

# Response to elder abuse in Queensland

Photo:  
“*Searching for answers to prevent elder abuse*”  
by Constable Will Healy based at Bamaga  
Winner: 2017 World Elder Abuse Awareness  
Day photo competition run by EAPU



# Content

- Awareness
- Data snapshot
- Approach to date
- Research
- What's next?

Increased **awareness** and profile of elder abuse in Queensland due to:

» *Inquiries*

» *Strategies*

» *Campaigns*

## Inquiries and reports:

- The Queensland Domestic and Family Violence Taskforce report
- *Parliamentary Inquiry into the adequacy of financial protections for Queensland's Seniors*
- *Elder Abuse – A National Legal Response, ALRC*

# Queensland: an age-friendly community

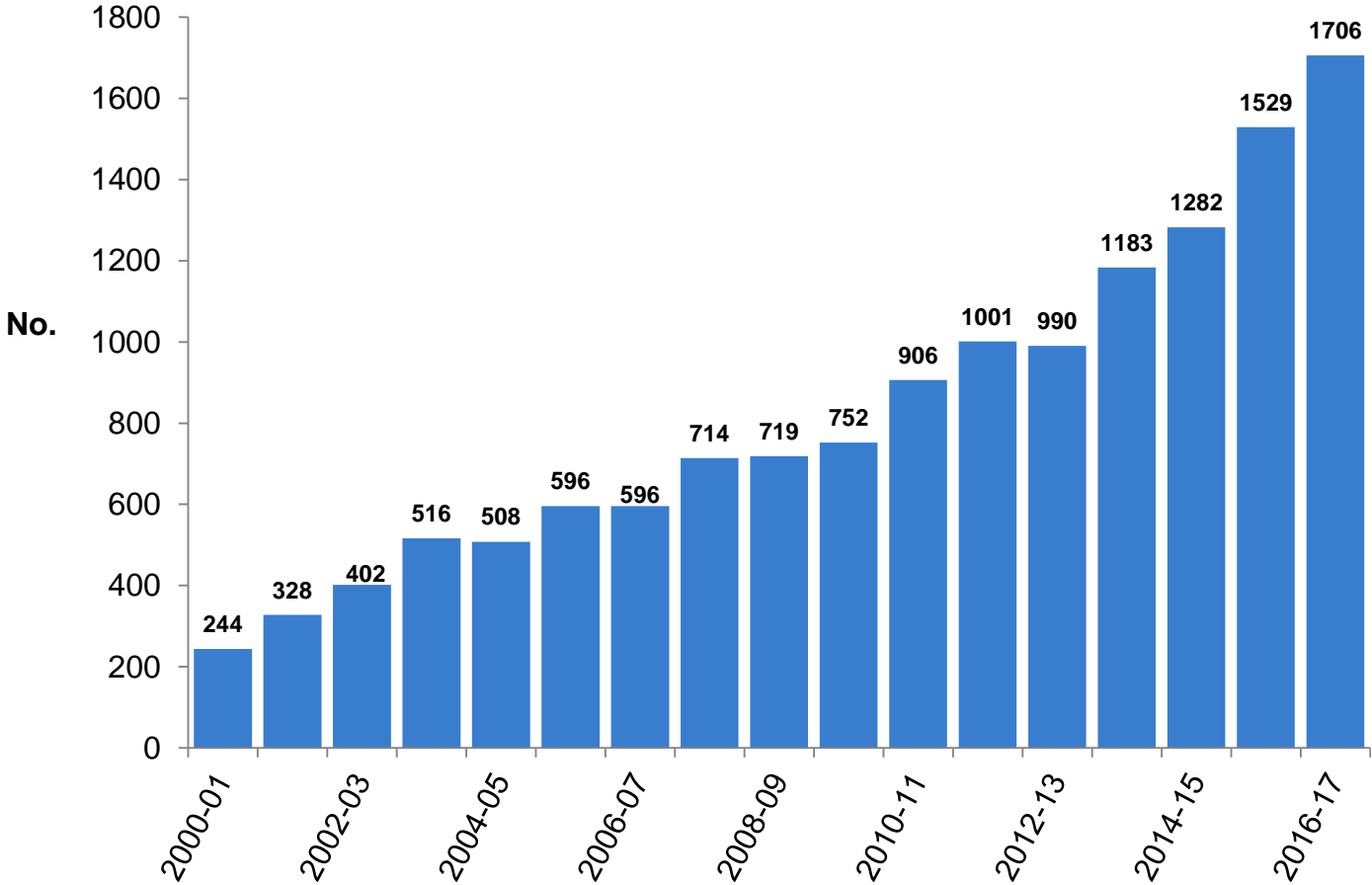




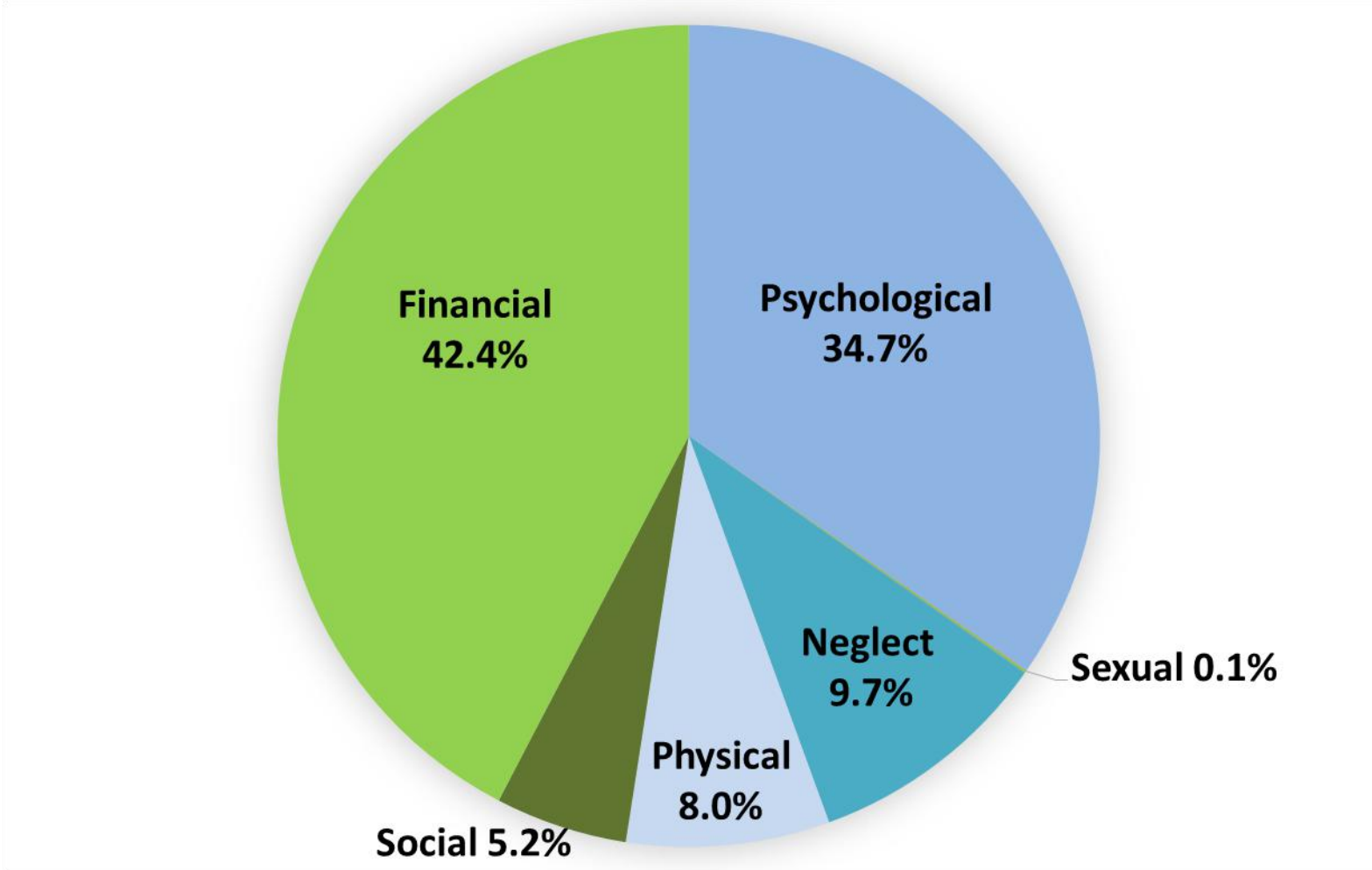
# Elder abuse campaign



# Queensland Elder Abuse Helpline Elder abuse notifications



# Types of abuse





# Approach to date

- Funding services
- Collaboration
- Coordinating whole of government actions
- Hiring a dedicated officer - Queensland Police
- Implementing inquiry recommendations
- Research

# Funding services

- **Elder Abuse Prevention Unit** (statewide) - first point of contact for information, support and referrals specific to elder abuse
- **Seniors Enquiry Line** (statewide) – infoline on broad range of issues to increase connectedness and wellbeing;
- **Seniors legal and support services** (in 10 locations) to provide free legal and support services;
- **Social isolation programs** (statewide) – to reduce social isolation and build resilience;

# Additional funding to

- increase capacity of funded services
  - expand of SLSS to 5 more regional locations
  - offer new services, ie financial advice
  - Improve data collection and reporting
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- In 2017-18 an additional \$2.7m over 3 years and an additional \$1.85m over 4 years were made available to combat elder abuse.
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- Stakeholder collaboration
    - Networks and co-design
  - Coordinating whole of government actions
    - Senior Officers Group
  - Implementation of inquiry recommendations
    - Eg: whole of government education strategy
  - Research
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# What's next?

- Encourage all stakeholders to consider the findings of recent enquiries, reports and research
- Improve data collection based on stakeholder consultation
- Seed fund innovative ideas through this year's \$1m Advance Qld Innovation grants
- Participate in CAG working group to influence development of the National Plan as per ALRC recs



# Continue to ..

- collaborate and improve coordination within the sector
- co-design service models that are client centred and evidence based
- work with stakeholders on educating, training and informing older people, carers, professionals and the wider community
- implement Parliamentary Inquiry recs eg family agreements project

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