

LACHLAN LOCAL AREA COMMAND
COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT MEETING

DATE: 18 January 2010

TIME: 10.45AM

VENUE: FORBES SHIRE COUNCIL

ATTENDEES: Superintendent David Driver – Commander, Lachlan LAC
John Magill – Deputy Mayor, Parkes Shire Council
Allan McCormack - General Manager, Parkes Shire Council
Dawn Fardell - Member for Dubbo
Phyllis Miller – Mayor, Forbes Shire Council
Carissa Bywater – General Manager, Forbes Shire Council
Sheridan Alexander – Executive Officer, Lachlan LAC

Address by Superintendent Driver

Supt. Driver thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting.

The minutes of the Community Safety Precinct Meeting held on the 12 October 2009 were accepted. Outstanding Action Items from the previous meeting were reviewed as follows:

Rural Crime Statistics - Supt. Driver supplied a separate overview of Rural Crime statistics to the meeting. Whilst there have been no significant issues with the overall Rural Crime in Lachlan Command, there was a spate of fuel theft at Tottenham.

Forbes CCTV – Supt. Driver indicated an analysis in respect to feedback on CCTV footage in Forbes will be conducted at the end of March 2010 (which will be six months with CCTV cameras in use).

Motor Vehicle accidents in Condobolin Sector – Supt. Driver has addressed this issue with Sgt Gibson.

Crime – Supt. Driver provided an overview of the crime categories for the period December 2009. This Command overall is on track in respect to crime, with only one category being over the target due to a number of historical incidences being reported. Control Charts for each council area were reviewed and copies provided.

Supt. Driver indicated this Command has addressed the issue of shopping trolleys being left in the street in Parkes, especially during the night. Contact has been made with the supermarkets to ensure all trolleys are collected in an effort to minimise the occurrence of malicious damage.

Supt. Driver indicated the recording of Move Ons has changed, now only incident is recorded when multiply persons are given a direction at the same time. The results in respect to searches were discussed, person and vehicle searches.

In respect to crime statistics for 'Steal from Motor Vehicle', the issue of vehicles being left unlocked in this Command remains. As such many stealings are considered to be opportunistic. There have been a number of media campaigns run to remind the public to

lock their vehicles when unattended and to remove any valuables from vehicles or from sight.

Rural Crime statistics were reviewed with the types of incidences and locations they occur discussed.

In respect to HWP, this Command now has five HWP officers as the vacant positions were filled.

Discussion was held in respect to alcohol related assaults, Carissa Bywater mentioned the 'Step Back Think' campaign' which was developed to address the alarming high level of alcohol related violence. The campaign was formed with the help of friends of a young man who was left severely brain damaged from an assault in a hotel. It may be beneficial for this Command's Youth Liaison Officer, S/C Dolbel, to look at the 'Step Back Think' campaign for strategies that may be appropriate to introduce at a local level.

ACTION: Supt. Driver to liaise with S/C Dolbel regarding 'Step Back Think' Campaign.

Reduction of Speed Limit on Newell Hwy - The new speed limit of 100kmph on the Newell Highway was discussed at length. Mayor Miller raised the issue of truck drivers not adhering to the speed limit and overall concerns in respect trucks on the highway. Mayor Miller has received correspondence from a concerned resident regarding an incident involving a truck on the highway recently, and stated that action needs to be taken. General discussion was held in respect to the Heavy Vehicle Transport Industry and it was agreed this was a statewide problem. The meeting agreed this was an issue the councils take up, and Mrs Fardell indicated this matter could be raised at the NSW Regional Trucking Forum which will be held in Dubbo on 6 February 2010.

Liquor Accord – The Liquor Accord Meetings held prior to Christmas in each of the council areas went well. Police advised the licensees that firm action is being taken against those establishments that serve intoxicated persons. Recently there has been a statewide and national stance being taken in respect to anti-social behaviour and such behaviour will not be tolerated. This Command is working with licensees to introduce strategies to reduce such incidences occurring. Some of these strategies were introduced over the festive season and of note there were no major licensing issues during this period.

Staffing at Condobolin – Currently there are a number of vacancies at Condobolin. In the interim the rostering shortfalls are being filled by officers attached to this Command TAG Unit. Applications for these vacancies are currently being reviewed and a selection will be made in the coming weeks.

Correspondence

Mayor Miller has received a letter from Ruth Hando regarding a recent incident on the highway where she felt intimidated by the driving manner of a truck. As discussed previously during this meeting, representations should be made by Mayor Miller on behalf this Ms Hando through the appropriate channels. Further, it was discussed that unless the Councils have some statistics to confirm the reduction in speed has little or no effect on the number of accidents or fatalities, when they will not be justified in their quest to have the speed limit matter reviewed.

General Business

Australia Day – Mrs Fardell questioned whether there were any additional liquor licensing restrictions in place for Australia Day. Supt. Driver indicated there are no additional

restrictions as such however licensees in this Command have been encouraged to take a proactive approach and implement their own restrictions by agreement.

In respect to road closures for Australia Day Parades, Supt. Driver stated that police can not subject participants to a RBT given the roads are closed for the parades and Road Rules do not apply in this instance. However, councils could make it a condition of entry.

RBT Taskings – Mr Magill stated that whilst the police presence had been good recently, on some occasions the number of police tasked for RBT seemed excessive. Supt. Driver indicated there was a need to have a certain number of officers present for RBT duties, some of which are HWP and some are General Duties officers.

Truck Accident – Mr Magill referred to a recent truck accident in which the truck rolled over on the Orange Road. A resident who was at the scene of the accident expressed their concern regarding the initial actions of police in attendance. Whilst Supt. Driver stated he would look at the matter as he was not aware of the specific details. He did indicate this may be the perception of lookers, however, police are often focused on what action need to be taken. This does not necessarily mean police do not take into account the welfare or injuries of those persons involved.

Licensing Issues – General discussion was held in respect to current licensing issues and the fact that licensees are disgruntled about being issued with Infringement Notice. Supt. Driver stated that whilst the perception may be that the newly appointed Licensing Officer was 'over the top', he was only enforcing the laws and issuing fines appropriately. Currently there is a statewide focus on Licensing and there is a need to reduce the number of alcohol related incidences. These incidences greatly impact the community not only financially but also when a person is injured or killed as a result.

CSPC Meeting for 2010 – Meeting dates for 2010 have been scheduled as follows:

Monday 19 April 2010 @ Parkes Shire Council

Monday 19 July 2010 @ Condobolin Shire Council

Monday 18 October 2010 @ Forbes Shire Council

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONING MEMBER
'Step back think' Campaign – Information regarding this campaign to be provide to S/C Dolbel, Lachlan LAC Youth Liaison Officer, for consideration to introducing relevant strategies at local level.	Supt. Driver

MEETING CLOSED