



Core and Cluster refuges – indicative locations

Core and Cluster program overview

In October 2021, the NSW Government announced new funding for housing and supports for women and children experiencing domestic family violence (DFV).

The investment includes \$426.6 million over four years to expand Core and Cluster to deliver and operate new women's refuges that will support up to an additional 2,900 women and children escaping DFV each year.

The Core and Cluster model typically consists of a 'cluster' of separate, self-contained units that are linked to a 'core' communal area for onsite support.

Determination of indicative locations

An indicative distribution of refuges across NSW was developed in line with the program aim to deliver new refuges in areas of high need and unmet demand.

Multiple data sources informed the analysis of crisis accommodation demand, and projected demand for DFV services by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal datasets where available, to determine where the highest need is for additional refuges and support. This included:

- DCJ Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) data relating to demand for DFV accommodation and support, and where women with or without children experiencing DFV could not be provided with the assistance sought.
- NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) statistics relating to incidences of DFV as a measure of reported demand.
- Population projections for all in NSW.
- Compound Annual Growth Rate population projections between 2021-2041 for each local government area (LGA).

In determining the demand for crisis accommodation and support for Aboriginal women, the LGAs with the highest unmet demand by Aboriginal population were specifically identified, as an overlay to the prioritisation based on DFV crime statistics.

Further information

More information can be found on the DCJ [Core and Cluster program webpage](#).

Procurement questions relating to Core and Cluster Expressions of Interest or Requests for Tender are to be directed to the NSW Government [e-tendering site](#).

Specific enquiries about the program can be emailed to SHSProgram@facns.nsw.gov.au.