



PLENARY SESSION 1

Inaugural Family Law System Conference

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Question 1

Family Law System

- What is Being Done Well?
 - Less adversarial system
 - Family Relationship Centres
 - Children's Contact Services
 - Compulsory Family Dispute Resolution



Question 1

Family Law System

- What is Being Done Well? (continued)
 - Quality Assurance & Accreditation of Family Dispute Resolution Practitioners
 - Better handling of family violence
 - Improvement in screening processes
 - Family Pathways networks



Question 1

Family Law System

- Challenges
 - Division between child protection and family law
 - Regional disadvantage
 - Cost of Court proceedings
 - Property/financial matters
 - Judicial education



Question 1

Family Law System

- Challenges
 - Effective use of media
 - Collaboration and multi-disciplinary training
 - Contravention/enforcement of Court orders
 - Alternatives: collaborative law / arbitration
 - Retelling of client stories during intake

Question 2

Blueprint Proposal

- More Effective Family Law System:
 - Outlines key factors
 - National Legal Aid has special focus on:
 1. Access to justice, particularly for disadvantaged clients
 2. Strengthening cultural accessibility
 - Wide range of service options available



Question 2

Blueprint Proposal

- Missing Factors:
 - Consistent family violence approach
 - Multi-disciplinary framework based on research
 - Access to legal advice and representation
 - Overhaul of Family Law legislation
 - Preventative strategies – early education

Question 3

Entry Point - Services

- Proposal:
 - Establish national screening point separate to service delivery
 - Training of intake staff – one screening/intake tool
 - Education of all service providers
 - Standard referral protocols

Question 4

National Blueprint

- A good starting point ... and:
- “The Hub”
 - Propose simplified intake/Tier structure
 - Tier 1 – information and referral
 - National screening/intake
 - Intake separate from service delivery

Question 4

National Blueprint

- A good starting point ... and
- Propose simplified intake/Tier structure

Tier 1

- Information and referral
- National screening/intake
- Intake separate from service delivery

Question 4

National Blueprint (continued)

Tier 2

- Includes all dispute resolution services – legally and non-legally assisted
- Legal advice essential at appropriate stages of process

Question 4

National Blueprint (continued)

Tier 3

- High conflict
- High violence
- Child abuse
- Matters not reaching agreement at Tier 2