

Item 10.5**Notices of Motion****Establishing a Publicly-Funded Women's Refuge in the City of Sydney**

By Councillor Phelps

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) the 2021 Greater Sydney Covid-19 lockdown has had an adverse impact on family violence services and the women and children who need them;
 - (ii) according to an August 2021 report by Domestic Violence NSW (DVNSW) titled "The impact of the 2021 Greater Sydney COVID-19 lockdown on specialist domestic and family violence services, and their clients":
 - (a) 73 per cent of domestic violence services have faced a significant increase in demand;
 - (b) 84 per cent of services said there has been an increase in the complexity of the situations for the clients referred; and
 - (c) 48.5 per cent of the 33 services operating waiting lists have seen an increase in the length of their waitlists; and
 - (iii) the City of Sydney does not yet have a publicly-funded women's refuge for those fleeing violent and abusive situations; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) investigate the potential to establish a women's and children's refuge in partnership with the NSW Government to support women and children escaping violent and abusive situations that may be made worse by the 2021 Greater Sydney Covid-19 lockdown as a matter of priority; and
 - (ii) report back to Councillors via the CEO Update.

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