Minister for Women’s and Men’s Policy Bess Price said White Ribbon Day aims to change the attitudes and behaviours that lead to violence against women by engaging boys and men to lead social change.

“We need our men to be role models for the next generation. The cycle of violence needs to be broken,” Mrs Price said.

“The White Ribbon Campaign recognises the positive role that men play in preventing violence against women.

“The Department of Community Services (DoCS) Men’s Policy Unit is working hard in primary prevention work to re-engage men in strategies to keep their families safe.

“Several Northern Territory Government departments have applied for White Ribbon Australia Workplace Accreditation, including DoCS, following the NT Police Force.

“The Workplace Accreditation Program recognises workplaces that are taking active steps to prevent and respond to violence against women.

“Domestic and family violence remains a serious and pervasive issue for the Northern Territory community.

“Domestic and family violence can take many forms- from emotional manipulation and intimidation, financial slavery and oppression through acts of physical and sexual violence.

“It can be a difficult, and at times confronting, conversation we must have for the sake of our friends, families, colleagues and future generations.”

Attorney-General and White Ribbon Ambassador John Elferink said the Northern Territory’s victim-focused, comprehensive Domestic and Family Violence Reduction Strategy aims to create an improved and coordinated approach to reduce and prevent domestic and family violence.
“An integrated approach will see 11 Government departments and non-government organisations work closely together to deliver a localised and individual approach for victims of domestic and family violence,” Mr Elferink said.

“The Northern Territory Government last week announced that it would make changes to the Bail Act to ensure that offenders who breach a Domestic Violence Order are more likely to remain behind bars rather than be released back into the community.

“This Government is addressing domestic violence through victim-focused initiatives while also holding the perpetrator to account.”

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