

The Hills Local Area Command Community Safety Precinct Committee Minutes



NSW Police Force
www.police.nsw.gov.au

Monday 4th November 2013
Commenced: 10:05am – Concluded: 11am

Chairperson: Inspector Jim Szabo

Attendees	Organisation	Position	Contact Details	Attend
Robert CRITCHLOW	NSW Police Force	Commander		Yes
Gary BAILEY	NSW Police Force	Crime Manager		No
Jim SZABO	NSW Police Force	Customer Service		Yes
Mark FEHON	NSW Police Force	Crime Coordinator		No
Nigel JOHNS	NSW Police Force	Intel Officer		No
Robert PATERSON	NSW Police Force	Youth Liaison Officer		No
Jason ROUGHLEY	NSW Police Force	School Liaison Officer		No
Jodie SUTERS	NSW Police Force	Crime Prevention Officer		Yes
Michelle BYRNE	The Hills Shire Council	Mayor		No
Jodie TINNINGHAST	The Hills Shire Council	Mayors PA		No
Tony HAY	The Hills Shire Council	Councillor		No
Gordon ALLEN	The Hills Shire Council	Manager Community Outcomes		No
Charles MEADER	The Hills Shire Council	Compliance Officer		No
Gaynor CORFIELD	The Hills Shire Council	Community Services and Planning		Yes
John DEAN	The Hills Shire Council	Manager, Economic Development & Marketing		No
David ELLIOTT	NSW Government	Member for Baulkham Hills		No
Keith TOPOLSKI	NSW Government	Electorate Officer for David ELLIOTT		Yes
Dominic PERROTTET	NSW Government	Member for Castle Hill		No
Christian ELLIS	NSW Government	Electorate Officer for Dominic		No

		PERROTTET		
Ray WILLIAMS	NSW Government	Member for Hawkesbury		No
Renate BRITTON	NSW Government			No
Ian FENELEY	NSW Department of Education	Education Services		Yes
Faye HANSEN	The Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Committee	Psychologist		Yes
Jo FULLER	Western Sydney Area Health Service	Community Health General Manager		No
Shirley PURSER	The Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Committee; International Women's Day Committee	Local Resident		Yes
Bashir SUMAR	Ismaili Community UWS	Outreach Volunteer Lecturer		No
Leon COLOSIMO	Liquor Accord	Chairperson		No
Robin BAIRD	Castle Hill Chamber of Commerce	Executive Officer		No
Marilyn STONEHAM	Neighbourhood Watch	Castle Hill		No
Matt SLATTERY	Neighbourhood Watch	West Pennant Hills		No
Ken BAXTER	Neighbourhood Watch	Carlingford		No
Jeff GREY	Neighbourhood Watch	Bella Vista Waters		No
Alan CADMAN	Life Education NSW	Chairman		No
Des MILLIGAN	The Hills Community Aid & Information Service Inc	Executive Officer		No
Mici BEER	The Hills Community Aid & Information Service Inc	Aid		No
Tony WARREN	Rouse Hill Town Centre			No
Shane NOLAN	Rouse Hill Town Centre	Operations Manager		No
Peter ANDERSON	Rouse Hill Town Centre	Customer Experience Manager		No
Jody	Rouse Hill	Security		No

LAVERING	Town Centre	Manager		
George GIANNIKOS	Asset Group Solutions	Business Development Manager		No
Phil RAYNER	Castle Towers	Development Operations Manager		No
James GIBBESON	Castle Towers	Operations Manager		No
Danijel MUSIC	Castle Towers	Security Manager		Yes
Wayne PEARN	Westfield North Rocks	Facilities, Risk and Security Manager		No
Sam SINGH	Westfield North Rocks	Security Manager		No
Marie GEORGIU	Norwest Market Town	General Manger		No
Shane PITT	Stockland Mall	Facilities Manager		No
John ZEITOUNE	Stockland Mall	Security Manager		No
Damien PHILLIPS	Stockland Mall	Security Manager		No
Grant HOUSBEY	Stockland Mall	Security Manager		No
Steve BAKER	Winston Hills Mall	Operations Manager		No
Matthew IORI	Rouse Hill Village Centre	Security Manager		No
Ajay KHANNA	Crowne Plaza Norwest	General Manager		No
David O'NEIL	Castle Hill RSL	General Manager		Yes
Dr. Aksheya KUMAR	India Club	Chairman		Yes
Shubha KUMAR	India Club	President		Yes
Rosanda KWOK	Hills Chinese Women Association	President		No
Tony EADES	Sydney Hills Business Chamber	Chairman		No
Helen SMITH	Chinese Mandarin Speaking Group	Committee member		No

Minutes

1. Meeting opened at The Hills Shire Council Chambers at 10:05am

Introduction and welcome from Inspector Jim SZABO from The Hills Local Area Command.

2. Apologies:

Ajay KHANNA, Tony EADES, Leon COLOSIMO, Ben JACKSON, Wayne PEARNE, James GIBBESON, Marilyn STONEHAM, Damien PHILLIPS, S/Cst Jason ROUGHLEY, S/Cst Rob

1. Matters arising from last meeting:

1. Faye HANSEN / Shirley PURSER to provide update on White Ribbon Day preparations

White Ribbon Day preparations for Monday 25th November are well on the way. The stall at Castle Towers will be situated outside Event Cinemas at and Castle Hill High School students will help out. Stalls will also be located at Bunnings Castle Hill and Dural. And another site to be confirmed at the Towers. Police are looking at holding the morning BBQ just outside the main entrance off Old Castle Hill Road to attract the morning commuters.

On the Tuesday 26th November is the Healthy Relationships Forum which is being organised by Soroptimist International and strongly supported by the Domestic Violence Prevention Committee. Ken NATHAN and Faye HANSEN will both be speaking about healthy relationships. Possibly will run from 9am – 3pm.

Please support White Ribbon Day in every way you can and for the gentlemen present could you please sign up on the website as advocates. Dominic PERROTTET will be holding a function at the Castle Hill RSL however the details haven't been finalised.

2. Crime Prevention Forums

So far we have held four crime prevention forums and they have been a great success. Our recent forum was:

Castle Hill Thursday 24th October 6pm – 7pm 11 people, 5 Police, 2 VIPs

3. Charles MEADER to provide dog attack statistics

Charles has been sick and has been off work for some time.

Gaynor CORFIELD provided the statistics:

From 1 July 2013 until 31 October 2013 there have been 30 dog attacks. 21 on animals and 17 on human victims (some attacks involved more than one victim).

Out of the attacks most serious was 3 dogs died and two people were hospitalised.

4. Supt. CRITCHLOW mentioned RBT statistics

Our September statistics were 941 tests conducted, however October has seen a significant increase with 3,128 tests conducted so now the bar has been set. Injury crashes have decreased from 27 to 23 for the month. And we will definitely be reinforcing the community interaction, especially for young constables. Ian FENELEY stated that Police are now enjoying a very positive public profile and the more we can keep it up there the better.

4. Crime Report

A general discussion was also held on the crime statistics – presentation delivered to the meeting by Inspector Jim SZABO and on current crime trends.

Non-DV Assaults

There were 60 non-domestic violence assaults in the 2nd quarter of 2013 and 82 assaults in the 3rd quarter of 2013 showing a decrease of 27%.

- 29% of incidents occurred in Residential Premises, 24% of incidents occurred in Licensed Premises, 19% on Business Premises and 13% in an Outdoor/Public Place.
- The main hot spots for Non DV Assaults remain unchanged and are focused on Rouse Hill & Castle Hill CBD.
- Licensed premises continue to be the main focus of business inspections to reduce alcohol related assaults. The Command is working with the Licensees to reduce offences on Licensed Premises.

Usually we find with alcohol and warmer weather we have more assaults. We are looking about 24 per month.

DV Assaults

There were 70 domestic violence assaults recorded in the 2nd quarter of 2013 and 57 for the 3rd quarter of 2013 showing a decrease of 18%.

- The decrease in DV Assaults is a result of Police working with the operators.
- Police time spent in group homes has dropped by over 80% since January 2013. There has been a corresponding decrease in the number of missing person reports.
- DV Assaults remains a Command priority with all incidents reviewed by the Senior Management Team on a daily basis.
- Supervisors are attending all domestic violence assault matters.
- The Command is participating in activities to raise the public's awareness about Domestic Violence.

57 for this quarter has been a decrease come about by Supt. CRITCHLOW emphasising to our general duties supervisors that they must attend every DV incident. Over the weekend we have been looking at current stats and in the last 20 incidents the supervisors have attended all but one of the incidents.

Ian FENELY stated that the community's appreciation needs to be expressed to Police for the work we do when dealing with DV victims.

With our stats, having less reports may be either a good thing or a bad thing. There may be fewer incidents however, there may just be less people reporting incidents.

Ian FENELY asked what the studies show in relation to the status of someone's mortgage and the rate of DV. Faye stated that social pressures are not enough for violence, it occurs over all socio economic groups. Supt. CRITCHLOW stated that the offending rates are universal however, the reporting rates are cultural and the language barrier can be one reason why a lot of Non English Speaking Background victims don't report DV.

Faye questioned how many offenders would be adolescents. We have not provided the stats here but will have them for the next forum.

We want the message out there that victims of domestic violence should be reporting to us so we want the figures to go up.

Break, Enter & Steal

There were 180 Break and Enters recorded in the 2nd quarter of 2013 and 165 incidents in the 3rd quarter showing a 8% decrease.

- Hotspots for crimes move constantly. The main hot spots have been in Beaumont Hills, Castle Hill, Baulkham Hills, Carlingford and West Pennant Hills.
- Criminals focusing on credit cards which they use to commit frauds. They also target other small, high value items such as jewellery, wallet and handbags.
- Offences on non-residential premises has increased. Offenders are targeting shops for cash and cigarettes.
- Aggravated offences have decreased.
- Police have significantly reduced the number of offences in the hotspots of West Pennant Hills and Beaumont Hills with high profile patrols and community engagement.

Baulkham Hills is hot at the moment. Aggravated B&Es have been fluctuating and are down at the moment.

Major Motor Vehicle Accidents

There were 350 major MVAs in the 2nd quarter of 2013 and 339 incidents in the 3rd quarter 2013 showing an insignificant decrease.

- The Hills LAC is focusing on RBT for the effects it has on both road trauma and property crime.
- Incident rates have remained reasonably static for several years in the Command but are now showing an upward trend due to increased traffic volume. Police expect changes to accident rates caused by the major works taking place in the Command.
- Main hot spots are centred around CBD of Castle Hill and major roads with particular emphasis on entry and exit ramps of freeways.
- The main black spots are the M2 Mtwy near Windsor Rd and the M2 Mtwy near

Pennant Hills Rd.

Castle Hill and Carlingford at the moment especially with Pennant Hills Road being one of the busiest roads in Australia. There has been a slight decrease and hopefully this is related to the increase in RBT. With the building of the Rail Way and more and more people moving into the Shire we will be looking at an increase in incidents.

Ian FENELY stated that it would be a miracle if the stats can be kept as low and the Police are doing a great job keeping it as low as it is now.

Keith TOPOLSKI asked what our numbers looked like around Christmas and New Year. Supt. CRITCHLOW stated that looking at the Control Chart we don't have a great increase, it is just mainly in the holiday locations such as the Central Coast.

Malicious Damage

There were 245 Malicious Damage incidents reported in the 2nd quarter of 2013. There were 245 incidents reported in the 3rd quarter 2013 showing an 11% decrease.

- Egging is of particular concern with houses and vehicles targeted.
- Vehicles parked in residential areas are frequently targeted.
- Graffiti is still a problem. 20% of all reported incidents were graffiti. There is obviously a large number of unreported incidents.
- Random attacks on cars is also a problem. Windscreens are smashed, paint scratched and panels are dented.
- Offence rates have remained steady for some time.

Eggings are on the increase and also tyres being slashed in residential locations. These seem to be linked to licensed premises and may be intoxicated patrons are causing this issue. Graffiti is pretty much static. The long term trend is downwards.

Stealing

There were 358 Stealing incidents in the 2nd quarter of 2013. There were 381 incidents in the 3rd quarter of 2013 showing a 6% increase.

- Shop lifting hot spots remain centred on the two main shopping Centres, Castle Towers and Rouse Hill Town Centre.
- Offenders are now targeting vehicles with wallets and handbags left in vehicles and then using stolen credit cards to commit fraud.
- Stolen vehicle registration plates continue to account for 8% of all property types stolen. A small number of these plates are used in Fail To Pay for Petrol.
- Steal from Motor Vehicle accounts for 44% of all stealing offences.
- CCTV is a useful tool to Police. Most stealing offences that occur in retail areas are captured on CCTV.

The amount of SFMV is quite high for the area and people are simply leaving highly valuable items in vehicles which often are not locked. We have recently arrested and charged offenders from Seven Hills, Mays Hill and North Richmond. Unfortunately the Mays Hill male was granted bail and then was caught only a couple days later committing the same offences and charged a second time.

Ian FENELEY asked what the percentages of vehicles broken into have been unlocked. Supt. CRITCHLOW stated that we have done so much already trying to inform the public to lock their vehicles. Insp SZABO stated that in Eastwood LAC the CPO will go through the shopping centre car parks and check if cars are open and then leave a note with the vehicle. The Hills VIPs conduct car park patrols and send out letters to residents if valuables are left in their vehicle.

The main shopping centres are pretty good with CCTV however the majority of offences have been occurring in residential locations. Supt. CRITCHLOW stated that the issue may be that residents who are home feel that their vehicle is secure when it is located in the driveway and simply don't think they need to lock their vehicles.

Drugs

Drugs have not been a big issue in our area so have not been reporting here however we have recently conducted a drug dog operation in the area. David ONEIL stated that he would have a drug dog every day at the Castle Hill RSL if possible.

Shirley PURSER questioned if a lot of the offenders are drug affected. Supt. CRITHCLOW stated that alcohol is still the major drug.

5. General Business:

1. Ian FENELEY, NSW Department of Education, Education Services

Ian has asked if the Commander can commend the team at the station as the community does not give praise enough for the work Police do. Please pass on our commendations.

2. Insp. SZABO and S/Cst SUTERS

Meetings will be held quarterly next year, based on the Parliament Sitting dates. Gaynor stated that the meetings will held at the new location for the Council Chambers in Columbia Court.

3. Insp. SZABO thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 11am

Community Concerns and Feedback Issues Raised	Decisions taken / LAC Response
Matters to be reported on next Meeting:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Faye HANSEN / Shirley PURSER to provide details of White Ribbon Day, 25th November 2013 2. Police to report on the number of Domestic Violence incidents which involve young people 3. S/Cst Jodie SUTERS to set all dates for 2014 meetings 4. Charles MEADER to provide the Dog Attack statistics for the quarter 	
<p>Meeting closed at 11am. Next meeting TBC</p>	