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For immediate release



Legislative Council
Standing Committee on Social Issues

**IMPROVING COMPLIANCE WITH APPREHENDED
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDERS**

Committee to examine trends and issues in domestic violence in NSW

Strategies to improve perpetrators' compliance with Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders (ADVOS), including the possible use of GPS bracelets, will be among the issues to be examined in an inquiry announced today by the Social Issues Committee. Other matters to be considered include: whether existing penalties for domestic violence are adequate; early intervention strategies to prevent domestic violence; and the reasons behind an apparent increase in women being proceeded against by police for domestic violence related assault.

The Committee is currently calling for submissions from interested organisations and individuals, with a closing date of Friday 16 September 2011.

"The picture of domestic and family violence is continually evolving," said the Hon Niall Blair MLC, Chair of the Social Issues Committee. "We want to come to grips with the latest trends and research, and to take stock of how effectively the police, the courts, the health system, and victim support services are working to prevent and address domestic violence."

"Ultimately, the Committee will prepare a report with recommendations to better protect and support victims and children, achieve more effective responses to perpetrators, and most importantly, ensure better prevention of violence in the first place."

"On behalf of the Committee I'd like to encourage all interested people and organisations in NSW to contribute to this important inquiry."

The inquiry was referred to the Committee by the Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister for Women, the Hon Pru Goward MP. Initial hearings will be held on 21 October and 5 December 2011, and the Committee expects to report mid next year.

For further information, including guidelines for making a submission and copies of the terms of reference, visit www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/socialissues, or contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 9230 3509.

*For further comment please contact the Hon Niall Blair MLC,
Committee Chair, on 9230 2467*