



## MEDIA RELEASE

### SUBMISSIONS CLOSING FOR INQUIRY INTO COERCIVE CONTROL

Community members including victim-survivors, law enforcement, domestic violence services, academics and the public are encouraged to make a submission to the Joint Select Committee on Coercive Control before **Friday 29 January 2021**.

The Committee was established by the NSW Parliament in November last year to examine coercive control in domestic relationships, including whether it should be criminalised in NSW.

As part of the Inquiry's [Terms of Reference](#), the Committee will consider questions posed in a [Discussion Paper](#) on coercive control, published by the NSW Government.

Coercive and controlling behaviour is a form of domestic abuse involving repeated patterns of physical, sexual, psychological, emotional or financial abuse. It is often a precursor to intimate partner homicide.

[The NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team Report 2015-2017](#) found that 99 per cent of domestic homicides it reviewed were found to be preceded by coercive or controlling behaviour.

Committee Chair, The Hon Natalie Ward MLC emphasised the importance of seeking a wide range of views on this complex and important issue.

"Hearing from the public and stakeholders is crucial in this Inquiry. So I encourage all interested parties to make a submission to have their voice heard," Mrs Ward said.

The Committee will hold hearings in the first quarter of 2021, and will report to the Parliament by 30 June 2021.

Submissions can be made via the Committee's [webpage](#), or by email to [coercivecontrol@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:coercivecontrol@parliament.nsw.gov.au). Submissions can be made either confidentially or publicly.

For confidential advice, support and referrals related to domestic and family violence, contact 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732), the NSW Domestic Violence Line (1800 656 463) or the Men's Referral Service (1300 766 491).

**Media: The Hon Natalie Ward MLC, Committee Chair – (02) 9230 2186**