



SPECIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO
CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

PUBLIC FORUM

ASSESSMENT MODEL AND PROCESS

18 APRIL 2008

AGENDA

The Inquiry is interested in the following questions:

1. Are the current reporting and assessment mechanisms for responding to women and children subject to domestic violence the most efficient and effective given that most domestic violence reports do not result in any real action by DoCS? Can Police do more?
2. Does the child protection system need to develop different approaches in assessment to respond to children who are the subject of reports of neglect?
3. Should the Helpline refer appropriate reports directly to non-government services that deliver the Brighter Futures program? What other types of reports and direct referrals could be made by the Helpline to other agencies?
4. Should DoCS adopt some of the tools in the Structured Decision Making Model to assist the professional judgement of staff in the assessment of reports? Should reports be assessed only according to urgency or should a matrix of urgency and seriousness be adopted?
5. Does the Victorian or Queensland child protection model, or other similar models, inform a better way of responding to and assessing child protection reports?