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## Media Release

# Twelve months on: Respect Victoria celebrates turning one

**Friday, 4 October 2019**

Respect Victoria has today marked the first anniversary of its establishment as the state's first agency dedicated to the prevention of all forms of family violence and violence against women.

Speaking at today's event, Respect Victoria's Chair, Melanie Eagle said "It has been a year packed with milestones — each one laying the foundations, building towards a future where all Victorians are safe, equal and respected where they live, work, learn and play".

Also in attendance at today's event, Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence Gabrielle Williams acknowledged the work of Respect Victoria across year one.

"When it comes to addressing family violence Victoria is leading the nation, with a landmark Royal Commission that brought down 227 recommendations which we have committed to implementing," Minister Williams said.

"Changing culture and behaviours to prevent family violence is an enormous part of creating lasting change and we are so proud of Respect Victoria's first year of game-changing work in this field."

Establishing Respect Victoria as a Statutory Authority fulfilled Recommendation 188 of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, delivering on the commitments outlined in Free from Violence: Victoria's strategy to prevent family violence and all forms of violence against women. Respect Victoria leads on two of the five pillars outlined in this strategy – engage and communicate with the community and research and evaluate.

Since its inception, Respect Victoria has delivered three behaviour change campaigns designed at changing the social norms and attitudes that allow all forms of family violence and violence against women to occur — Respect Women: Call It Out (Café), Respect Women: Call It Out (Public Transport) and Respect Older People: Call It Out.

Early evaluations undertaken on the Respect Women: 'Call it Out' campaigns are already demonstrating that those who viewed the campaign were more likely to call out sexist behaviour among friends or co-workers with the campaign having now reached more than 5 million Victorians.

Over the course of its first year, Respect Victoria has also initiated a range of research and evaluation projects including commencing work on a new Family Violence Data Platform as well as supporting the Office for Women in the Department of Premier and Cabinet to develop a framework for monitoring and evaluating primary prevention programs.

A full list of Respect Victoria's 2018-19 achievements and milestones is available online within Respect Victoria's 2018-19 Annual Report: <https://bit.ly/2mamSld>

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