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CENTRAL WEST POLICE DISTRICT – WESTERN SECTORS COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT MEETING

DATE: 5 November 2018
VENUE: Parkes Shire Council
TIME: 10am

PRESENT:

Superintendent Chris Taylor	Commander, Central West Police District
Chief Inspector David Cooper	Officer in Charge, Parkes and Peak Hill Cluster Sectors
Detective Inspector Bruce Grassick	Crime Manager, Central West Police District
Senior Constable Daniel Greef	Crime Prevention Officer
Sheridan Alexander	Executive Officer, Lachlan Local Area Command
Phylliss Miller	Mayor, Forbes Shire Council
Ken Keith	Mayor, Parkes Shire Council
Kent Boyd	General Manager, Parkes Shire Council
John Metcalf	Mayor, Lachlan Shire Council
Greg Tory	General Manager, Lachlan Shire Council

APOLOGIES:

Mr Phil Donato MP	Member for Orange
Inspector Shane Jessep	Officer in Charge, Forbes and Western Sectors
Steve Loane	General Manager, Forbes Shire Council

CRIME OVERVIEW

D/Insp. Grassick provided an overview of the Compass Crime results year to date (Jul 2017-Oct 2018) for the Central West Police District. Since the amalgamation of the Canobolas and Lachlan Commands the targets for each crime category are considered high and the new Central West District is negotiating to reduce the targets in some areas.

In relation to Crime targets results as at the end of October, the following categories did not meet the targets:

- *Robbery* – 13 incidents year to date (YTD), 8 above the target. Incident occurring mainly in Orange.
- *Break and Enter (Non-Dwelling)* - 89 incidents YTD. There was a recent increase of incident in Forbes with a number of Churches being targeted however this issue has now decreased (12 occurring in September and 3 in October). The Target Action Group are investigating these matters. There were 6 incidents in October at Peak Hill.
- *Steal from Motor Vehicle* – There were 184 incidents YTD which is 9 over the target of 175. There was a high number of incident which occurred at Orange, 121 incidents YTD.
- *Frauds* – The number of Frauds YTD is 169, which is 14 above the target of 155. The District will be conducting a Fraud Forum in November to educate community members about online scams, internet and credit card fraud. 'Fail to Pay' for fuel incidents are included in Frauds but the number of incidents is not as high as previously experienced.
- *Assaults (Alcohol and Non-DV Related)* – 57 incidents YTD. The new initiative called SAM (Safety Action Meetings) will commence in Parkes on 14 November 2018 involving a number of agencies (FACS, Dept. of Housing, Police, Medical personnel) to review

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domestic violence matters that involve serious assaults or threats. The agencies will look at the circumstances of each case and will implement actions aimed at reducing the risk of further domestic incidents. Police will chair these meetings and each new incident will be reviewed within 2 weeks of occurring.

- *Steal from Motor Vehicle* – 184 incidents YTD, 121 occurring in Orange. There were 16 incidents in Forbes which were occurring the same time the spike in Break and Enters was experienced. These matters are being investigated and forensic examinations may assist in linking the crimes that are occurring in the same area during the same period. Some of the incidents may be considered opportunistic so the community are being reminded to secure property and vehicles through the radio and social media.
- *Steal from Person* – There are 10 incidents YTD, 7 of which occurred in Orange. These crimes are not an issue locally.
- *Pro-activity* – The District is slightly under the target in *Move Ons*. Also reviewed were stats for *Person Searches* and *Vehicle Stops*. In relation to *Person Searches*, there were 218 conducted YTD (181 resulted in a nil find and 37 in object found).
- *Motor Vehicle Accidents* – There have been 60 MVA's, 23 which occurred in Orange.
- *Operation Dogbox* – This Operation was recently introduced into the Western Region, it targets illegal hunters and rural crime. A database is being created with details of vehicles and dogs. Police are taking photographs of the vehicles with the permission of the owners to include in the database.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ *Drought Relief Concert in Parkes* – Police resources have been allocated to attend the music concert to be conducted on 17 November 2018 at the Parkes Showground.
- ❖ *Christmas Parades* – Dates for each Council discussed, sector police to be rostered accordingly.
- ❖ *Elvis Festival* – C/Insp. Cooper advised police would be conducting a desktop exercise for this event on 6 December 2018. Further he stated that arrangements were in place for the festival from a policing perspective.

COUNCIL ISSUES

Parkes Shire Council

- ❖ **Parkes Pool** – The current issues discussed, high number of people attending the pool since the admission fee was waived. C/Insp. Cooper advised that council concerns are being addressed and that police are being tasked to attend the pool to conduct pro-active patrols.

Lachlan Shire Council

- ❖ **Police Presence** – Council concerns regarding police presence in the community have been addressed with Sergeant Gibson and police will be tasked to conduct regular high visibility patrols, on foot and in vehicles.
- ❖ **Local Committees** – Previously council and local police would attend local Crime Prevention Meetings to discuss any issues, this does not occur anymore. It was discussed that whilst local meetings are not conducted, that regular contact between council and police could be arranged with the Sector Sergeants as community engagement strategy.

ACTION: Insp. Jessep to arrange for Sergeants Munro & Gibson to make regular contact with Council to part of community engagement.

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GENERAL BUSINESS

'Fit for Life' Program – This youth program started at the Parkes PCYC Tuesday 23 October and is being well received. The first week 8 youths attended and the following week 24 attended. The program involves a boxing session with a qualified instructor and then breakfast. The young persons will also be provided free hygiene pack and will be able to use the showering facilities on site. The young persons will then be dropped to school at the completion of the session. This initiative will hopefully address truancy and school disengagement.

'Officers in Charge' addressing Council Meetings – C/Insp. Cooper will be attending the next Parkes Shire Council Meeting to discuss any issues with the Council. It was discussed that Insp. Jessep would be available to attend council meetings with the Lachlan Shire if requested. Forbes Shire Council indicated their meetings are being held 'live' on the internet and is working well.

Youth Centre – The Lachlan Shire Council asked about PCYC facilities as they have Youth Services working with them but need a common centre in Condobolin. Discussion held in regards making representations for a PCYC, police happy to assist council with this process.

'Rise Up' & Fit for Life Programs – D/Insp. Grassick advised the meeting these youth initiatives have a number of aspects, one of which will include approaching various Companies and Organisations such as Council for apprenticeships or appropriate positions for the youth participating in these programs.

Issues discussed at the previous meeting:

Lake Cargelligo Library – No further issues regarding youth congregating in the area.

Drone Issue – D/Insp. Grassick indicated that there is no data to confirm there have been any issues with drones being used by offenders.

Rural Crime/Drought Affecting – There has not been a massive increase or anything evident that relates to the drought increasing crime.

Meeting Closed - Next meeting to be conducted in 2019, date to be advised.

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