

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held in Manly Town Hall on

THURSDAY 14 AUGUST 2025

Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee
held on Thursday 14 August 2025
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
Supt John Duncan	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Det Act Insp Nicole Turner	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Aileen Ogilvie	Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team
Sarah Sweeney	Northern Beaches Mental Health Interagency
Sam King	Northern Beaches Youth Interagency
Sarah Kingsbeer	Northern Sydney Housing and Homelessness Interagency
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Local Health District
Sherryn Moltzen	Sydney North Health Network Northern Sydney PHN
Libby Paulsen	Community Representative – Frenchs Forest Ward
Lucy Band	Community Representative – Manly Ward
Mary Brearton	Community Representative – Narrabeen Ward
Kylie Ferguson	Community Representative – Pittwater Ward
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
Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Jeremy Smith	Executive Manager Parks & Open Space
Kate Bock	Acting Manager, Rangers
Will Wrathall	Manager Community Development
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer Community Development

Visitors

Briana Wherry	Team Leader Social Planning and Strategy
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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

Apologies were received from:

Dr Sophie Scamps, Federal Member for Mackellar
Cr Nick Beauguard, Curl Curl Ward
Eugene McGarrell, Sydney North Health Network | Northern Sydney PHN
Azmeena Kelly, Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Doug Brooker, Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
Michele Bell, Northern Sydney Community Network (Seniors sector)
Kath Young, Community Safety Coordinator

The following members were not in attendance:

Matt Cross MP, State Member for Davidson
Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Network (vacant)
Community Representative Curl Curl Ward (vacant).

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 8 MAY 2025

The minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2025, copies of which were previously circulated to all members, were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Moved Mary Breaton, seconded: Kylie Ferguson

5.0 ACTIONS UPDATE

5.1 ACTIONS UPDATE

Progress against the actions as included in the Agenda were noted by the Committee.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PROGRESS
5	Report on outcomes of the survey of young people on legal graffiti walls.	Sam King Will Wrathall	Update at Item 6.3

6.3	Provide an update on the development of a Good Neighbour Guideline.	Azmeena Kelly	Report will be provided at May 2026 meeting.
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6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 POLICE REPORT - SUPERINTENDENT JOHN DUNCAN

Superintendent John Duncan and Detective Acting Inspector Nicole Turner 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 March 2025 from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) included in the Agenda were noted and further current information highlighted.

Local current higher incident issues include stolen motor vehicles, break ins to non-dwellings, fraud and sexual offences. Motor vehicle number plates stolen from cars continues.

A recent reduction in steal from retail has occurred following adoption of new strategies including Police engagement with retail operators and Liquor Accord.

Domestic violence assault incidents remain stable with Police investigations resulting in 80% of charges being laid. Council's webpage [Domestic and family violence support services](#) includes a number of resources, as well as the [Northern Beaches Domestic & Family Violence Services Referral Guide](#).

Engagement with youth continues across the Northern Beaches Area Command. Where appropriate, Police Youth Liaison Officers refer individuals to diversion programs and conferences with parents.

Recent Northern Beaches Police Area Command community engagement initiatives include:

- Push Up Challenge in partnership with local youth mental health service
- Constable Charlie Penguin visiting Bear Cottage Manly
- Polar plunge at Dee Why raising funds for Special Olympics and torch relay
- Artworks and youth event scheduled for September at Dee Why.

DISCUSSION

Police referred to [GoodSAM](#) which provides GPS triangulation solutions across emergency, volunteering and support services, recently enabling successful rescue of a person from Belrose dense bushland.

Discussion explored how this is used, with Police detailing how this tool can send messages to phones once contacting Police in an emergency, enables GPS location and also the capacity for people to capture video footage and share with Police.

The search and rescue app [what3words](#) was also raised, another digital tool to assist with triangulation in emergencies.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.1	Northern Beaches Police Area Command to provide a redacted version of the information shared, showing trends.	Northern Beaches Police Area Command	ASAP

6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

On behalf of the Executive Manager Environment Compliance, the Acting Manager, Rangers provided an overview and presentation on compliance and regulatory statistics for the period May-July 2025.

Companion Animal Management

- 72 compliance actions were investigated in this period with 5 infringements issued.
- 70 dog attacks were reported to Council, 13 of which occurred on private property.
- 374 proactive patrols were completed across beaches and parks with 13 penalties issued.
- A community education night was held at Glen St Theatre on 7 May 2025 in partnership with Pets Professional Guild of Australia to promote responsible pet ownership and dog park etiquette.

School Zones

- 201 school patrols were conducted with 322 infringement notices issued.

Manly night patrols

- A reduction in statistics was noted during the autumn/winter season.

Proactive Compliance

- As a result of a joint Council and NSW Health team investigation, skin penetration businesses were contacted to highlight professional requirements around use of cosmetic injectables.
- A Tools of the Trade event was held on 31 July 2025 to raise awareness about asbestos concerns in conjunction with Council's Place and Economic Team.
- There was discussion regarding actions that can be taken against tobacconist venues regarding perceived illicit activity, noting non-compliance of premises regarding vaping can be reported [online](#).

6.3 LEGAL GRAFFITI WALLS

The Chair of the Northern Beaches Youth Interagency briefed the Committee on the outcomes of a legal graffiti walls survey conducted amongst young people. Background information was included in the Agenda and presentation.

Northern Beaches Council has five legal graffiti walls:

1. Belrose, Wyatt Reserve soccer wall
2. Collaroy Plateau, soccer Oval Blandford St
3. Allambie, soccer oval, Allambie Rd soccer ova
4. Allambie, Millers Reserve
5. Manly Vale, Campbell Pde and Passmore Reserve.

Legal walls are public spaces where graffiti and street art are allowed by any member of the public and the open access approach creates an avenue for creative expression. These works are temporary and ephemeral in nature. [Street Art](#) provides more information about the laws and etiquette of the legal walls in the Northern Beaches.

The walls have been utilised for youth workshops in conjunction with youth interagencies such as Headspace and Street Work, providing engaging and accessible activities for their clients and promoting programs and awareness campaigns, eg. Mental Health Month and Youth Week.

A survey was conducted resulting in 47 young people and 12 youth service staff responses.

Key survey findings:

- Most consistent responses concerned a lack of awareness and understanding of etiquette, rules, process for approvals and legal status of the walls, (e.g. respecting other artists' work,

avoiding offensive content)

- Responses expressed concerns about Police, public judgment and harassment
- Challenges or obstacles for use include the perception of personal skills and artistic ability, accessing location, carrying paint on public transport, availability of quality spray materials on the Northern Beaches.
- Responses indicate positive sentiment towards legal walls and street art on the Northern Beaches, with some support for more dedicated spaces, particularly in northern parts of the Northern Beaches.

It is noted that as a small survey, it is only reflective of a narrow section of young people and youth services, and not representative of all young people or broader community sentiment.

However, the following analysis was provided:

- Use of legal walls focused on nurturing local artistic talent, providing an outlet for expression for locals and visitors, and supporting positive mental wellbeing for young people.
- Whilst many young people are not interested in using legal graffiti walls, many young people expressed their desired interest to use them
- Whilst there was some support for more dedicated spaces, responses indicated more support towards increased education and promotion of existing walls to increase their positive prosocial use.

DISCUSSION

Thanks were given to the Northern Beach Youth Interagency for the information provided. Exploration of additional legal walls, particularly in the northern part of the LGA was discussed. It was suggested that consideration for additional legal graffiti walls warrants further exploration through community consultation.

There was further discussion on potential partnerships between schools, businesses and Council to develop a program or process that helps celebrate artistic expression and provides education particularly to young people (e.g. Years 5-7) to understand how to use legal graffiti walls and understand the difference between tagging and art.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.3	Council, in collaboration with the Northern Beaches Youth Interagency, conduct further community consultation and research regarding additional legal graffiti walls, to inform educational initiatives and consider any specific needs in the north of the Northern Beaches LGA.	Will Wrathall Sam King	May 2026

6.4 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

The Committee noted the presentation on the review of the Northern Beaches Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 and the background as provided in the Agenda.

An initial [survey for Committee members](#) identified the following priority areas:

- Safe transport
- Community supports / services
- Fraud
- Ebikes – safety of riders and pedestrians.

The [survey](#) will remain open for committee members to contribute and further input is encouraged.

In conjunction with the Community Safety Plan review, evaluation of the following strategies and plans will also be considered:

- 20 year [Better Together Social Sustainability Strategy 2040](#)
- 4 year [Disability Inclusion Action Plan](#)

The next steps for the broader engagement plan are to:

- Advertise the engagement via the [Your Say](#) page in September
- Provide further updates at Committee meetings including the opportunity for input and to share information to their relevant networks.

DISCUSSION

The ageing population of the Northern Beaches was discussed, along with the increase of dementia in the community. During the review, their perspective and those of family and friends should be sought.

It was noted that the Dementia Alliance will be consulted and feedback considered in the development of these strategies and plans.

6.5 COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

A community safety update was included in the Agenda, for noting by the Committee.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 COMMUNITY DRUG ACTION TEAM UPDATE

Community Drug Action Teams (CDAT) are a group of local services and community members who work together to reduce the harms associated with the use of alcohol and other drugs in local communities.

In 2024, the Northern Beaches CDAT conducted a survey across the LGA to identify the drugs most commonly used by our community and we asked them the ways they would like us to address issues.

Alcohol and energy drinks were both in the top five areas of concern. Given the known health impacts of these, for example how mixing caffeine with alcohol reduces how drunk people feel and increases risk taking behaviours, a [campaign](#) has been developed to raise awareness of the mixing of alcohol and energy drinks, focusing on adults 18-35.

Reporting non-compliance of premises regarding vaping was raised, which can be reported [online](#).

7.2 eBIKE COMMUNITY FORUM

An [eBike Community Forum](#) is being held on 21 August 2025 at Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club. As the meeting is fully booked, it will be recorded for community information. Additionally, an update will be provided by Members of Parliament representatives at a future Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.1	Northern Beaches Police Area Command to provide a redacted version of the information shared, showing trends.	Northern Beaches Police Area Command	ASAP
6.3	Council, in collaboration with the Northern Beaches Youth Interagency, conduct further community consultation and research regarding additional legal graffiti walls, to inform educational initiatives and consider any specific needs in the north of the Northern Beaches LGA.	Will Wrathall Sam King	May 2026

The meeting concluded at 10.55am

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 8 pages numbered 1 to 8 of the Community Safety Advisory Committee held on Thursday 14 August 2025 and confirmed on Thursday 13 November 2025