

**MEDIA RELEASE** | Tuesday, 8 November 2022

## **Leader of local domestic violence and legal service recognised for longstanding community service**

### **Naushee Rahman awarded Order of Liverpool on 7<sup>th</sup> November**

Liverpool local [Naushee Rahman](#) received the Order of Liverpool on Monday for her contributions to community, after years of volunteering at local organisations in Liverpool.

Liverpool Mayor Ned Mannoun presented Ms Rahman with the award at a ceremony at Casula Powerhouse.

Ms Rahman was nominated for the award by staff at [South West Sydney Legal Centre](#), a not-for-profit established in Liverpool in 1986. The Centre provides government-funded free legal services and free domestic and family violence services to thousands of people in Liverpool and other parts of South West Sydney and Sydney.

Ms Rahman has served as a voluntary board member with the Centre for 8 years and as Board Chair since 2019.

“Naushee has generously lent her time and skills to her local community for years, including on the board of non-profit [Hoxton Industries](#)” says Yvette Vignando, CEO of the Centre. “She is a strong leader and government policy analyst who has worked in government for over 15 years, but at the same time has volunteered in organisations she sees making a difference in Liverpool.”

“Despite South West Sydney residents enduring some of the toughest COVID-19 restrictions in the country, our Centre has maintained uninterrupted frontline service delivery and service demand continues to grow. In 2020–21, referrals to our legal service for women experiencing domestic violence grew by 20% and our local Women’s Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service saw a 28% increase in client numbers.

“Non-profits can only do their good work with the support of volunteer board members like Naushee. During Naushee’s service, the Centre has delivered domestic violence services to tens of thousands of women, and legal services to many thousands of locals. Many legal clients receive advice that enables them to maintain employment, successfully defend wrongful charges and ensure a safe and ongoing relationship with their children. Women’s lives are saved and changed for the better by our domestic violence services” says Ms Vignando. “It’s wonderful to have Naushee’s service recognised in this way.”

“I am grateful for the opportunity I’ve had to contribute to the excellent work of our local community organisations,” says Ms Rahman of winning the award. “It is an honour and humbling to be recognised by the City of Liverpool for something that has been so rewarding”