Robyn Preston
Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA STATEMENT

16/04/2026

UNITED SUPPORT FOR WAR WIDOWS IN HAWKESBURY

Member for Hawkesbury, Ms Robyn Preston MP has welcomed Hawkesbury City Council's unanimous support for a Mayoral Minute calling for fairer access to council rate concessions for war widows carried on Tuesday, 14 April 2026.

The Mayoral Minute calls on the NSW Government to amend Section 134 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 to remove the income and assets test that currently excludes some war widows from receiving support.

Ms Preston said 27 war widows in Hawkesbury are currently missing out due to the existing rules.

"This is about fairness. These women should not be excluded from support because of an outdated means test," Ms Preston said.

"The cost to Council is modest, but the benefit to those widows is significant - especially as cost-of-living pressures continue to rise."

Ms Preston said the decision builds on her ongoing advocacy for veterans' families.

"This continues the work I began as Shadow Minister for Veterans, working alongside War Widows and the Families of Veterans Guild to address inequities like this," she said.

Ms Preston thanked Mayor Les Sheather for bringing this important issue before Council and appreciated the full support of Hawkesbury City Councillors.

"This is a strong message from the Hawkesbury community that we stand by those who have sacrificed for our country."

Media Contact: Kim Fletcher | Hawkesbury Electorate Office | (02) 4578 0300