

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP
Special Minister of State
Minister for Government Services
Minister for Mental Health
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Multicultural and Multifaith Victoria



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PROTECTING OLDER VICTORIANS FROM ABUSE

One in six older Australians experience elder abuse. The Allan Labor Government is working to stop it before it starts.

Marking World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, Minister for Ageing Ingrid Stitt launched Victoria's first Primary Prevention of Elder Abuse Framework.

The *Respecting and Valuing Older People: Victoria's Primary Prevention of Elder Abuse Framework Handbook* gives health services, councils and community organisations practical tools to tackle elder abuse at its roots.

The framework focuses on four priority areas for action:

- **Respect** – dismantling ageist stereotypes and harmful assumptions about older people
- **Intergenerational connection** – building positive relationships between younger and older generations
- **Inclusion** – ensuring every older Victorian is seen, heard and valued
- **Gender equality** – tackling the sexism and discrimination that puts older women at greater risk.

It's backed by a \$6 million investment from the Labor Government and delivers under *Until Every Victorian is Safe: Third Rolling Action Plan to End Family and Sexual Violence 2025-27*.

The Framework Handbook is the first stage of Labor's primary prevention approach. A Practice Guide and other implementation resources will follow later this year.

For more information and to view the Framework Handbook, visit providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/preventing-elder-abuse.

Confidential help is available via the elder abuse helpline on 1300 368 821, the Victims of Crime Helpline at victimsofcrime.vic.gov.au or for emergencies call Triple Zero (000).

Quotes attributable to Minister for Ageing Ingrid Stitt

"Older Victorians have given so much to our communities – they deserve to live free from fear, neglect and abuse."

"This handbook gives organisations practical tools to challenge ageism, strengthen inclusion and address the factors that contribute to elder abuse before it occurs."

Quote attributable to the Minister for Prevention of Family Violence Melissa Horne

"No one should face violence at any stage of their life – this Framework is a crucial step in making sure older Victorians get the protection and respect they deserve."