

# MINUTES

## COMMUNITY SAFETY REFERENCE GROUP



9.30AM ON THURSDAY 14 APRIL 2016

PRESENT	
Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery	Mark North
Maxyne Graham	Sharon White
Scott Lockhart	Jane Keating
David Reid	

IN ATTENDANCE	
Armando Reviglio – Coordinator Community Partnerships & Safety	Lila Dimoski – Graffiti Management Project Officer
Radda Jordan – Community Safety Officer	Annie Edgar – Administrative Support Officer

- 1 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Anna Bruseker and Margaret Purcell.
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None declared.
- 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10 DECEMBER 2015 – Confirmed.
- 4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
  - Letters have been sent to the Department of Attorney General and Justice and the Department of Main Roads with concerns about security theft with the practice of sending licences through the mail.
- 5 NEW STIMULANT TREATMENT PROGRAM

David Reid Director Drug and Alcohol ISLHD was invited to the meeting to give an update on drugs and alcohol in our local area. The Government promised to increase treatment programs spending \$2m in the Illawarra Shoalhaven area over the next 4 years, based in Burelli Street Wollongong, open days will increase from 2 to 3 days per week.

There is not an epidemic of ice – 2% population nationally, there has been a change from powdered speed to crystal, which is a purer and stronger form of the drug on the streets and readily available. It is a relatively cheap drug to purchase which adds to its attraction. It is big issue within the Indigenous community. We have found that within those people who use it 30% of users get into serious trouble but alcohol is still the major issue in the community.

There was discussion on the consultation engagement process between Drug and Alcohol and Council as to where services are located. Amenity issues around bus stops, we are very proactive and are often guilty by association at the entrance to Diamond Plaza. We will be moving from Diamond Plaza shortly – as the building is under demolition within the next year .

There was discussion around the need to manage perceptions as the Lord Mayor receives a lot of complaints from the community.

It was stressed this is a medical problem not a legal problem.

There was a discussion around methadone clinics, there is no more licensing of private programs. Heroin is very addictive and mixed with other stuff so every day what people are actually using can be in different strengths and as a result will affect them differently. Methadone is consistent in its form and dosage so it can stabilise you, and you don't need to commit a crime to get it as it is part of a health program. Harm minimisation was brought in by the Hawke Government - supply reduction, demand reduction, and harm reduction. This has been reasonably successful. The idea is to wean them off- most people on the methadone program are working and would not appear to be any different to anyone else, people do move off the program but of course this does not happen for everybody.

The numbers of users are stable, heroin up a little bit, 16,000 across NSW, our numbers in the Illawarra have not gone up in 7 or 8 years. Heroin is not a big issue with only (7%) of people who use our services.

## 6 COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Safety Plan – The Councillor Briefing session is on track – just needs a little more information to be ready.

Berkeley – in the middle of the project – art work happening – community garden – raised garden bed. We are progressing placing an outdoor steel ping pong table just outside the Berkeley Community Centre. Young people will have something else to-do. Ball and bats will be held in the Community Centre, but will be left out when closed. There is an opportunity for murals to be placed on the table as another Community Development project with Young People further down the track.

Bellambi - working with Community to form a Community Safety Group. Craig Kershaw and the Surf Club have been a great model to work with – a lot of activity.

CDAT (Community Drug Action Team) – Ice Forum – there is a project working with TAFE to improve transport options leaving the CBD - alert them to apps – campaign. Provide information to young people around drug testing of drivers.

- LGCSO (Local Government Community Safety Officers) Conference – 15 – 16 August.
- Working with Sharon White (Wollongong Police) on DA's.
- Safety audits ongoing – King George Park Port Kembla - fear of crime and the perception of safety - reduced visibility due to bush regeneration. Bush Regeneration Coordinator educating the community with their greening strategies.
- White Ribbon Day – Shellharbour this year.
- Reclaim the Night end of October.

## 7 GRAFFITI REPORT

January to March 2016

January	non-Council - 170	Council - 195	365reports
February	non-Council - 196	Council - 203	399 reports
March	non-Council - 383	Council - 225	608 reports

- Essential Personal, Dapto Rotary, Department of Corrective Services just completed training – and will be removing 1 day per week.
- RMS boxes on going
- Bellambi mural at Surf Club - working with cultural services to complete.

## 7 POLICE REPORT

### Wollongong Area Command

- Break and Enter still our biggest crime – schools still a target
- Youth related – they were targeted and arrested
- Northern Suburbs, Corrimal and Gwynneville, Snake pit
- Issues at the University
- Soccer canteens, food items, lap tops – schools malicious damage
- Steal from Motor Vehicle – 50% of cars are left unlocked – everything visible
- VIPs – GPT car park Kenny and Keira Street, Crown Central
- Bikies at Thirroul's Beaches – being looked at
- Some Young People are coming from Sydney and committing crimes here
- Dob in a Dealer – Nationwide program – launch 22/5 – coasters, flyers Lord Mayor offered his office to get behind this
- Dob in a Dealer will be promoted at Eat Street, Schools, University Mall
- Wollongong LAC hosting an open day held at PCYC 29 October 10.00am – 2.00pm.
- Armando and WLAC looking into parking restrictions and any infringements that have been issued as a result of overnight parking in the Council carpark opposite Nth Gong SLSC.

### Lake Illawarra Area Command

Welcome to Jane Keating as Lake Illawarra Crime Prevention Officer.

Crime stats for 21 March to 3 April 2016

- Warrawong had the most incidents predominantly Steal from Retail which can be attributed to a successful retail theft operation held in Warrawong Plaza on 24 March – resulting in a number of shoplifting charges.
- A number of vehicles subject to Steal from Motor Vehicle incident were unlocked with owners leaving valuables in full sight. Need to promote awareness for people to lock up their vehicles and keep valuables out of sight need to be continued. Facebook/pop up meetings.
- Decrease in Malicious Damage incidents over the two weeks as well as Steal from Dwelling incidents and Stolen Motor Vehicles.
- Proactivity for the date range 21 March – 3 April featured Port Kembla, Warrawong and Berkeley in the top for Lake Illawarra suburbs indicating strong Police presence in these areas over the two week period.
- Top days for occurrences were from Thursday – Saturday.
- Coffee with a Cop - 4 May - Gloria Jeans Dapto Mall 9.30am – 10.30am.

## 7 REPORTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

### Warrawong Residents Forum

- In the last couple of month's naughty kids aged 14 – 16 years have been terrorising the residents. Motorbikes up and down stairwells. Spoken to father – he has lots of history but no easy answer to this issue.

### SESIAH

- Two Indigenous surf boards travelling up and down the coast – raffles – 1000 entries – coming to North Wollongong. The Raffle will be drawn in Nowra over NAIDOC Week.
- Connie Condom – EOI's from 9 another health districts across the state.

### Community Representative – Mark North

- Arborist to trim trees - blocking navigation leads into harbour
- Concerns about possible drug deals being carried out in Aldi carpark Fairy Meadow
- Graffiti retaining wall near Brambles.

## 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

Lord Mayor will contact CEO of ISLHD as Drug & Alcohol Services will be leaving their building and looking for another location and he would like Councils views to be considered.

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Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 9.30am on Wednesday 9 June 2016.

### ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
3/16	Bring – Identity/Security Theft - to the agenda at the LGCP conference	Radda	In action
5/16	Request in writing to NSW Police for the suicide report	Armando and Lord Mayor	
6/16	LM to contact CEO NSW Health re consultation as to the next premises of Drug and Alcohol Wollongong Offices	Armando and Lord Mayor	