

**NEW ENGLAND LOCAL AREA COMMAND
MINUTES OF ARMIDALE/URALLA/GUYRA PACT
HELD AT NEW ENGLAND LAC
8th JUNE, 2011
COMMENCING AT 9.30 AM**

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Present: Supt Lyons, Det Insp Stier, Insp Matt Lynch, Inspector Rod Shoesmith, Mr Richard Torbay MP, Member for Northern Tablelands; Mr Peter Ducat, Mayor Armidale Dumaresq Council; Mr Hans Hietbrink, Mayor, Guyra Shire Council; Mr Kevin Ward, Mayor, Uralla Shire Council; Mr Michael Pearce, Deputy Mayor, Uralla Shire Council; Ms Sue Durham, Armidale Liquor Accord; Chris Milne Executive Officer

APOLOGIES: Mr Steve Widders, Aboriginal Representative, S/C Vaughan

WELCOME: Welcome by Supt Lyons.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING RATIFIED: Mr Torbay – seconded Mr Pearce.

BUSINESS ARISING:

CSPC resolved that letter should go to Armidale Chamber of Commerce regarding their non attendance. They have been invited on numerous occasions and are sent the minutes, but do not apologise for these meetings and do not come. If necessary Mr Torbay will arrange for another member of the business community to attend to represent business interests in Armidale.

As a result of representations from this meeting – Mr Torbay and Mayor Ducat, Life at Altitude at the UNE was an alcohol free event and a great success. This was supported by Insp Stier who said the event was well supported by the police as it was a dry venue. Will be an annual event with dates brought forward due to the weather.

CRIME REPORTS

Presentation given by Mr Stier re crime in New England by using COMPASS and Crime Trends Tool. Detailed explanation of crime trends provided.

STAFFING: Insp Shoesmith

19 operational positions throughout the Command are long term sick/maternity etc. These are positions that cannot be filled. Time to separation is getting shorter. Difficult now to recruit to this command and the command is filling positions with probationers. Up to now Guyra at full strength. Tinga down a few. Mentioned that promoting this command to graduating class may be of benefit.

ACTION: Commander and perhaps Mr Torbay to attend.

Command needs more detective positions allocated.

From Mr Ducat – he appreciates that a police officer from Armidale was loaned to the PCYC,

CURRENT AND EMERGING ISSUES

Strike Force Hood discussed and good results regarding armed robberies.

University Games. Mr Stier is involved in organising. Very positive for Armidale. Concerns re after hours activities. Worked hard to examine event holistically. Threat assessment is being done by MEIG. Local police only are policing event. Have had discussions with Liquor Accord and local licensees.

INTERAGENCY DEVELOPMENT

Greatly improved, especially Juvenile Justice. Interagency agreement signed off and things are much improved.

MATTERS OF INTEREST

Mr Torbay – Police Minister announced a review of all Commands with an emphasis on rural policing. Recommendations will go to the Government. Mr Torbay has put in a bid for extra resources for New England. Also wants to include prisoner escort duties in the review as it takes up so many resources.

Mr Ducat – Raised Giraween audit. Insp Stier commented that there needs to be a social plan and this is on the agenda at the Place Team meeting. Mr Ducat stated that he feared that we were losing touch with people in the community.

ACTION: Mr Stier will make contact with community members. Mr Torbay suggested that taxi's be canvassed to see what is going on in the community. Mr Lyons will action.

Mojo's – still licensing issues that are being discussed. Not going anywhere at this point.

Ms Durham – Next Liquor accord meeting 6/9. Having issues funding Night Rider bus. Support of Uni has been integral in keeping it going.

Mr Ward – Has only heard very positive things re Uralla. Good presence of police in the town.

Insp Lynch. Raised issues regarding the Department of Housing estates near the hospital and that it could create concerns in the community. This situation will be monitored.

Meeting closed 11.15am