



Hon Michael Gallacher MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

MEDIA RELEASE

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CRIME STATISTICS IDENTIFY FOCUS AREAS FOR CRIME REDUCTION

NSW Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Michael Gallacher today said the latest data from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) highlight crime trends that continue to be a problem and need greater focus.

“While it is pleasing to see that the major crime categories remain stable or have fallen, today’s figures also highlight types of crime that remain a problem across NSW,” Minister Gallacher said.

“It’s important to note that while we do have many state-wide categories stable or falling, we have significant spikes in individual LAC’s and unlike the previous Labor Government we will not ignore this.

“In the area of drug offences there are a number of possession and trafficking crime increases and the Government will work with the NSW Police Force to ensure they have the necessary resources to tackle this type of crime.

“The O’Farrell Government is committed to establishing a second Sydney Drug Court and a Metropolitan Drug Treatment Facility stopping people from becoming caught up in the drug crime revolving door.

“The NSW Police Force is working hard with the NSW Crime Commission, the Australian Federal Police and other law enforcement agencies to target drug trafficking and reduce the amount of drugs in NSW.

“The O’Farrell Government will provide police and the courts with the resources and powers they need to target and punish drug traffickers and dealers as we help drug users kick their habit.

“We are also committed to driving down assaults across NSW and this Government will provide resources including an additional 25 Mobile Police Command Vehicles to target problem hot spots where anti-social behaviour is an issue.

“One of the problems with statistics remains the under reporting of crime, particularly when it comes to property crime.

“In some areas of the state stealing offences, such as break, enter and steal, seem to be on the rise.

“This Government is committed to reinvigorating the Neighbourhood Watch program which builds stronger relations between the Police and the community.

“We will breathe new life into Neighbourhood Watch by requiring every LAC to have at least one neighbourhood watch group.

“This Government is committed to delivering on our commitments to provide the NSW Police with additional frontline resources.

“The O’Farrell Government will increase the Authorised Strength of the NSW Police Force by 550 offices including an additional 100 Highway Patrol Officers,” Minister Gallacher concluded.

ENDS

MEDIA: Clint McGilvray 0413 285 186