

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held in Manly Town Hall on

THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2024

Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee
held on Thursday 14 November 2024 in Manly Town Hall
commencing at 9:00 AM

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Sue Heins	Frenchs Forest Ward – Mayor - Chair
Cr Candy Bingham	Manly Ward
Cr Vincent De Luca OAM	Narrabeen Ward (alternate)
Cr Rowie Dillon	Pittwater Ward
Michael Boutouridis	Det Chief Inspector Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Aileen Ogilvie	Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team
Narelle Hand	Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network
Doug Brooker	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
Sarah Sweeney	Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency
Sam King	Northern Beaches Youth Interagency
Michele Bell	Northern Sydney Community Network (Seniors sector)
Sarah Kingsbeer	Northern Sydney Housing and Homelessness Interagency
Eugene McGarrell	Northern Sydney Health Network Northern Sydney PHN
Wendy Finianos	Community Representative – Curl Curl Ward
Lucy Band	Community Representative – Manly Ward
Mary Brearton	Community Representative – Narrabeen Ward
Kylie Ferguson	Community Representative – Pittwater Ward
Helen Wheeler	Representing Dr Sophie Scamps Federal Member for Mackellar
Nicola Penn	Representing Zali Steggall OAM MP Federal Member for Warringah
Kim Preston-Hiney	Representing James Griffin MP State Member for Manly
Matt Haran	Representing Jacqui Scruby MP State Member for Pittwater
Gypsy Bryant	Representing Michael Regan MP State Member for Wakehurst

Council Officer Contacts

Scott Phillips	Chief Executive Officer
David Kerr	Director Community and Recreation
Russell Peake	Acting Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Azmeena Kelly	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Jeremy Smith	Executive Manager Parks & Open Space
Will Wrathall	Manager Community Development
Kath Young	Community Safety Coordinator
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer Community Development

Visitors

Peter Robinson	Executive Manager Development Assessment
----------------	--

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.

2.0 APOLOGIES

The following new Committee members were welcomed to the meeting: Cr Vincent De Luca, Cr Rowie Dillon, Eugene McGarrell, Sarah Sweeney.

The following representatives and guests were welcomed to the meeting: Det Chief Inspector Michael Boutouridis, Matt Haran, Helen Wheeler, Nicola Penn, Kim Preston-Hiney, Gypsy Bryant, Russell Peake, Jeremy Smith, Peter Robinson.

Apologies were received from:

Cr Nick Beaugeard	Curl Curl Ward
Supt John Duncan	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Libby Paulsen	Community Representative – Frenchs Forest Ward
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Local Health District.

The following member was 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.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 AUGUST 2024

The minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2024, copies of which were previously circulated to all members, were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Moved: Cr Candy Bingham seconded Kylie Ferguson

5.0 ACTIONS UPDATE

5.1 ACTIONS UPDATE

Progress against the actions of the 15 August 2024 meeting, as included in the Agenda were noted by the Committee.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PROGRESS
6.2.1	That antisocial youth related behaviour be raised at the next Youth Interagency Meeting to ascertain service engagement with young people in the Warriewood area.	Council staff	Completed
6.2.2	That Police taskings be reviewed to include the Warriewood areas of concern to address antisocial youth related behaviour.	Police	Completed
7.3	That Council undertake a lighting safety audit in Tower St, Manly.	Council staff	Completed

DISCUSSION

Item 6.2.1-2 – The issue of youth behaviour in the Warriewood area has been discussed with key stakeholders at the Youth Outreach Working Group meeting and forwarded to Council staff for inclusion in Northern Beaches Youth Interagency discussions. Youth Outreach services are aware of these issues and are providing support and considering options to further assist. Police are conducting regular intelligence based patrols of the area.

Item 7.3 – The lighting audit has been completed and found that although there are a number of existing streetlights, light spill was limited due to surrounding trees and vegetation. Vegetation trimming has been completed. A proposal for additional lighting has been communicated to local residents for their feedback. Consultation ends 18 November 2024.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

The revised Committee [Terms of Reference](#), Councillor membership and 2025 meeting schedule were noted.

Council resolution 236/24 at the 8 October 2024 Ordinary Council meeting, appointed the following Councillors to the Community Safety Advisory Committee for the duration of the Council term:

Member	Representing
Cr Sue Heins (Mayor / Chair)	Frenchs Forest Ward
Cr Nicholas Beaugeard	Curl Curl Ward
Cr Candy Bingham	Manly Ward
Cr Ruth Robins (Deputy Mayor) Cr Vincent De Luca OAM (alternating)	Narrabeen Ward
Cr Rowie Dillon	Pittwater Ward

2025 Meeting Schedule:

Date	Time
Thursday 13 February 2025	9.00 – 11.00am
Thursday 8 May 2025	9.00 – 11.00am
Thursday 14 August 2025	9.00 – 11.00am
Thursday 13 November 2025	9.00 – 11.00am

6.2 POLICE REPORT - DETECTIVE CHIEF INSPECTOR MICHAEL BOUTOURIDIS

Detective Chief Inspector Boutouridis provided an update on Northern Beaches Police Area Command matters. It was requested the Committee hold in confidence discussion of policing matters which do not appear in these Minutes.

The Northern Beaches LGA Recorded Crime Statistics to June 2024 included in the Agenda were noted and further current information highlighted:

- Domestic Violence related assault: noted that 2 year trends have been impacted by the recent spotlight on domestic violence which has encouraged reporting. 10 year trends show the Northern Beaches incidents are stable. Noted that statistics do not reflect actions taken by Police, for example where Police take out an AVO to protect a victim.
- Sexual assault: stable over the last 2 years however up 7.4% over last 10 years. Discussed online [Sexual Assault Reporting Option \(SARO\)](#), where victims can report, including anonymously, without initiating a criminal investigation. The primary purposes of a SARO is to make a record of what occurred, in addition to allowing the NSW Police Force to gather information on sexual offences and offending.
- Break and enter: recently cafes, pubs, and tobacconists are being targeted, especially those utilising key lock boxes. Residential break and enters are generally related to opportunistic car theft where offenders access car keys via unlocked homes.
- Steal from retail store: shoplifting operations are effective and increase recorded incidents. The Liquor Accord has been engaging with liquor retailers to make reporting theft easier and to implement theft reduction strategies.
- Vapes can only be legally sold by pharmacies via prescription. Any other vape sales should be [reported to NSW Health](#).
- Reports of incidents at Warriewood and Warriewood Square have tapered off. [Streetwork](#) have worked with some young offenders from the area and engaged them in diversionary activities. Police have issued banning notices.
- Police contact [Taldumande Youth Services](#) for support to assist with young persons whose safety is of concern.
- An increase in Police foot and bike patrols will occur along the Manly to Shelley Beach pathway over the summer period.

DISCUSSION

Discussed that the amnesty relating to school engagement post covid has ended and lack of school resourcing to work with disengaged youth. Home School Liaison Officers do not work with young people aged 15 - 17 which presents a challenge for public schools to strengthen school attendance and engagement by this cohort of young people.

Question asked of Police in relation to known pedophiles on the Northern Beaches and perceived safety concerns. Police responded by acknowledging this information is confidential and that there is a process in place for Police to ensure public safety.

The issue of graffiti in Avalon was raised, with a significant amount on private property. Police encouraged the Committee to share with their networks the importance of taking photos and [reporting incidents of tagging or graffiti](#), even on private property. This allows Police to improve intelligence gathering, review patrol taskings and provides evidence for enforcement action. It was noted that interventions under the Young Offenders Act are not applicable to graffiti offences.

Cr De Luca thanked Police for their attention to community safety and requested advice on the progress of investigations into assaults at Warriewood and Mona Vale Community Hall.

6.3 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

The Executive Manager Environmental Compliance provided an overview and presentation on compliance and regulatory statistics.

Companion Animal Management:

- In addition to proactive patrols, Rangers are tasked on a daily basis to attend and patrol locations where dogs are reported to be off leash or causing community issues
- 489 proactive patrols have been completed across parks and beaches
- 90 PINs have been issued for dogs not under effective control or in prohibited place
- During 2024, Rangers have been pro-active in attending hot spot areas. A newly formed Ordinance Ranger team also focusses on animal related hot spot areas.
- The Companion Animals education program initiated this year has received excellent feedback
- A free workshop as part of the "The Good Neighbour Project" focussing on domestic cats in the local community was held in September.
- Council hosted the regional Council's Unite for Pets (CUPs) event.

School Zone Patrols:

- Patrols of school zones are ongoing to ensure pedestrian and traffic safety
- 118 proactive school inspections have been conducted and 39 schools patrolled across the LGA resulting in 164 fines issued for a range of non-compliances.

Patrol of Alcohol Prohibited Areas (APAs):

- Proactive Manly night patrol statistics were noted
- There has been a slight increase in activity with the warmer weather but behaviour is relatively positive compared to previous years.

Proactive Compliance

- 'Get the Site Right' blitz week held 14-18 October 2024 with a number of warnings issued
- Joint taskforce between the Sydney Coastal Councils Group and NSW EPA
- Focus on best practice on building sites to prevent water pollution
- 74 inspections of building sites with appropriate enforcement actions taken where required.

DISCUSSION

A question was raised regarding portable toilet installation at East Esplanade Manly during the summer period. Parks and Open Space have investigated feasibility including plumbing and other necessary services requirements and advise installation is not planned.

6.4 INTERAGENCY PRESENTATIONS - KEY COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

Interagency representatives provided presentations on key community safety issues impacting the networks they represent and to provide some guidance on strategic challenges for which to focus in 2025.

The Chair of the Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency was listed in the Agenda as providing a presentation. Due to recent change to the Chair this presentation did not proceed.

Presentation 1: Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network

The Network has the following four aims:

1. To increase community understanding of all forms of violence/abuse against victims of domestic violence and promote a culture of zero tolerance.
2. To increase service provider awareness, support and understanding of the wide range of abuse experienced by women and children, including children witnessing violence.
3. To promote and assist in the development, training and implementing of education programs with effective service delivery to support people experiencing DV/Abuse.
4. To advocate, represent and work on behalf of women and children who have experienced, or are at risk of experiencing all forms of DV/Abuse.

Key safety issues on the Northern Beaches regarding domestic and family violence include:

- Increase in the number of incidents reported to Police over the last 2 years. It was noted that services are saying that a lot of people do not report
- With new legislation on coercive control, it is imperative that services and community members understand how the new legislation works
- Domestic and family violence is the leading cause of homelessness for women and children
- Technology abuse
- Funding challenges with demand for services continuing to be higher than availability
- Affordable housing and transitional housing remain long term complex challenges requiring advocacy to relevant agencies. Benefits of Meanwhile Use model to address this issue were raised with example provided at Narrabeen.

Led by the Network, [16 Days of Activism](#) has a number of events from 25 November – 10 December 2024.

Presentation 2: Northern Beaches Liquor Accord

Key community safety issues relating to the Accord include:

- The need to increase community awareness of the responsible service of alcohol and venue refusal of service guidelines, particularly in The Corso, Manly
- Parental culture of supplying alcohol to young people.

The Liquor Accord proposed working with Council to develop various alcohol harm minimisation strategies.

Presentation 3: Northern Beaches Youth Interagency

The Interagency has a focus on:

- Advocacy to research and represent the needs of young people and services to support them across the Northern Beaches
- Professional learning to support services within the sector to deliver support to young people at a high standard
- Provide a mechanism for information sharing across services.

Key community safety issues include:

- Increased assault / carrying of weapons
- Experimentation with drugs and increased targeting of vulnerable young people to support circulation of substances
- Parental culture/awareness enabling problematic behaviours
- Referrals to services and stretched resources

- Complexity of issues in young people including complex mental health, lack of diagnosis, gender identity and increased neurodiversity, demonstrating the need for training so services can meet evolving needs.

Presentation 4: Northern Sydney Housing and Homelessness Interagency

The Interagency focus over the next 12 months will be on strategy and advocacy for 'meanwhile use'. They will seek opportunities to utilise vacant premises to meet community needs in a coordinated approach with wrap around support services. It was noted these opportunities are time limited and support services need to be in place and exit planning underway from the outset.

The Interagency are advocating to the State Government to access funds and address the needs across the Northern Beaches.

Recently Bridge Housing purchased a property on the Northern Beaches to provide supported temporary accommodation which will be staffed onsite by Mission Australia. This will reduce the need for commercial providers used for temporary accommodation. Suitable temporary accommodation for women and children are still an area of unmet need.

Presentation 5: Northern Sydney Community Network

The purpose of the Network is to:

- Promote communication and improve coordination between service providers
- Contribute to planning and development activities for the Northern Sydney Region
- Contribute to the improvement of services for seniors and carers
- Focus on specific issues relating to services through organisation of working groups, when required
- Advise the Department of Health & Aged Care on matters relating to existing and potential new services for the Commonwealth Home Support Program and Support at Home program.

Current concerns include:

- Confusion/concern on the connection between NDIS and My Aged Care and the transfer of clients leading to anxiety and pressure on seniors
- Parents supplying alcohol to children in public spaces impacting amenity
- Dementia and domestic violence, elder abuse under reporting
- Young carers missing school and alcohol issues
- Liaison with ACON in regard to supporting LGBTQ+ people as they transfer into nursing homes
- Multicultural groups disconnection from health services
- Mental health
- Homelessness.

The Committee noted the presentations and thanked the representatives for their contributions, noting that these will provide useful insights for the Committee in 2025 particularly regarding advocacy with the relevant State and Federal Government agencies on complex long term safety related issues.

DISCUSSION

Noted the benefits of working together to address identified needs and apply a coordinated approach to funding opportunities. The Committee discussed key items for Committee attention and collaborative strategies for the next twelve months including:

- Alcohol related challenges including community awareness of alcohol regulations and provision of alcohol to minors
- Housing and homelessness, in particular the potential from Housing first and Meanwhile

- use approaches
- Considering Safety Diversity and multicultural engagement
- Domestic violence and sexual assault and their intersection with alcohol use.

It was noted that an action from the Council meeting on 13 November was to bring the issue of graffiti to this meeting to discuss whether it should be a standing item on the Agenda. The Committee felt that sufficient strategies are in place to manage graffiti however it was requested that a report be provided to the next meeting in early 2025.

The Committee was advised that the Northern Beaches Local Drug Action Team is currently conducting a survey to gather information on how young people are accessing alcohol and to explore community attitudes on the supply of alcohol to under 18s.

The Committee was encouraged to share with their networks the survey as it is open to all community members and the team is particularly keen to involve as many young people as possible, and their parents. [Take the Northern Beaches Local Drug Action Team survey to win a \\$50 gift card.](#)

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Due Date
6.4.1	The Liquor Accord engage with relevant stakeholders to investigate options for a community education campaign.	Doug Brooker	13 February 2025
6.4.2	That the Council resolution from 13 November 2024 on Graffiti Management be reported to the next Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting in 2025 for consideration.	Kath Young	13 February 2025

6.5 COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Community safety matters, as included in the agenda, were noted by the Committee.

P-CEP update

The [Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness \(PCEP\)](#) pilot program has recently been launched on the Northern Beaches. P-CEP aims to support the community to create tailored personal emergency plans and support for people who face additional risks during emergencies.

An opportunity for service providers and community members to train as P-CEP facilitators is currently open via Council's [website](#). Applications close 17 January 2025.

E-bikes update

Parliamentary Inquiry:

- On 6 June 2024 NSW Parliament established an [Inquiry](#) into the use of e-scooters, e-bikes and related mobility options to consider stakeholder perspectives, best practice, impact on community mobility and safety, and exploring opportunities for regulatory reform improvements.
- The Committee is now considering submissions.

Transport for NSW have released the [E-micromobility Action Plan](#), to:

- Address key issues urgently and independently of the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry
- Consider recommendations arising from the Inquiry and the Action Plan may be updated
- Key points:
 - Improving infrastructure and parking options to accommodate the needs of e-micromobility riders for better safety and amenity outcomes.
 - Changing the shape of our cities and centres to prioritise the needs of active transport users, including e-micromobility riders.
 - From 1 February 2025 NSW Fair Trading will require e-bikes, e-scooters, hoverboards

and e-skateboards to meet new product standards.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Due Date
6.5	Links to the E-micromobility Action Plan and P-CEP training be emailed to Committee.	Kath Young	ASAP

7.0 General Business

7.1 Councillor Bingham – Manly Wharf development

Cr Bingham raised community concerns regarding the proposed development of Manly Wharf. Community members are concerned about the increased patronage and impact this may have on existing alcohol related issues on East Esplanade and Manly.

Executive Manager Development Assessment provided the Committee with a summary of the proposal to change the use of the vacant supermarket to a pub and artisan food and drink premises with ancillary dining and occasional live performances.

The Development Application (DA2024/1249) proposes:

- Internal fit out works for the above new uses, including demolition works, new kitchen, bars, office and amenities
- New public toilets, moved from the basement to ground level in addition to toilets within licensed venue
- New entryway
- Occasional markets (internal)
- Licensed venue for 700 patrons
- Hours of operation:
 - Monday to Wednesday and Sunday, 7am to midnight
 - Thursday to Saturday, 7am to 1am.

All relevant documents can be viewed on Council's [application search](#). Documents include applicant documents, plans, statement of environmental effects and a Plan of Management articulating how the venue will be run. All referral responses from Council's experts and external agencies will also be available when received.

Council's community participation plan allows submissions from any person or group until such time as the relevant application is determined.

Police advise the location owner has already implemented recommended improvements to CCTV.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Due Date
7.1	Link to Manly Wharf Development Application DA2024/1249 be emailed to Committee.	Kath Young	ASAP

7.2 Michael Regan MP's office – Dee Why Park

Community member concerns regarding antisocial behaviour at [Dee Why Park](#) was discussed. The location will be included in Police taskings.

7.3 James Griffin MP's office – Manly Corso E-bikes

The speed of e-bikes, particularly on The Corso Manly and through the markets on weekends, is of concern. Stenciled signage on the Corso pavement has been requested.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.4.1	The Liquor Accord engage with relevant stakeholders to investigate options for a community education campaign.	Doug Brooker	13 February 2025
6.4.2	That the Council resolution from 13 November 2024 on Graffiti Management be reported to the next Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting in 2025 for consideration.	Kath Young	13 February 2025
6.5	Links to the E-micromobility Action Plan and P-CEP training opportunity be emailed to Committee.	Kath Young	ASAP
7.1	Link to Manly Wharf Development Application DA2024/1249 be emailed to Committee.	Kath Young	ASAP

The meeting concluded at 11.18am

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 11 pages numbered 1 to 11 of the Community Safety Advisory Committee held on Thursday 14 November 2024 and to be confirmed on 13 February 2025.