



Media release

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Rape and sexual assault victims to pay the price of budget neglect

Queensland Sexual Assault Network (QSAN), the peak body for sexual violence support services, says that rape and sexual assault victims will sadly pay the price of the Queensland Government failing to address chronic underfunding in the latest state budget. QSAN Spokesperson Angela Lynch is available for comment today.

Quotes attributable to Angela Lynch, QSAN CEO:

“Victims of rape and sexual violence in Queensland are already waiting as long as 12 months to access support and are being re-assaulted while waiting for help. The neglect in the Queensland state budget does little to address this neglected and underfunded sector with only 3.7 million to be shared between domestic violence and sexual violence support services in the 2023-24 budget.

The Queensland Government is dangling the carrot of additional funding to the sexual assault support sector in years to come, however with an election looming, there is not guarantee this funding will eventuate.

“The Queensland Government’s budget has totally overlooked the dire situation that sexual assault victims face when reaching out for support and has ignored our pleas.

“What is the value of a 12 billion dollar surplus when thousands of victims can’t even get access to basic sexual assault support and rape counselling?”

“We need resources going to the frontline of sexual assault centres who haven’t had a substantive recurrent funding increase since 1996.

“Many support centres will now have to close their waitlists in months to come as temporary funding cuts off in December and demand increases on the back of new consent laws and school education programs.

“The Queensland Government has failed to provide adequate funding for sexual violence services in this budget and address the crisis we’re in. Now it’s just a matter of time before waitlists blow out further or are shut down completely and the Government must be answerable to this.”

Angela Lynch, QSAN CEO, is available to comment today.