



northern
beaches
council

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held in Manly Town Hall on

THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2023

Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee
held on Thursday 16 February 2023 in Manly Town Hall commencing
at 9:00am

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Sue Heins	Curl Curl Ward - Deputy Mayor – Acting Chair
Cr Candy Bingham	Manly Ward
Cr Ruth Robins	Narrabeen Ward
Cr Michael Gencher	Pittwater Ward
Supt Patrick Sharkey	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Aileen Ogilvie	Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team
Narelle Hand	Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Interagency
Rob Stanley-Jones	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
Antoin Cullen	Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency
Sam King	Northern Beaches Youth Interagency
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Local Health District
Melinda Daley	Northern Sydney Primary Health Network
Lucy Band	Community Representative – Manly Ward
Wendy Finianos	Community Representative – Curl Curl Ward
Libby Paulsen	Community Representative – Frenchs Forest Ward
Mary Brearton	Community Representative – Narrabeen Ward

Council Officer Contacts

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

Guests

Adele Heasman	Representing The Hon James Griffin MP
Andrew Johnston	Representing The Hon Rob Stokes MP
Maeva Masterson	Executive Manager Library Services
Liza Cordoba	Manager Strategic and Place Planning

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair 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
Kevin Kingsbeer	Northern Sydney Housing and Homelessness Interagency
Lynelle Hales	Northern Sydney Primary Health Network
Sue Johansson	Community Representative – Pittwater Ward
Azmeena Kelly	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Michele Bell	Northern Sydney Community Network

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 24 NOVEMBER 2022

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting held 24 November 2022, copies of which were previously circulated to all members, are hereby confirmed 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 24 NOVEMBER 2022

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PROGRESS
6.1	Council staff to report on the progress and actions of the Northern Beaches Suicide Prevention Working Group as a standing Agenda item for the Committee.	Will Wrathall	Completed.
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	Completed. Advice from Ministry of Health (MOH) is that in locations where 'no smoking' signage is mandatory under the Smoke Free Environment Act 2000, Council must retain existing signs as legislated requirements. MOH is considering this issue and is currently working through an approach. Council's Alcohol and other drugs webpage has been updated with e-cigarettes and vaping advice and includes a NSW Health website link for more information.
6.5	Invite a representative of the Northern Sydney Community Network (from beach to bush) to join the Community Safety Advisory Committee.	Kath Young	Completed
7.1	Share with the Committee clear messaging about the MoWaNa Safe Space.	Sue Johansson	Completed
7.2	Change future Committee meeting start times to 9am.	Kath Young	Completed
7.3	Invite local Federal and State Members of Parliament to attend as visitors to the 16 February 2023 Community Safety Advisory	Kath Young	Completed

Committee Meeting.

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 a report for Council's consideration.	Kath Young	Report drafted for 28 March 2023 Council meeting, for Council's determination.
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6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 POLICE REPORT - SUPERINTENDENT PATRICK SHARKEY

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

New Year's Eve and Australia Day were significant Police operations. Overall, New Year's Eve was a successful night with lower attendance than previous years and a low number of incidents. Australia Day event attendance numbers were also down compared to previous years.

The [NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research \(BOCSAR\)](#) quarterly data was discussed, and crime trends were noted as similar to last meeting's report. Generally, statistics are below pre pandemic data.

Committee members were asked to share with their networks the following key community awareness messaging. Community members are encouraged to:

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

DISCUSSION

The Committee thanked Police and Council Rangers for their commitment to safety at East Esplanade over summer. Superintendent Sharkey thanked Council's outgoing CEO Ray Brownlee for his excellent level of support and work in operations coordination on the Northern Beaches.

Hotspot break and enter locations were discussed. Generally, Police have identified these crimes as opportunistic and related to unlocked cars and doors.

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
 - From November 2022 to January 2023 proactive management of dogs in public spaces was undertaken with members of the public at specific off leash dog areas. Education and advice was provided and enforcement actioned where serious breaches or non-compliance were observed. Council's [Dogs and cats](#) webpage has been updated to provide additional helpful information for owners of companion animals.

- Proactive actions
 - [Public Space \(Unattended Property\) Act 2021](#) was enacted in November 2022. Council's Customer Service help pages have been updated to reflect the changes relating to dumped trolleys and vehicle parking. Council is also engaging with retailers in regard to trolley management, compliance and ownership responsibilities under the Act.
 - Council is currently undertaking an education campaign in relation to real estate signs reiterating planning requirements for exempt signage. [Advertising signs on private property](#)
 - Ranger Patrols of schools zones were undertaken at the end of 2022 and will continue this year.
 - The arbovirus surveillance program is continuing, reaching its halfway point. Low mosquito numbers have been recorded with no arbovirus detections found.
- Alcohol Prohibited Areas - Manly
 - As anticipated, an increase of actions were undertaken in December 2022. Police and Rangers remain active in Manly night patrols.
 - It was heartening to hear success of the positive working relationship between Rangers and Police in their patrols of East Esplanade.

DISCUSSION

Owners and their dogs were further discussed, in particular issues involving:

- Signage in open spaces to indicate leashed dog areas assists compliance
- The number of Rangers involved in managing dog activities
- The requirement that dogs be leashed unless they are in an off-lead area
- Dogs (leashed or unleashed) are not permitted in a variety of areas, including within 10 metres of playground equipment
- It was requested that Council consider delivering an education program for dog owners in light of the large increase in dog registrations during the pandemic.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.2	<p>Council staff to report back to next Community Safety Advisory Committee on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of staff dedicated to dog management • delivery of dog ownership education 	Azmeena Kelly	18 May 2023 Committee Meeting

6.3 MANLY PLACE PLAN

The Manager Strategic and Place Planning provided an update on the Manly Place Plan in relation to community safety.

The Manly Place Plan relates to the following Community Safety Plan actions:

Priority Area 1: Safe Open Spaces

Action: Consult with the NSW 24 Hour Economy Commissioner to develop night time economy strategies to activate vibrant, inclusive and safe open spaces.

Priority Area 7: Safe Visitors

Action: Ensure that night activation strategies and events that attract tourism are conducted safely.

The plan's objective is to work with local community to provide a sustainable plan for the next 10 to 15 years. This plan links to Council's [Destination Northern Beaches](#) and [Community Safety Plan](#).

A place plan aims to create enjoyable, vibrant, safe, inclusive, and sustainable places for people.

The working group's draft vision for Manly is:

"Manly is a thriving and welcoming coastal town, uniquely positioned between a world class beach and harbour, with a vibrant local economy, attractive and functional public spaces and rich Aboriginal and European Heritage. A place of stunning natural beauty to live, work, play and holiday!"

Council is working on the development of:

- draft Manly Place Plan
- Night time economy (or 24/7) strategy for Manly.

Consultation is being undertaken to ensure that the draft Manly Place Plan considers impacts on alcohol-related violence, antisocial behaviour and competing land uses (including noise).

Next steps:

- Finalise draft Manly Place Plan
- Present the draft Plan to Council and seek to place on exhibition early 2023
- Exhibition period (minimum 6 weeks) at which time the community and Committee members can provide comment.

DISCUSSION

Superintendent Sharkey reminded the Committee of the connection between increased crime and increased place activation. The Plan needs to consider community safety. Additionally, the correlation between late night alcohol related activities and domestic violence was recognised.

The notion of a twilight economy was also discussed.

The Committee was encouraged to consider community safety related impacts of the draft Manly Place Plan and contribute feedback when the draft Plan is placed on public exhibition.

6.4 PILOT PROJECT - 24 HOUR ACCESS TO LIBRARY SERVICES

The Executive Manager Library Services briefed the Committee on the outcomes of the 24 hour access to Library Services Pilot Project which was trialled at Forestville Library from 29 August to 30 November 2022.

The 24/7 library trial relates to the Community Safety Plan under the following action:

Priority Area 2: Safe Neighbourhoods

Action: Ensure Community Facilities Are Accessible, Flexible And Functional Shared Spaces For The Community.

This trial provided registered and trained library members over the age of 16 with access to the unstaffed library outside of usual opening hours. During the trial period, demand was considerably higher than anticipated with 95% of trial participants reported feeling safe or very safe using the library during unstaffed hours. Forestville 24/7 will be officially launched in March 2023.

Council may consider extension of the service to other libraries pending analysis of site specific information and consultation.

The Committee was encouraged to provide real or perceived community safety issues, scoping and potential implementation of further 24/7 library locations via email to the Community Safety

Coordinator.

DISCUSSION

Potential future locations of 24/7 libraries were discussed.

Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network identified that 24/7 libraries may provide an opportunity for working together.

6.5 NORTHERN BEACHES SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKING GROUP UPDATE - MANAGER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Manager Community Development updated the Committee on the progress and actions of the Northern Beaches Suicide Prevention Working Group.

This group meets twice per year alongside more regular regional Northern Sydney meetings and is focussed on keeping the community safe and addressing community concern.

A subgroup has been formed with a focus on proactive action to engage with older males as a primary target population.

A regional service directory called [Headstart](#) was launched by Bright Agency in October 2022 which provides online information to the community on available support services.

It was noted that the AR Bluett Award recognised the work that Council has progressed in this area and acknowledgement was given to members of past Committees that developed the protocols.

DISCUSSION

Continuing community education and messaging regarding those at risk and services available was discussed.

Sydney North Primary Health Network advised they have received additional funding for further work in this area.

It was noted that it is challenging for youth services to keep pace with protocols in responding to suicide related incidents with rapid communication of information through the community via social media.

6.6 COMMUNITY SAFETY COORDINATOR UPDATE

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

In addition to the Police Council Operational meeting outlined in the Agenda, a further meeting was held on 9 February 2023. Issues discussed included:

- Calendar of events for Sydney WorldPride 2023 from 17 February to 5 March 2023
- Decreased antisocial behaviour at Walter Gors Park, Dee Why, Village Park, Mona Vale and Flying Fox Park, Mona Vale.

Progress advice was provided to the Committee against a number of Community Safety Plan

actions, including:

- Youth Outreach - quarterly meetings are being held with Police, PCYC, Council and outreach services to identify locations where vulnerable young people are gathering and to ensure a collaborative response is in place.
- Expressions of interests have been invited from community members to be part of a LGBTQIA+ Working Group to identify strategies that promote a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for LGBTQIA+ community. Applications close 28 February 2023.
- The draft Youth Voice – Shaping the Beaches’ Future Action Plan is currently on public exhibition. [Youth Voice - your say](#) submissions close 28 February 2023.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Housing and Homelessness

The 2023 annual [Homeless Persons Street Count](#) will be held on Monday 20 February 2023.

Coordinated by Bridge Housing and Northern Beaches Council, with support from Department of Communities & Justice and local homelessness services, the Street Count provides data about the number of people currently experiencing street homelessness across the Northern Beaches.

7.2 Jump Rock antisocial behaviour

Local residents have reported an increase in antisocial behaviour at this location. Committee members were reminded that residents should contact Police at the time of the incident via Dee Why (02 9971 3399) or Manly (02 9976 8099) Police Stations. Emergency matters should be reported to Triple Zero (000)

7.3 [MoWaNa Safe Space](#)

MoWaNa is a peer led community-based service to support people who are experiencing emotional or suicidal distress. This service operates with the guidance and support of Roses in the Ocean.

The Safe Space is a ‘drop in’ style place that offers a non-clinical alternative to acute, clinical services such as emergency departments.

The service will commence on Friday 18 February 2023 at The Mind Café, Narrabeen and will initially be open for community drop-ins on Friday and Saturday nights (5.00 - 9.00pm). A grand opening is scheduled for Saturday 18 March 2023.

7.4 eBikes and eScooters

Local residents have reported concerns regarding eBikes and eScooters in pedestrian areas and streets. E-bikes are legal to ride in public in NSW if they comply with [certain conditions](#). It is illegal to ride an e-scooters on roads, footpaths, shared paths and cycleways in NSW.

Police conducted a social media education campaign on road rules relating to e-bikes and motorised devices in late 2022 and the campaign will be revisited in response to community concerns.

Transport for NSW is conducting a trial of e-scooter shared schemes in selected metropolitan and regional areas (not including the Northern Beaches) in response to the

growing popularity of these devices.

- 7.5 Wendy Finianos' advised the Committee of her annual charity fundraiser and encouraged Committee members to consider and share with her appropriate recipient groups.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.2	<p>Council staff to report back to next Community Safety Advisory Committee on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• number of staff dedicated to dog management• delivery of dog ownership education.	Azmeena Kelly	18 May 2023 Committee Meeting

Presentations from today's meeting will be circulated with the Draft Minutes.

The meeting concluded at 11.09am

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 16 February 2023 and confirmed on Thursday 18 May 2023