

North West Tasmania – Crisis Support for Women Fleeing Domestic Violence

Ms DOW question to MINISTER for WOMEN and the PREVENTION of FAMILY VIOLENCE

My question is from a constituent in Smithton and it goes across a number of government portfolios. My constituent is concerned about the ongoing lack of crisis support for women fleeing domestic violence in North West Tasmania. They say that the closest safe space for women without children is an hour away, while those with children must travel at least one-and-a-half hours, assuming they have access to transport to flee in the first place.

For many women in crisis, these distances are simply not viable, leaving them with no immediate safe options. This places them at greater risk and forces impossible choices at a time of extreme vulnerability.

My constituent calls on the government to prioritise crisis and transitional housing in the North West and ensure that women in all regions have equal access to safety and support, and to provide information on how these critical gaps will be addressed.