



northern
beaches
council

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held in Manly Town Hall on

THURSDAY 18 MAY 2023

Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee
held on Thursday 18 May 2023 in Manly Town Hall
at 9:00am

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Sue Heins	Curl Curl Ward - Mayor – Chair
Supt Patrick Sharkey	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Rob Stanley-Jones	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
Craig Parsons	Northern Sydney Primary Health Network
Aileen Ogilvie	Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team
Michele Bell	Northern Sydney Community Network (seniors)
Libby Paulsen	Community Representative – Frenchs Forest Ward
Lucy Band	Community Representative – Manly Ward
Mary Brearton	Community Representative – Narrabeen Ward
Sue Johansson	Community Representative – Pittwater Ward
Rory Amon MP	State Member for Pittwater
James Griffin MP	State Member for Manly
Adele Heasman	Representing James Griffin MP State Member for Manly
Peta Garrett	Representing Dr Sophie Scamps MP Federal Member for Mackellar
Nicola Penn	Representing Zali Steggall OAM MP Federal Member for Warringah
Hanna Clare	Representing Michael Regan MP State Member for Wakehurst

Council Officer Contacts

Louise Kerr	Acting Chief Executive Officer
David Kerr	Director Community and Belonging
Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager, Community, Arts and Culture
Anita Ugarkovic	Acting 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

Guests

Bettina Esposito	Northern Beaches Dementia Alliance
Hema Patel	Northern Beaches Dementia Alliance
Lyn Macintosh	Northern Beaches Dementia Alliance
Sandra Fraietta	Senior Constable Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Mathew Cain	Leading Senior Constable Northern Beaches Police Area Command

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

New Committee members, including State and Local Members of Parliament, were welcomed.

2.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cr Candy Bingham	Manly Ward
Cr Michael Gencher	Pittwater Ward
Cr Ruth Robins	Narrabeen Ward
Cr Michael Regan	Frenchs Forest Ward
Narelle Hand	Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Interagency
Kevin Kingsbeer	Northern Sydney Housing and Homelessness Interagency
Sam King	Northern Beaches Youth Interagency
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Local Health District
Antoin Cullen	Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency
Wendy Finianos	Community Representative – Curl Curl Ward

Members not in attendance:

Matt Cross MP State Member for Davidson

3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

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

Committee Members were reminded of the Terms of Reference Item 11 g) in regard to Confidentiality and Privacy.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 16 FEBRUARY 2023

The Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting held 16 February 2023, copies of which were previously circulated to all members, were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5.0 ACTIONS UPDATE

5.1 ACTIONS UPDATE

Meeting of 16 February 2023

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PROGRESS
3.2	<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	<p>Update provided within this meeting at Item 6.5</p> <p>Environmental Compliance Report</p>

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Bettina Esposito, Just Better Care and Chair of the Northern Beaches Dementia Alliance introduced her Dementia Alliance colleagues:

- Hema Patel, Sydney North Health Network who auspice the Dementia Alliance and Deputy Chair Dementia Alliance
- Lyn Macintosh, lived experienced dementia carer and Dementia Alliance member.

The Dementia Alliance works to increase awareness and understanding of dementia on the Northern Beaches, and to encourage dementia friendly communities and organisations.

Alliance representatives outlined the prevalence of dementia in the Northern Beaches and acknowledged that with an ageing population these statistics are expected to increase significantly over the next few decades. The social impact on individuals living with dementia and their carers was discussed and supported with examples of lived experience.

Representatives shared with the Committee examples of the work they have been undertaking in the community to date, and their priority actions for the next year. A [presentation](#) highlighting the Alliance's purpose, membership, funding, local statistics, current activities and priorities will be distributed to the Committee with the Minutes.

A [short video](#) prepared by the Alliance was shared with the Committee. Additionally, a hard copy of the [Handy hints when communicating with those living with dementia](#) card was circulated.

Service providers and community members are encouraged to [Become a Dementia Friend](#) which will in turn support development of the Northern Beaches as a Dementia Friendly Community.

The initiative relies on grant funding for all future activities. For more information about Dementia Alliance or support services, email info@dementiaalliancenb.com.au.

It was noted that the [Dementia Advisory Group](#) is seeking a lived experience representative.

Rob Stanley-Jones identified that he would like to explore opportunities for the Liquor Accord to make larger licensed clubs dementia friendly.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.1	Council staff connect Liquor Accord Chair with Dementia Alliance representatives to explore opportunities for the Liquor Accord to make larger licensed clubs dementia friendly.	Kath Young Rob Stanley-Jones	ASAP

6.2 ELDER ABUSE

Senior Constable Sandra Fraietta, Crime Prevention Officer provided a presentation on elder abuse and outlined how offences may be recognised and reported. Elder abuse refers to range of offences including emotional, psychological, financial, sexual, neglect and physical abuse.

Statistics were shared both nationally and local to the Northern Beaches. While statistics indicate a low number of elder abuse incidents reported to Northern Beaches Police Area Command, it is acknowledged that, given national data and research and the nature of this crime, it is likely to be underreported.

Australian Institute of Family Studies research found that one in six older Australians (15%) reported experiencing abuse but two thirds of older people don't seek help when they are abused (61%).

Police outlined the actions they are taking to raise awareness in the community and aged care services, including webinars conducted in collaboration with Council. The community is encouraged to report any concerns about elder abuse to Police. In an emergency please call 000.

DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed opportunities to support the work of Police and elder abuse prevention activities, including:

- Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network
- Sydney North Primary Health Network in relation to general practitioner (GP) referrals and mandatory reporting.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.2.1	Council staff connect Northern Beaches Crime Prevention Officers with Sydney North Primary Health Network representatives to discuss systemic reporting of elder abuse in the GP network.	Kath Young Craig Parsons	ASAP
6.2.2	Council staff to increase promotion and awareness of the rights and safety of seniors by sharing relevant information with the Better Together Leadership Group and relevant Committee members.	Kath Young	17 August 2023

6.3 ONLINE SAFETY FOR SENIORS

Leading Senior Constable Matthew Cain, Crime Prevention Officer provided a presentation on the incidence of cybercrime across Australia and in the Northern Beaches and highlighted the need to raise online safety and cybercrime awareness for seniors.

Across the Northern Beaches, the majority of cybercrime reported to police involves phishing targeting those aged 55 and above. Phishing is a method of stealing confidential information via phone, fraudulent and unsolicited messages, texts, emails and social media, often including a link.

Strategies implemented by Northern Beaches Police Area Command to reduce community vulnerability to cybercrime fraud include:

- Ongoing education to seniors through face to face presentations to community groups and aged care facilities
- Fraud and safety packs given to seniors at presentations
- Ongoing education to seniors through webinars, in collaboration with Council
- Visiting seniors who have been victims ensuring they have support.

Police encourage community members to keep their personal information private, monitor bank accounts regularly, and to not click on links or answer calls from unknown numbers.

DISCUSSION

If an incident does occur, report to www.scamwatch.gov.au and also report to Police as there may be related investigations underway.

Services that support seniors with technology and online safety were discussed including:

- Northern Beaches Library runs free technology services at each library location, <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/library/services/technology-help>
- eSafety Commissioner <https://www.esafety.gov.au/seniors>
- Services Australia <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/elder-safety?context=60057#a2>
- [Forest Computer Pals](#) (membership is required).

Connecting with Home Care Package providers was identified as an opportunity to further educate seniors.

Northern Beaches Liquor Accord's Rob Stanley-Jones noted that several of the businesses he represents would also welcome engagement with Crime Prevention Officers to present online safety for seniors at some venues.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.3.1	Council staff connect Liquor Accord Chair with Dementia Alliance representatives to explore opportunities for the Liquor Accord to assist awareness of online safety for seniors.	Kath Young Rob Stanley-Jones	ASAP
6.3.2	Council staff connect with Home Care Package providers in relation to seniors education	Kath Young	17 August 2023

6.4 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.

Positive results of targeted operations and engagement with the Northern Beaches Liquor Accord regarding liquor theft have impacted shoplifting statistics. All other crime categories are statistically below pre pandemic data.

DISCUSSION

State Member for Manly, James Griffin thanked Superintendent Sharkey and the Northern Beaches Police Area Command for their commitment to making the Northern Beaches a safer environment.

State Member for Pittwater, Rory Amon enquired about the crime statistics circulated with the Agenda. It was confirmed that the data was drawn from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research Recorded Crime Reports www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au. It was requested that statewide trends also be included in the circulated statistics for future meetings.

Domestic violence statistics and anecdotal reports from support services were discussed.

Suicide prevention

Aileen Ogilvie highlighted the Mona Vale based support service MoWaNa and their recent experiences. The Committee also discussed the closing of registered charity [OneEighty](#) and the services it provided. Peta Garrett requested information about local suicide prevention initiatives, with updates included in the Agenda, and Kylie Walshe confirming Council staff would follow up on this in greater detail.

It was recognised that Northern Sydney Primary Health Network representative Craig Parsons is a new member of this Committee who also participates in the Suicide Prevention Response Steering Advisory Committee and co-ordinates the Northern Sydney Regional Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Alcohol and Other Drugs Leadership Group.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.4.1	Council representative to share suicide prevention collaborative initiatives with Dr Scamps office	Will Wrathall Peta Garrett	ASAP
6.4.2	Statewide trends be included in the circulated statistics.	Kath Young	17 August 2023

6.5 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT - 15 MINUTES

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

- RSPCA “Keeping cats at home” program initiatives, including:

- Developing a partnership with SAFE Rehoming www.saferehoming.com.au, social media promotions and desexing vouchers.
 - Northern Beaches Council is one of eleven councils participating in this education program.
- Nightly Ranger patrols in the Manly area
- Proactive compliance:
 - Parking enforcement in school zones, Brookvale Oval and St Matthews Farm and John Fisher Reserve on weekends
 - Plant equipment and skip bin checks
 - Church Point bollards management at Cargo Wharf
 - 'Get the Site Right' campaign for building and construction sites
 - NSW EPA targeting micro plastics in Cromer Industrial Area
- Ebike signage

In response to Action Item 6.2 of the 16 February 2023 meeting, the Committee was advised that:

- Responsible Pet Ownership information sessions are scheduled in June at Dee Why and Mona Vale in September 2023.
- Popup sessions will be conducted at off leash areas Curl Curl and Rowland Reserve. Council Rangers will engage with dog owners within the community with a focus on maintaining the Companion Animal registry and ensuring registrations of dogs.
- Council has 1 dedicated Animal Management Officer and 15 Rangers involved in general dog management
- A pilot safety program held at St Joseph's Primary School Narrabeen is under evaluation.

The Environmental Compliance presentation will be distributed with the Minutes.

DISCUSSION

The following items were discussed:

- Signage around Long Reef Lagoon and Dee Why to alert the community of migrating birds and the danger presented by unleashed dogs
- Increased presence of bicycles on the Corso. Police are currently undertaking a warning and education operation regarding ebikes, helmets and riding on footpaths, most recently in the Manly beachfront area. A Police and School Principals forum held last month also focused on this growing issue.

6.6 COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

The Community Safety Update was provided in the meeting Agenda.

Advice of progress against Community Safety Plan action will be delivered at the next Committee meeting.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

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The meeting concluded at 11.09am

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 18 May 2023 and confirmed on Thursday 17 August 2023