



# NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE FORCE

Albury Local Area Command  
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**NSW Police Force**  
www.police.nsw.gov.au

**Minutes – Community Safety Precinct Meeting  
Albury Police Station  
Wednesday 10/3/10  
Start: 10:00am**

**Attendees:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Title</b>
A/Supt Wadsworth	NSWPF, Albury LAC	A/Local Area Commander
Insp Lynelle Rodwell	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Duty Officer
Sgt Paul Gay	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Intelligence Supervisor
S/C Matthew Barnes	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Crime Prevention Officer
S/C Michael Strachan	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Licensing Officer
Mr Peter Prentice	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Intelligence Analyst
Mr Ian Chaffey	Tumbarumba Shire Council	Mayor
Mr Rodney Show	Tumbarumba Shire Council	Councillor
Mrs Alice Glachan	Albury City	Mayor
Ms Heather Webster	Albury City	Community Safety Officer
Mr Bruce Holmes	Greg Aplin's Office	Advisor
Ms Margaret Bunkin	Urana Shire	Mayor

Apologies: Mr Gary Poidevin (Corowa Shire), Ms Denise Osbourne (Greater Hume Shire), Ms Kerrie Arnold (Chamber of Commerce), Mr Peter Smith (Education Department).

Convenor: A/Supt John Wadsworth.

Welcome to attendees by A/Supt Wadsworth.

**Actions Arising:**

- Nil.

**Business arising from previous meeting:**

- Nil.

**Presentation by Sgt Paul Gay – Snapshot of business plan target compliance (year to date targets)**

- Crime categories:
  - Break and enter – non dwelling over target, caused by significant increase in February. Suspects were nominated and operation conducted resulting in decrease in incidents. Offenders were either blow-ins or heightened attention has curbed behaviour.
  - Stealings are above, due mainly to increases in theft from residential yards.
  - Malicious damage has fallen significantly in the 3 month period. Numbers of incidents have been below monthly targets for last 3 months. Still around 100 incidents over year to date business plan target.
  - Drug detection (Supply) well above target with more charges still to result from operation conducted last year.
  - Comparison between Albury LAC and other LACs in Southern Region indicates Albury LAC performing well.
  - On target to meet business plan targets for the year in 12 incident categories, likely to achieve 14 of the 17 incident categories.

- Query regarding person searches and whether there is a correlation with drug detections. Any correlation is dependant on the targeting of person searches. Drug detections are also seasonal with more likely in cannabis season (November to February). Some of the increase is due to increased staffing in drug unit and increasing focus on heavy vehicle inspections by HWP.
- Sectors (Significant numbers of incidents in 3 month period):
  - Walla: 3 break and enters.
  - Culcairn: 5 break and enters.
  - Tumbarumba: 8 assaults, 9 break and enters and 14 stealings in Tumbarumba, 3 other assaults in area.
- Malicious damage–graffiti: Media coverage rewards offenders. Discussions with media to limit tag identification, to obscure tags. ZOI wall repainted, operation recommencing.

## **Around Table**

### **Mr Shaw:**

- Disappointment in Tumbarumba concerning the management of incidents by the police sergeant. Insp. Rodwell to discuss matter after meeting.
- A/Supt Wadsworth commented on brumby operation.

### **Mr Chaffey:**

- Concerns about firefighters not being permitted past roadblocks to return home/fight fires on own properties. Insp. Rodwell commented that this issue had been raised in correct forum and was being resolved. Problem stems from different rules NSWPF and VicPol officers have to comply with and that VicPol officers were managing road blocks in NSW. Fire controller request Police to establish roadblocks and is the only person that can give permission for vehicles/persons to be exempted. Matter to be raised at cross border meeting in Cobram.
- Tasers: What criteria is the deployment of tasers based on. Query relates to incident in Tumbarumba. Response from Police:
  - Tasers form part of a circle of options Police have available,
  - All taser incidents require a situation report and are investigated,
  - Any person may make a complaint in writing if they believe that Police have acted improperly,
  - Use of any option is an individual and subjective decision affected by Police officers discretion and abilities,
  - Tasers will be increasingly used as an option. It is a non-lethal alternate to firearm and end result (incapacitation) is less stressful to police than to be involved in fatal shooting.
  - Albury LAC plan to visit hospitals and explain effects of and procedures relating to tasers and to OC spray.

### **S/C Barnes:**

- From Mr Smith (Education Department): Principals are pleased with level of interaction between Police staff and schools. Police presence in school zones is welcome.
- Crime Prevention Expo was ran. Attendance low due to rain.
- Graffiti Action Day, 2/5/10: Planning event for day.

### **Insp. Rodwell:**

- Customer service is now part of duties.
- Responsible for community satisfaction about Police services, response times and actions.
- Mystery shoppers: Call or attend station to test customer service.
- Need to ensure information communicated is the same across meetings.

### **S/C Strachan:**

- Managing continued relationships between Police and licensees/late traders.

- Sector staff have basic training in regards to licensing matter, licensing staff available to assist if required.
- Firearms inspections: Conducting inspections with all license holders over 4 year period. Required to call in advance, this does allow licensees to ensure compliance. Options for action against those that fail to comply.
- Local magistrate now hears licensing matters (no licensing court). Local magistrate also hears matters that may have arisen from excess consumption of alcohol and so will have a fuller understanding of correlations.
- Mr Holmes queried procedure if Victorian resident had a property in NSW where firearms are stored. Person is unable to hold licences in both NSW and VIC but can apply to NSW Firearms Registry for permission to store firearms in NSW.

**Ms Bunkin**

- Lockout 11am – Mulwala Waterski Club, decreased number of assaults observed.
- Discussion regarding Albury – Nightrider bus and staggered closing times.

**Ms Webster**

- Clubs applying for liquor license now need to investigate Goodsports accreditation.
- Crime prevention expo.
- Community complaining that they are unable to report crime to local police and are being directed to PAL. Concerns that there is no local investigation. Police response: Matters reported to Pal are directed to local staff for further enquiry when matter warrants investigation.
- Crime prevention plan: Limited section to be sent to Attorney General's department. Section to be sent to council staff and Police for review prior to sending.
- Graffiti Day: Council, Youth Council and Police to plan together.
- On behalf of Ms Kate de Hennin:
  - Currently reviewing road safety plan.
  - Advertising planned to coincide with major events.
  - Child restraint education planned due to changes.

**Mr Holmes:**

- Enquires regarding prevalence of knives. Queries arose due to commencement of new Victorian legislation in regards to knives. Observation that new legislation has brought Victorian system to similar level to NSW system (LEPRA).

**A/Supt Wadsworth:**

- Seriousness and number of assaults is increasing in Dean St, Albury. Discussions with liquor accord were sought in attempts to decrease incidents. Police were attempting to reduce problem not restrict licensees ability to conduct business. Media have placed their own spin and bias on situation.
- Police are a resource for all community not just that part to frequent Dean St, Albury. Volume of people on Dean St, Albury is large, people are just milling around after closing and not going home. Litter, vomit and damage are not showing Albury in a good light.
- Serious assaults need to stop.
- Insp Rodwell commented on outdoor dining policy.

Meeting end: 10:55

Next meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2010

Future Meetings: 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2010  
8<sup>th</sup> December, 2010