



Paul Toole

Shadow Minister for Police

MEDIA RELEASE

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POLICE PREPARE FOR NEW YEAR'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SPIKE

One of the most celebrated days of the year is also one of the most dangerous for victims of domestic violence. New Year's Day is the worst day of the year for incidents of domestic violence, with calls for help doubling the daily average on January 1.

On average, NSW Police respond to 425 domestic violence related incidents per day. On 1 January 2025 this number doubled to 851 and it is anticipated a similar number of incidents will be reached on 1 January 2026.

The spike in domestic violence over the New Year period is a grim reminder that this harm is not random or unavoidable. It is driven by choices and behaviours that cause real and irreversible damage. Domestic violence is never excusable, regardless of stress, alcohol, financial pressure or circumstance.

Shadow Minister for Police Paul Toole said NSW Police will maintain a strong operational presence throughout the holiday season, including over New Year's Eve and Day, to protect the community.

"New Year's Day should be a day of fresh beginnings and celebration not harm and fear," Mr Toole said.

"There is no place for domestic violence in our community on any day of the year and the consequences of this crime extend far beyond the home, placing significant strain on health services, police, courts and community supports who will all be working overtime to keep people safe over the holidays."

Mr Toole said along with authorities, a whole-of-community response is needed.

"Domestic violence is never acceptable, never justified, and must be stamped out of our communities. Every person has the right to feel safe in their own home, regardless of the time of year," he said.

"Ending domestic and family violence requires zero tolerance and collective responsibility. Communities must speak out against abusive behaviour, support victims to seek help, and if you see or hear something, call NSW Police."



Victims and those concerned about someone's safety can access specialist help:

- NSW Domestic Violence Line: 1800 656 463
- 1800 RESPECT (National): 1800 737 732
- Emergency: Triple Zero (000)

It's important to remember there is never an excuse for violence, and support is available.

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BACKGROUND: The NSW Police Force receive on average 425 calls for assistance each day relating to domestic violence. On 1 January 2025, the NSW Police recorded 851 domestic violence related incidents.

Source: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/papers/pages/ganda-tracking-details.aspx?pk=102623>