

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY REFERENCE GROUP



9.30AM ON THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2017

PRESENT	
Cr Gordon Bradbery	Mark North
Margaret Purcell	

IN ATTENDANCE	
Armando Reviglio – Community & Cultural Development Manager (Acting)	Tracy Venaglia, Community Development & Social Planning Coordinator
Radda Jordan – Community Safety Officer	Lila Dimoski – Graffiti Management Project Officer
Annie Edgar – Administration (Minutes)	

- 1 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Anna Bruseker, Sharon White, Maxyne Graham and Jane Keating.
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None
- 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2016 – Confirmed.
- 4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES - Nil
- 5 COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE
 - The Perception of Safety Survey is being drafted for City Centre and surrounding suburbs.
 - Applied for Crime Prevention Grant for Councils - waiting on endorsement.
 - Focusing on a women's project with MCCI and NSW Police looking at Muslim women who may be being harassed in the Mall. Lord Mayor requested realistic statistics on this – highlighting it could be counter-productive and would need to be a positive campaign focusing on all women not just Muslim women. Radda advised it would involve training security and staff how to respond appropriately plus a charter will be developed for retailers and the City Centre Activation Team wish to be part of the training.
 - Safety Audits continue
 - DA's – 21 assessed with Community Safety comments
 - DE's – 12 assessed with Community Safety comments
 - Planning has begun for this year's White Ribbon Walk
 - Bellambi 2518 project continues to build relationships, mentoring for those experiencing Domestic Violence for both women and men with empowering exercise
 - Other certificate courses will be happening – Bunnings will help with support
 - Port Kembla community capacity building projects a lot of things happening but they are in their early stages

- Dapto Futures Group great effort to work out what is going to happen to make The Square a safer place
- Little Free Pantry – free food Illawarra – pantry boxes with Food Fairness Group made by the Men’s Shed and delivered to community centres. There was some discussion on this as to the problems such as food tampering, ongoing supply and that there were organisations already operating in this space. Radda to feed back to Food Fairness.

6 GRAFFITI REPORT

- Graffiti statistics last quarter – October November December 2016 - 402 reports in total, 15 on private property and 387 on public property
- January and February 2017 - 339 this quarter so far– 21 private 315 public
- A number of incidents in a couple of streets have caused the rise in the January/February figures
- We are continuing to partnership with Corrective Services - currently we are targeting Bellambi and cleaning off Department of Housing assets
- A few more traffic signal boxes have been completed plus two caravans with six yet to be completed.

There was discussion on the on-selling of spray cans which is illegal, the message needs to get out there. Where do suppliers store their spray cans? It was also noted that coloured hair sprays are being used for graffiti especially purple, blue and black – may need to consider drawing this information to the attention of legislators.

7 POLICE REPORT

Wollongong Local Area Command (sent in after the meeting as Sharon was an apology)

Crime statistics for January to February 2017

Steal from Retail Stores

The offences continue to be an issue within the Wollongong LAC. With offences occurring predominantly in the suburb of Wollongong from 9.00am to 9.00pm. Repeat locations were identified as being Best & Less, David Jones, Liquorland (Wollongong and Woonona) and Woolworths Fairy Meadow. Property stolen is mainly alcohol, food, clothing and perfume.

To combat this issue Wollongong Police have instigated user charges within the Mall in conjunction with Wollongong City Council and GPT. Patrols are made with security personnel to enforce smoking legislation, speak with retail stores, assist with any issues within the shopping precinct and training of staff that maybe needed.

Steal from Motor Vehicles

The offences are occurring predominately on Wednesdays and Thursdays between the times of 3.00pm to 9.00pm. The offences are occurring in Wollongong, Figtree and Woonona. Vehicles are being left unlocked or windows open. Items stolen are tools, wallets and phones.

Persons of interest have been identified and charges have been made. Many of the offenders are young and are using the trains to go from suburb to suburb.

Steal from motor vehicle packages are being sent to all reported victims of theft. This includes information on how to keep your vehicle safe. Facebook posts continue to be posted asking owners to lock vehicles and remove all valuables.

Community Engagements

Wollongong LAC launched our Community Calendars in the Mall on 19 December 2016. Police have continued to give them to residents within the Illawarra and will take them to University of Wollongong during 'O' week.

Salco Open Day 24 January 2017.

Upcoming events included 'O' Week at Wollongong University in February, Coffee with a Cop and Wollongong LAC will host a Community Awareness Policing Program (CAPP). This is a program where members of the community get to experience a day in the life of a police officer. This CAPP will be attended by one student and teacher from every High School within the LAC.

Wollongong Police page has hit over 14,144 Likes on Facebook.

8 REPORT FROM OTHER AGENCIES

Community Representative

- Graffiti on the Co-op southern side
- Pedestrian knocked by bike rider near Continental Pool cycle way – Council is aware of it and the problem will be engineered out.
- Beaton Park – Guide Hall has mural and no graffiti - Scout Hall no mural and has graffiti.

9 GENERAL BUSINESS

The Lord Mayor spoke about an incident involving the harassment of University students around the Gwynneville mosque and near the Wiseman's Park Bowling Club which were alcohol related. He has had a meeting and reassured the mosque that relatively speaking Wollongong as a city is doing OK with events like Viva la Gong, NAIDOC Week and Diversity programs all working hard in this space.

Discussion on anti-social behaviour in the Mall, there is not a big crowd but they stick out. City Centre, Church on the Mall and Denison Street are all working through the dynamics. Activation of the Mall is the key.

The meeting concluded at 10.30am.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 9.30am on Thursday 13 April 2017.

Future Meeting Dates

9.30am	Thursday 13 April 2017	Level 10 Committee Room 1
9.30am	Thursday 8 June 2017	Level 10 Committee Room 1
9.30am	Thursday 10 August 2017	Level 10 Committee Room 1
9.30am	Thursday 12 October 2017	Level 10 Committee Room 1
9.30am	Thursday 14 December 2017	Level 10 Committee Room 1

ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
1/17	Little Free Pantry – free food Illawarra – pantry boxes - Radda to feedback potential problems to Food Fairness.	Radda Jordan	