

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## City of Ryde leaders sign pledge to prevent partner violence

The City of Ryde's male civic and community leaders have met and signed a pledge to support an end to violence against women and girls.

The meeting was part of the 16 Days of Activism, which is an annual international campaign to prevent and raise awareness of gender-based violence.

The campaign includes a focus on male leaders as part of a broad push to make women's safety a men's issue too.

Representatives from City of Ryde's local government, Ryde Police Local Area Command, Community Migrant Resource Centre's Multicultural Ambassadors and business communities joined together to sign the pledge.

The pledge includes a responsibility to stand together to prevent men's violence against women.

The City of Ryde has also become a White Ribbon accredited workplace.

The accreditation has involved the Council taking active steps to prevent violence against women. The actions have included introducing domestic violence policies and training, implementing 10 days of paid domestic violence leave and introducing discussion of domestic violence policies in the Council's staff induction training.

City of Ryde Mayor Clr Jordan Lane says it's critical that all parts of the community work together to prevent gender-based violence.

"This is an important issue that we all need to work on together, and this includes men who occupy positions of civic and community leadership.

"At least one in six women in NSW have experienced partner violence.

"This is a significant problem and it's something that affects our families and children.

"We need to work together on this and continue to achieve outcomes to improve our community moving forwards."

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