# Community Safety Precinct Committee Meeting Lake Illawarra Police District 9 March 2021 MINUTES

#### Attendance:

Supt Dean Smith, Insp Wunderlich, Insp Dark, Ch/Insp Donald Faulds, DCI Glen Broadhead, Ch/Insp Gordon Dunlop, Sgt Ellen Jackson, Sgt Allyson Weston CPU, SC Diane Martin CPU, SC Matthew Godden PCYC, SC Jane Keating PCYC, Mark Miller Shellharbour Council, Nick Guggisberg Kiama Council, Louise Croker Kiama Council, Greg Golledge obo Anna Watson MP Shellharbour, Ian Fitzgibbon Dapto Business Chamber, Gary McKay Kiama Chamber of Commerce, Michael Barnes South Coast Scouts, Rosy Gilrle Loss Prevention Officer at Bunnings, Roger Evans Next Door Cordeaux Heights, Ian Tudor Woolworths Shellharbour, Natasha Miovic Port Kembla Chamber of Commerce, Nicole Mckenzie EXO

**Apologies**: Paul Scully MP Wollongong, Paul Grebert Albion Park Chamber of Commerce Nathan Mackay Albion Park Woolworths, Armando Reviglio Wollongong Council, Glen Sutherland ACLO

Minutes: Nicole Mckenzie

Meeting opened: 10am

Opening: Welcome to all attendees and introduction from Insp Aaron Wunderlich

Insp Aaron Wunderlich acknowledgment to country.

**Actions Outstanding from Previous Meeting -** Insp Wunderlich has addressed staff at Kiama Station who are not taking reports from the public in relation to trail bikes.

#### Welcome:

Insp Wunderlich went around the room and asked everyone to introduce themselves. These meetings are important to discuss crime trends and crime issues, idea of these meetings are for you to discuss issues within your communities or organisations, we normally have most members of our Senior Management Team, as well as the geographical Inspectors that cover your areas present to answer any questions or address your concerns.

Port Kembla Geographical Inspector: Insp James Dark Dapto Geographical Inspector: Ch/Insp Donald Faulds Oak Flats Geographical Inspector: Insp Aaron Wunderlich Kiama Geographical Inspector: Insp Daniel Richardson

It's a consultative meeting, please speak up or if it's an issue you want to discuss privately after the meeting, that is not a problem either. I have set aside an hour after this meeting for anyone wanting to discuss things further.

#### Crime Review & Analysis/ Summary - Inspector Aaron Wunderlich

Crime Statistics - 1st December 2020 to 8 March 2021

- Most common events in our whole Police District is *Stealing*, this includes steal from motor vehicle, steal from person, followed by *Malicious Damage* and *Fraud*, these 3 offence types account for 938 offences.
- Busiest day is a Tuesday
- Busiest time is 3pm to 6pm
- Top 3 Suburbs for crime is Dapto, Warrawong and Shellharbour

Compass is a system we access crime performance and meet targets we set for our Region. We are meeting all our corporate benchmarks in all categories of crime, with the exemption of Malicious Damage and Non DV Assaults.

If we are looking at Assaults Non DV we had a spike in December 2020, we know that assault non DV is seasonal and we really seen that last year in December, we had a spike in the entire community and across the Police District. We analyse the data and offences and try to prevent crime and to some extent we did, there are practices in place to target repeat offenders but the most part of it, they were sporadic and were not linked, appears to be a seasonal increase. In January and February 2021, we have seen those figures come completely down. Over the 3 months Dec 2020 Jan 2021 and Feb 2021 we had 152 Non DV Assualts.,1 out of 4 offenders were charged by Police or legal action was taken. The busiest day was a Friday between 3pm and 6 pm and the top 3 suburbs they occurred in were Dapto, Berkeley and Warrawong.

Domestic Violence, we seen a decrease in DV Assault and incidents during Covid, it did slightly increase at the end of the year and we had that seasonal influence, but again we seen that come down in the last few months. I do have statistics, but they do mirror the Non DV Assault.

Our DV Unit topped the state in AVO Compliance checks, we have been checked that people are complying with the conditions of their AVO and acting against those who are not.

Mental Health is something I wanted to discuss, from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2021 Police have responded to 101 Mental Health events, these vary between Police scheduling a patient under the Mental Health Act, Police dealing with people that are having a crisis and assisting Paramedics. Mental Health takes up a lot of Police time and we have the Mental Health Clinicians here at Lake Illawarra PD, they are here 12pm to 8pm 7 days a week, any Mental health incident they will respond to and assess on scene, this stops the person being assessed in hospital, they are being assessed in their home and in some cases, staying home and receiving treatment there, we are seeing a tremendous success and it is saving a lot of Police time. They are looking at getting it extended and adding a specialised Aboriginal Health worker and Youth worker.

#### Jane Keating - Youth Case Manager - PCYC

Introduction from SC Jane Keating on her role within the PCYC. My role at the PCYC is a Youth Case Manager, One of my roles is I manage young people who are at risk or are young offenders, I currently have 18 kids under case management, I am on my own at the moment, I have just been provided SC Godden from Lake Illawarra PD to assist me in this role for 6 weeks. The level of case management is limited due to being on my own and the running of other programs, however I'm having interactions with them all most days.

Another one of my roles is the Rise Up Strategy, there are 8 different programs under the Commissioners Rise up Strategy.

#### Rise Up Program

Fit For life Fit Together Fit for Change Fit for Home Fit to Learn Fit to Strive Fit for Work Fit for Service

Fit for Life – We run morning exercise classes in Kiama on Tuesdays from 7am-8am and Thursdays at Lake Illawarra PCYC from 7am – 8am. The Kiama location was started due to the mental health concerns in that area and this morning we had 21 kids attend so that's a fantastic response. We have also brought together a program involving Makuta a local Charitable organisation in Kiama and they are providing funding for PCYC Fit for Life and Safe Driver Program to generate more interest from that high school age group and we had 2 attend today.

We are currently running the Fit for Work program – that has been running all of term 1 and will run to the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The Fit for Work program is about engaging with young people from our community who are looking at getting out into the workforce, maybe school isn't working

for them, we provide them with life skills, education based, to get them into the workforce and part of that is we getting them on the job work experience, I have brought 3 of the students with me today. Blake is Labouring 2 days a week, then the other 3 days is with us at the program, Steve is Plumbing 2 days a week and again back at the program the other days and is enrolled into a Plumbing course at TAFE and Chloe is working in a café. 8 will graduate on the 1st April, we offered one of our participants a casual Receptionist job at the PCYC and she is thrilled.

Main purpose for me being here is to tell you about out the program and the kids but to also ask if there is anyone here that can offer or provide work experience or job opportunities. The kids really are working hard, respectful and they turn up and want to get jobs.

Any enquiries or opportunities you can offer can be made to Jane directly.



#### **Community Engagement Summary - SC Dianne Martin**

#### **Issues / Outcomes**

**Trail Bikes** Wollongong Council have stated that the land on Haywards Bay side is privately owned and we need to identify the owner of the land. On the Shellharbour side of the bridge police have requested signage to show no bike riding is permitted.

Our trail bike Police have been out and have issued 26 infringement notices and along with the anti-theft unit have seized 12 motorbikes. They also attended the Mt Kembla bike track to engage with the community and promote bike security awareness.

**Motorised scooters** have been causing some issues especially in the Shell cove area, we are doing quite a bit of advertising around legislation before we start to issue infringements.

**Vaping** Young people in the High Schools are Vaping at school, the schools are confiscating the vape and young people dealt with according to school policy.

**Sexting** Overview given of challenges and focus in this area. Youth Officers and School liaison officers are still conducting education programs in schools however it continues.

**Steal from Motor Vehicle** Lock it or lose it campaigns – ongoing Community education, we have also tapped into Calderwood Valley Community newsletter as well as the Kiama Tourism newsletter.

Facebook - Police and Community sites utilised, we now have 26k+ followers and we continue to grow in numbers

**Domestic Violence** Compliance checks are being done regularly by the DV team and in the month of January they came 1<sup>st</sup> in the state. Lake Illawarra DVO's came first in the state for actual AVO compliance completing 250 compliance checks.

#### What we have been doing

Joint operations with Housing to target anti-social behavior/ Crime and look at issues around tenancy.

- Graffiti Removal Strategies GRAFF OFF Young offenders referred by Youth Justice Conferences and Court.
- Domestic Violence education programs in the Community, talks at Flagstaff
- Seniors Safety Seniors safety talks, scams and home and personal safety tips
- Child Safety school talks cyber safety and bullying
- Redirect Monthly run by PCYC and Lake Illawarra targeting locations where youth are known to gather and cause issues.
- Glen Sutherland (ACLO) linking in with Coomaditchie programs and the Men's shed

#### What we have coming up

- GRAFF OFF Elder talks.
- DV safety talks at Flagstaff.
- Community engagement at Coomaditchie homework centre.
- Fit for Life.
- · School cyber talks.
- 7<sup>th</sup> April Helmet awareness program PCYC in conjunction with Transport NSW and Shellharbour Council.
- Cultural Treasures multicultural festival 15<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at the Shellharbour Civic Centre.
- L' ETAPE bike ride 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> March The 2021 route will start from Kiama and travel through the South Coast and Southern Highlands. The distance is 136km.
- Saltwater Festival 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

We are looking for a Sponsor for our Crime Prevention Van, we have applied for funding and been to numerous car yards without success, any suggestions or ideas would be greatly appreciated.

Insp Wunderlich spoke about that it is part of the Crime Prevention Unit to restore community engagements, a lot of people feel disconnected with Police and other larger agencies, it very important and something we all here take seriously. There are a lot of avenues that people can speak to the police, this meeting, chamber of commerce, council meetings, individual meetings etc , I ask for your help in inviting people to these type of meetings or putting them in touch with myself or your geographical Inspector , we are always happy to speak to them about issues they have.

#### **Commander Closing:**

Thanked the attendees for coming to today's meeting. Introduced Ch Inspector Don Faulds who started at lake Illawarra this week, he is no stranger to the Illawarra and was previously a Duty Officer at Wollongong PD and the last 12 months been the Staff Officer at the Youth Command and is the Dapto Geographical area Inspector. Brings a lot of experience and knowledge in Youth space.

Good to see we are getting back to some level of normality with people turning up and having some good conversations. No doubt we are in a challenging space, coming out of the Covid space we are getting back to a level of normal in terms of our policing operations.

Spoke about L'ETAPE coming up on 20 March, which impacts on Kiama Council and South Coast and Southern Highlands. Significant impact on road closures and traffic. Communication re same.

Crime environment continues to be challenging but we are maintaining low levels and our strategies and focus is working. The partnerships that come from this group and support of the community only enhances our ability to keep the community safer.

We understand the challenges around the workload we have and I hear the issues around reporting of matters. If we can be doing it better, then that's what we need to do. If you are seeing things that we are not, then that's why we a have these meetings, to make sure we are getting it right as a broader community.

Great to see new faces and of course the old ones. This is one of our key meetings we have and its important the patronage, conversations and the outcomes that we have are tangible to you and your respectful areas that you represent. I encourage you to contact your Inspectors as much as you can I know we have had some good outcomes.

#### **Community Feedback/Questions:**

Insp Wunderlich spoke to Ian Fitzgibbon about the crime stats and how Dapto was topping a lot of the crime categories, wanted to know what the sentiment around the Dapto community is.

lan hadn't had a lot of feedback from them. We have a meeting scheduled for 7pm 10 March 2020 at the Dapto Ribbonwood Centre. Insp Wunderlich said we would have Police attend that meeting.

One of things Di Martin touched on was the work we are doing with Housing, especially around Avondale and Manuka and the crime issues around those areas, especially the damage to public housing. We will be doing stuff later in the month in relation to that. We are meeting regularly with Dapto Mall to discuss issues.

Bunnings – A lot of on line frauds, especially during COVID, increased dramatically, we have implemented the new Aurora system, we are still reporting via the online portal, DCI Broadhead reported on the Lake Illawarra PD Anti-Theft unit has just picked up a job a week ago for a heap of fraudulent transactions at Bunnings and said On line fraud is consistent across the whole crime environment

Kiama Council meeting will be at the end of the week, they have been trialling the mobile CCTV they end up moving to an area that we can't get the camera too.

ANZAC Day discussion – Supt Smith, We encourage people to try and get back to what's normal and we support the March and support the events and we will do whatever we can to make sure we are providing you that level of support and guidance.

Roger Evans spoke about the Spate of Car Breaks in and around Cordeaux Heights the last few days, a lot of people don't report it, as sometimes nothing was taken. Insp Wunderlich encouraged people to report any crime and reminded everyone that there is so many ways to report it. Supt Smith suggested adding the ways to report to the minutes. A lot of times people are reporting on it on the community pages on Facebook, which is good, but we also need it to be reported to Police.

Nick Guggisberg from Kiama Council said he gets feedback about that people have tried to report something to Police but are not taken seriously. Whilst Police need them to report for statistics or to get accurate data, there is discouragement. Supt Smith encouraged you to report these concerns directly to your Inspectors, they still need to report the crime through the appropriate channels.

lan Tudor Woolworths Stocklands - Increase in youths on a Thursday night, is there any talk on extra Police or shopping operations — These youths have no intent to spend money, Juveniles using the store as a free drop and run, a lot of 'theft to eat' during Covid, at the moment theft protein based ie: meat. Insp Wunderlich encouraged Ian to ring or email him directly with any trends he sees. Meeting with Stockland on the 15<sup>th</sup> March to discuss strategies.

#### **WAYS TO REPORT CRIME**

#### https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/

#### **All Emergencies**

Triple Zero (000)

Police, Fire, Ambulance

#### Call Triple 000

- The incident is occurring now
- The suspect is still at the scene
- Anyone is seriously injured or in immediate danger

#### **ONLINE SERVICES**

**Community Portal** 

http://portal.police.nsw.gov.au/

#### To report crime

- Report lost or misplaced property, this includes reporting for insurance purposes
- Theft When your property has been stolen by someone
- Intentional damage or graffitied by someone
- Fraud When persons have failed to pay for goods or services already provided
- Minor traffic Crash Report where vehicle(s) have been towed, parties have exchanged particulars and no one was injured
- Crime Stoppers provide crime information confidentially

#### Apply for services online

- Apply for Firearms Application
- Application for NSW Police Check
- Insurance related Police Event Report
- Access to Information How to access NSW Police Force information via Subpoena or GIPA (Government Information Act)

#### NON-EMERGENCY

131 444

For non-urgent police assistance and general enquiries.

#### **CRIMESTOPPERS**

1800 333 000

Report Information about crime in confidence

#### **LOCAL POLICE STATION**

Lake Illawarra PD – **(02) 4232 55 99** Wollongong PD – **(02) 4226 78 99**  Meeting finished: 11.05am

Next meeting: 10am Tuesday 8 June 2021, 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, Werri Beach, Bombo.

#### **OAK FLATS Sector**

Inspector Aaron Wunderlich - wund1aar@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**

Ch/Inspector Donald Faulds – faul2don@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- <u>dark1jam@police.nsw.gov.au</u>

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.

## LAKE ILLAWARRA POLICE DISTRICT

## Community Safety Precinct Meeting

## Tuesday 9 March 2021

### Attendees

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