FINANCIAL SAFETY CHECKLIST

HOUSING	Yes	No
Still living in the house? (Partner is not aware of intention to leave) If yes, organise a "Spring clean" • Sell items you no longer need • Discard old documents • Sign up for paperless statements and bills • Clean up cupboards, organise everything as you might only have 30 minutes to pack the house with police • Bring away memorabilia • Store baby/family photos safely	☐	☐
Are you still living under one roof? • Are you feeling safe? • Are you supported by a DV service? Have you done a Risk assessment? • Does your partner know that you want to leave? • LVP – not able to apply yet	☐	☐
Do you own your home? • Do you want to stay in the home? (Ouster OP? Seek Legal Advice) • Contact mortgage provider and ask for moratorium or reduced payments if you can't afford the mortgage. Advise them of separation and upcoming property settlement (sale, re-financing) • Electricity – if it's in OP name – consider signing up for new account. Do not transfer as there might be a debt attached. If it is in your name, check concession, set up small payment arrangement and apply for HEEAS grant. • Gas • Water – get statement, set up payment arrangement. • Council rates – ask for statement, set up payment plan or ask for a moratorium. If there is a large Council rates debt, contact mortgage lender for assistance. • Insurance – if you stay or leave – make sure the house is insured.	☐	☐
Have you had property settlement advice?	☐	☐
Do you rent your home? • DFV tenancy toolkit: https://tenantsqld.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/DV-Toolkit-online-2022-04.pdf • DFV Damage notification: https://tenantsqld.org.au/dv-toolkit/sample-letters-and-forms/ • Leaving - A tenant can give a Notice Ending Tenancy Form 20 with 7 days' notice and provide documents as evidence of domestic violence	☐	☐
SAFE CONTACT METHODS	**Yes**	**No**
Is your phone separate from the other party? If no: • Look to purchase own phone or change SIM cards • If OP's phone is attached to your contract, contact the service provider • Request a debt waiver or reduced plan with your phone provider	☐	☐
Is your email account separate from the other party? If no: • See if you can open a new email account/obtain a new email address	☐	☐
Have you updated your contact information? If no: • Check that any service providers, friends/family/support workers have your safe contact details	☐	☐

FINANCES	Yes	No
Do you have your own bank account? If no: • If safe to do so, open a new bank account online or contact a local bank branch to enquire about setting up a new account • If it safe to do so, transfer any monies into this new account • Request the bank to send any correspondence to your safe contact methods • If you are already a customer of a bank, you will not need to provide as much identification to open an account. Call your bank, apply online or visit the local branch • If opening an account with a new bank: make sure you have adequate ID, you may need to visit the branch in person to verify your identification • ASIC's MoneySmart website has information about different types of bank accounts, and a guide on switching bank accounts, including transferring direct debits and credits: www.moneysmart.gov.au/managing-your-money/banking	☐	☐
Income source/Compensation/Grants • Employed (Centrelink top up, Family Tax AB, rent assistance) • Centrelink (Jobseeker, Parenting Payment, Family Tax AB, rent assistance) • Temp. Visa/NZ – Special benefit payment for up to 6 months? • LVP – Leaving Violence Payment • Victims Assist Queensland • FAP – Financial Assistance Package • NZ citizen – check if AU citizenship is an option.	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
Expenses - Do you have a budget? If no: • Complete a budget – current budget / future budget • Review spending, eliminate unnecessary expenses • Insurance policies - Find out if you can put these on pause for a period of time (if safe & possible)	☐	☐
Do you have of the following debts? • Creditors (banks/loans) • Payday lender • Buy Now Pay Later • Tax ATO • Centrelink • Toll roads • SPER • Other	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
ATO – Family TAX AB • Are your tax returns up to date? • Do you have any ATO debts? • Do you have any Centrelink debts?	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐
Do you have a current credit history report? If no: • Apply for a free credit report - https://www.equifax.com.au/personal/ • Anything listed that shouldn't be there? Contact the provider and ask for this to be removed • Request a credit report ban	☐	☐

ASSETS	Yes	No
Is your car registered and insured in your own name? If no: • If it is safe to do so, transfer ownership, registration and insurance of vehicle into own name - https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/registration/transfer/online • If relevant, update details with your e-toll or e-tag to ensure your partner cannot track your movements through your toll account • If relevant, see if funds can be collated for car purchase or repair (EVP, VAQ, Super Early release, Centrelink Advance, Parents/friends, NILS for rego/repair)	☐	☐
Do you have superannuation? • Check if you have multiple existing Super accounts, if so, consolidate them • Apply for early release of Super due to hardship/medical expenses/mortgage arrears • Check the beneficiary on your Super account, and update if necessary • Check if you can claim income protection through your Super	☐	☐
Do you have savings? • If you are able to, put aside small amounts of money over time and keep it in a safe place • See if you can pre-pay for car rego, car insurance, health insurance, etc. • Purchase gift cards that can be used for food, fuel, transport, etc.	☐	☐
IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS	**Yes**	**No**
Have you compiled your important docs? If no, compile as many of the following as possible: • Birth certificate • Marriage certificate • Passports / Immigration documents • Drivers licence / ID • Pensioner Card/ Healthcare Card • Bank cards • Passwords • Insurance • Child Support • Centrelink • Rental agreement documents • Mortgage documents • Medicare card • Bank statements • Title Deeds • Payslips • Loan contracts • Superannuation documents • Car registration documents • Medical records	☐	☐
Do you have a Will? • Seek legal advice to update your will	☐	☐

If you are thinking of leaving a DFV relationship, please reach out to DV Connect at 1800 811 811 or get in touch with your local Domestic Violence Service for safety and exit planning. These services offer confidential support, guidance, and resources to help ensure your safety.