

MEDIA RELEASE

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BUDGET DELIVERS MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

Minister for Women Tanya Davies said \$3.6 million in this Budget would enable the Government to deliver the state's first NSW Women's Strategy to improve the lives of the 3.8 million women in NSW.

"Despite significant progress made over the years, gender inequality continues to exist for NSW women in their public and private lives," Mrs Davies said.

"Consultation is currently taking place in metro, regional and remote areas so in 2017-18 we can create the *NSW Women's Strategy* that reflects the diverse experiences, perspectives, strengths and real needs of all women and girls in this state."

Further to developing a framework for focused action and investment in women, the Budget will also support:

- **Investing in Women Grants 2017-18** for innovative programs that educate and encourage women to achieve equality in the workplace and long term financial security.
- The **Council on Women's Economic Opportunity**, which provides advice to the Government on policies and programs to improve economic standings for women.
- **Women in NSW Reports** which monitor gender equity against indicators in key areas including education and learning, safety and justice, work, financial security and leadership, and health and wellbeing. The reports also reveal how NSW women compare to Australia as a whole.

The \$3.6 million investment in 2017-18 will be utilised by Women NSW, who continue to work to advance women's equality and create economic opportunities for women and girls.

"It's better for all of society when women and men are respected and treated as equals. We need to work together to achieve equality for women and girls," Mrs Davies said.

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