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CENTRAL WEST POLICE DISTRICT – Parkes, Forbes & Lachlan LG A's
COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: 22 November 2021

VENUE: Parkes Shire Council

TIME: 10.00am

PRESENT:

Detective Chief Inspector Brett Smith	Crime Manager, Central West Police District
Chief Inspector Scott Rayner	Officer in Charge (Parkes), 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 Shire Council
Councillor John Medcalf	Mayor, Lachlan Shire Council
Greg Tory	General Manager, Lachlan Shire Council

APOLOGIES:

Superintendent Steve Kentwell	Commander, Central West Police District
Mr Phillip Donato MP	Member for Orange
Steve Loane	General Manager, Forbes Shire Council

C/Insp. Rayner introduced D/C/Insp. Smith, the newly appointed Crime Manager for Central West PD to the meeting. D/C/Insp. Smith indicated that looking forward to working in the District and will be working from the Orange and Parkes Police Stations.

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 30 June 2021 were reviewed and accepted (moved by Mayor Keith and seconded by Mayor Miller), there were no outstanding actions.

CRIME OVERVIEW – Detective Chief Inspector Brett Smith

An overview of the Compass Crime results for 3 months (Aug-Sept 2021) for the entire Central West Police District was provided. The crime categories currently over the target were reviewed: *Assault DV, Sexual Assault (Adult), Stolen Vehicles, Fraud and Malicious Damage*. The crime categories with a red cross indicates these areas are over the Business Plan targets. These targets were adjusted across the state in June and this District working hard towards achieving the results in the line with these targets.

Crime overview provided as follows:

- *Assault (DV)* – Currently this crime category is 4 over the current target of 171, 15 incidents occurring at Parkes, 12 at Forbes, 7 at Condobolin, and 3 at Lake Cargelligo.
- *Sexual Assaults (Adult)* – This category is 8 above the current target of 12, 20 incidents being reported year to date, 2 incidents occurred in Parkes and 1 incident at both Forbes and Gunningbland. C/Insp. Smith advised that he is examining this crime category for Western Region and will be formulating some strategies for consideration.
- Discussion held concerning the Liquor Accords and whether these forums are still being conducted. C/Insp. Rayner advised that due to a number of licensed premises changing hands in recently, these meetings need to be re-established with the new owners and managers.

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The overall results in the crime categories for Property Crime are good. The follow areas are over the targets:

- *Stolen Motor Vehicle* – This area is over the target of 68 by 11 incidents. These crimes are mainly occurring in Orange and the offenders are being targeted.
- *Fraud* – This crime category is over the target by 27, 175 matters reported year to date. There were 24 matter reported in Parkes, 13 at Forbes and 10 at Condobolin. The current trend with frauds is people being scammed and as a result theft of their credit cards.
- *Malicious Damage* – This crime category is over by 12, with 339 matter being reported year to date.
- *Powers (Pro-activity)*:
 - ✓ *Person Searches* - Good results achieved in this area, 116 Person Searches conducted in Parkes and 69 at Forbes of which 78 were drug related and 33 pandemic related.
 - ✓ *Move Ons* – There were 58 *Move Ons* conducted across the LGA's – 27 at Parkes, 19 at Forbes, 6 at Lake Cargelligo and 4 at Condobolin.

The monthly crime totals for Parkes were reviewed:

- *Malicious Damage* – Parkes had 35 reported incidents in the 3-month period August to October, 9 incidents with legal actions.
- *Drug Detections* – Strikeforce Fernhurst was established to investigate drug supply in Parkes. In October 2021, Parkes Detectives executed a search warrant on a residence. A female was arrested and a substantial haul of proceeds of crime were seized including cash and 9 motor vehicles. Overview provided by CI Rayner, one person was arrest and 50 supply cannabis charges laid with the offender being remanded in custody.
- Strikeforce Cory also resulted in arrest of several offenders for the supply of Methamphetamine, aspects of this investigation are ongoing.

The monthly crime totals for Peak Hill were reviewed:

- In relation to Peak Hill, the overall statistics are generally positive across the board with low level crime even or below the average results. There is a trend increase in the area of Break and Enter offences recently with one main suspect identified.

The monthly crime totals for the Forbes LGA were reviewed:

- ✓ *Malicious Damage* – This area is a concern with 21 incidents reported in October, 35 in the 3-month period. Police are focused on reducing the number of these incidents, looking at targeting when and where these incidents are mainly occurring.

The monthly crime totals for Condobolin were reviewed:

- ✓ In relation to Condobolin, the overall statistics are good with only two crime categories experiencing an increase in incidents over the 3-month period – these being *Assault (Non-DV)* and *Malicious Damage*.

The monthly crime totals for the Lake Cargelligo were reviewed:

- ✓ *B&E Non-Dwelling* – There were 10 matters reported in October and 13 in the 3-month period – 9 matter with legal actions. The premises being targeted include business premises and sporting sheds.

Rural Crime Statistics

- ✓ An overview of the rural crime statistics was provided, and it was noted there has been overall decline in all crime categories. Rural Crime officers are continuing to conduct checks as part of the Operation Stock Check and Animal Movement. General Duties and Detectives officer are also trained on what to look for and have the capacity to conduct stock and truck checks.

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ADVICE FROM COUNCILS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Parkes Shire Council

- ✓ Carols in the Park has been cancelled for this year.
- ✓ Stars under the stars in Parkes 2 April 2022 – Overture Event to be held at Cooke Park with an expected attendance of 2000-3000 people.
- ✓ Elvis Festival has been postponed to 20-24 April 2021.

Forbes Shire Council

- ✓ Christmas Carols to be held on 11 December with markets being held the following day.
- ✓ Australia Day Event to be held at the Lake, will be conducted in line with Covid restrictions.
- ✓ Vanfest Event may be held in 2022, date to be advised.
- ✓ Frost and Fire event to be held in 2022, date to be confirmed.

Lachlan Shire Council

- ✓ Christmas Carols in the Park to be held on 12 December at Condobolin.
- ✓ Shop Local event to be held on 3 December, road closure applications have been submitted.
- ✓ Condo 750 to be held in 2022, date to be confirmed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

CCTV at Parkes Skate Park – Parkes Council asked if this location was still preferred for the next tranche of funding for CCTV. C/Insp. Rayner confirmed it would be beneficial to have CCTV at the park, this issue also being raised by a number of community members.

Community Meeting for Lachlan LGA – Community members have requested a meeting with police, date to be set for this meeting.

Staffing Numbers – Staff numbers are good at present, currently two vacancies at Parkes to be filled (1 Sergeant and 1 Constable position). There is a lack of seniority in staffing across the Police District, but this is also a statewide issue. Whilst the District is allocated additional staff when Probationary Constables graduate, these officers are eventually allocated into a staffing position when they become available. Currently the position at Eugowra is vacant and also one position at Forbes.

Meeting Closed at 11.10am.

NEXT MEETING: Meetings dates for 2022 to be advised.

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