

MINUTES OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMUNITY TEAM (PACT) MEETING

21st November 2007 – WAVERLEY POLICE STATION

Present: A/Supt Wonders - Commander
Insp Mal Smith – Duty Officer
Russell King – WAYS
Tony Webster - Rotary Bondi Junction
Tony Falstein – Community Representative
George Copeland - Waverley Council
Max Siano - Bondi Chamber of Commerce
Paul Pearce – M.P. Coogee
Kevin Rothschild – NSW Jewish Board of Deputies
Dominic Wykanak-Waverley Council
Tricia Bulpit – R/Executive Officer (minutes)

Apologies: Peter Debnam – M.P. Vacluse
Malcolm Turnbull – M.P. Wentworth
Joy Clayton – Waverley Council
Graham Ford – Surf Clubs

Meeting opened by A/Superintendent Wonders at 5:45pm

A/Supt Wonders introduced himself to the members of the committee and informed them of his duties here at Eastern Suburbs LAC.

Previous minutes were reviewed by A/Supt Wonders and asked if the members of the committee had any questions raised and if all members received previous PACT minutes.

Minutes were agreed and seconded by Mr. Webster.

Mr. Wonders raised an outstanding matter arising from the last meeting which was raised by Mr. Debnam regarding Graffiti trends in the Bronte area.

Mr. Pearce also stated that he had been receiving complaints from residents in the Hewlett Street with graffiti and shop premises. There was distinctive tagging and names that were appearing in the graffiti. Also currently going through Parliament there will be additional power for Police regarding under 18 year olds.

Inspector Smith stated that there is an Eastern Suburbs Police internet site for members of the public to inform Police of these graffiti tagging. The website is www.easternsuburbs@police.gov.au.

Presentation by Inspector Mal Smith regarding crime trends within the Eastern Suburbs Local Area command

- Assaults
 - Increase in the incidents of assaults during September and October which has now levelled out.
 - 42% decrease in assaults on licensed premises from 2006.
- Break & Enters
 - Upward trend in Break, enter and steal offences during August and September and as a result became a command focus.
 - A number of key suspects arrested in October
 - The rate has fallen although still seeing some activity
 - Ongoing Break, enter and steal Operations mounted.
- Stolen Vehicles
 - Currently trending downwards.
- Malicious Damage
 - Rate currently trending downwards.
 - Operation "Spray Paint" mounted to ensure compliance by businesses that sell spray paint.
- Stealing
 - Stealing currently trending downwards although anticipate a seasonal increase over summer.
 - Operation Summer Safe working in conjunction with Waverley Council and Attorney General Department on a number of Theft Reduction Strategies, including an awareness campaign and portable lockers on Bondi Beach.
- Robbery
 - November figures trending downwards
 - Figures are comparatively low in relation to State and Region figures.

Presentation by Inspector Mal Smith on behalf of Sergeant Peter Bolt – Licensing / Liquor Accord.

We are currently tracking through the alcohol linking program. There are five at risk venues including Bondi Hotel, Beach Road Hotel, The Eastern, Tea Gardens and The Grand Hotel. The information is to the start of October. All premises are showing reductions in key areas. As a group the following reductions have occurred:-

Comparing the period between January 2007 to October 2007 with the previous period in year 2006.

Assaults (Last drink was at one of these venues by the offender/victim) however the assault may well have taken place anywhere.

26% reduction on 2006

Assaults that have occurred on the premises or within the immediate environs.

42% reduction on 2006.

Total number of affected persons (those persons Police have intervened in assessed moderately, well or seriously affected)

31% reduction on 2006

Those persons Police have intervened in assessed as well affected by alcohol.

40% reduction on 2006.

Amazing reduction you would agree. 104 Complaints proceeding in respect to the Beach Road Hotel is being heard this Thursday.

Inspector Mal Smith

“Operation Summersafe” will be commencing for the summer period. The area will include Bondi Beach retail area and the beachfront. There will also be a series of ‘Vikings Operations’ which includes attention to High Visibility Policing, juvenile crime, licensing issues and juvenile drinking.

Mr. Falstein: What time do they operate?

Inspector Smith: These operations will be between 6am and 6pm. There will be both mobile and foot patrols. Tasking will involve checking on intoxication, underage drinking in parks, particularly behind the pavilion.

The Licensing Sergeant, Sergeant Bolt and Senior Constable Brooks will be on duty on the weekends.

Mr. Pearce asked: Is there a lock out in place for Hotels in the area?

Mr. Wonders replied: He knows of lock outs working in the Manly area, particularly The Corso. He will have to get back to Mr. Pearce re lock out in this area.

The Bondi Hotel has a lock out from 3am, which discourages movement between Hotels.

There will be a Liquor Forum which will address

- Strategies for Licensee and Police.
- Enforcement of licensing issues.
- Pressure will be placed on licensee in front of their peers regarding those who are complying with the liquor accord and those who are not.

A “lock out” is formalised with the licensed premises and is a permanent agreement. Hotels manage their own premises with patrols managing patrons leaving a hotel and not being allowed to return to that Hotel.

Meeting Closed at 7.15pm.

Next Meeting: Date to be advised.