

## HARBOURSIDE LAC

### Community Safety Precinct Committee Action Minute

Report to Crime Prevention Partnership March 2009 – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009

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#### Participating Agencies/Community members

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
Viv May	Mosman Council – General Manager
Colin Croll	Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce
Martin Ellis	North Sydney Council- Dir Community Services
Jillian Skinner	Member of North Shore
Rick Doran	Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce

#### Apologies:

Dom Lopez	Mosman Council – Mayor
Genia McCaffery	North Sydney Council – Mayor
Penny Holloway	North Sydney Council –General Manager
Wendy Foster	North Sydney Chamber of Commerce
Susannah Hazel	North Sydney Chamber of Commerce

#### Priority Crime Category

#### Local Crime Type Priorities

[Crime Summary, for the period of December 2008 to February 2009:](#)

\*Assault: Increased from the previous quarter by 13. The hotspot is in North Sydney, where most were linked to licensed premises and were alcohol related. Some of these offences were personal violence related i.e. the victim and the offender knew each other hence they were not random attacks. A portion of them were allegations of security officers assaulting patrons of hotels but in all of these cases the alleged victim was so intoxicated that they cannot truly remember what happened and there was no evidence to support their claims.

\*Break and Enter: Offences increased this quarter by 10. The major hotspot this quarter is in North Sydney, which are predominantly Business/commercial premises, this type of B&E has now dramatically decreased due to an arrest on 1/2/09 by Harbourside police of an offender targeting these premises all across Sydney. Residential break and enters have been a bigger concern for the command in Mosman, Neutral Bay, Cammeray and Cremorne. Numerous measures have been put into place to combat this problem. Residential break and enters are a concern for most of the Sydney metropolitan area. Supt NOLAN advised that 5 persons were charged in January and February for Break and Enter offences but it seemed to have little impact on the number of offences. Another 2 were charged last week. She further explained that more heroin available on the street has historically shown an increase in Break and enter across Sydney but also that the economic decline could not be eliminated as a contributing factor to the increase in Break and Enter offences. Insp THORNE advised that extra operations have been conducted in the command to combat the increase in incidents.

\*Robbery: The number of robbery incidents has decreased by 2 this quarter. Most were street robberies and in most of these incidents the victim was affected by alcohol at the time. Charges were made against a man for the robbery of a chemist in the last quarter.

\*Stealing: The number of incidents has decreased this quarter by 24. There were a few hotspots this quarter; Kirribilli had theft of personal property on New Years Eve whilst victims were watching fireworks as well as mail theft from private mailboxes, an offender was charged for these incidents. Milsons Point had stealing of unattended property at Luna Park along with property on trains. North Sydney CBD had steal from motor vehicle offences in car parks, retail thefts from shops and unattended property at cafes and hotels. Wollstonecraft had a number of thefts from marine vessels in January at the marina at Wondakaih. Crows Nest had stealing's from motor vehicles as people continue to leave valuables in their vehicle (eg laptops & cash).

\*Stolen Vehicles: Increased by 4 this quarter. A small hotspot in Mosman relates to the attempted theft of 2 motorbikes in Mosman from a personal garage. The common vehicle make stolen was Toyota but there was a large variety in vehicle make stolen. Supt NOLAN advised that recovered stolen vehicle's from this command, if located, are usually located in the western suburbs of Sydney supporting the theory that it is transient offenders committing these offences. She further explained that with the use of immobilisers on high performance vehicles criminals now tend to break into homes to steal the keys for these cars.

\*Malicious Damages: Decreased by 18 from last quarter to the current quarter. The hotspot in North Sydney relates to damage at a school and also there was graffiti at train stations. Vehicles continue to be vandalised across the command and the acts are random, with only a few relating to personal matters between the victim and offender.

\*Pro-activity: Pro-activity continued to fluctuate over the holiday's period. Person Searches and School Inspections increased over this period with many people visiting the command for celebrations and events and with the schools being closed for most of this period. Martin ELLIS asked if officers actually patrol within the school, Supt NOLAN informed everyone that yes officer do go onto the school grounds if they need to.

#### **Discussion Items**

- ❖ Supt NOLAN provided the dates for future CSPC meetings in 2009, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 14<sup>th</sup> September and 14<sup>th</sup> December, all fall on a Monday.
- ❖ Matters from previous meeting: Insp JAMES advised that he has established a contact person within NSW RTA that will be the liaison point regarding the removal of graffiti from RTA signs. Insp JAMES will email the relevant contact details to everyone. Viv MAY asked that North Sydney council keep in contact with Mosman council on their success with future RTA requests in the removing of graffiti. Jillian SKINNER supported this and suggested that if the council's do not have success with the RTA from this contact to let her know.
- ❖ Lauren MOORE enquired about the graffiti register. Supt NOLAN advised that it has been created and whilst it only has a small number of tags currently registered that it is expected to grow over time. She further explained that the register is a database of tags photographed in the command and the purpose of it is to hopefully link offenders when they are identified with a tag and possibly instigate more charges for other incidents of their tag being located, identified through the graffiti register. It will also be a tool for identifying the owner of tags- through a Memorandum of understanding between police, the Dept of Education and schools (both private and public), Supt NOLAN is hoping to advise principals of the register and

maybe identify the owners of tags, as she conducts a principals forum bi-annually in the command. This is just one avenue for identifying the responsible tagger's. The Youth Liaison Officer is responsible for the graffiti register with the Crime Prevention officer assisting him. Jillian SKINNER asked that the commander express on their behalf how much of a community concern graffiti is at the Principals Forum.

- ❖ Viv MAY enquired about the technology being used by HWP in Mosman and its success in the area? Supt NOLAN explained that the Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) is a great tool for the command in identifying unregistered and hence uninsured vehicles on the road and surprisingly a lot of people drive around unregistered without any real concern. The fine's can be hefty and whilst it is a useful tool we do not always have at our disposal, as it is shared within the region this is due to the cost of the technology. Supt NOLAN continued to explain that Field Identification equipment is currently being initiated within the command for officers to identify people on the street as opposed to having to bring them back to the station to be fingerprinted; this has the potential to save a lot of time for officers.
- ❖ Jillian SKINNER asked if the community are to call police when they have problems with water leaks from neighbours. For example she had a constituent call her as a unit above theirs was leaking water into the individuals unit and no persons were home in the unit above, the concerned resident did not know who to call for assistance. Insp JAMES advised that people can call the police as it can then be assessed if there is a concern for welfare for the person living in the unit that is causing the leak and hence lawful entry can be made to the unit to assess this and rectify the situation if possible.
- ❖ Martin ELLIS asked if Supt NOLAN would be willing to have a representative from the Police attend the regular Greenway meetings. He further explained that previously the meetings have been more productive with the Police and Jillian SKINNER present as the residents tend to have more faith in the meetings. Supt NOLAN stated that she would be happy to send a representative.
- ❖ Rick DORAN stated that he believed that there has been a marked decrease in the amount of graffiti around the area. Supt NOLAN commended the council initiative in removing the graffiti for this marked difference in appearance in the command. Insp THORNE explained that retailers are very compliant in the correct storage of spray cans/paints in the command and they are audited regularly.
- ❖ Colin CROLL stated that his only concern of late was the ATM explosion last month in Neutral Bay. Insp THORNE explained that the command has conducted risk assessments on ATM's throughout the command and those that are rating as a high risk are having extra patrols conducted. Rick DORAN stated that the Telegraph newspaper published an article which was a guide to blowing up an ATM, he felt this was irresponsible. Insp THORNE explained that media outlets can be charged if they over step the line and affecting investigations and charges have been laid on media corporations previously. He further explained that banks are now implementing various measures to combat ATM thefts.

- ❖ The Crime Prevention Officers media release was discussed and it was agreed that any information regarding preventative measures that the community need to be aware of can also be forwarded to both councils, Jillian SKINNER and Lauren MOORE for them to include in their respective newsletters to the community. Jillian SKINNER would also like to receive all the information that is forwarded to the Chambers of Commerce. This will be arranged by Insp JAMES.
- ❖ Lauren MOORE asked how the use of the engraver is working for the command, as she is trying to promote it in Crows Nest. Insp JAMES explained that it is being used and that everyone is welcome to come and sign it out and borrow it from the command to engrave property.
- ❖ Lauren MOORE advised of a traffic issue that has been approved for Crows Nest at the intersection of Holtermann St and Alexander St, a roundabout will be built here. This has been a proposal for many years, community feedback was sort and supported the change, some residents of the streets were not supportive but the RTA has approved the proposal, hence the roundabout will go ahead.

**Agreed updates to Crime Prevention Action Plan**

<b>Intended Outcome</b>	<b>Agreed Strategies</b>	<b>Partner Agencies/Community member</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>