



northern
beaches
council

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held in Manly Town Hall on

THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2022

Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee
held on Thursday 24 November 2022
in Manly Town Hall
Commencing at 9:30am

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Sue Heins	Curl Curl Ward - Deputy Mayor - Chair
Cr Candy Bingham	Manly Ward
Cr Ruth Robins	Narrabeen Ward
Cr Michael Gencher	Pittwater Ward
Supt Patrick Sharkey	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Narelle Hand	Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Interagency
Antoin Cullen	Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Local Health District
Melinda Daley	Northern Sydney Primary Health Network - representing Lynelle Hales
Wendy Finianos	Community Representative – Curl Curl Ward
Mary Brearton	Community Representative – Narrabeen Ward
Sue Johansson	Community Representative – Pittwater Ward

Council Officer Contacts

Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Will Wrathall	Manager, Youth and Community Development
Darren Greenow	Manager, Regulatory Support – representing Azmeena Kelly
Kath Young	Community Safety Coordinator
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer, Youth and Community Development

Guest

Russell Peake	Manager, Social Planning and Services
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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 and present.

2.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cr Michael Regan	Mayor - Frenchs Forest Ward
Aileen Ogilvie	Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team
Kevin Kingsbeer	Northern Sydney Housing and Homelessness Interagency
Lynelle Hales	Northern Sydney Primary Health Network
Libby Paulsen	Community Representative – Frenchs Forest Ward
Sam King	Northern Beaches Youth Interagency
Ray Brownlee	CEO, Northern Beaches Council
David Kerr	Director Community and Belonging, Northern Beaches Council
Azmeena Kelly	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance, Northern Beaches Council

The following members were not in attendance:

Doug Brooker	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
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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 1 SEPTEMBER 2022

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting held 1 September 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.

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	Complete. Refer to this meeting's Agenda Item 6.5.

MEETING OF 1 SEPTEMBER 2022

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PROGRESS
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 Police Portal or Crime Stoppers .	Committee members	Complete. Agenda Committee members encouraged to continue to share this when relevant.
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	Complete. Refer to discussion.
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	Complete. Refer to this meeting's Agenda Item 6.5.

DISCUSSION

Action Item 6.1.2 Damage to Council facilities

Council has facility to scan TV, radio and news articles for reports with local relevance, however, has no formal facility to analyse social media for information on damage to Council facilities.

Community members are encouraged to report criminal incidents directly to the NSW Police Force Community Portal on 131 444 or [online](#), or to Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 or [online](#).

Information about graffiti on Council property can also be reported to the Council's [Customer Service Team](#). Council's graffiti removal contractors will then be able to access this information and schedule removal.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 POLICE REPORT

Superintendent Patrick Sharkey provided an update on the Northern Beaches Local Area Command Police matters and requested the Committee hold in confidence Police matters discussed during the meeting.

The [NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research \(BOCSAR\)](#) quarterly data was discussed, and crime trends were noted. A recent spike in property theft offences was largely associated with offenders entering unlocked homes and cars. Offenders are also accessing car keys left in unlocked homes to facilitate car theft. Regular licenced premises and firearms inspections are being undertaken.

Preparing for Summer

Emergency Management meetings have been conducted throughout 2022. Summer preparedness meetings have been held with stakeholders including Council, Rural Fire Service, SES, Marine Rescue and Water Police. Additional Police, including Licensing Police, are active every Friday and Saturday night to manage alcohol related crime throughout the Northern Beaches.

Suicide Prevention

Self-harm and suicide responses were discussed. Progress and actions of the Northern Beaches Suicide Response Steering Group were discussed.

Domestic Violence

Matters relating to domestic violence were highlighted. The Committee was assured that these matters are important to Police, and it was noted that audio recording of victim statements has recently been introduced to avoid furthering victim trauma. Police and Council support the Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network and the [16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence](#) was highlighted a current initiative.

Community Awareness

The Committee was encouraged to share with their networks the following key messages:

- Lock your cars and houses and secure your keys
- Report crime to Police at the time of the incident
- Support police by providing statements and cooperating with investigations.

DISCUSSION

Congratulations were extended to Superintendent Sharkey and the Northern Beaches Police Area Command on their efforts to identify and address local crime, their support of the community and on the results of their work.

Social media relating to Mona Vale Police Station was discussed. Superintendent Sharkey confirmed that this station is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There are no plans to close this facility or reduce the Police presence north of Narrabeen Bridge. When officers at Mona Vale Police Station are engaged in other matters, an overflow phone diversion to Dee Why Police Station is activated.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.1	Council staff to report on the progress and actions of the Northern Beaches Suicide Response Steering Group as a standing Agenda item for the Committee.	Will Wrathall	16 February 2023

6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

Representing the Executive Manager Compliance, the Manager Regulatory Support provided an overview and presentation on compliance and regulatory statistics in relation to:

- Companion animal management
 - Dog attack data was discussed.
 - Changes to the Companion Animals Register and online Pet Registry with particular reference to the annual permits for non-desexed cats and restricted and dangerous dogs.
 - Registration and microchipping is required for cats over 4 months.
- Rangers
 - Nightly patrols are being conducted at East Esplanade, Manly.
 - Impounding Act 1993 being repealed and replaced with the Public Space (Unattended Property) Act 2021:
 - Includes shopping trolleys and all registered vehicles (cars, trailers, caravans, boat trailers) being removed from public spaces after being unattended in the same place for 28 days
 - Onus is on the owner to ensure items/vehicles are not left unattended
 - Enforcement will commence from March 2023
 - Council is currently developing website information and notifications
 - Office of Local Government is developing broader education program during transition period.
 - The intention is that the community remove belongings from public spaces and store them on private property or commercial storage, not relocate to another public space.
 - Infographic explaining notifications will be circulated with the Draft Minutes.
- Proactive Compliance
 - Arbovirus surveillance program will run during the warmer months
 - In conjunction with NSW Health, a tank water 'in close proximity' pilot program is being undertaken
 - Environmental Health Officers are undertaking food outlet inspections, including education and inspections relating to market stalls.

The Compliance presentation will be circulated with the Draft Minutes.

DISCUSSION

Markets and monitoring of car parking in surrounding streets was discussed. The Committee was advised that parking officers proactively patrol in the vicinity of Pittwater RSL however, streets without kerb and gutter are difficult to manage.

6.3 E-CIGARETTES (VAPING)

Melissa Palermo, Manager Alcohol and Tobacco Program at Health Promotion Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) recognised the Gayamaygal traditional custodians for the meeting in Manly and the Dharawal traditional custodians for where she grew up in Wollongong.

E-cigarettes (vaping) is an increasing area of concern and a presentation on current evidence, issues and action relating to e-cigarettes in the Northern Sydney area was provided. A copy of the presentation will be circulated with the Draft Minutes. In particular it was noted that:

- It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes (with or without nicotine) or e-cigarette accessories to a person under 18 years of age
- In spite of the [Public Health \(Tobacco\) Act 2008](#) which restricts the sale and supply of e-cigarettes, children and young people are accessing e-cigarettes. Most of those e-cigarettes contain nicotine.
- For persons over 18, a medical prescription is required to legally access nicotine e-cigarettes and liquid nicotine in Australia
- Persons over 18 are able to legally purchase e-cigarettes that do not contain nicotine
- [Wollongong University 'What's in a vape'](#) study has revealed that to date, they are yet to analyse a disposable device that did not contain any nicotine.

The [Health Promotion Team](#) is working towards addressing vaping issues by:

- Developing the [NSW Health: The facts about vaping](#) campaign
- Developing fact sheets for young people, parents and schools
- Sharing the NSLHD Vaping and Young People Survey Results Report with local organisations.

If community members think a tobacco or e-cigarette retailing law has been broken, they are encouraged to report by calling the Northern Sydney Public Health Unit on (02) 9485 6911 or report to the an [online reporting portal](#).

Further information is available to support the community:

- NSLHD webinar for parents and teachers: [NSLHD Vaping in Children and Young People Recording \(office.com\)](#)
- NSW Health Quit line on 13 7848 (13 QUIT) and [iCanQuit](#)
- Alcohol and Drug Foundation (ADF) [Guide to talking about vaping with young people](#)
- ABC Life Matters Podcast, ['How to talk to teens about vaping'](#)

DISCUSSION

High level regulation was discussed. The [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) and Border Force Patrols endeavour to regulate at the point of entry. Fair Trading also have a role in regulation.

Confidence in e-cigarettes advertised as non-nicotine products is low. Smoking and using e-cigarettes are banned in all enclosed public areas and certain outdoor public areas, under the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 and the Smoke-free Environment Regulation 2016.

The Committee was asked to share the presentation information and resources with networks and Northern Beaches community members to improve understanding of this issue.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.3	Investigate and report back to the Committee, the opportunity to update Council signage and website to include vaping and e-cigarettes information.	Kath Young	16 February 2023

6.4 DRAFT YOUTH VOICE ACTION PLAN

The Manager Social Planning and Services provided an overview and presentation on the [draft Youth Voice Action Plan](#). The draft Plan reflects work undertaken over the last 12 months to understand what it is like to be a young person on the Northern Beaches and supports young people to be more active contributors in community life.

The draft Plan outlines five years of action for youth development that will support and engage young people.

Key safety issues raised by young people during consultations included:

- Safety on public transport and in public spaces
- The importance of events and community connections
- Housing
- Online safety and how that links to mental health
- Alcohol and other drugs – the importance of role modelling by adults and the desire for opportunities to socialise in places that are alcohol-free.

At its recent Council meeting, Councillors agreed to place the draft Youth Voice Action Plan on public exhibition. Community comment is invited from 1 December 2022 to 28 February 2023. Following the exhibition period and collation of responses, Council will reconsider the draft Action Plan in early 2023.

The presentation will be circulated with the Draft Minutes.

6.5 COMMUNITY SAFETY COORDINATOR UPDATE

The Community Safety Coordinator addressed items previously circulated in the Agenda.

Item 4.5.1 Seniors Sector representative

Further to this action from the 2 June 2022 meeting, the following update is provided.

A range of senior groups were considered to represent the seniors sector on the Community Safety Advisory Committee. Current membership of the Committee includes the Chairs of various interagencies representing key stakeholders under the Community Safety Plan. The [Northern Sydney Community Network](#) was identified as the relevant interagency for seniors.

The Community Safety Advisory Committee members in attendance unanimously agreed to invite a representative of the Northern Sydney Community Network to join the Committee.

Action Item 6.3 Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Working Group

Further to this action from the 1 September 2022 meeting, the following update is provided.

The Working Group is now established and met on 14 November 2022. Priority areas for action were discussed however advice from Northern Sydney Sexual Assault Service (SAS) is being sought prior to Group actions being determined. A representative from the SAS will attend the next Working Group meeting to assist discussion. In the interim a draft guide is being prepared with the intention of providing services with clear information on:

- 24/7 referral points for victims of sexual assault
- Reporting options for victims.

It is intended this guide will lead to a landing page on Council's internet with more information and links for services and victims.

Manly Ward representative

The selection process for a Manly resident has been completed and is being forwarded to Council's CEO for endorsement.

Police and Council Operational meeting

Items included in the 29 September 2022 meeting and listed within the Agenda were noted and briefly discussed.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.5	Invite a representative of the Northern Sydney Community Network to join the Community Safety Advisory Committee.	Kath Young	16 February 2023

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

MoWaNa Safe Space

Sue Johansson provided an update on the MoWaNa Safe Space which is being established in partnership with Roses in the Ocean. The community led safe space will be temporarily located at 8-10 Waratah Street, Mona Vale

MoWaNa is planned to begin operating from Friday 16 December 2022* at the following times:

- Friday and Saturday nights - 5.00pm - 9.00pm*
- 23, 24 and 25 December - 10.00am - 9.00pm*
- 30 and 31 December - 10.00am - 9.00pm.*

(*Note: It has since been decided that MoWaNa will not be open on the above dates. The Safe Space will open on a date yet to be confirmed.)

Trained volunteers will be in attendance to support visitors to the Safe Space. Volunteers have also obtained Police and Working with Children checks. To assist community education and Committee members to share the information, clear messaging about the MoWaNa Safe Space was requested.

Changes to Committee meeting times and structure

The Committee considered and agreed to change future meetings as follows:

- Future meetings to begin at 9am
- Invite local Federal and State Members of Parliament to attend as visitors to the 16 February 2023 meeting
- Review the Community Safety Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to reintroduce inclusion of local Federal and State Members of Parliament as members of the Committee and submit recommendation for Council's consideration.

Liquor Licencing Reform

The NSW Government is proposing liquor licensing reform and is inviting comments via <https://www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/liquor-licensing-reform>. Consultation is open until on Tuesday 13 December 2022.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
7.1	Share with the Committee clear messaging about the MoWaNa Safe Space	Sue Johansson	ASAP
7.2	Change future Committee Meeting start time to 9am	Kath Young	ASAP
7.3	Invite local Federal and State Members of Parliament to attend as visitors to the 16 February 2023 Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting	Kath Young	ASAP
7.4	Review the Community Safety Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to reintroduce inclusion of local Federal and State Members of Parliament as members of the Committee and submit recommendation for Council's consideration.	Kath Young	ASAP

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.1	Council staff to report on the progress and actions of the Northern Beaches Suicide Response Steering Group as a standing Agenda item for the Committee.	Will Wrathall	16 February 2023
6.3	Investigate and report back to the Committee, the opportunity to update Council signage and website to include vaping and e-cigarettes information.	Kath Young	16 February 2023
6.5	Invite a representative of the Northern Sydney Community Network (From the Beach to the Bush) to join the Community Safety Advisory Committee.	Kath Young	16 February 2023
7.1	Share with the Committee clear messaging about the MoWaNa Safe Space.	Sue Johansson	ASAP
7.2	Change future Committee Meeting start time to 9am.	Kath Young	ASAP
7.3	Invite local Federal and State Members of Parliament to attend as visitors to the 16 February 2023 Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting.	Kath Young	ASAP
7.4	Review the Community Safety Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to reintroduce inclusion of local Federal and State Members of Parliament as members of the Committee and submit recommendation for Council's consideration.	Kath Young	ASAP

The meeting concluded at 11.39am

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 10 pages
numbered 1 to 10 of the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting
held on Thursday 24 November 2022 and confirmed on Thursday 16 February 2023