

AGENDA

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Community Safety Committee on

THURSDAY 25 JUNE 2020

DUE TO COVID-19 THE MEETING WILL BE HELD ONLINE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS – A LOG IN PROCESS WILL BE FORWARDED TO MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

Please log in at 7.45am for meeting comments at 8am for the purpose of considering matters included in this agenda.

Committee Members

Cr Michael Regan	Mayor – Chairperson
Cr Candy Bingham	Deputy Mayor
Cr Sue Heins	
Cr Kylie Ferguson	
Cr Stuart Sprott	
Zali Steggall OAM MP	Federal Member for Warringah
James Griffin MP	State Member for Manly
Supt Patrick Sharkey	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Michelle Comito	Catholic Care
John Kelly	Community Northern Beaches
Luisa de Bont	Community Representative
Michelle Povah	Community Representative
Ray Mathieson	Community Representative
Roberta Conroy	Community Representative
Stephen Pirovic	Community Representative
Michelle Erofeyeff	Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)
Christina Franze	Manly Chamber of Commerce
Drew Johnson	Manly Chamber of Commerce
Trish Bramble	Manly Warringah Women's Resource Centre
Melissa Palermo	NASLHD Health Promotion
Doug Brooker	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
Tony Hilliger	Surf Lifesaving Sydney Northern Beaches
Belinda Volkov	Sydney Drug Education & Counselling Centre (SDECC)
Kara Hillier	State Transit Authority Northern Region

Council Officer Contacts

Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Azmeena Kelly	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Rob van den Blink	Manager, Youth and Community Development
Will Wrathall	Team Leader, Community Development
Leanne Martin	Community Safety Coordinator
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer, Youth and Community Development

Visitors

Name	Attended as an observer
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Quorum

A majority of members plus the Mayor or another Councillor.

**Agenda for a meeting of the Community Safety Committee
to be held on Thursday 25 June 2020
online via Teams
Commencing at 8 - 10am**

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NEXT MEETING Thursday 6 August 2020

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As a sign of respect, Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past and present.

2.0 APOLOGIES

All members are expected to attend the Community Safety Committee meetings or tender their apologies to the Chair or Committee liaison person. If members are unable to attend they may delegate their position to another member of their organisation, with the approval of the Chair.

3.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Members are advised of the following definitions of a "pecuniary" or "conflict" of interest for their assistance:

Section 442 of the Local Government Act, 1993 states that a "pecuniary" interest is as follows:

"(1) [Pecuniary interest] A Pecuniary interest is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

(2) [Remoteness] A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision the person might make in relation to the matter."

Members should reference the Local Government Act, 1993 for detailed provisions relating to pecuniary interests.

Council's Code of Conduct states that a "conflict of interest" exists when you could be influenced, or a reasonable person would perceive that you could be influenced by a personal interest when carrying out your public duty.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 14 MAY 2020

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee meeting held 14 May 2020, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS

ITEM 5.1	ACTIONS UPDATE
REPORTING OFFICER	COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY SAFETY
TRIM FILE REF	2020/332065
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

To update the Committee on actions arising from previous meetings.

1. MEETING OF 14 MAY 2020

ITEM NO.	ACTION	ACTION UPDATE
5.1	Police Report Council staff to contact the Liquor Accord to assist with the establishment of an online meeting if required for their meeting of 15 July 2020.	Community Safety Co-ordinator has offered Liquor Accord Executive to assist with meeting logistics if required.
5.3	Homeless Street Count Council staff to follow up with the Planning and Place Division in relation to The Constellation Project and update or coordinate a conversation with Peta Garrett. Council staff to contact Melissa Palermo in relation to Brookvale Community Centre rough sleepers.	Council's Community, Arts & Culture staff have contacted Planning and Place Division to discuss the Project, and have been in contact with Zali Steggall's office. Committee will be advised of current Rough Sleeper reports numbers. Issue was referred to Homeless outreach workers. No evidence of rough sleeping was found. MP advised.
5.4	COVID-19 Impacts Council staff to discuss with the Mayor in regard to the proposed grants and provide feedback to community groups. Mayor's office to liaise with Committee Member Luisa de Bont in regard to a cyber security meeting with Police.	Council has established the COVID-19 Community Response Grants with grants of \$5,000 to \$15,000 to eligible community organisations to address immediate needs within the Northern Beaches community arising from COVID-19. Council has contacted relevant groups as well as provided broad promotion. Grants opened on 22 May, and will be awarded on an ongoing basis up until 1 December 2020 (or until funds are expended). LdB has been spoken to and this issue will be followed up accordingly.

2. COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

This item has been discussed at previous meetings. An update will be given on the progress of the Community Safety Plan, including impacts due to Covid19.

3. ISSUES ARISING

The following locations have been subject of reports of community concern due to anti-social behavior, malicious damage and youth drinking/gatherings. These sites are being managed in collaboration with Police to identify the issues and actions required to mitigate safety concerns.

1. **Ivanhoe Park, Manly:** The Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden have made a range of complaints to Council regarding vandalism to plants, swapping of tree labels, rubbish, graffiti and general anti-social behaviour in the park. Inquiries are underway to establish if there are any Police reports of the complaints. A further safety site inspection is also planned with Police, Council staff and residents to clarify any crime related concerns and any remediation that could reduce the issues. Police advise this location (and Manly Oval) is on their list of hotspot locations and they are well aware of concerns in this vicinity.
2. **Elanora Heights:** Police were contacted to carry out a safety inspection of the Elanora Heights Pre-School and surrounds, instigated by reports of young people partying in the playground of the community kindergarten. This had occurred over a few weekends (mostly Friday nights and during Covid19 restrictions) and resulted in rubbish and broken glass left in the playground and damage to the building. There is also a park next to the playground that is public space. Police have been in attendance and young people identified (lost ID card) have had home visits by Police. A variety of recommendations resulting from the safety audit are now being considered and implemented.
3. **Warriewood B-Line Carpark:** Concerns have been expressed by nearby residents about ongoing levels of vandalism and homelessness in and around the B-Line carpark. This carpark has been subject of previous safety audits together with Police, Council parks team and STA. CCTV is operational in the carpark and managed by STA. Recommendations by Police such as increased signage have been installed. Activation of the vacant community space at the carpark may also help improve feelings of safety at the carpark. Police have advised that this is on their list of locations for youth gatherings and underage drinking. Residents are encouraged to report issues to Police when they are occurring.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM 6.1	WOMEN AND ALCOHOL PROJECT - NORTHERN BEACHES STUDY
REPORTING OFFICER	COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY SAFETY
TRIM FILE REF	2020/331730
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

A presentation on the findings to date from of the Women and Alcohol Project – Northern Beaches Study.

BACKGROUND

Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) have undertaken a research project into the prevalence of drinking amongst women on the Northern Beaches, the ramifications of these behaviours and possible strategies to reduce associated problems.

A literature review was conducted in 2018 to investigate the relationship between alcohol and midlife women. Key findings included:

- In 2016, females aged 50-59 years were most likely to exceed the lifetime risk guidelines (two or more standard drinks per day) compared to all other female groups. Women in their 50s had overtaken young people as the highest risk group for long term risky drinking.
- Whilst women are more likely than men to believe more needs to be done to address alcohol harm, those aged 35-49 years were the least likely cohort to hold this belief.
- National statistics on alcohol consumption are heavily dominated by males and young people with most interventions primarily targeting these populations.
- Interventions published on alcohol and women are brief setting-based interventions, rather than population based interventions.

In 2018 anecdotal feedback from stakeholders on the Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team (CDAT) indicated midlife women were drinking at greater quantities and presenting to Drug and Alcohol services. Consequently, further investigation was undertaken as the reduction of alcohol-related harms is a key priority area for the NSLHD Health Promotion Service. There are concerning local health statistics among the cohort, yet there is limited research and evidence on the reasons why women aged 35-59 drink alcohol at quantities that increase their risk of harm. The following study was instigated to address the absence of interventions that address this issue.

DISCUSSION

Melissa Palermo, Manager Health Promotion for the Northern Sydney Local Health District, will present the findings to date and proposed strategies to reduce the impacts of alcohol related harms.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee support the project findings and consider the community promotion of the recommended strategies.

ITEM 6.2**POLICE REPORT****REPORTING OFFICER****COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY SAFETY****TRIM FILE REF****2020/330629****ATTACHMENTS****NIL****ISSUE**

This is a standing item on the agenda for the Northern Beaches Police Commander to brief the Committee on relevant crime and safety issues.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted.

ITEM 6.3	COMPLIANCE REPORT
REPORTING OFFICER	COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY SAFETY
TRIM FILE REF	2020/330669
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

This is a standing agenda item to brief the Committee on relevant compliance and regulatory issues by the Executive Manager Environmental Compliance.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted.

ITEM 6.4	SUICIDE PREVENTION NETWORK UPDATE
REPORTING OFFICER	COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY SAFETY
TRIM FILE REF	2020/343572
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

To update the Committee on the most recent actions being undertaken through the Northern Beaches Suicide Response Steering Group.

BACKGROUND

The Steering Group continues to drive the Northern Beaches Suicide Response and associated strategies and actions in the Suicide Response Action Plan. The following is a summary of the most recent achievements and activities.

- The Northern Beaches Suicide Postvention Pilot Protocol has been developed and in place since July 2019. The pilot protocol coordinates services and provides support to family members and the broader community following a death by suicide or serious suicide attempt. Community Care Northern Beaches (CCNB) have taken the lead as response coordinator, and continue to fund this pilot. An independent evaluation has confirmed the positive outcomes associated with this pilot and the need for continued funding to be obtained.
- Northern Beaches Council were successful in securing funding of \$340,000 from NSW Ministry of Health to implement [suicide prevention community gatekeeper training](#) on the Northern Beaches. The funding is for a period of three years to employ a project officer, deliver suicide first aid skills training to 1,000 'community gatekeepers' and suicide awareness activities to the local community. Gatekeepers are community members who have regular contact with others within their community. Training will target middle aged men, young people, seniors and emergency services and will provide participants with the knowledge, skills and confidence to have conversations with others who are starting to show signs of distress. In response to COVID-19 the following has been implemented:
 - Scheduled face to face training sessions have now been replaced with LivingWorks Start online training which is currently being rolled out to 168 registered gatekeepers.
 - To complement online training, the [Safe and Sound Wellbeing Webinar series](#) has been developed to provide the community with a greater understanding of some of the key stressors affecting mental health, tips on supporting others as well as building a connection with many Northern Beaches services and supports. Weekly webinars commenced on 27 May and conclude on 1 July. Webinars target youth, those who support youth, men, women, LGBTIQA+ and seniors.
- The Northern Beaches Suicide Response Progress Report has been produced to showcase achievements of the Steering Group over the last couple of years. (to be tabled at the meeting)
- Northern Beaches Council is represented on the newly formed National Suicide Hotspot Advisory Group which will provide educated advice, guidance and support for locations which have been deemed at high risk for death by suicide. It is the only local government representative on this national group.

- Wesley LifeForce plan to host a community meeting online in July to scope interest in forming a Local Suicide Prevention Network on the Northern Beaches. The Network will be open to all community members with an interest in making a difference in suicide prevention.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted

ITEM 6.5	COMMUNITY IMPACTS OF COVID19 ON NORTHERN BEACHES AREA
REPORTING OFFICER	COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY SAFETY
TRIM FILE REF	2020/351222
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

ISSUE

To inform the Committee about two recently published articles citing Northern Beaches locations as highly affected by COVID-19 impacts.

BACKGROUND

There have been two recent articles referring to impacts of COVID-19 on the Northern Beaches:

1. Noble, K., Hurley, P. & Macklin, S. (2020). COVID-19, Employment Stress and Student Vulnerability in Australia'. Mitchell Institute for Education and Health Policy, Victoria University (<https://www.vu.edu.au/mitchell-institute/schooling/covid-19-employment-stress-student-vulnerability>)

This report from the Mitchell Institute for Education and Health Policy examines the impact of employment stress on children's learning, development, health and wellbeing. It provides an overview of international evidence, including research covering previous recessions.

2. SMH article 'Sydney's inner south hardest hit financially by coronavirus crisis', by Matt Wade on 9 June 2020 (<https://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/sydney-s-inner-south-hardest-hit-financially-by-coronavirus-crisis-20200608-p550lj.html>)

This article from the SMH cites the Taylor Fry COVID-19 Financial Impact Index that uses the latest industry and employment-related data published by the Bureau of Statistics in combination with the most recent census information to identify the financial effects of the crisis by postcode.

DISCUSSION

The 'COVID-19, Employment Stress and Student Vulnerability in Australia' report by the Mitchell Institute for Education and Health Policy cites evidence showing that the impact of employment stress on children's outcomes can be profound. Children whose parents are experiencing involuntary unemployment can be 15% more likely to repeat a grade at school, more likely to leave school early, and less likely to attend university. Parental unemployment is also associated with increased probability of a range of health and wellbeing challenges for children and young people, including greater social isolation, poorer nutrition and a higher prevalence of social and emotional issues.

Schools and early learning services will be on the front line in limiting negative impacts on children. The report recommends a range of urgent measures and longer term reforms designed to support students, inequality, and improve the stability of the early childhood education sector.

Recommendations include guaranteed access and affordability to early childhood education and care; prioritisation of health and wellbeing; scaling up programs such as breakfast clubs and counselling; identifying and supporting students who are disengaging from school; and ensuring that funding is adequate to meet the challenge of increased student vulnerability.

The table below shows that Pittwater and Warringah are regions with the largest increases of school and pre-school children experiencing employment stress in the family.

Table 2: Regions with the largest increases of school- and pre-school children experiencing employment stress in the family

Area (SA3)	2016	2020	Percentage increase
Nillumbik - Kinglake (Melbourne)	759	3,800	401
Sutherland - Menai - Heathcote (Sydney)	1,251	6,000	380
Rouse Hill - McGraths Hill (Sydney)	494	2,300	365
Pittwater (Sydney)	710	3,300	365
Cronulla - Miranda - Caringbah (Sydney)	1,190	5,400	354
Hawkesbury (Sydney)	314	1,400	346
Warringah (Sydney)	1,925	8,400	336
Brisbane Inner - West	555	2,400	332
Molonglo (ACT)	40	170	325
Hobart Inner	496	2,100	323

The SMH article identifies Manly in the top ten suburbs most financially impacted by COVID-19 and makes the following comments typical of Sydney areas similar to Manly:

"These suburbs tended to have a higher proportion of middle-to-high income earners and a lower share of retired or unemployed people relative to the state average. That left them more susceptible to the sudden increase in unemployment or underemployment caused by the pandemic."

"Inner suburbs are populated by young professionals who are either renting or paying off a mortgage,"

"When a drop in income hits it's a real challenge to adjust expenses accordingly. The bills still have to be paid."

There has been much speculation about both the short and long term impacts of COVID-19 on the local community. Research is starting to emerge with data that indicates that the Northern Beaches is one of the more heavily impacted communities in terms of employment and business. It is reasonable to suggest that these demonstrated impacts may have more far reaching consequences and ongoing social impacts across the community. It is likely that these may last well beyond the immediate responses to COVID-19.

Whilst it is too early to determine the extent of impacts it is important to be aware how the pandemic is impacting our local residents.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee receive and note the information.