

NSW POLICE SERVICE

CHIFLEY LOCAL AREA COMMAND



Community Precinct Meeting

Date/Time: 4pm – 28.09. 09

Location: Oberon City Council

Attending members:

Chifley LAC: Supt Mick Robinson, Inspectors Hoolahan and McFawn
Member for Bathurst: Gerard Martin
Blayney Shire Council: Bruce Kingham
Lithgow City Council: Mayor Neville Castle, Roger Bailey
Oberon Shire Council: Mayor Keith Sullivan, Bruce Fitzpatrick
Oberon Business Assoc: Leanne Barlow
Housing NSW, Graham Wright, Brad Taylor
Bathurst Council: Mayor Paul Toole

Apologies:

Bathurst Lands Council /P&P: Shirley Scott
Janelle Middleton
Senior Constable Sue Rose

Meeting opened at 4.15 pm by Supt M Robinson. Welcoming address and introduction of other Police.

Minutes from the previous meeting.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held 29/6/2009 be adopted. Roger Bailey and Keith Sullivan.

Matters arising from the previous minutes:

Superintendent Robinson provided an update to the Sergeants position at Portland.
Nil correspondence.

Outstanding actions: Nil from previous meeting.

#####

Chifley Commander Report:

The role of Inspector Hoolahan as Customer Service DO was explained and that he should be the first point of contact. Spoke about agencies working together in an agency response. Mr Robinson explained crime tracking and how it affects this Command. He also explained that even though our benchmark in most crime categories have been set higher than last year we are tracking well however there is some concern with alcohol related crime. Liquor accords still have to be finalised at Oberon and they are a useful tool in targeting alcohol related crime. Mr Robinson asked for a greater level of involvement from all Councils.

Mr Robinson also queried the progress of the Lithgow safety audit

Chifley Crime Coordinator Report:

A short power point presentation was shown on current figures and a comparison graph between current quarter and previous quarter highlighted the drop in crime statistics across most categories. Malicious damage in Bathurst slightly higher, however other areas in Command, we have seen a drop in the number from previous quarter.

Inspector McFawn went on to talk about targeting offenders through intelligence. Explained the reduction in stolen vehicles and the reasons behind this. Also there has been an increase in the number of malicious damages and the fact that they are not linked to hotspots. Traffic offences are stable.

Chifley police conduct special operations such as licensing, plain clothes operations, Vikings operations and Highway/RTA funded operations. We are looking to utilise PCYC staff in an effort to target juvenile crime but we are having difficulty in filling the vacant position at Lithgow. Inspector McFawn explained the role of the Tag and the fact the Chifley unit are among the highest performers at a Region Level.

Superintendent Robinson invited all Councils to identify and talk about their hot spots. Our identified hotspots Command wide are Bathurst and Lithgow CBD and Kelso. GM Lithgow, Mr Bailey asked about the strategies that are employed in these hotspots. Mr. Robinson explained strategies such as Intelligence based rostering, Vikings, and about being on the front foot and tackling the problems head on.

Inspector Hoolahan spoke of the recent good results coming from 'Operation Neville' targeting rural Break and Enters in the Neville, Barry and Pennsylvania Forests and agreed to report to Mayor Kingham on any other progress.

General Business:

Mayor Sullivan and Leanne Barlow expressed concern at a recent incident at the Lithgow Hospital where staff were placed in a compromising position with argumentative persons outside the hospital. Response times were questioned in relation to Oberon Police in which it is alleged that there was a one hour delay.

Action: Inspector Hoolahan to provide response at next meeting.

Also meeting to be organised with the Oberon hospital to discuss their concerns

Superintendent Robinson explained that response to crime determined and prioritised based on urgency and on nature of job. Call outs for local police and or back up from

Bathurst/Lithgow sectors determined on type of job responding to. The procedure of diverting phones was also explained at length.

Supt Robinson stated that he was more than happy to meet with Councils separately over issues affecting first response in their areas.

Separate concerns were invited from all persons. Oberon concerns re response times were previously addressed.

Lithgow Council further questioned the types of strategies that are used by the Police to target hotspots. They also asked for further patrols of the Newnes Plateau re unregistered trail bikes.

Inspector Hoolahan to organise and report at next meeting.

Blayney Council congratulated their police for recent efforts

Bathurst Mayor Toole spoke about the relocation of families from Western areas into Bathurst. Superintendent Robinson and Mr Wright from Dept of Housing addressed these concerns. There was lengthy discussion in relation to this. Mayor Toole also provided positive feedback in relation to the recent sports day.

The process if persons detained in custody was explained at length. In particular the reasons that Police are no longer able to detain persons in the sector stations. This results in local police being absent from their locations whilst these custodies are taken to Bathurst or Lithgow for processing.

Mr Martin asked if there was any anecdotal evidence as to why the increase of PCA offences. It was explained that there may be a perception that there is an increase but the increase in advertising and large scale operations has had a positive affect on this crime category.

Feedback was invited in relation to the meetings and whether there would be any benefit in having the meetings specifically targeted at each Council. It was unanimously agreed to leave it the way that it was.

Next meeting: 14th December 2009 4pm Blayney Council Chambers.

Meeting closed at 5.30pm

Tony Hoolahan
Inspector
Bathurst Police Station