



Minutes

Crime Prevention Committee Meeting
Date: Monday 21 August 2017
Venue: Committee Room
Time: 3:30pm

Lithgow Crime Prevention Committee	
Item Number	Agenda
1	Present and Apologies
2	Previous Minutes
3	Business Arising from Previous Minutes
4	BOCSAR Quarterly Recorded Crime Statistics
5	Police Report
6	Committee Work Plan
7	CCTV
8	General Business

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Mayor Stephen Lesslie, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Goodwin, Sonia Cox, Senior Constable Sue Rose, Danny Whitty, Simon Schmitzer, Jeff Smith, Sue Graves and Kath Compton.

Apologies: Inspector Chris Sammut

Officers: Matthew Johnson

Declaration of Interests: NIL

ACTION

THAT

The list of present and apologies and declarations of interest be noted.

MOVED: Danny Whitty **SECONDED:** Jeff Smith
Carried

ITEM: 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

SUMMARY

The minutes of the 15 May 2017 meeting were ratified by three of those present and were reported to Council on 29 May 2017.

ACTION

That the ratification by three members present of the minutes of the 15 May 2017 meeting, and their reporting to Council on 29 May 2017 be noted.

MOVED: Sue Rose **SECONDED:** Jeff Smith
Carried

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 The Committee resolved to re-invite a number of agencies that previously sat on the Committee as well as Progress Associations and Sonia Cox from Lithgow Community Health to the next meeting to help identify priority areas for the Committee to focus on. Invitations were issued to Sonia Cox and Lithgow Tidy Towns.

Action: The Committee asked that an invitation be sent to Cullen Bullen Tidy Towns as well.

3.2 The Committee also asked that Inspector Sammut be requested to nominate a Police representative on the Committee during his coming absence.

Action: Senior Constable Sue Rose and Clr Daryl Goodwin are attending Crime Prevention Committee meetings.

3.3 The Committee further asked that Council staff investigate initiatives undertaken by other Councils in relation to crime prevention and circulate these before the next meeting.

**ACTION
THAT**

The discussion under Business Arising be Noted.

MOVED: Sue Graves
Carried

SECONDED: Jeff Smith

ITEM: 4 BOCSAR QUARTERLY RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS

SUMMARY

The committee was provided with the latest NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) Recorded Crime Statistics Quarterly Report to March 2017.

COMMENTARY

The BOCSAR Quarterly Crime Statistics report dated March 2017 provides details on crime rates for Lithgow Local Government Area as follows:

1. Trends in recorded Criminal Incidents in Lithgow LGA for major offences over the 24 months to March 2017

There were no significant trends over the 24 month period other than with Fraud offences which showed a 70.8% increase. Fraud offences include Pay wave, eBay offences and failure to pay for fuel offences.

1. Ratio to NSW rate (per 100,000 population) of recorded criminal incidents for major offences for 12 months to March 2017.

- Lithgow Murder rates were 11.5 times the NSW rate - there were two murders
- Lithgow rates of Break And Enter Non- Dwelling were 2.1 times the NSW rate
- Lithgow rates of Robbery with a weapon or firearm were 1.8 times the NSW rate
- Lithgow rates of malicious damage to property were 1.7 times the NSW rate.

2. Actual number of recorded criminal incidents in Lithgow LGA for major offences over 12 months to March 2017 compared to the 12 months to March 2016.

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A comparison between the two years shows a trend up in Assault (Non-Domestic Violence Related), Fraud and Malicious Damage offences.

	Actual Number of Recorded Offences Lithgow	
	12 months to March 2017	12 months to March 2016
Murder	2	1
Assault (Domestic Violence Related)	89	89
Assault (Non- Domestic Violence Related)	116	106
Sexual assault	18	21
Indecent assault etc.	19	21
Break And Enter Dwelling	133	127
Break And Enter Non- Dwelling	69	86
Motor vehicle theft	48	45
Steal From Motor Vehicle	93	88
Steal from retail store	38	54
Steal From Dwelling	85	100
Fraud	152	89
Malicious Damage	298	301

ACTION

THAT

The discussion on NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) Recorded Crime Statistics Quarterly Report to March 2017 be noted.

MOVED: Clr Goodwin
Carried

SECONDED: Danny Whitty

ITEM: 5 POLICE REPORT

SUMMARY

Senior Constable Sue Rose provided a report on local crime and Policing activities.

COMMENTARY

Recent crime trends include:

- A number of school break-ins in recent months.

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- A general increase in fraud and online crimes including scams, EBay and Pay wave offences and fail to pay for fuel.
- Increased Police action in relation to domestic violence with 61% of all domestic violence complaints resulting in a court appearance. This is above the NSW average and suggests that due to tighter legislation and intensive Policing, the message of no tolerance is getting out to the community.

ACTION

THAT

The report on local crime and Policing activities be noted.

MOVED: Sue Rose
Carried

SECONDED: Daryl Goodwin

ITEM: 6 COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

SUMMARY

The Committee considered priority areas that it wishes to focus on during 2017.

COMMENTARY

The Tidy Towns representatives spoke of their Laneway enhancement projects which have seen artworks installed in a number of Laneways between Main Street and Main Street Lane. These aim to beautify the town and to make the laneways a safer experience for users.

Clr Goodwin spoke about the general reduction in night time alcohol related crime which in part seems to be due to the colder weather, stricter licensing enforcement and a reduction in late night venue opening hours.

Sonia Cox spoke about the positive engagement work that she and the Police have been undertaking in the Landa Street Community. New playground equipment has been installed in Emora Park by Council and basketball hoops are to be installed in the park tennis court once the backboards are painted by indigenous inmates at the gaol. A grand opening will be held once all works are complete.

The growing incidence of elder abuse was discussed as a possible focus for the committee's work.

ACTION

THAT

The discussion on priority areas for the committee be noted.

MOVED: Sue Graves
Carried

SECONDED: Simon Schmitzer

ITEM: 7 CCTV CAMERAS

SUMMARY

A request has also been received regarding CCTV cameras in the Lithgow rail/bus interchange.

COMMENTARY

Simon Schmitzer from Sydney Trains spoke about his attempts to have CCTV installed in the Railway Parade bus interchange due to recent assaults in that area.

The committee noted that CCTV is an important policing tool, especially in relation to prosecution.

ACTION

THAT

Council write a letter of support for Simon Schmitzer's proposal to install CCTV in the Railway Parade bus interchange.

MOVED: Clr Goodwin
Carried

SECONDED: Simon Schmitzer

ITEM: 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Halloween 2017

Simon Schmitzer from Sydney Trains advised that he was seeking to have additional Transit Police rostered during the upcoming Halloween event.

ACTION

THAT

The discussion under General Business be noted.

MOVED: Jeff Smith
Carried

SECONDED: Danny Whitty

Meeting Closed 4.20pm

Next Meeting

**Monday 20 November 2017 starting at 3:30pm in Council Committee
Room**