



**MEDIA STATEMENT
NSW BUDGET – STATEMENT FROM SOS WOMEN'S SERVICES
ROXANNE MCMURRAY**

21 June 2016

We welcome the funding for domestic violence in this year's Budget which will see many valuable programs able to continue.

However the only new additional funding for women's refuges is \$2.8 million.

This is at a time when domestic violence is on the national agenda like never before and has been described as an epidemic.

Thankfully, the NSW Government had done a lot to fix some of the problems which arose out of its major reforms to the sector, and deserves to be congratulated for new initiatives such as the Police High Risk Offender Teams and the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme.

But the Victorian Government recently committed \$572 million over two years just to *begin* implementing the most urgent recommendations from its Royal Commission into Family Violence. And that's just the first step.

The NSW Government recently said it's leading the nation in its investment to prevent domestic violence, but it's actually Victoria that's leading the way and it's really raised the bar for governments across Australia.

The NSW Budget has \$80 million to encourage people to use bicycles more, with up to two women being killed each week in domestic violence incidents across Australia, we need a transformative investment like Victoria.

For more information visit www.soswomensservices.com 

Follow us on  [Facebook](#) and  [Twitter](#)