



### POLICE WARN BEACHGOERS AS THE WEATHER WARMS UP

Saturday 26 September 2009

Minister for Police Michael Daley today warned Sydneysiders to keep an eye on their belongings at the beach with Police concerned that thieves will target beaches this summer.

Mr Daley said undercover and uniformed Police will ramp up patrols on Sydney beaches over the coming weeks as more people start heading to the beaches.

“Going to the beach in spring and summer is what living in Sydney is all about,” he said.

“As more people start heading to our beaches, unfortunately so do criminals. On a busy summer’s day at Bondi, thousands of people are on the sand.

“Things like iPods, mobile phones, car keys and wallets on the beach are easy pickings for someone who wants to take what isn’t theirs.

“With so many people bringing these kinds of expensive gadgets to the beach, it makes an attractive target for thieves.

“Police will be out in force on the beaches as Sydney warms up, but the best protection is ensuring your valuables and vehicles are secured.

“If you want to jump in and have a swim, make sure someone you know can keep an eye on your gear.

“Everyone has the right to enjoy our beautiful beaches, but make sure you’re not the victim of some crook who’s out to spoil your day,” he said.

Mr Daley said Police have planned a series of operations over the next few months targeting drug and alcohol offences, theft and anti-social behaviour on Sydney’s beaches.

“If you’re going to act like a lout and ruin everyone else’s day in the sun, then you’ll be dealt with by the Police,” he said.

“The beaches are there for all Sydneysiders to enjoy and Police are determined to ensure a handful of people don’t spoil the fun for everyone else.

“If you’re going to consume alcohol, don’t over-do it.

“There will be a high visibility Police presence at all of our main beaches this summer, while undercover officers and CCTV will also help Police deal with any incidents.

“Police will also patrol surrounding public areas, such as shopping strips, parkland, car parks, licensed premises and public transport interchanges.

“It’s important that families and friends who get out to enjoy the beach and good weather feel safe,” Mr Daley said.