

**ROSEHILL LAC COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT COMMITTEE MINUTES 20 MAY 2011,
VENUE LEVEL 1, GRANVILLE POLICE STATION.**

Participating Agencies/Community members;

Name	Position	Agency/Organisation
John Chedid	Lord Mayor	Parramatta City Council
Robert Williams	Crime prevention Officer	Parramatta City Council
Tony Issa	Member of Parliament	Member for Granville
Bob McGowan	Inspector	Parramatta Fire Brigade
Darren Husdell		NSW Fire & Rescue
Tara Murphy	Team Leader	Safety & Security UWS
Brett Gibson		Safety & Security UWS
Afagh Afaridan		Iranian Community Organisation
Tim Flynn		Department of Housing
Tara George		Department of Housing
Kevin Cheng		Parramatta Advertiser
Graham Robinson		Dept Education & Training
Craig Bennett	Security Coordinator	Shell Oil Refinery
Amarinda Bajwa		United Indian Assoc
Gholam Aboss		Nabi Akram Centre
Ahmad Shah Batkhtiari		Nabi Akram Centre
Shubha Kumar		India Club
Paula Chegwiddden		G'ville Multicultural Centre
Robert Barnett	Local Area Commander	Rosehill LAC
Terry Hinds	Crime Manager	Rosehill LAC
Cindy Noakes	Intelligence Officer	Rosehill LAC
Brad Uys	Crime Coordinator	Rosehill LAC
Paula Pelling	DVLO	Rosehill LAC
Michael Tory	Licensing Officer	Rosehill LAC
Karen Myors	YLO	Rosehill LAC
Scott Duross	CPO	Rosehill LAC
Badrul Khan	MCLO	Rosehill LAC

Apologies;

Ray Brincat		Department of Housing
Leisa Lockton		Department of Housing
John Ohmer	President	G'ville Chamber of Commerce
Damien Hughes		NSW Ambulance Service
Mark Barchio		Granville Boys High
Chris Baker		G'ville Youth & Community
Peter Ryan	Security Coordinator	Shell Oil Refinery

Meeting Opened: 10:10am

Superintendent Barnett opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. He then introduced the various Police officers in attendances that hold portfolios that deal with community safety. Each of these officers gave a brief overview of their functions and objectives.

Superintendent Barnett spoke of the strategies the Command has in place in an effort to reduce crime and to ensure Local Area Commanders are communicating to their local communities, the strategies were to;

- Encourage community partnerships to reduce crime and fear of crime.
- Develop local solutions to local crime in partnership with local stakeholders.
- Improve public safety and reduce the fear of crime at local level.
- Raise understanding of the relationship between policing and crime reduction.
- Ensure Commanders take into account local community view of policing visibility, police deployment and crime hotspots when deciding police tasking and deployment.

What the Command is doing to meet these objectives;

- Increase community engagement (eg Local Area Command (LAC) meetings).
- Improve coordination of visible authority (eg VIKINGS and Mobile Police Station)
- Target antisocial behaviour, high profile and/or alcohol related events.
- Traffic enforcement, intelligence driven taskings, identify hotspots, complaint areas, problematic offenders, disqualified drivers.
- Increase communication, local media coverage of crimes, arrests, operations.

Proactive measures in place which is monitored at LAC, Region and State level by;

- Drug Detections
- Regular Person Searches
- Move On's
- Information Reports
- Business & School Inspections
- Charges
- Traffic

Other proactive measures used daily include;

- Releasee visits – RR's debriefed by officers, high risk offenders evaluated and nominated as Suspect Target Management Plan II (STMP II) targets.
- STMP II – controlled approach to the assessment, targeting and management of repeat offenders.
- Bail curfew checks, bail and AVO compliance operations.
- Vikings funded High Visibility Policing (HVP) operations.

Tasking & deployment;

- Fortnightly reviews, crime trends, strategies, what/why/where & who, major operations/events, operation Vikings & deployment of Rosehill 80 (mobile Police bus).

Crime deployment briefings;

- Dailey review of overnight crime, Arrests & charges, Bail conditions, wanted persons, Intelligence and Warrants.

A Power Point presentation was also show highlighting statistics for major crimes categories within the Command. They categories included Robbery, Stealing, Malicious Damage, Break Enter & Steal, Assault and Traffic. The statistics were measured over a period of three years (April 2008 to April 2011). The number of charges (481) for these crimes for the last three months of 2011 was also shown in the presentation.

A brief overview from the portfolio holders was presented by each member.

Crime Manager, Acting Inspector Hinds;

Acting Inspector Hinds said the Command does experience difficulties with the community as it is a multi cultural with people from various cultural backgrounds.

The difficulties being experienced are cultural and language, however, all efforts are made to address these issues through the Command's MCLC and meetings with the various ethnic community leaders. Community involvement is an important aspect in fighting crime.

Acting Inspector Hinds went on to say the Command has recently acquired a Mobile Police Station (RH 80) which can be utilised at crime scenes and other hot spot locations. This provides a visual police presence and a deterrent in hot spot locations.

Domestic Violence Liaison Officer, Senior Constable Pelling;

Senior Constable Pelling explained what domestic and family violence issues are and what impact they have on the community. She stated that domestic and family violence offences are a personal violence offence committed by a person, with whom the person has had or is having a domestic relationship with.

A domestic relationship can be a relationship with your spouse, de-facto partner, ex-partner, mother, father, brother, sister, anyone who is related to the family or a carer or person living in the same household or accommodation.

Domestic violence can include physical abuse, psychological abuse, sexual abuse, social abuse, economic abuse, emotional abuse, intimidation, threats, stalking and harassment. Domestic Violence also affects children

Statistics on Domestic Violence were provided by Senior Constable Pelling, they are as follows;

- There are approximately 55 to 120 Domestic Violence incidents every month.
- In April this year 91% of Domestic Violence related incidents resulted in an Apprehended Violence Orders application being applied for.
- Rosehill LAC has a current legal action rate of 60% for domestic assaults. The state average for domestic assault is 60%.

Projects and campaigns to help reduce the amount of Domestic Violence in our Community are available through many outlets including;

Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service. This service operates on Tuesdays at Parramatta Local Court where victims are given advice about court attendances.

Bonnie's Support Services. Consent for referral is gained at the scene by attending police. A support worker then makes contact with victims to refer to different services. i.e. counselling, help with centre link, emergency housing. This service is also a refuge.

Parramatta/Holroyd DV Safety Committee. Bi monthly meeting held where representatives from Police, Council and Non Government Organisations meet to discuss issues affecting DV victims. A chance for information share of the respective organisations and organise community awareness regarding Domestic Violence. (White Ribbon Day, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women).

Licensing Officer, Senior Constable Tory;

The role of the Licensing Officer is to provide effective administration and enforcement of Liquor and Miscellaneous Licences throughout the Command.

Functions performed by the Licensing Officer are to;

- Inspection and audit of licensed premises, licenses and all matters, which are the subject to a license.
- Assist in conducting licensing investigations and initiate appropriate legal proceedings on licensing.
- Investigate complaints relevant to licensing.
- Conduct probity enquires, investigate applicants for various licenses and maintain licensing records.
- Identify criminal activity associated with licensing within the Rosehill LAC, develop and implement suitable strategies.
- Assist with the development and maintenance of a comprehensive intelligence system concerning all licensing activities within the Rosehill LAC.
- Development of strategies to reduce drug, alcohol and other licensing related crime.
- Develop and maintain links with community groups, business, organisations with regard to licensing issues.
- Contribute to the training of Rosehill LAC personnel on licensing issues.

Rosehill Local Area Command has 66 licensed premises; they are 9 Hotels, 9 Registered Clubs, 17 on premises licences, 19 packaged liquor licences, 6 limited function licences and 5 producers.

Youth Liaison Officer (YLO), Constable Myors;

The NSW Police Force appointed youth liaison officers to communicate effectively with the two million children and young people under the age of 25 in NSW.

The position was established in 1998 and there is a youth liaison officer in every LAC in the state. YLO's ensure police meet their legislative responsibilities in relation to the Young Offender's Act 1997 and represent the service at youth related community forums and meetings. The role of YLO is to;

- Liaise with schools and provide presentations, Crime Prevention workshops
- Network with other agencies and community groups
- Liaise with the Department of Education
- YLO's deliver cautions to young people.
- Make the final decision about referring young people to court or a youth justice conference.
- Key contact points between the LAC and the Department of Juvenile Justices.
- Position established in 1998 and there is a youth liaison officer in every local area command in the state
- YLO's ensure police meet their legislative responsibilities in relation to the Young Offender's Act 1997.
- Represent the service at youth related community forums and meetings

Crime Prevention Officer (CPO), Constable DuRoss;

Constable DuRoss explained that the role of a CPO is to Identify short, medium and long term crime prevention priorities. Once identified the CPO will initiate, develop, co-ordinate and evaluate targeted crime prevention strategies and programs to address the Commands crime reduction priorities.

He added that the CPO also conducts risk assessments for individuals and local organisations in an effort to reduce the opportunity for crime and promotes awareness and understanding of community safety within the commands boundaries.

Some current projects in place are; direct mail out providing crime prevention information, residential security assessment, UV marker projects, grazier register project and CCTV – VIEW Project.

Operation Tabella is another initiative in place to reduce the number of registration plates being stolen from motor vehicles. This operation involves the fitting of one-way security screws to a vehicles number plates to reduce the risk of the number plates being stolen and being used in criminal acts.

The CPO also represents the Command on crime prevention-related committees and working parties.

Multi-Cultural Liaison Officer (MCLO), Badrul Khan;

The MCLO program employs civilian officers at the local level to work with communities and police towards achieving corporate priorities through liaison, project implementation and networking with local communities and police. The role of MCLOs in strengthening links and facilitating communication and interaction between police and culturally and linguistically diverse communities is critical to a high quality customer focused policing service. MCLOs are instrumental in identifying local priorities for police and culturally diverse communities and are largely responsible for encouraging partnerships and forging better relationships between police officers and members of the community. Rosehill Local Area Command is culturally diverse. Its diversity include presence of many groups such as people from Middle Eastern backgrounds, Philippines, Chinese, Korean, Indian, Iranian, Afghan and communities from African backgrounds. There are communities who are considered as emerging such as the Sudanese and those who are well established already such as those from the Middle Eastern backgrounds.

The MCLO works with the following community organisations:

Granville Multicultural Community Centre, Granville Youth and Recreational Centre, Nabi Akram Centre, Granville Australian Chinese Community Association, MRC Parramatta, Iranian Community Organisation, United Indian Associations INC and Parramatta Council

Projects

Rosehill LAC has run a number of projects in the past including Religion and Family Harmony project and two camps: Afghan Youth Camp at Broken Bay (2009) and Police - Sudanese youth camp at Narrabeen (2010). The projects run currently are

MAAP project (at risk youth from African Muslim background)

This project aims to develop and enhance relationships between the Police and young people of African and Muslim backgrounds who are participating in or have the potential to participate in at-risk and anti-social behavior. The project aims to engage young people in crime prevention strategies that are already known to the Police as well as early intervention work to address the potential at-risk and anti-social behavior of some young people within the African and Muslim communities. The project gathers young people once every month and organises BBQ, Workshop and Soccer Tournament with police presence in all these activities.

Police – International student’s project

Rosehill LAC runs a regular campaign for students from Indian background in Harris Park area on personal safety, crime prevention and crime reporting. Rosehill and Parramatta LAC launch awareness campaign distributing leaflets on robbery and how to report crime and be safe on the street of Harris Park. Posters are also hung at all shops in Harris Park area. ECLO from Rosehill LAC visits the Hindu temple in Harris Park to distribute safety brochures and meet with the many worshippers. Safety brochures are also distributed regularly to the commuters at Harris Park Railway station during the morning and evening peak hours.

University of Western Sydney runs orientation day for international students at its Parramatta Campus. Our LAC has been participating in this event twice every year to distribute information on safety and crime reporting.

African youth Camp with Relationship Australia & other community organisations in June

Families from refugee backgrounds face particular difficulty in managing adolescence and teenagers challenging behaviours and moods. This is gravely impacting on the capacity of families to have safe and harmonious family life, where parents themselves are struggling with numerous other settlement challenges. **Adolescence and youth are represented in high numbers in familial discord besides couple issues. Behaviour issues in classroom and homes, truancy, conflicts in playground as well as involvement in petty crimes are quite often reflected in the cases referred to the project.** The young people are also trying to cope with the trauma of the refugee experience, current challenges of the school and study life. They are also caught between ‘parent’s culture’ and general youth culture.

The camp which is scheduled in June 2011 will provide educational activities to foster relationships building with family and peer group. The activities will focus on educating young people on conflict resolution, anger management, handling trauma, peer pressure bullying, truancy, and crime prevention strategies. It will help create an awareness of the law by coming into interaction with Police. This model would address the needs of traumatised refugee youth in a prevention and early intervention approach. The project will also strive to promote acceptance and harmony between cultures from various refugee communities.

General Business;

Superintendent Barnett invited comments from the attending participants to raise any issues of concern.

Tony Issa MP, Member for Granville

Mr. Issa made reference to his concerns about the crime in the areas of Granville and Harris Park, especially drug/alcohol related crime and suggested these areas should have a greater priority.

He also made reference to DOH residents and offenders being released from prison not getting any support from the police and suggested there should be greater interaction with other government agencies to assist these members of the community. Superintendent Barnett, the Crime Manager and Intel Officer addressed his concerns.

Mr. Issa closed off by saying he felt the Police are doing a great job and he added his support.

Afagh Afaridan, Iranian Community Organisation.

Ms Afaridan had concerns that young persons from an cultural diverse background who were in trouble with the Police were at a disadvantage due to cultural differences and communication difficulties. She suggested that Police should involve the parents and the school they attend to help resolve the problem.

Amarinda Bajwa, United Indian Association.

Mr Bajwa also had concerns for members of the community who have recently arrived in Australia and had difficulties in communicating with Police as many of them were uneducated and had a poor command of the English language.

He said they don't understand the law and often are unaware they have committed a crime and feel intimidated.

John Chedid, Lord Mayor Parramatta City Council.

Mr. Chedid indicated that these meetings were a good idea as the community and Police must work together. He made reference to the 'Indian Problem' at Harris Park and felt it was inflated; this was an issue of concern raised earlier by Mr. Tony Issa MP.

He said that Parramatta Council will be installing more CCTV in the area to help fight crime. The cost will be met by the council.

He also felt that the illegal dumping of rubbish, mainly old house hold goods, was becoming a costly problem. He felt this issue should be addressed through newsletters and the printed media.

MEETING CLOSED. 11:30am

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER, 2011 AT GRANVILLE POLICE STATION.