



**NATIONAL**  
FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
AND LEGAL SERVICES  
**FORUM**

MEETING MINUTES	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>National FVPLS Forum – Forum Members E-Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b>	Thursday 24 August 2023 – 2.30pm AEST
<b>Attendees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>National FVPLS Forum Secretariat</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Wynetta Dewis (Chair)</li><li>- PC Clarke (Deputy Chair)</li><li>- Edwina Rankin</li><li>- Lianne Brown</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Djirra</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mary Morrison</li></ul></li><li>• <b>FVLSAC</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kate Clarke</li><li>- Tosha Sambo</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Many Rivers</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Julie Perkins</li></ul></li><li>• <b>AFLSQ</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kathleen Wincen</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Warra Warra</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Lisa Braid</li><li>- Melissa Calliss</li></ul></li><li>• <b>QIFVLS</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Wynetta Dewis</li></ul></li><li>• <b>CAAFLU</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- PC Clarke</li></ul></li><li>• <b>AFLS WA</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Corina Martin</li><li>- Laney Gould</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Minutes</b>	Edwina Rankin

## MINUTES

### 1. Acknowledgement of Country

### 2. Welcome and Apologies

- Denise Ranby (Thiyama-li).

### 3. Minutes from previous meeting

- Phee noted the previous minutes have been circulated to members and moved they be accepted. Tosha seconded.

### 4. Forum finances

- Wynetta noted that the finances were circulated to members prior to the meeting and asked if there were any questions about these. There were no questions and Wynetta added that any questions could also be forwarded to the Forum out of session.



## 5. Forum Constitution and Charter

- Wynetta led discussion of this item and noted the Constitution and Charter for the incorporation of the Forum had been circulated to members prior to the meeting on 11 August 2023.
- The only questions emailed out of session were from WA, noting WA is the only member that had not seen earlier drafts of these documents developed last year and then amended earlier this year. So we addressed these questions to KWM, and have provided a response to WA to bring them up to speed on the more recent versions of the documents.
- Dan Goldblatt and James Koulousias from KWM have been drafting these documents, but because there were no other questions or comments received from members, we have not brought KWM to this meeting, and instead, they are on standby only, in case any final questions arise.
- Wynetta noted that we need to confirm the Constitution and Charter, so these documents can be registered with ASIC, so that we can incorporate the Forum and then apply for Charitable status.
- Wynetta moved a resolution that the Constitution and the Charter be submitted to ASIC as a basis for incorporation of the National FVPLS Form, and she asked that any disagreement to the resolution be noted in the meeting chat. Mary Morrison from Djirra noted she is not authorised to vote as Antoinette's proxy. There were no objections and Wynetta noted the resolution as carried.
- Wynetta said that the next steps will be that members will need to complete the necessary paperwork to be submitted to ASIC as the next stage.

## 6. National FVPLS Forum Recruitment

- Wynetta noted that offers are being negotiated with CEO candidates and members will be informed of the agreed appointee soon.
- The Senior Policy officer, Taunese Aplén, has been discontinued.
- Recruitment will be needed for a new Senior Policy officer.

## 7. FVPLS membership fees for FY2023/24

- Phee led discussion of this item and noted that QIFVLS has sent out invoices for the 2023/24 membership fees for the National FVPLS Forum and thanked those members who have already paid those invoices.
- Phee noted asked whether there is interest in the National Forum organising our yearly Face to Face for 2023, as much of the membership fees are spent on this annual meeting – for airfares, hotels, etc and we also have an opportunity to do some training for members while we're together.
- There was general discussion in support of conducting the end of year face to face meeting, and preferably in December 2023, so that members AGMs are completed.

Action: Edwina noted the Forum will send out a questionnaire to members to ask them about the annual face to face meeting including the best date, any particular topics or training they would like to receive at the meeting?



## 8. NLAP Review update

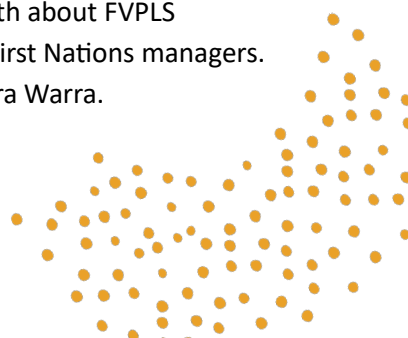
- Edwina led discussion on this item and noted that the National FVPLS Forum received an embargoed draft of the NLAP Review Issues paper and made a submission in response, and the NLAP review has adopted the changes the National FVPLS Forum proposed.
- A final version of the NLAP Review Issues paper has now been released by government and provided to members. The National FVPLS Forum will need to now develop a substantive submission in the response.
- Members have also been provided a letter from the Attorney General, responding to our correspondence about the NLAP transition (members were provided this letter prior to the last meeting). The AG has advised that if a decision is made in early 2024 to transition the FVPLS sector to NLAP, the actual transition would not actually occur until mid 2025, to fit in with the NLAP the funding cycle.
- The meeting discussed that this would create a gap between the NIAA funding cycle to mid-2024 (except WA which has funding until December 2025) and any transition in mid-2025.


Action: Edwina noted she will contact NIAA to consider how this funding gap between mid-2024 to mid-2025 will be managed by government and/or any overlap.

## 9. Actions from the previous meeting

- Edwina provided an update on the actions from previous meeting:
  - Edwina to send financial documents to members out of session. Completed.
  - Edwina to invite Dr Mundy to attend a Forum meeting. Completed. Edwina emailed members to advise that Dr Mundy proposed this be considered after his consultations.
  - Edwina will draft a letter to the Attorney General raising concerns on the historical administration of the FVPLS and asking that for the NLAP review careful consideration is given to any potential transition of FVPLS into NLAP. Completed and Edwina provided members a copy of the letter.
  - Meeting invitations to be sent to members for the remainder of 2023. Completed.
  - Edwina will contact NIAA about the supplementary payment and ask that it be distributed now to agencies for FY2023/24. Completed and Edwina is keeping members informed about this issue.

## 10. FVPLS Member news

- Phee noted we'll be receiving updates from Warra Warra and NAAFLS.
  - Lisa from Warra Warra provided a service update and noted staffing continues as a major challenge. Lisa enquired if there were any FVPLS services she could liaise with about FVPLS operation and also for Melissa to have opportunities to shadow with other First Nations managers. Wynetta, Corina and Kathleen said they were happy to be contacted by Warra Warra.
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- Cassandra from NAAFLS provided a service update and noted that the loss of staff had resulted in a service closure at the end of last year. Judy Harrison has recently left NAAFLS and James Lowry is now the acting PLO. NAAFLS recently interviewed 4 solicitors and is also looking for case workers. Cassandra also discussed NAAFLS work in representing 2 families for the Coronial Inquest and the lack of support families of murdered women are receiving. The NT Govt has supported this work by NAAFLS through the Flexible Support Packages.

#### **11. Other business**

- Members discussed the GAR consultations which are underway and members noted as follows: Kathleen, Warra Warra and QIFVLS have completed their consultations. NAAFLS, NPY, WA will meet them in September.
- Lisa also noted that Legal Aid provides much more support for its services than NIAA provides to FVPLS (e.g. in support for trauma-informed work practices, etc).

#### **12. Next meeting**

- 28/09/2023, 2.30pm AEST