



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DVNSW calls on NSW government for REAL investment to stop domestic violence

Domestic Violence NSW (DVNSW) has prepared a pre-budget submission to the NSW Government Treasury ahead of the upcoming State Budget. “2021 has already seen the deaths of five women due to domestic and family violence,” says **CEO of DVNSW Delia Donovan**. “Tragic deaths – such as Hannah Clarke and her three children this time last year – occur weekly. But they can be prevented.”

DVNSW has called on the NSW Government to:

1. **Increase funding to the specialist domestic and family violence sector by 50%** to ensure all victim-survivors, vulnerable children and their families receive immediate, effective, high quality specialist support.
2. **Prioritise** the funding to the specialist domestic and family violence **prevention and early intervention programs**, services and education campaigns to stop the violence before it begins, and to change the culture of gendered violence in NSW.
3. Effectively **invest in social housing and homelessness services**.

Over a third of the fourteen [Premier's Priorities](#) are directly relevant to the domestic and family violence specialist sector and its ability to respond to victim-survivors, vulnerable children and their families. Funding allocated to the specialist domestic and family violence sector should be reflected in the proportion of the budget allocated to addressing these priorities. Similar recommendations have been made by ['Safe State'](#) and the [NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team](#).

“We need a substantial investment to respond to and prevent domestic and family violence. Without this we will continue to see lives ruined and, in all too many tragic cases, lost,” says Ms Donovan.

A recent report '[A Wave of Disadvantage](#)' shows a 41 per cent increase of reported domestic violence between May and June 2020 across some regions of NSW compared to the same period in 2019. The specialist DFV sector is struggling to meet this demand.

To access the submission, click [here](#).

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Domestic Violence NSW is the peak body for specialist domestic and family violence services in NSW. DVNSW provides a representative and advocacy function for specialist services and the women, families and communities they support. Their mission is to eliminate domestic and family violence through leadership in policy, advocacy, partnerships and the promotion of best practice.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence help can be found via:

- **1800RESPECT** or 1800 737 732 which offers a national counselling helpline, information and support
- **NSW Domestic Violence Line** 1800 65 64 63 which offers a state-wide counselling helpline, information and support

Men's Referral Service 1300 766 491 for men, or friends and family of men using violence

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