



Gladys Berejiklian
Treasurer Minister for Industrial Relations

Pru Goward
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

MEDIA RELEASE

Saturday, 11 June 2016

NSW BUDGET: RECORD INVESTMENT TO TACKLE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The NSW Government will continue to lead the nation with new initiatives and record investment to prevent and respond to domestic and family violence in the 2016-17 Budget.

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Pru Goward and Treasurer Gladys Berejiklian said the Government is doubling its investment in specialist domestic violence services and initiatives to more than \$300 million over four years, up from \$148.5 million in the 2015-16 Budget.

“This is in addition to the hundreds of millions of dollars the government spends each year to combat domestic and family violence through mainstream services in justice, police, health, child protection, social housing and homelessness services,” Ms Goward said.

“I am pleased the Budget will allocate \$53 million over the next four years for a state-wide roll out of *Safer Pathway*, subject to the successful evaluation of pilot sites. *Safer Pathway* ensures high-risk victims receive a consistent and integrated multi agency response, it is currently operating in six sites. Nineteen new sites will commence in 2016-17.”

“This Budget will also deliver a new \$20 million Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund for prevention, early intervention and crisis responses that support the efforts of our specialist domestic and family violence services and refuges.”

Ms Berejiklian said the record investment would be included in the June 21 NSW Budget.

“Domestic and family violence represents one of the biggest social challenges of our time and requires a whole-of-government response,” Ms Berejiklian said.

“The NSW Government is tackling this issue with this major investment.”

Deputy Premier and Minister for Justice and Police Troy Grant said the NSW Government will invest \$2.9 million over four years to introduce GPS monitoring to improve victim safety.

“The devices will be fitted to high-risk domestic violence offenders and police will be alerted if an offender is at a location they are prohibited from entering,” Mr Grant said.

“The GPS monitoring can apply to sentenced or paroled offenders, but can also be used to monitor compliance with bail conditions in cases where a victim is protected by an ADVO with geographical restrictions.”

“There will also be an option for a victim to carry a corresponding device so an alert will be generated if the offender approaches their vicinity.”

“NSW is taking strong and immediate action to apprehend, monitor and rehabilitate offenders before they cause further harm.”

The NSW Government will also invest \$22 million over four years to roll out Police High Risk Offender Teams, as announced last October. The first two specialist teams will launch in the Northern Region and the Central Metropolitan Region this year.”

Other initiatives in the upcoming NSW Budget include:

- \$43 million over four years for housing supports through Start Safely providing short to medium-term financial help for people escaping domestic and family violence who are at risk of homelessness
- \$34 million over four years for the Women’s Domestic Violence and Court Advocacy Program, and an additional \$6.3 million over four years to meet unmet demand to respond to police referrals. This investment will ensure victims and their families can continue to receive comprehensive support through the justice system
- \$25 million over four years for Staying Home Leaving Violence so women and children can stay safely in their own home or a home of their choice.
- \$15 million over four years for NGO-led community based perpetrator interventions, including \$8 million in new funding, to change behaviour
- \$13 million over four years for Victims Services to pilot new responses for male victims such as gay men, or fathers and sons suffering family violence, through expert NGO support

MEDIA: Bianca Turai | Minister Goward | 0429 360 271
Ehssan Veiszadeh | Treasurer | 0418 986 206
Kara Lawrence | Deputy Premier | 0428 807 084

Domestic and family violence

NSW Budget 2016-17



The NSW Government is leading the nation in tackling domestic violence. It is one of the biggest social issues affecting the lives of women, men and children.

The 2016-17 Budget doubles the investment in **specialist domestic violence initiatives** to over **\$300 million** over four years up from \$148.5 million in the 2015-16 Budget.

This is in addition to the hundreds of millions of dollars the government spends each year to combat domestic and family violence through mainstream services in justice, police, health, child protection, social housing and homelessness services.



One in four Australian women have experienced violence by an intimate partner. (Source: ANROWS 2015)

In the 12 months to December 2015, there were 29,000 incidents of domestic violence-related assault in NSW. (Source: BOCSAR 2016)



More than one in five domestic violence offenders will end up in court convicted of another domestic violence offence within two years. (Source: BOCSAR NSW Reoffending Database 2014)

Supporting victims and survivors



Safer Pathway will be rolled out across NSW over four years, subject to the successful evaluation of pilot sites which will be completed in 2017. The Budget allocates **\$53 million** over four years for a state-wide rollout with **\$7.8 million** for 2016-17 to roll out 19 new sites.



A new **\$20 million Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund** for prevention, early intervention and crisis responses that support the efforts of our specialist domestic and family violence services and refuges.



\$25 million over four years for **Staying Home Leaving Violence** so women and children can stay safely in their own home or a home of their choice.



\$43 million over four years for housing supports through **Start Safely** for short to medium-term financial help, for people escaping domestic and family violence who are at risk of homelessness.



A record **\$188 million** in 2016-17 will be spent on **specialist homelessness services**, many of which offer services to women escaping domestic violence.

\$2.8 million over two years for **Women's Community Shelters**.

\$34 million over four years for the **Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Program**, plus an additional **\$6.3 million** over four years to meet unmet demand to respond to police referrals.





A new **\$13 million** over four years for **Victims Services** to pilot new responses for male victims, such as gay men, or fathers and sons suffering family violence, through expert NGO support.



\$15 million over four years for the **Integrated Domestic and Family Violence Service Program**, a coordinated, multi-agency program to prevent escalation of domestic and family violence especially among high-risk groups.



\$6.6 million over four years for the **NSW Domestic Violence Line 1800 656 463**, a 24-hour, 7-day a week state-wide service for information and advice.



\$2.6 million over four years for **Tackling Violence**. A domestic violence education and prevention program using rugby league.



\$1.7 million to continue specialist domestic violence services through NGO-Police partnerships for the **Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme Pilot**, which was launched in April 2016.

A new **\$7.9 million** over four years for **system performance monitoring, change management and capability building**. This will support service evaluation, planning, coordination and accountability across the whole domestic and family violence service system.



\$2.5 million in 2016-17 for the **Stop It At the Start** national domestic and family violence awareness campaign, launched earlier this year.

\$2.2 million over four years for **ANROWS**, to support **research** into domestic violence and reduce violence against women and their children.



Holding perpetrators to account



\$22 million over four years to roll out **Police High Risk Offender Teams**. The first two specialist teams will launch in the Northern Region and the Central Metropolitan Region in 2016.



\$15 million over four years in NGO-led **community based perpetrator interventions** including **\$8 million** in new funding.



\$2.9 million over four years to fast track 24 new **Domestic Violence Liaison Officers**. Six were rolled out following the announcement in October 2015, with a further 18 to be on the ground by December 2016.



A new **\$2.9 million** over four years for **GPS tracking** to improve victim safety.



\$19.5 million over two years for **behaviour change interventions for higher risk domestic violence offenders** to support the implementation of the Premier's Priority to reduce reoffending by 2019.



A new **\$1.8 million** over two years to reduce ADVO breaches by putting ADVOs into plain English and using other **behavioural insight** interventions to encourage compliance.



Statewide roll out of **Suspect Target Management Plans** for domestic violence perpetrators.



\$2.4 million over four years to continue the **Men's Referral Service**.

Getting help

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence:

Anyone in immediate danger should call Triple Zero (000).

For information and support call the **NSW Domestic Violence Line** on **1800 656 463** or 1800 RESPECT on **1800 737 732**

For crisis accommodation information and referral call **Link2home** on **1800 152 152**

Men having problems with violent behaviour can call the **Men's Referral Service** on **1300 766 491**