

**NEW ENGLAND LOCAL AREA COMMAND
MINUTES OF INVERELL/GLEN INNES/TENTERFIELD
CSPC MEETING
HELD AT TENTERFIELD COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2010
COMMENCING AT 1.30 PM**

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

PRESENT:

Mr Richard Torbay, Member for Northern Tablelands; Mr Toby Smith, Mayor Tenterfield Council; Mr Colin Price, Deputy Mayor of Glen Innes; Insp Matt Lynch; A/Insp Stuart Gray; Insp Rowan O'Brien, Insp George McGilvray, Sgt Carter Knyvett, Chris Milne Executive Officer; S/Cst Jo Habgood; Mr Bill Monro, Glen Innes Business Rep;

APOLOGIES:

Mr Barry Johnston, Mayor Inverell Council; Mr Anthony Michael, Inverell Chamber of Commerce; Superintendent Greg Martin & Insp. Greig Stier, NSW Police.

WELCOME: Acting Inspector Gray thanked all parties for attending.

Minutes of last meeting ratified. Moved by Mayor Smith & seconded by Insp O'Brien.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Nil.

1. CRIME REPORTS:

- Sector Control Charts maps and supporting material presented to CSPC members as a slideshow.

Inverell

Assault: Alcohol related assaults spiked during the Christmas period with most occurring in and around licensed premises. Non DV assaults no issues. DV assaults remain static.

Break and Enter: (Dwelling) A general decrease in this category. (Non dwelling) A reduction with only 4 reported.

Drug detection: Reduction in figures. Police from the New England Local Area Command have been assisting the Coffs Clarence LAC resulting in some large drug detections. This is not reflected in the NELAC figures. (Supply) Reduction in figures.

Major Traffic Crashes: Static. Continued vigilance in relation to 'P' plate offenders.

Traffic: Number of tickets issued were down for the reporting period. Eight Highway Patrol officers were deployed to Tamworth in January for the Country Music Festival.

Malicious Damage: Spike during the Christmas School Holidays with most of the damage being minor and of nuisance value, e.g. mailboxes

Stolen Motor Vehicles: Not a major issue.

Steal from Motor Vehicles: Figures show a reduction in this category.

Stealing: Spike during a recent Loss Prevention Operation. The majority of incidents involve retail theft with Target Country experiencing an unacceptable level of theft during recent months. The store is currently undergoing a security upgrade.

PROACTIVITY

Move on and Person Search: Increase due to seasonal trends.

GLEN INNES:

Assault: Alcohol related assaults – trending down. Non DV assaults – no issues. DV assaults – trending down with zero reported for 2010.

Break & Enter: Dwelling – figures on the increase and mainly opportunistic. Non Dwelling – not a major issue. Police have arrested a number of offenders during the last few months.

Major Traffic Crashes: Not a major issue. A high visibility Highway Patrol operation called 'VIPERS' will be conducted in the coming months and will include police from Oxley, Barwon and New England LACS.

Traffic: There was a spike during the Christmas School Holiday period due to good pro-activity by all police and an increase in traffic on the roads.

Malicious Damage: Reduction in figures during December & January. It is mainly minor damage reported such as damage to mailboxes, etc.

Steal from Motor Vehicles: Not an issue.

Stealing: Slight seasonal spike in December & January. There were very few reports of shoplifting by retailers.

Stolen Motor Vehicles: Nil reported.

Person Searches: Increase in figures reflect good pro-activity.

TENTERFIELD:

Assaults: Alcohol related assaults - up slightly however still low figures. Mainly street offence matters. Assault (Non DV) – reduction during December & January. Assault (DV) – remain static.

Break & Enter: Dwellings – there was dramatic drop in figures due to offenders being arrested, however have slightly increased due to offenders being released or having bail conditions eased. Non Dwelling – excellent figures.

Major Traffic Crashes: Low numbers.

Traffic: Spike in figures during Christmas period.

Malicious Damage: Two young persons charged with graffiti matters.

Steal from Motor Vehicle: Figures low.

Stealing: Excellent downward trend with very low numbers.

Stolen Motor Vehicles: One (1) in December.

Move- Ons: Above target average. The additional Alcohol Free Zone has been of great assistance to local police.

Person Searches: Figures are down in line with Break & Enter offences being down. There has been no lawful excuse to search people.

2. POLICE VISIBILITY & DEPLOYMENT & STAFFING ISSUES:

Inverell: Three new Sergeants positions have been filled in addition to two new authorised positions being allocated. There is currently one Senior Constable and one Sergeant on long-term sick leave. The Sergeant's position will be advertised state wide this month. There is only one shift to be filled by an outstation during the next six week roster cycle.

Tingha: One new staff member will commence duties on 21/03/10.

Tenterfield: One officer will be transferring out and will be replaced by an officer transferring in from Armidale sector.

Glen Innes: A new officer from Sydney will be commencing duties in March. One General Duties Constable is currently assisting in the Detectives office. Sgt Cattell is continuing to relieve as Inspector at Armidale.

****Actions****Insp Lynch to advise the next meeting as to how many staff are on long term sick leave within each sector of the command.

3. ISSUES AND DECISIONS OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

No outstanding action items from the last meeting.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUPS:

This is a Standing Agenda item. No specific working groups at this time.

5. CURRENT EMERGING ISSUES:

Tenterfield

The Tenterfield Show was held on the 5th & 6th of February with one major incident being reported during the event where a man was knocked to the ground and rendered unconscious in a seemingly unprovoked attack by a group described as being of aboriginal appearance.

The show bar closed at midnight and all patrons left the grounds by 1:00am. Around 5:00am a violent dispute erupted between two local families resulting in 8 police and 1 ACLO being recalled to duty. So far 18 people have been charged, mainly with the offence of Affray, 2 people charged with Malicious Damage and at least another two people to be charged with various offences. While most of the offenders were Tenterfield residents, some of the offenders were visitors to the town.

Mayor Smith has received numerous calls from residents expressing their concerns about the violent behaviour of some local residents. Mayor Smith also expressed his frustration at the situation where problematic families are evicted from a residence due to anti-social behaviour by one housing group only to be immediately re-housed by an alternate housing organisation.

6. INTERAGENCY DEVELOPMENT:

No issues with interagency development. Going very well and will be strengthened now that the Memorandums of Understanding between the various government organisations have been signed to allow for the free flow of information.

A PLACE Meeting was held in Tenterfield this morning, 10th February. The new Anti-Social Behaviour Pilot Programme is now underway.

There is no PLACE Meeting scheduled for Inverell during February.

7. MATTERS OF INTEREST:

- Inspector O'Brien gave a presentation on current development activity at Wyaliba
- Operation 'NORTHMORE' was conducted during November and was a joint operation between Barwon LAC, New England LAC and Warwick Police targeting traffic & drug offences. A number of arrests were made and drug detections in relation to heavy vehicles. An outstanding arrest warrant relating to a Murder charge was also detected and an arrest made.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Nil.

The next meeting will be conducted at Inverell Council Chambers on the 26th of May 2010.

Meeting closed: 3:30pm