

LACHLAN LOCAL AREA COMMAND – COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT MEETING

DATE: 11 APRIL 2011

TIME: 10.30AM

VENUE: LACHLAN SHIRE COUNCIL, CONDOBOLIN

PRESENT

Supt. Robert Ryan	Commander, Lachlan Local Area Command
S/C James Dolbel	CPO, Lachlan Local Area Command
George Cowan	General Manager, Lachlan Shire Council
Kim Jones	Deputy Mayor, Lachlan Shire Council
Kent Boyd	General Manager, Parkes Shire Council
Carissa Bywater	General Manager, Forbes Shire Council
Susan Woodley	A/Executive Officer

APOLOGIES

Phyllis Miller	Mayor, Forbes Shire Council
Troy Grant	Local Member, Dubbo
Des Manwaring	Mayor, Lachlan Shire Council
Tim Keith	Mayor, Parkes Shire Council

Meeting opened by Superintendent Ryan. Minutes from previous meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Action items from last meeting discussed.

Last meeting, Ken Keith raised the possibility of the Fire Station utilising the old LAC office site – Supt. Ryan explained that no discussions have been entered into or any deals made.

Further discussion on the sharing of information between agencies. There is a Record of Understanding between NSW Police Force and Community Housing where information on tenants can be exchanged between the agencies. Supt. Ryan further explained that if an AVO is in place and an offence occurs, this information can be passed on to Community Housing resulting in the eviction of tenants. This would also apply with other criminal charges. The sharing of inter-agency information assists organisations in monitoring problem people in the area.

General discussion about the associated problems caused by underage drinking throughout the area. Supt. Ryan advised that there is a current proposal for Legislative Reform to prevent a venue being provided for underage drinkers.

S/Cst Dolbel explained that truancy breaches by students are being recorded and submitted to the Department of Education for their attention and action.

Crime Overview

Supt. Ryan reported the following Crime Statistics (as of 1/7/10) over the three council areas:-

Assault (Non-DV)	193 (50% of which were alcohol related)
Sexual Assaults	17
Robbery	5
Break & Enter (dwelling)	174 (Lake Cargelligo had the highest number with young people targeting school canteens and kitchens for food and drink)
Stolen Vehicles	46
Assaults (DV)	179

Malicious Damage	583
Steal from MV	240 (Predominantly from unlocked vehicles and/or tools on the back of a utility. Number of thefts also reported from people staying at motels and their cars are left unlocked in the carpark)
Steal from Person	1
Steal from Retail Store	34
Steal from Dwelling	49
Drug Detections (supply)	18
Drink Drive Offences	108
Seat Belt Offences	153

Overall, proactivity is very high – person searches have increased by over 200

A number of Motor Vehicles Accidents have occurred in the Western Section – Forbes/Condobolin/Trundle predominantly. HWP enforcement throughout these areas will increase with HWP being rostered to perform duties, which will increase Police presence and deter motorists from committing traffic offences. Kent Boyd will engage Mel Suitor to assist in the education of drivers on country roads.

CPO S/Cst James Dolbel, in conjunction with Rotary, ran a driver education program “RYDA” involving Parkes, Forbes and Condobolin High Schools. S/Cst Dolbel said that it was very well received with a guest speaker and survivor of a MVA addressing the participants.

Supt. Ryan expressed concern that some crimes are still going unreported, although most targets have been achieved or are under target.

Skate Park – Forbes

Carissa Bywater raised continuing concerns with problems at the Skate Park in Forbes. Residents are reporting that there are youths still there between 1-2am on the weekends. Supt. Ryan advised that there are two options that are available:-

Signage – Suggestion that further signage be erected on the boundaries of the property setting out rules and conditions of the skate park, which would allow Police to then take action. Under legislation, they cannot be moved on, however Noise Abatement Orders can be issued.

The other option is that Police can patrol, take names and addresses of the people causing problems and supply the names to the Council, who then can issue banning notices. If they attend after the banning notice is issued, they will be trespassing, which is a summary offence. A warning by Police can then be issued.

Under the Act, if they are under 16 years of age, Police have the authority to remove them and return them home.

Mobility Scooters

Kent Boyd raised concerns with the increasing number of Mobility Scooters in the area. Supt. Ryan advised that under the Road Rules 2008, a person driving a motorised wheelchair that cannot travel at over 10 kilometres per hour is considered a pedestrian. If they travel at over 10km per hour the motorised wheelchair is considered a motor vehicle requiring registration and as such, are to be driven on the road.

There was some discussion from all Councils in relation to the problems with motorised scooters being driven on footpaths. Kent Boyd advised that there is a State wide forum that is being put together to examine the issues involved. He advised that Mel Suitor will be involved and will put together rules and engage government..

Action: Kent Boyd to advise Police when the forum will be held so Police can become involved.

CCTV

Lachlan Shire Council has been successful in its application to secure CCTV footage for installation at Condobolin. Parkes Shire Council is currently going through the process to secure the same for the Parkes.

ACTION: Request from Parkes Shire Council that provision be made in the new Parkes Police Station in preparation for securing and viewing CCTV footage.

STAFFING

S/Cst Richard Hawker commenced at Tullamore Police Station on 17 March.

Sgt Ross Gibson will commence at Condobolin in May.

S/Cst Anthony Durkin will commence in CI Forbes May.

Forbes is down from 12 to 8 at the moment due to maternity leave, long service leave etc.

Parkes currently has 4 vacancies.

Some discussion about the difficulty in finding accommodation at Condobolin due to the mine once again operating.

George Cowan advised issues with applying for Liquor Licenses on line. Problems have surfaced where applications have been by passing Council.

Action: Supt. Ryan to check the on-line procedures and advise accordingly.

Supt. Ryan advised the changes to Emergency Management arrangements regarding roles of involved persons.

DOCS no longer have a role in emergency management concerning the welfare of children – that role has now been passed on to the Ministry of Police.

Some discussion on the best way of keeping the public informed about road closures when floods occur. Kent Boyd advised that the Parkes Shire Council set up a web site that provided local road arrangements. A number of people expressed their frustration when trying to contact the 131 700 number.

Next Meeting to be held on 11 July 2011 at Forbes Shire Council