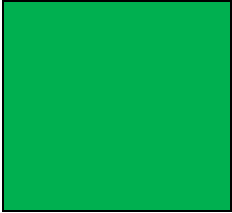


Caring Dads	
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caring Dads supports better parenting practices and a reduction in violence to enhance the safety and wellbeing of children</li> <li>• It seeks to develop fathers' ability to engage in respectful, non-abusive parenting with the mothers of their children</li> <li>• The programme recognises the importance of making fathers equally accountable for their behaviour and for their children's wellbeing — a role that is often assigned to women as protectors of their children</li> </ul>
Programme goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop sufficient trust and motivation to engage men in the process of examining their fathering</li> <li>• To increase fathers' awareness and application of child-centred fathering</li> <li>• To increase fathers' awareness of, and responsibility for, abusive and neglectful fathering and the impact of this on their children</li> <li>• To rebuild trust with children and plan for the future</li> </ul>
Upcoming programme dates	Ongoing
Eligibility criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many fathers are likely to benefit from participation in this program, but especially men whose relationship with their children or children's mothers is problematic</li> <li>• This may include over-controlling, over-involved, distant and/or irresponsible, emotionally abusive fathers or fathers who have hostile, highly conflictual, or abusive relationships with the children's mothers</li> <li>• Father must have contact with children</li> </ul>
Exclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Active or imminent court proceedings regarding children</b></li> <li>• Severe current or historical substance or alcohol misuse</li> <li>• High levels of denial (non-attendance of appointments)</li> <li>• Low risk of perpetrating behaviour</li> <li>• Sexual abuse towards children</li> <li>• No contact with children</li> </ul>
Points to consider before making a referral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should not be mandated as part of CIN or CP plan – it is a voluntary programme</li> <li>• It is not about ensuring families can stay together, but ensuring that dad can be a good father to their child as contain remains</li> </ul>
What to discuss with the parent before making a referral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is important that informed consent is obtained prior to making a referral.</li> <li>• It is helpful to provide a brief synopsis of the programme/intervention, how it is structured and who will be in touch to discuss next steps.</li> <li>• Partners or Ex-Partners will be contacted in all cases.</li> </ul>

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- Caring Dads will regularly share information with other agencies, for example Social Services, CAFCASS, Contact Centres and the Police.
  - We do not make assessments about child contact arrangements, but will write a report about attendance and participation on the group