

**Community Safety Precinct Committee Meeting
Lake Illawarra Police District
3 March 2020
MINUTES**

Attendance:

A/Supt Gordon Dunlop, D/Ch/Insp Broadhead, C/Insp Pedersen, C/Insp Allman Sgt Northey, SC Dianne Martin, Armanado Reviglio – Wollongong Council, Sarah Marshall - Shellharbour City Council, Gary McKay – Kiama Chamber of Commerce, Erin Masters – Wollongong Council Youth and Development, Paul Grebert – Albion Park Chamber of Commerce, Mark Miller – Shellharbour Council, Caitlin Roodenryn - Paul Scully MP Wollongong, Roger Evans - Cordeaux Heights 'Next Door, Nicole McKenzie – A/EXO LIPD

Apologies:

Insp Dark, Ian Fitzgibbon - Dapto Business Chamber, Stephen Jones – Member for Whitlam, Dennis Couley – Dapto Chamber of Commerce.

Minutes: Nicole McKenzie

Meeting opened: 10am

Opening: Welcome all attendees from Insp Paul Allman, Acknowledgment to our country. Introduction around the room.

Minutes from previous meeting accepted by D/Ch/Insp Broadhead and Sarah Marshall

Actions Outstanding from Previous Meeting

1. Kiama Council to display Fraud Flyer on the Council website, Nick Guggisberg to advise if this action has been carried out. – Flyer was sent to Nick via email – No further action required.

Commander Welcome:

A/Supt Dunlop welcomed the attendees at today's meeting, apologised for Supt Dean Smith absence and advised of his relieving position as the Assistant Commissioner at Region in Wollongong. A/Supt Dunlop thanked everyone for their support, both at our quarterly meetings at LIPD and throughout the year. It has been a big 3 months with outstanding achievements with the Corporate focus still centring around 3 key objectives: Prevention, Disruption and Response.

Lake Illawarra Police District has performed well during the last few months, especially with the fires and then the floods, New Year's Eve was fantastic, the fires impacted numerous New Year's Eve celebrations around the Illawarra and South Coast, and with firework displays being cancelled last minute, we really thought Kiama would be inundated with people but it was on par with other years and everyone was very well behaved and left in an audibly manner.

When we talk about Bush fires and floods most people would say well what do the Police do, we really step up dramatically as an agency, With Fires we have State Ignition Plan (SIP), the SIP was initiated in 2012 and aims to deter fire lighting behaviour through co-ordinated multi agency proactivity, in respect to bushfire arson and known bushfire arson hot spots.

We work to proactively target known bushfire arson offenders, we patrol high risk areas, we saturate areas to reduce and investigate all fires, we deploy police to stop the looting and thief's, we put pressure on the known arsonists and their families. Although our District was not affected directly by the fires, staff were deployed South to assist with evacuations, blocking of streets, traffic management, man the Evacuation centres, communicate with the media, ensure loved ones are safe and to notify people with the outcome, we have staff in the EOC (emergency operation centres) 24/7.

Then there are floods, where we again block roads, so people do not drive through floods waters, man the evacuation centres, communicate with SES. We really step us as an organisation in these times and we have such excellent cultural morale that we even have staff ringing on there holidays or days off saying, "what can I do to help". I am very proud of the team we have here at Lake Illawarra PD.

A/Supt Dunlop went through what a Sitrep was and gave some examples of what just a few weeks can look like at our District with the different kinds of jobs that police attend. We have such a diverse range of skills between all the officers but collectively everyone goes above and beyond to get some very outstanding results.

Crime Review & Analysis/ Summary – Sgt Peter Northey

Sgt Peter Northey introduced himself as the Supervisor for Community Engagement for LIPD. Sgt Northey introduced S/C Dianne Martin who is replacing S/C Jane Keating. Sgt Northey brought to the attention that 2 new positions will fill the Crime Prevention team in the coming months, that being another Crime Prevention officer and a second Youth Liaison officer.

Facebook has 20k + followers, we are looking to broaden our Social media engagements by utilising other apps such as Instagram to get messages out to the younger community.

Crime Presentation – A breakdown of figures at LIPD is shown

- Assault non dv – this is reduced
- Break and enter – reduced
- Steal from motor vehicle – normally unlocked vehicles, we are pushing and pushing for people to LOCK YOUR CAR. Our strategies are just not working, people are still leaving valuable in their car and cars are being left unlocked.
- Steal from dwelling – anything from curb side to your house
- Steal from retail – This is high, the period is also seasonal with school holidays and visitors attending our area, we have numerous shoplifting operations which are very successful and another one occurring in the coming weeks.
- Stolen Vehicles – Very low
- Person search figures are an indication of how police are utilising their powers. There are no set quotas and is a good strategy for interacting with undesirable characters.

It is quite clear that when offenders are arrested, there is an obvious decline in the figures for the relevant crime category.

As previously indicated crime reviews are undertaken daily to reduce current issues and discuss and implement different strategies to adapt to the issues at hand.

A fortnightly review of crime in our suburbs is also undertaken to give us the vision of where we need to task our police. It is vital that crime is reported to the police, so we have an accurate vision of the crime occurring in our community to task police accordingly. This information is particularly valuable for proactive policing.

Review and Analysis:

Break and Enter – The bulk of incidents reported have occurred in residential dwellings where the typical entry has been through unlocked doors or forced locks. These figures are down.

Fraud – Historically fail to pay was the driver for this category, but these incidents have reduced significantly. Police have been purchasing fuel for police vehicles at high risk petrol stations to increase police presence and to deter criminal activity at these locations.

With the high volume of fraud offences, our newly created Tech Crime Unit is working back from the point of the fraud, starting with CCTV of the fraudulent offence and working back to solve the initial crime that may have been a break and enter where a wallet/credit card was stolen in the first instance. The Tech Crime Unit is working in conjunction with the Anti-Theft Unit and is currently staffed with 4 officers. The Tech Unit is working really well with some great results.

It is so important to get the message out to the community to report lost/stolen cards to financial institutions ASAP. Still need to educate the elderly with the different frauds that are occurring, CPU are always happy to come and do talks or presentations, they attended BINGO at one of the clubs to have a quick chat in the break. Bulk of the fraud is still tap n go credit cards. Encourage all people to report.

SFMV (Steal from Motor Vehicle) – Most incidents relate to wallets/money being taken from the cars, tying back to our fraud offences. It is believed that reporting of these offences is under-represented, which effects our ability to task police pro-actively in the high-risk suburbs. Please assist where you can to get the message out to the community to lock their cars! And to report all thefts. Need to educate people to report and if there is any CCTV footage we can come and collect, this will assist us, also remembering when attending the beach etc you don't need to take your entire wallet and its contents or bring valuables if you're just having a quick swim and going home.

Community Engagement Summary – SC Dianne Martin

- Tamper resistant screw fitting
- Univariate Project – encouraging UOW students to come up with ideas that LIPD can engage with the Community.
- Australia Day Breakfast by the Lake.
- Trail bike operations – various and ongoing with good stats and results.
- Community Safety Pop up meeting was held at Albion Park Public School
- Police attended Darcy House and the Disability Services homes in Albion Park as part of the team's training days.
- Seniors week event – Health and wellbeing Expo at Shellharbour Council.
- Fit for Life – held at Lake Illawarra PCYC Tuesday mornings from 7am to 8am. This is free to school aged children and breakfast is provided.
- Funding through Wollongong and Shellharbour Council for Breakfast with the Boys & Girls in Blue – 3 Primary Schools in each LGA for 2020 commencing 10 March. Kiama Liquor Accord has provided funding for the 2020 'RESILIENCE' program We are still seeking out funding for us to purchase more of our booklets and air fresheners, and to carry out other programs.

Upcoming events:

- School safety talks
- Elder safety talks
- Breakfast with the Boys and Girls in blue
- PACC meeting
- Community audits with Wollongong council
- Pop up meetings Unanderra and Albion Park
- Seniors week event (talk blue haven)
- TRSF
- Saltwater festival Bundaleer
- Resilience program
- Multi-Cultural festival

Sgt Northey talked about the "Lock it or Loose it" campaign that they are creating a letter to warn residents and will be conducting a letterbox drop. We also are looking into different radio stations that will let people from non-speaking backgrounds be informed of what's occurring in their area. We have also identified in the last few weeks that when Google Maps were updating their pictures, businesses were offered a one-off fee to have the inside of their business's photographed into a virtual tour, these virtual tours were uploaded and can be assessed by anyone, this poses a high risk to business's and many have requested to have it removed.

Community Feedback/Questions:

Wollongong City Council launched its campaign on 3 March 2020 to seek feedback around Public Safety and perceptions of public safety in the community. Council is encouraging members of the public to provide written feedback if they feel unsafe, in any particular public spaces.

"Throughout March 2020 Council will be reaching out to the community seeking feedback about their experiences of feeling unsafe in public places. The community will be invited to complete a short survey online or in person. our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Information stands will be held at the following locations in the Wollongong LGA:

- 3 March 2020 - Corrimal Lederer Shopping Centre, 10am to 12pm
- 13 March 2020 - Wollongong Crown Street Mall, 11.30am to 1.30pm
- 17 March 2020 - Warrawong Plaza, 10am to 12pm
- 19 March 2020 - Dapto Mall Shopping Centre, 10am to 12pm
- 25 March 2020 – Unanderra Community Centre, 12.30-1.30pm

The responses will help shape strategies and actions in the Community Safety Plan 2021-2025. The plan will also be informed by data from government sources, local crime intelligence and recent surveys including the Perceptions of Safety Survey 2017."

If you receive any inquiries regarding this, please direct people to the council's website our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Survey takes around 5 minutes and they are hoping to get around 250 responses.

A/Supt Dunlop wanted to note that we have had some great feedback with the trail bike operations, the community appears to be happy, we have rostered them 10 weeks straight, they are out there in the community and in most complained about areas and are being seen. We have some pleasing results, all bikes that are confiscated are destroyed.

Sgt Northey wanted to ask if anyone had recommendations for VIPS, LIPD is looking for a few more to join the team and to contact Sgt Northey.

Closing: Insp Allman thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting finished: 11.05am

Next meeting: 10am Tuesday 9th June 2020, Lake Illawarra Police District

ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING:

For Information: Geographical areas aligned to Inspectors

KIAMA Sector

Inspector Dan RICHARDSON – rich2dan@police.nsw.gov.au

Kiama Sector covers Dunmore (Near Kiama Waste facility) to Gerroa Road, near Bolong Rd, Shoalhaven Heads. This sector also covers from the coastline to Jamberoo Mountain Rd and up to the Illawarra HWY, Robertson. Suburbs include Kiama, Minnamurra, Kiama Downs, Kiama Heights, Gerringong, Gerroa, Jamberoo, Curramore, Knights Hill, Foxground, Warri Beach, Bombo.

OAK FLATS Sector

A/Inspector Danielle REBBECK – rebb1dan@police.nsw.gov.au

Oak Flats Sector covers from Shell Cove north to Windang. The sector then included Shellharbour, Shellharbour City Centre, Calderwood, Blackbutt, Barrack Point, Barrack Heights, Warilla, Mount Warrigal, Lake Illawarra, Oak Flats, Albion Park Rail, Albion Park, Tullimbar, Tongarra, Macquarie Pass and Yellow Rock.

DAPTO Sector

Inspector Brian PEDERSEN – pede1bri@police.nsw.gov.au

Dapto Sector covers from Haywards Bay to Cordeaux Heights and includes Dapto, Dumbarton, Kanahooka, Koonawarra, Haywards Bay, Horsley, Kembla Grange, Wongawilli, Penrose, Marshal Mount, Unanderra and a small section of Kembla Heights.

PORT KEMBLA Sector

Inspector James DARK – dark1jam@police.nsw.gov.au

Port Kembla Sector spreads from Port Kembla across to Berkeley and south past Primbee. Other suburbs included are Unanderra (industrial area), Cringila, Lake Heights and Warrawong. This sector also surrounds the southern border of the Port Kembla Port and aligns with Wollongong Police District's southern boundary along Five islands Rd from the Spring Hill Rd intersection.