

HARBOURSIDE LAC

Community Safety Precinct Committee Action Minute

Report to Crime Prevention Partnership December 2008

Participating Agencies/Community members

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| Supt Belinda Nolan | Commander Harbourside LAC |
| Insp Craig James | Inspector Harbourside LAC |
| Insp Peter Thorne | Crime Manager Harbourside LAC |
| Tracy Martin | Intelligence Analyst Harbourside LAC |
| Lauren Moore | Crows Nest Chamber of Commerce |
| Dom Lopez | Mosman Council – Mayor |
| Viv May | Mosman Council – General Manager |
| Colin Croll | Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce |
| Wendy Foster | North Sydney Chamber of Commerce |
| Genia McCaffery | North Sydney Council – Mayor |
| Penny Holloway | North Sydney Council –General Manager |
| Jillian Skinner | Member of North Shore |
| Rick Doran | Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce |

Priority Crime Category

Local Crime Type Priorities

[Crime Summary, for the period of August to October 2008:](#)

[*Assault:](#) Increased from the previous quarter by 20. The hotspot is in Crows Nest, where half are Domestic Violence related and another 40% are alcohol related. A lot of these related to licensed premises ejecting intoxicated patrons from the hotel in line with Responsible Service of Alcohol, and security officers were assaulted in these proceedings.

*Break and Enter: Offences increased this quarter by 48, these have dropped dramatically in November 2008. The major hotspot this quarter is in lower Neutral Bay and Wollstonecraft, which it is believed that a specific offender whom has been caught twice in the last quarter is responsible for most of these residential break and enters. Residential break and enter offences had property of laptops, jewellery, handbags and cash stolen.

It was explained through bail conditions restrictions can be placed on an offender such as place restrictions and curfews to prevent an offender from re-offending in a particular area.

*Robbery: The number of robbery incidents has increased by 7 this quarter. There is no specific hotspot for robberies this quarter. The majority of the robberies are street robberies and businesses. In the earlier half of this quarter an offender was charged for business robberies in Neutral Bay.

*Stealing: The number of incidents has increased this quarter by 45. The hotspot for this quarter is in North Sydney and Crows Nest, it is predominately steal from motor vehicle incidents in car parks, laptops stolen. An offender has been identified for these offences and he has since been charged and these offences have greatly declined since then. Supt NOLAN advised everyone that victims leaving property in vehicles continues to be an issue in this command, for example GPS and laptops left visibly in vehicles or in unsecured vehicles results in offenders targeting this area knowing that they can benefit from attending the command.

*Stolen Vehicles: Increased by 21 this quarter but has since fallen again in the last month. There were three small clusters of stolen vehicles this month one in Mosman, Cremorne and North Sydney. There were no further trends to these offences. Toyota was the prominent vehicle makes stolen, Prado's and RAV4 specifically.

*Malicious Damages: Increased by 41 from last quarter to the current quarter. Mosman and Cremorne were the hotspots for this quarter and the majority can be linked to youth parties (private parties) held in the area on the night. The command is promoting a website, www.mynite.com.au for residents to inform police of parties they are hosting. The majority of all malicious damage offences involve the vandalism of vehicles parked on the street.

*Pro-activity: Pro-activity continues to increase. Person Searches and School Inspections have increased the most and over the summer these will continue to rise, with school holidays and the festive season.

Discussion Item

- ❖ Supt NOLAN explained to the committee that the VIEW project is continuing to be rolled out within NSW Police. As she discussed in previous PACT meetings this project involves the registering of businesses within the command that have CCTV so that footage can be shared with Police and that this area continues to have a high registration from businesses. Another part of the program that has been implemented in Harbourside LAC in recent weeks is software and a computer capable of joining footage from various cameras to create a single piece of evidence depicting an incident. Supt NOLAN provided another copy of the VIEW project brochure to all attending members.
- ❖ Dom LOPEZ asked how much of Harbourside crime is directly linked to drug use? Supt NOLAN advised that although we can measure associated factors of drug links to incidents we can never be sure how much property crime is linked to drug use and supporting an offender's habit.
- ❖ Penny HOLLAWAY queried any changes at Langley Park/reserve in Cremorne as a result of residents concerns. Insp JAMES informed her that the resident contacted him via mail and he spoke with her regarding the issues of youth and alcohol in the park. As result of this discussion it became a regular tasking for general duties police and also she contacted when the youth were at the location and police responded immediately and she has not had any problems since this.
- ❖ Penny HOLLAWAY asked about alcohol related crime in the area and the list of 48 hotels recently publicised that come under the new legislation with trading restrictions. She asked if any will affect this area. Insp THORNE explained that no licensed premise within this command was identified on this list, which is a positive for the area, but that some of the restrictions are in place at some hotels in the command on a voluntary basis. Such as no glasses at hotels that had 'glassing' assaults and lock outs from midnight. As these are voluntary and agreed to by the licensee to kerb problems in their hotels they are actually not enforceable by police, in saying that the licensee's in this area generally are good operators who work very well with police. Insp JAMES also supported Insp THORNE with regards to licensee co-operation in the area as he has seen North Sydney licensee's enforce there own instant lock outs at 11pm to avoid issues in their hotel which is positive for the community.
- ❖ Penny HOLLAWAY asked if there have been any changes with the issues at McDonalds Cremorne. Insp THORNE advised that it was only recently that measures were put into place to stop issues at and around the restaurant and that it will need to be re-assessed after the summer when the area is quite busy, to see what affect the measures may have had.

- ❖ Colin CROLL asked about assaults in Neutral Bay from the presentation, are they alcohol related? What are they about specifically? Tracy MARTIN advised that she is not aware of the actual incidents in Neutral Bay but can advised that there was no trend or pattern to them as they did not constitute an actual hotspot for the command.
- ❖ Lauren MOORE asked if there were any issues arising from the Crows Nest Fair this year. Insp JAMES advised that all the feedback from the fair was positive this year and absolutely no issues to report.
- ❖ Viv MAY advised that he is still receiving reports of problems at Reservoir Park in Mosman (off Brady St). He stated that residents are concerned with youth harassing them and graffiti in the area. Supt NOLAN stated that she liaises with Mosman High school principal about this problem earlier in the year and that the principal visited the location at lunch times redirected students back to the school and she is of the opinion that the problem was dealt with. Viv MAY praised the continual presence of the police bike unit and will direct residents to call police if youth are causing problems in the area. He also advised of complaints received that Mosman Hotel are exiting and using a back door exit to smoke and drink at the back of the hotel, it is in their license that the door is not to be utilised in this way and the council will be discussing this with the licensee/manager but he wanted police to be aware of this issue.
- ❖ Genia McCaffery stated that the RTA signs are still being covered in graffiti and she expressed her concerns that they won't allow the council to clean it off for free, for example the sign on Wycombe Rd, Neutral Bay heading towards Mosman (the sign is actually directing drivers to Mosman). Supt NOLAN stated that as a committee we can address this issue, Insp JAMES to look into this matter.
- ❖ Wendy FOSTER asked if people should report theft from mail boxes as she has North Sydney residents who had this happen to them and she advised them to call police. Supt NOLAN stated that this is the correct advice and victims can call PAL to report it conveniently, but it is important to report it. Wendy FOSTER also asked if police truly do endorse emails circulated regarding warnings of suspicious behaviour, such as not pulling over for unmarked vehicles with police lights as they may not be police at all. Insp THORNE explained that police do not endorse such stories and if any issues have arisen in the area that residents should be aware of that police will publish information in local papers.
- ❖ Insp JAMES outlined his role to everyone as the holder of the Customer Service Portfolio in Harbourside LAC. He encouraged members to liaise with him to express concerns so that a swift resolution can be accomplished.

Agreed updates to Crime Prevention Action Plan

| Intended Outcome | Agreed Strategies | Partner Agencies/Community member | Timeframe |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|
| <p>Malicious Damage- Graffiti. RTA will not allow council to clean off graffiti from RTA street signs. This is escalating and whilst councils are having success in eliminating graffiti this organisation hindering their efforts to keep the command clean.</p> | <p>Councils have complained to RTA without success. Insp JAMES to make enquiries regarding the reasoning for not allowing councils to clean graffiti and assess if this can be rectified.</p> | <p>NSW Police- Insp JAMES- lead agency. North Sydney and Mosman Councils partner agency</p> | <p>Date Due: Next meeting.</p> |