



northern  
beaches  
council

# MINUTES

## COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held in Manly Town Hall on

**THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee**  
**held on Thursday 1 September 2022**  
**in Manly Town Hall**  
**Commencing at 9:30am**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Committee Members**

Cr Candy Bingham	Manly Ward - Deputy Mayor - Chair
Cr Sue Heins	Curl Curl Ward
Cr Ruth Robins	Narrabeen Ward
Cr Michael Gencher	Pittwater Ward
A/Supt Chris Breed	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Narelle Hand	Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Interagency
Antoin Cullen	Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency
Sam King	Northern Beaches Youth Interagency
Kevin Kingsbeer	Northern Sydney Housing and Homelessness Interagency
Lynelle Hales	Northern Sydney Primary Health Network
Libby Paulsen	Community Representative – Frenchs Forest Ward
Mary Brearton	Community Representative – Narrabeen Ward
Sue Johansson	Community Representative – Pittwater Ward

**Council Officer Contacts**

Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Azmeena Kelly	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Will Wrathall	Manager, Youth and Community Development
Kath Young	Community Safety Coordinator
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer, Youth and Community Development

## 1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Deputy Mayor acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which the meeting gathered, and paid respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

## 2.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cr Michael Regan	Mayor - Frenchs Forest Ward
Supt Patrick Sharkey	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Wendy Finianos	Community Representative - Curl Curl Ward
Aileen Ogilvie	Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Local Health District
Ray Brownlee	CEO
David Kerr	Director, Community and Belonging

The following members were not in attendance:

Doug Brooker	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
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Recognition of the recent passing of Ray Mathieson, representative for Manly on the Community Safety Advisory Committee. Ray was a highly regarded member of this Committee, in its various forms, since its inception. The Committee reflected on his passion for his community and his commitment to local committees, Manly and the broader Northern Beaches.

## 3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

## 4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### 4.1 MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 2 JUNE 2022

#### RECOMMENDATION

Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting held 2 June 2022 were accepted as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

## 5.0 ACTIONS UPDATE

### 5.1 ACTIONS UPDATE

The following information was received and noted by the Committee.

#### 1. MEETING OF 2 JUNE 2022

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	ACTION UPDATE
4.5.1	Investigate a sector or key community representative for seniors to join the Community Safety Advisory Committee	Kath Young	In progress.  A report being forwarded to the 27 September 2022 Council meeting advises Council of the Confirmed Minutes of the 2 June 2022 Meeting and notes this action item. The report seeks Council's endorsement of amended Terms of Reference to include a seniors sector representative.
4.5.2	Provide an update on the Community Safety Plan actions at Community Safety Advisory Committee meetings.	Kath Young	Ongoing – Refer to Item 6.4
5.1	Liquor Accord interest in large scale events to be communicated to Events Team.	Kath Young	Completed
5.2	Email Community Safety Committee Advisory Committee member email and phone numbers to members.	Kath Young	Completed

#### 2. NORTHERN BEACHES POLICE AND COUNCIL OPERATIONAL MEETING

A Police and Council Operational meeting was held on 28 July 2022. Key topics of discussion were:

- New Alcohol Free Zones established at Belrose, Freshwater and Narrabeen.
- Proposal to establish new Alcohol Free Zone at Mona Vale
- Safety Audits – Whistler St Carpark, Manly and Village Park, Mona Vale
- Upcoming events
- Locations of concern – Narrabeen Lagoon, old Manly Aquarium site, Village Park Mona Vale
- Graffiti
- Freshwater Beach Masterplan.

## 6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

### 6.1 POLICE REPORT

The Committee welcomed Acting Superintendent Chris Breed and thanked him for representing the Northern Beaches Police Area Command at the meeting while Superintendent Sharkey is on leave. A/Supt Breed advised that the Northern Beaches has had a downward trend in most offences over the past 5 years and is generally a very safe area. He noted the following:

Cybercrime offences are trending upward. Police have recently been working to raise community awareness of this issue however noted several recent incidents. Crime Prevention Officers are considering education opportunities for older community members who may not see online awareness strategies. Awareness raising is being integrated into other activities, for example [Coffee with a Cop](#) recently hosted by Northern Beaches Police Area Command at Mona Vale.

There has been an increase in Break and Enter offences over the recent months involving transients targeting luxury cars in the northern suburbs of Sydney. While the data indicates a spike in these offences, the increase involves 2-3 additional incidents over previous figures only. The Committee was advised of a recent arrest and a range of strategies being used to disrupt that behaviour, with good results. Offenders are accessing cars by entering unlocked homes and cars. The community is advised to ensure that homes and vehicles are kept secure to avoid opportunistic crime.

Sexual assault figures were discussed in light of this issue scheduled for discussion at a later Agenda Item. A/Supt Breed advised that the rising figures largely involve historical offences and noted 2 historical matters that involved extraditions from interstate.

A/Supt Breed advised the Committee that he has welcomed the opportunity to work collaboratively with the Northern Beaches community and stakeholders on a range of issues over the last 3 months. He spoke about a recent focus on youth engagement, including:

- Internships
- the [RISEUP program](#) in conjunction with the [PCYC Northern Beaches](#)
- the allocation of a Youth portfolio to a Duty Officer. Sam King will engage further with this officer on behalf of the Youth Interagency
- Similar to case coordination Safety Action Meetings (SAMs), Youth Action Meetings (YAMs) are being trialled to support high risk young people.

### DISCUSSION

Committee members raised a number of issues for discussion with A/Supt Breed, including:

#### Youth

Sam King raised the issue of the home delivery of vaping supplies to young teens, and the advertising of this service to children on Snapchat. Police advise the community to screenshot the Snapchat and report the crime via the [NSW Police Force Community Portal](#) or [Crime Stoppers](#). The group also discussed the vulnerability of children with addiction to vapes and steroids and the tactics used by dealers to encourage young people including introducing friends.

It was noted that vaping is a significant issue for the Youth Interagency and that an increasing number of schools are registering for vaping awareness activities. A/Supt Breed advised that the eSafety Commission has good [resources](#) about reporting harmful content and on [sexual extortion](#).

Police representation at Youth Interagency meetings was requested. Sam King will forward email to A/Supt Breed. Youth activity in northern end of the Northern Beaches was discussed. Youth outreach services are engaging with local youth and Police liaise regularly with those services.

It is important to report issues to Police to determine if Youth Liaison Officers need to provide support and build relationships. The group was also advised that the majority of youth coming into contact with Police are not local to the area.

### Graffiti & Malicious Damage

The Committee discussed the process by which Council is made aware of community information regarding incidents of malicious damage and further advice was sought. It was noted that the community don't report much graffiti to Police or Council, with the tendency being to discuss it on social media or to quickly clean up graffiti on private property.

Antoin Cullen reminded the Committee of the legal implications of social media posting photographs of youth engaged in graffiti tagging. The proper process is to report the incident to Police which will assist intelligence gathering. Advice was also provided on additional ways of engaging youth, for example a mural project at Brookvale. Committee members were encouraged to share with their networks that the reporting of crime, no matter how small, is essential to provide evidence and identification of patterns. Often many pieces of information can connect to a bigger picture which will assist the Police.

Posting of images to social media is not recommended and has legal consequences. A/Supt Breed encouraged those with photos and videos of alleged criminal activity to report them to Police. He also noted that Police are unlikely to see issues posted on social media and encouraged that Police be tagged into social media posts.

### Domestic Violence

Narelle Hand shared that the Domestic Violence Interagency recently hosted a webinar for General Practitioners (GPs) to support their response to disclosures of domestic violence. 89 professionals registered for the event with 59 attending and there is demand to continue these. It was noted that GPs are an important intervention point. The Domestic Violence Interagency is also hosting a Legal Aid Seminar for professionals on 13 October and information will be circulated to Committee members. The Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network has recently released a Services Referral Guide.

### Community Awareness

The Committee was advised that the [Northern Beaches Police Area Command Facebook](#) page contains a lot of crime prevention information and Committee members were encouraged to share that information with their networks. Discussion emphasised that all information provided to Police contributes to the identification of patterns and offenders and to clarify that Crimestoppers includes minor crimes. A/Supt Breed was thanked for his attention to youth issues in our community.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.1.1	Share with networks and the community that the reporting of crime, no matter how small, is essential to provide evidence and identification of patterns. Report crimes via the <a href="#">Police Portal</a> or <a href="#">Crime Stoppers</a> .	Committee members	
6.1.2	Research and report on Council's process of investigating damage to Council facilities when video evidence comes to attention via social media.	Community Safety Coordinator	24 November 2022

## 6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

The Executive Manager Environmental Compliance provided an overview and presentation on compliance and regulatory statistics in relation to:

- Companion animal management
  - Dog attacks
  - RSPCA Cats Safe at Home Program
  - Review of rehoming practices
- Rangers – Alcohol Prohibited Areas
- Proactive compliance
  - Trolley management
  - Charity clothing bins
  - Real estate signs
  - Arbovirus surveillance program
  - Food outlet inspections

The Compliance presentation will be circulated to the Committee with the Draft Minutes.

## DISCUSSION

Manly Ranger Patrols are doubled during summer, beginning the October long weekend and with earlier start times.

Trolley management was discussed. New supermarket development applications require evidence of a trolley management plan.

Animal management was discussed including:

- the [National Desexing Network](#) and Council's involvement
- off leash dog areas are patrolled by three dedicated Rangers at identified locations.

## 6.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN ACTION - SEXUAL ASSAULT

The Community Safety Coordinator presented the findings of research into sexual assault on the Northern Beaches and recent research statistics.

The Priority Area of Safe Relationships within the Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 outlines Council's commitment to raise awareness of safe and inclusive relationships and to support the delivery of support services to address unsafe behaviours in the community. Under this priority area is the action to:

*Collaborate with key stakeholders to assess crime trends in sexual assault and advocate for appropriate community actions.*

Committee members participated in a short workshop to reflect on this issue from the perspective of the group they represent on the Committee, to identify the key barriers to reporting sexual assault for each group.

## DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed the results of the workshop and determined the common key barriers to reporting that were common across these community groups.

The wide reach of the Committee was recognised and it was noted that opportunities exist for Interagencies and services to address this issue individually as well as to work together as a broader network to address key common issues. Opportunities for consideration include education/awareness raising, training of service providers to provide a consistent quality first line of response, connection of the community with information, and infrastructure.

Specific opportunities discussed included:

- Switching narratives – share success stories
- Trauma informed practice – professional sexual assault counselling is required
- School programs such as Love Bites, Walk the Talk, respectful relationships
- Early intervention programs to create healthy relationships
- Education for community, parents, families to better understand how to manage an incident without retraumatising victims.

Community awareness was identified as a key common priority for action by the Committee. The formation of a Working Party to progress this action was agreed. Members who volunteered to participate in the Working Party include:

- Cr Michael Gencher
- Cr Ruth Robins
- Cr Sue Heins
- Mary Brearton
- Narelle Hand
- Sam King
- Sue Johansson.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.3	Form a Working Group to progress the Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 action regarding sexual assault and report back to the Community Safety Advisory Committee on progress.	Committee members	24 November 2022

## 6.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN - UPDATE

The Community Safety Coordinator provided an update on the implementation of Community Safety Plan actions including:

- The review of all Alcohol Free Zones in the Local Government Area is now complete and signage has been updated.
- A review of Alcohol Prohibited Areas will be forwarded to Council in coming months
- Sexual assault research project update at Agenda Item 6.3
- Work is about to commence on the action relating to safer online language
- Local and Community Drug Action Teams are recommencing project work following COVID related delays.



## 7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 7.1 Sue Johansson shared with the Committee that the establishment of a community led Safe Spaces group has progressed. 70 people have volunteered to participate in the suicide intervention model, including those with lived experience of suicide with support being provided by [Roses in the Ocean](#). Approximately half have undertaken Local Health District Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) training.

The proposal is to have a presence on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights in a Pittwater location which is yet to be identified.

- 7.2 Antoin Cullen advised that a youth response has been established at Macquarie Hospital and plans are underway to establish a satellite at Mona Vale Hospital.

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.1.1	Share with networks and the community that the reporting of crime, no matter how small, is essential to provide evidence and identification of patterns. Report crimes via the <a href="#">Police Portal</a> or <a href="#">Crime Stoppers</a> .	Committee members	N/A
6.1.2	Research and report on Council's process of investigating damage to Council facilities when video evidence comes to attention via social media.	Community Safety Coordinator	24 November 2022
6.3	Form a Working Group to progress the Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 action regarding sexual assault and report back to the Community Safety Advisory Committee on progress.	Committee members	24 November 2022

*The meeting concluded at 11.25am*

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 9 pages numbered 1 to 9 of the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting held on Thursday 1 September 2022 and confirmed on Thursday 24 November 2022