia (WLSA) Safety First in Family Law 5-point plan**

**Hansard page: 85**

**Senator Larissa Waters asked:**

Do you have a view on the recommendations from the Women's Legal Service on their Safety First in Family Law five-point plan? Does the government have a position in relation to the Women's Legal Services' Safety First in Family Law plan?

**Answer:**

To the extent that the Women's Legal Services Australia (WLSA) Safety First in Family Law five-point plan relates to the identification, assessment and response to family violence and safety concerns by family law system professionals, it is arguably consistent in broad terms with the findings from the AIFS Evaluation of the 2012 amendments. However, we note that the WLSA provide very specific recommendations (e.g., in relation to achieving Step 5) and our research findings have not been extrapolated in such detail.

The Government's position in relation to the WLSA Safety First in Family Law plan is a question for government.