

Wagga Wagga Local Command

Community Safety Precinct Committee Action Minute

Report to Crime Prevention Partnership 6th April 2009

Participating Agencies/Community members

Held new Wagga Wagga Police Station

Representatives as follows:

Daryl McGuire Member for Murrumbidgee

Jacqueline BRODIE ICC Indigenous Community Council

Mr Ian SMITH Manager NAB – President of Chamber and Commerce.

Mr Scott McKee on behalf of NSW Dept of Housing. Apology Mr Paul HARDING.

Mr Kerry PASCOE Wagga Wagga City Council – Mayor.

Ms Lyn RUSSELL – Wagga Wagga City Council – General Manager

Police: Supt Mr Frank GOODYER

Crime Manager D/Insp Rodney SMITH

Crime Crime Co-Ordinator Sgt Ross Jackson

LAC Licensing Supervisor Sgt Nigel TURNEY

Priority Crime Category

Break enter and Steal, Alcohol related assaults, Licensed premises adverse premises, Steal from motor vehicle, Malicious damage, Crime prevention strategies CBD, youth programs, Aboriginal and ASD objectives discussed.

Local Crime Type Priorities

Must relate to the extended CPP targets

Informed by analysis of the attached Trend, Operational Performance Crime Review and Alcohol Related Crime Overview Reports

Eg. reduce alcohol related assaults

Det/Insp Rod Smith gave an overview as follows:

- The first of the two biggest problems in the LAC is **Break Enter and Steal** in commercial, school and industry. There were 58 events last month, with 67% occurring during night hours. There were 30 commercial BE&S, and 26% were schools, with the majority of these being the small sector town schools. Hairdressing salons were also targeted and are being encouraged to leave no cash on the premises, especially on Friday nights.
- Last month a man was apprehended breaking into the Turvey Tops Pharmacy. He is now off the streets, and was suspected of several BE&S.
- The second biggest problem in the LAC is **alcohol related assaults**, with 46 events being reported during March

2009. 33% or 16 of these were domestic violence events. There is a definite alcohol factor in domestic violence. 29 were not domestic violence related but were events in and around hotels, with FSS most common.

- 59% of events were in Wagga, and 16% were in Temora.
- **Licensed Premises – Vic Hotel** has the most recorded events. He met with Lyn Stewart (licensee) last week and set out conditions similar to those that have been applied to the Capital. There were no events reported this weekend.
- The **Capital** is still high on the agenda for Operation Jindalla even though it is open for only five hours per week. It is one of the top 48 hotels in the State being monitored for adverse problems. Police enter the premises after midnight to assess behaviour.
- **Steal from Motor Vehicle** is fluctuating. This is mainly being carried out by a small number of young offenders. Contrary to public belief, the majority of these offences occur outside houses and in the streets, with 27% of offences being carried out in the CBD and 66% offences occurring outside residences or from parked cars. There have been only 12 cars in car parks broken into. A young man was arrested in Koorinal last month after breaking into eight vehicles on a carrier.
- **Stealing Motor Vehicles** is not a big problem with roughly 20 per month. Friday and Monday are big days for this activity in the CBD. 54% of cars are stolen from outside residences and from the street. Holden is the most popular make, with 38% of vehicles stolen.
- **Malicious Damage** – again, contrary to public belief, graffiti is only a small portion, with the great proportion of reports being smashed windows and damaged letterboxes. Friday and Saturday nights are the worst times, with the CBD being the top of the list with 31% of reported damage. The Commander commented that graffiti is the most visible form of damage but is the least reported, probably because it is more accepted. The public needs to be educated to report graffiti when it occurs.
- Last month there were 197 charges, but this is below average charges per month. Emphasis was placed on getting in crooks' faces (Visibility, Perception, Paranoia, Purpose) and with 453 people searched, a decline was achieved.
- **CBD Central** has a strategic operation aligned with particular events occurring. For example, the dog squad arrested 14 people at Dusty Day. The dogs will again be brought in for Anzac Day and the Wagga Cup.

- **Impact** is a daily event where officers meet and discuss target areas then attend and be visible.
- **Bail Compliance** – a strategy has been set up to impose bail on young offenders rather than refuse bail. Curfews, associations, alcohol bans etc are some of the impositions. The offenders are then checked up on, and if they are not complying, their bail is revoked. Police carry out both covert and overt operations to monitor offenders. This is working well.
- **Breakfast on Bruce** – CMU has received donations of barbeques, fridge and other equipment which has been installed at the Tolland Community Centre where local children are given breakfast on school days. The Walking Bus then takes them to school. This program has commenced first term this year, and is working well and is breaking down barriers.
- **Young Black And Deadly** – is a program commenced with a grant from Housing. Paul Mumbler and officers from CMU took 16 youths away for a weekend to attend the program in Sydney last year. Paul is now bringing the program to Tolland which will cover the Wagga LAC area. A new position has been created for an Aboriginal Interagency member and should be filled shortly.
- Commander Goodyer advised that the Aboriginal Coordination Unit has a strategic direction at a local level with a grant to commit to anything to break down barriers and build relationships. Some strategies are fishing days, mentoring programs, purchasing sporting gear, PCYC, and other gatherings at the Tolland Community Centre.
- Daryl McGuire mentioned the under 13's need \$750 for each team and asked whether the police can come up with any money to assist. He also asked about the Glenfield Park Store and the problems there. He wondered if the owner of the store could be encouraged to help sponsor a team and possibly offer food hampers. There was some discussion as to the need to move youths' attention away from harassing shopkeepers and get them into sports and other activities.
- Daryl McGuire asked about the possibility of getting hold of the Bruce Street Store to train youths for work. There was some discussion about the possibility of purchasing this store for community use and that Tolland takes lots of resources. Police advised that jobs at Tolland at night now require backup as a safety mechanism.

ACTION: Jacqueline Brodie to investigate the possible purchase of the Bruce Street Store.

Sgt Nigel Turney advised:

- **Victoria Hotel** and Capital nightclub are the major problems. The Capital is declared and the Victoria should have been, but because not all assaults are reported it missed out. Romanos has been a problem, but not since 2008.
- **The Victoria Hotel** is the most popular hotel with visitors, uni students, armed forces personnel as well as locals. The downstairs area is well lit, with good CCTV. However, the upstairs area is very dark and the CCTV isn't showing the details of the assaults.
- **2008 statistics** showed there was a problem at both the Vic and Capital with familiarity between the staff, security and customers. Security personnel are reluctant to put people out of the hotel if they know them. Intoxication is the biggest problem. A three month trial of two drinks per person per hour after 2.30 am has been introduced.
- We are encouraging hotels to take a hard stance, but there is not enough public awareness of new liquor laws.
- Security are not getting the right people out of the premises early enough, so events are escalating. Security are not making anybody accountable.
- Police are handing out infringements to people not moving on when asked.
- No RTD over 50%
- Rapid intoxication is a problem with attacks being much more vicious with stomping and kicking happening a lot more.
- The Liquor Accord has a reasonable standard.
- The 22 seater bus is up and running on Saturday nights. The cost is a factor with the licensees baulking at the cost. They are trying to spread the cost out and are attempting to work out problems as they come up. Education is necessary as we won't stop alcohol related crime, but we need to reduce the levels.
- Taking some steps to control repeat offenders with bans – banned from one hotel, banned from all. This is

working.

- Police can't always be present at hotels at closing times. Trying to get security to move patrons on. Coming up to winter which is the busiest season.
 - Drugs have been blamed for violence, but visit from dog squad shows this is not so.
 - Minors and alcohol is a huge problem – during 2007-2008 there were 750 minors involved in incidents who were affected to some degree.
 - 17-25 year old drivers have a high level of alcohol. Police to go into schools for alcohol awareness education.
 - Youths have been hanging around the kebab and financial premises on Fitzmaurice Street and are continually being asked to move on. Youths do not understand the dangers of alcohol. The local Relay for Life was an issue for underage intoxication.
 - PCA – During the first three months of this year the HWP has 126 pca's. P platers gave more high readings than low. There have been no fatalities in this area.
 - Police are taking to businesses about alcohol related crime, ie vomit, urine etc. Nobody reports this, but rather just clean it up and accept. Setting up email contact with business to determine where this type of problem is coming from.
 - Shopping trolleys are still a problem.
 - Chamber of Commerce hasn't had much feedback on these types of problems, but is happy to offer their database to police to help identify perceptions and encourage businesses to report. We need to assess the bigger picture by looking at lockouts, the liquor accord, getting hotels to comply.
- ACTION: Sgt Turney to liaise with Ian Smith at Chamber of Commerce.
- Daryl McGuire asked about street lighting. Ross Jackson to forward copy of the two year report.

Discussion Item

Narratives, Agency Discussions, Presentations not included in the Action Plan

Commander Goodyer welcomed members and explained the purpose of the CSPC, which is to.

- Ensure Local Area Commanders are communicating to their local communities;
- Encourage community partnerships to reduce crime and the fear of crime;
- Develop local solutions to local crime in partnership with local stakeholders;
- Improve public safety and reduce the fear of crime at a local level;
- Raise understanding of the relationship between policing and crime reduction; and
- Ensure Commanders take into account local community views on police visibility, police deployment and crime hotspots when deciding police tasking and deployment.

He also explained the following rules

- CSPCs are a forum to ensure that community views about police visibility, police deployment and crime hotspots are taken into account by the LAC when making decisions about the deployment and tasking of Local Area Command police, and that each LAC is accountable to his/her local community for those decisions;
- CSPCs are held quarterly with dates determined by the LAC. They are to be convened on a Local Area Command basis by each NSW Police Force LAC. The LAC arranges for the date and agenda of each CSPC meeting to be publicly notified at least 14 days prior to that meeting.
- The LAC chairs all CSPC meetings. However, in rural areas this geographically may be difficult, so the delegated Duty Officer may chair the meeting.
- The LAC is to invite local MPs, Local Mayors, and the heads of local State Chambers of Commerce and local community members to attend each meeting.
- The CSPC can refer any matters that require further assistance from the RCMG;
- CSPC agendas are determined by the LAC to include the following standing items:

- Crime hotspots in the Local Area Command
 - Police visibility and deployment in the Local Area Command
 - Issues and decisions of the previous meeting
 - Action taken in respect of working groups being established to tackle local crime issues.
- The LAC arranges for a CSPC Meeting Report, containing issues and decisions from the meeting to be publicly promulgated within 14 days of each meeting, and is published on the Intranet and Internet;

Sub CSPCs may be set up in geographically large LACs, with several regional centres, several Local Government Areas (LGAs) or more than one State Electorate. Sub CSPCs are chaired either by the Commander or a Duty Officer and the local community is represented, at a minimum, by the local council and existing community groups or committees. Sub CSPCs engage local communities in the communication process, and provide the same level of accountability as LAC–CSPCs while overcoming the problems of distance. The Sub CSPC focuses on local crime issues, and provides a Meeting Report of issues and decisions to the Commander, for use at the LAC-CSPC. It may even be useful for a Sub CSPC to elect a representative on the LAC-CSPC.

He also advised that

- anybody can join the CSPC, which usually has from seven to ten members. The Crime Manager and Commander should be two of the ten members.
- The CSPC is outcome expected and these outcomes will be dependent upon local issues.
- He is looking to form working groups for specific problems.

General Discussion:

- Mayor Pascoe raised the problem of alcohol at the skate park and whether youths can be banned as it is an alcohol free area. Lighting at the skate park was also discussed.
- Alcohol management plan is to be presented at schools.
- Media management – factual information needs to be reported. We need to be forthright with information to let community know what is going on.
- Mayor Pascoe asked if hotels can be closed for not compliance. Commander Goodyer advised that the Commander has the power to close hotels under special circumstances.
- Business has blamed uni students for week night problems, but statistics shown this is not the case.
- Mayor Pascoe advised that a barbeque will be held at the skate park on 17 April as part of Youth Week. Ernie Dingo may be in attendance.
- Problems with Sudanese community range from Domestic and Family Violence, Juvenile Crime and assaults. There is going to be a multicultural information day on 9 May to educate Sudanese about what is and is not acceptable in Australia.
- Police are taking a hard line on motor cycle gangs in the area.
- G.M Lyn RUSSELL will provide an overview of WWCC Alcohol Management Plan as presentation for next meeting.
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Agreed updates to Crime Prevention Action Plan

Intended Outcome	Agreed Strategies	Partner Agencies/Community member	Timeframe
<p><i>On behalf of issued brought to the attention of the committee by MP Daryl McGuire, Enquiries to be conducted to seek what occurring with the Bruce Street Store at present and whether this particular premise can be purchased and utilised as a training and employment referral centre.</i></p> <p><i>MP Daryl McGuire queried the lighting situation in and around Tolland Suburb.</i></p> <p><i>Sgt Turney during his discussion of licensing issues, addressed problems that impact on businesses within the Wagga Wagga CBD that reflect anti social or malicious damage incidents, whereby alcohol is a contributing factor. President of Wagga Chamber of Commerce was keen to liaise with Sgt Turney and provide feedback regarding these problems from the next sitting of Chamber of Commerce meeting. Use of Data base by Chamber of Commerce to assist and encourage business feedback.</i></p>	<p><i>Outcome and further follow up to be completed by Jacqueline BRODIE to investigate the possible status of the Bruce Street Store and enquire if the premise may be suitable for the training and employment centre option to the Tolland community. Interest party may be Gannambarra Enterprises.</i></p> <p><i>Emphasis upon the Tolland Community Safety Audit in regards to the analysis and needs that were completed were discussed. A copy of this document to be forwarded to Wagga Wagga City Council for attention to lighting issues that were addressed.</i></p> <p><i>Sgt Turney to liaise with Ian SMITH following the next Chamber of Commerce meeting to analyse the problems that were put forward by this committee to assist in reduction of the crime problems highlighted. Analysis provided from data base – Chamber of Commerce.</i></p>	<p><i>ICC Jacqueline BRODIE</i></p> <p><i>Sgt Ross Jackson to forward copy to WWCC and MP for Murrumbidgee.</i></p> <p><i>Sgt Turney</i></p>	<p><i>Next meeting</i></p> <p><i>Next meeting</i></p> <p><i>NEXT MEETING.</i></p>

<i>Presnetation of WWCC Alcohol Management Plan – next meeting by WWCC G.M</i>	<i>WWCC Alcohol Management Plan Presentation – next meeting</i>	<i>GM WWCC Lyn Russell</i>	<i>Next Meeting.</i>
<i>Aust TAG and ASD funding MP Daryl McGurie. Tolland teams and participation.</i>	<i>ACLO to have a look to ascertain if further ASD funding is an option for this sporting event.</i>	<i>Mr Paul MUMBLER Wagga Wagga Police ACLO</i>	<i>Next meeting.</i>
<i>Glenfield Store and associated problems.</i>	<i>General discussion was given by Supt Goodyer and CM Rod Smith in regards to this situation. Strategies utilised in Op Impact to be ongoing from Policing perspective. Update provided on current trend at next meeting.</i>	<i>D/Insp Smith</i>	<i>Next meeting.</i>
<p>Attachments Previous month CSPC Trend, Operational Performance Crime Review and Alcohol Related Crime Overview reports First meeting held. No previous minutes to nominate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting closed at 2.45 pm. • The next meeting will be held in September 2009 			