

19 October 2018

## Westernport Water – A White Ribbon Accredited Workplace

Westernport Water has achieved White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation for their efforts to support the prevention of violence against women and children, as well as driving social change in and beyond the workplace.

Managing Director and White Ribbon Ambassador Peter Quigley commented, "Over the past 18 months our people have demonstrated strong and effective leadership, updated our policies and undertaken training to maintain a safe, gender equal and respectful workplace."

"Workplaces have a pivotal role to play in addressing the underlying causes of men's violence against women, by promoting gender equality and mutual respect."

"I am very proud of the work of our passionate and dedicated people who have been instrumental in creating and sustaining such a caring and positive workplace culture."

"The program and training supports organisations and staff to stand up, speak out and act, to respond to, and prevent violence against women, whether it occurs inside or outside the organisation."

"The White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation Program is an internationally recognised three year program that focuses on primary prevention efforts aimed at raising awareness through mass media, workplaces and communities."

White Ribbon Australia's accreditation report rated Westernport Water's external communication and response to victims of violence as 'outstanding'.

"Our commitment is a small contribution to national cultural change to prevent and respond to violence against women. As with any social change, efforts must be sustained and ongoing to make a difference," said Mr Quigley.

If you are experiencing violence or suspect someone else is, please contact 1800 RESPECT for advice and support. In an emergency, call the police on 000.

Media enquiries - Geoff Russell, Manager Communications and Engagement, on 0413 009 636.

## **ENDS**