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CENTRAL WEST POLICE DISTRICT – WESTERN SECTORS COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: 27 April 2020

VENUE: Via Telephone Conference

TIME: 10:15am

PRESENT:

Chief Inspector Scott Rayner	Acting Crime Manager, Central West Police District
Inspector Shane Jessep	Officer in Charge (Forbes), Central West Police District
Sheridan Alexander	Executive Officer, Central West Police District
Councillor Ken Keith	Mayor, Parkes Shire Council
Kent Boyd	General Manager, Parkes Shire Council
Councillor Phyllis Miller	Mayor, Forbes Parkes Shire Council
Steve Loane	General Manager, Forbes Shire Council
Councillor John Medcalf	Mayor, Lachlan Shire Council
Greg Tory	General Manager, Lachlan Shire Council
Philip Donato MP	Member for Orange

APOLOGIES:

Superintendent Steve Kentwell	Commander, Central West Police District
Chief Inspector David Cooper	Officer in Charge (Parkes), Central West Police District
Detective Inspector Bruce Grassick	Crime Manager, Central West Police District

Outstanding actions from the previous meeting of 18 November 2019 – Nil. Minutes accepted, moved by Ken Keith and seconded by John Medcalf.

CRIME OVERVIEW

An overview of the Compass Crime results for the quarter period ending at 31 March 2020. Crime spike has experienced for property offences at Forbes in recent months. Police held a meeting with the Forbes community meeting regarding their concerns, there have been several arrests made in relation to some of the incidents.

The incident and legal action rate (LAR) statistics are as follows:

- *Break and Enter Dwelling* – 49 incidents above year to date target across the District, 31 incidents in Forbes for the quarter and 21 for the Lachlan LGA, 10% LAR for the District.
- C/Insp. Rayner indicated that moving into April there has been a reduction in property offence due to the strategies implemented, and the COVID19 restrictions. Incident of *Break and Enter Dwelling* as reduced under the target and the number of *Steal from Non-Dwelling* has halved for the month.
- Mr Donato questioned the reason for the spike in the Lachlan LGA and police confirmed that a number of youths from Forbes were responsible for the increase in this area, with legal action now proceeding.
- Mr Donato questioned the rate of successful prosecutions for these offences, C/Insp. Rayner indicated that whilst he did not have this data at hand, overall the District current legal action rate was 91% which was a good result.

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- Mr Donato raised the issue of youth being Bailed as previous discussed and whether this was an issue with the same presiding Magistrate or Clerk of the Court. C/Insp. Rayner stated that most of these matters are being done via AVL so bail is being granted by whomever is on duty at the time.
- The Target Action Group (TAG) have been working together to address these spikes in crime with 2 officers being based at Parkes and 5 officers at Orange.
- *Stolen Motor Vehicles* – The 13 incidents at Forbes relate to the other offences committed by a number of youths. The meeting discussed the process for the offenders being granted bail.
- *Malicious Damage* – There were 49 incidents in Parkes, 42 in Forbes and 36 in the Lachlan LGA with 19 LAR being achieved overall. The councils asked for anecdotal advice on whether CCTV was assisting. Police have been experiencing some issues with getting the Forbes CCTV for work and Forbes Council indicated that they are more than happy to assist with getting any issues addressed.
Rural Crime/Stock Theft – Mr Loane indicated the RCI Unit have been of great assistance in relation to stock theft in the Forbes area and their attendance at the Saleyards. The stats for Stock Theft for the District are to be obtained for the next meeting by the Acting Crime Manager, C/Insp. Rayner.
ACTION: Stock Theft incidents to be provided for the next meeting by C/Insp. Rayner.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Event – No events planned due to COVID19. Parkes Shire Council indicated that the ABBA Festival has been postponed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Parkes Shire Council

- Mr Keith indicated funding will be received for Black Spots on the Newell Highway.
- He also advised the progress of the Inland Rail works.

Lachlan Shire Council

- There has been no further advice received by the District in respect the proposed new station for Condobolin.
- Sergeant's position at Condobolin will be advertised due to Sergeant Gibson retiring next week.
- Council pleased to hear that incident of malicious damage is reducing.

COVID19 Restrictions – There has only been a small number of infringements issued, 2 at Parkes and 1 at Forbes. Police where appropriate are giving directions for persons to comply with the restrictions.

Meeting Closed at 11am – next meeting to be held on 24 August 2020.

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