



northern  
beaches  
council

# MINUTES

## COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

held as an online meeting on

**THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2020**

**Minutes of the Community Safety Committee**  
**held on Thursday 8 October 2020 as an online meeting**  
**Commencing at 8 - 10am**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Committee Members**

Cr Michael Regan	Mayor – Chairperson
Cr Candy Bingham	Deputy Mayor
Cr Sue Heins	
Cr Kylie Ferguson	
Cr Stuart Sprott	
James Griffin MP	State Member for Manly
Danielle Emerton	Acting Superintendent Northern Beaches Police LAC
Michelle Comito	Catholic Care
Ray Mathieson	Community Representative
Roberta Conroy	Community Representative
Michelle Erofeyeff	Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)
Drew Johnson	Manly Chamber of Commerce
Susan Consalevy	Manly Warringah Women’s Resource Centre
Tony Hilliger	Surf Lifesaving Sydney Northern Beaches
Belinda Volkov	Sydney Drug Education & Counselling Centre (SDECC)

**Council Officer Contacts**

Melanie Gurney	Acting Director Community and Belonging
Azmeena Kelly	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Rob van den Blink	Acting Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Will Wrathall	Team Leader, Community Development
Sue Johansson	Community Development Officer
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer, Youth and Community Development

**Visitors**

Cr Vincent De Luca OAM	Observer
Louise Kerr	Director Planning and Place
Lea Lennon	Urban Designer
Lorraine Yates	Crime Prevention Officer Northern Beaches Police LAC

## 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:

Christina Franze	Manly Chamber of Commerce
David Kerr	Director Community and Belonging
Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Melissa Palermo	NASLHD Health Promotion
Michelle Povah	Community Representative
Supt Patrick Sharkey	Northern Beaches Police Local Area Command (LAC)
Trish Bramble	Manly Warringah Women's Resource Centre

The following members were not in attendance:

Doug Brooker	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
John Kelly	Community Northern Beaches
Luisa de Bont	Community Representative
Stephen Pirovic	Community Representative
Zali Steggall OAM MP	Federal Member for Warringah

State Transit Authority Northern Region have been contacted to seek a new Committee representative.

The Chair reminded participants of the Committee's Terms of Reference in relation to confidentiality and privacy.

## 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 COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 6 AUGUST 2020

#### DECISION

That the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee meeting held 6 August 2020, 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

#### DISCUSSION

ITEM NO.	ACTION	ACTION UPDATE
6.3	Michelle Comito to circulate the Northern Beaches Youth Alcohol and other Drugs (AOD) Interagency webinar information to the Committee when details are finalised	<p>Committee members are encouraged to participate in this webinar: <a href="#">Youth Services - Alcohol and Other Drugs and the latest on e-cigarettes</a></p> <p>DAYSS has been delivering vaping/e-cig programs across high schools. Rochelle Bird from Police has also been in contact to possibly join up to go into schools together. DAYSS has also run a presentation for GPs through the SNHN on vapes and e-cigs. DAYSS will be producing information about this to further schools so they are equipped with correct information.</p>
6.3	That the representations about access to Nitrous Oxide be revisited with a view to further Committee advocacy on this issue.	<p>SDECC report that the issue with 'nangs' is there locally available for delivery 24/7. The legislation does not address this legal loophole and requires State intervention to address supply for illicit purposes.</p> <p>James Griffin MP reported that since last year representations to the Minister for Better Regulation have been made and moves to address the loophole are being considered. Similar to the recently changed home delivery of alcohol and requirement for ID, work is underway to address the issue of nitrous oxide supply. It was noted that South Australia have recently implemented legislation which will set a precedent. Timeframe for the changes is unknown.</p> <p>Police report that they have been liaising with store holders and NSW Health in relation to nitrous oxide (nangs) and the sale of vapes (e-cigarettes) to minors with the aim of gaining informal and good faith compliance. This will continue to be monitored with engagement with schools planned for the end of October.</p>

## 6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

### 6.1 POLICE REPORT ACTING SUPERINTENDENT DANIELLE EMERTON

#### DISCUSSION

Acting Superintendent Danielle Emerton and Senior Constable Lorraine Yates Crime Prevention Officer provided an update on local Police matters.

- Comparison between August 2019 and August 2020 crime statistics continue to indicate an overall downward trend.
  - It was noted that COVID19 restrictions may have contributed to the reduction of some crime statistics.
- Stolen vehicles and mental health related attendances however, have increased.
- Police legal action rate comparison has shown an increase, and compared to other regions, is an excellent result.
- The vast majority of recorded robberies have been between parties known to each other with almost all being street level robberies.
- Motor vehicle accidents have followed the downward trend and reflects a decrease over the last 10 years.
- Summer Safety 2020, run in conjunction with Police Transport Command, targeted hotspots with a focus on public transport, public reserves and CBDs including Manly, Dee Why and Mona Vale.
- Current warnings include:
  - Deliberately lit fires in the Dee Why Lagoon area.
  - Increase in stolen boat engines in the Bayview vicinity.
  - General reminder in relation to electronic scams and fraudulent tree lopping, roofing and fencing type scams.
- Northern Beaches Police are continuing to provide support for the COVID19 response and health measures.
- Regular Police patrols occur at East and West Esplanade in conjunction with Council Rangers until 10pm, including afternoon patrols. The recent long weekend feedback from Police and Rangers is that those approached in relation to social distancing and gathering numbers, responded in a positive manner.
- PACER Mental Health clinicians are attending incidents with Police during the hours of 1.00pm-10.30pm. This is an excellent resource for Police and their support liaising with the Northern Beaches Hospital is helpful. Police also follow the Northern Beaches Suicide Postvention Pilot Protocol which involves referral to Community Care Northern Beaches (CCNB). Lifeline signs have proven effective interventions in at least three reported cases.

In response to related items raised within the Police report James Griffin MP advised:

- That the NSW State Government have put significant funding into mental health services during COVID19 and towards organisations like Lifeline. The matter of lack of psychologists on the Northern Beaches was raised by Cr De Luca which will be discussed with James Griffin MP offline.
- That the long weekend COVID19 challenges recently experienced highlighted the State Government's recent launch of the [COVID Safe Summer](#) plan. The success of the plan will rely on the strong relationship between Council and Police, well considered plans and the community coming together to manage the challenges which will be faced over summer.
- Cr Bingham raised the issue of boats mooring in Little Collins and Manly Cove on protected seagrass and penguin areas and request for Water Police to monitor during the increasingly busy summer period.

## 6.2 COMPLIANCE REPORT

### DISCUSSION

Azmeena Kelly provided the Committee with an update on Compliance matters:

- Animal Control. Rangers have recently undertaken 'handling aggressive dogs' refresher training.
- Alcohol Free Zones. Patrol actions and statistics have increased with the warmer weather.
- East Esplanade Patrols. Ranger numbers have increased for the summer season. Overall, visitors were compliant with requests.
- Public spaces were managed quite well over the recent long weekend.
- Illegal bike tracks were highlighted and are being monitored.
- Illegal waste dumping. Investigations continue to identify and pursue offenders.
- Environmental Health. Continued local business engagement in relation to COVID19 safety checks and recently hosted a 'Swap for Good – Contactless Cafes' webinar for small businesses and community groups.

Ray Mathieson congratulated the Rangers on doing an excellent job at East Esplanade.

## 6.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2020-2025

### DISCUSSION

The Committee were provided with an update on the Community Safety Plan and noted the timeline for the Plan's progression.

The Draft Plan is scheduled to be returned to the Community Safety Committee in November.

Meeting attendees provided the following feedback:

- That the Manly Chamber of Commerce be consulted as a stakeholder
- That Council staff refer to a recently released Sports Commission report relating impact of sports uniforms on body image issues, and to consider opportunities for engagement with sporting groups like the Manly Warringah Netball Association
- To consider safety of seniors regarding access paths and lighting safety.

**ACTION:**

Council staff to contact Ray Mathieson on issues relating to access paths and lighting safety around Manly.

**6.4 NORTHERN BEACHES SUICIDE RESPONSE UPDATE****DISCUSSION**

The Committee was provided with a presentation and update on the Northern Beaches Suicide Response Steering Group and other suicide prevention and response initiatives.

Achievements to date are included in the previously shared Progress Report - [Northern Beaches Suicide Response Progress Report - April 2020](#)

Current priority actions include:

- Local Suicide Prevention Network
  - Council continues to work closely with Wesley LifeForce to support the establishment of this community-led local network
- NSW Health funded Community Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training Initiative
  - Livingworks Start online training continues to be promoted as well as the development of suicide awareness activities. This will include podcasts for emergency services and webinars highlighting life transitions as high risk factors.
- Lifeline Australia National Hotspot Advisory Group
  - Council continues to be represented on this national group to consider innovative strategies to manage local high risk locations, as well as contributing towards national best practice strategies
- Northern Sydney youth suicide response
  - Council is supporting the development of a Northern Sydney youth suicide response which is being led by Sydney North Health Network (SNHN) and Headspace in Schools. It is understood that outcomes should include better coordination of services and the development of a communication protocol specific to young people to be embedded in all schools for wrap around support.

The Committee provided the following feedback on the Suicide Response:

- Cr Ferguson commented on the amazing working Council is doing in the suicide and mental health area and the community asked that thanks be extended. The work that Lifeline and CCNB undertake was also acknowledged.
- Cr Heins highlighted the need to improve community understanding about entry points to services and supports.
- SDECC commended Council for its coordination of the local suicide response. Drug and alcohol is often intrinsically involved in suicide however hospitals are reluctant to accept acutely suicidal persons who are drug or alcohol effected. It was suggested that both State and Federal governments need to enact mental health reform to address this issue, particularly in regard to public patients and public/private hospital arrangements where patient information is not accessible.

**ACTION:**

Council to invite SDECC to attend the November Steering Group Meeting as the focus will be Youth, and SDECC can provide alcohol and drug expertise to this discussion.

## 6.5 PUBLIC SPACE VISION AND DESIGN GUIDELINES

### DISCUSSION

The Committee was provided with a presentation relating to The Northern Beaches Draft Public Space Vision and Urban Design Guidelines (PSV&DG). [The Safer by Design – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design \(CPTED\)](#) key principles included in the Guidelines were noted:

1. Territorial re-enforcement
2. Natural surveillance
3. Access control
4. Space/activity management.

## 7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 7.1 Friendship Bench / Buddy Bench

In response to this enquiry Council staff have reached out to Lifeline Northern Beaches and will be engaging with the Local Suicide Prevention Network to see if this concept could potentially translate to our local setting.

Engagement with schools and the buddy bench was also discussed. As a key stakeholder, staff are meeting with SchoolLink Coordinators whose role it is to liaise with Department of Health, Department of Education and all schools across the region.

### 7.2 COVID19 Summer Action Plan

The Action Plan will be addressed by Council at its meeting on 27 October. The Mayor confirmed that the volunteers are ambassadors who will provide positive messaging in relation to safe distancing with support from Beach Lifeguards and/or Rangers if assistance is required. It is the role of Police to enact enforcement and if necessary, dispersal of crowds.

### 7.3 Liquor Accord

The Liquor Accord is continuing to meet with Superintendent Sharkey attending the most recent meeting in September.

### 7.4 Public Space Protection Plan

In August 2019 the Manly CBD Public Space Protection Plan was discussed. The project has now progressed with installation of heavy vehicle mitigation bollards at Manly Wharf, The Corso, Sydney Road and Belgrave Street, currently underway.

### 7.5 Northern Beaches Mental Health Summit

James Griffin MP highlighted [Batyr](#) and the International Convention Centre Panel broadcast involving young northern beaches residents. The event is being held on 19 October and will focus on their experiences during COVID, mental health and resilience. Panel members include local surfer and ambassador, Alex Hayes and Joel Thompson from the [The Mindset Project](#) and Manly Sea Eagles team member. Committee members can view the details at: <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/whats-on/northern-beaches-mental-health-summit>



## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.3	Council staff to provide feedback to Ray Mathieson on whether any actions relating to access paths and lighting safety are in Council's Road Safety Plan and Pedestrian Plan.	Community Safety Coordinator	
6.4	Council to invite SDECC to attend the November Steering Group Meeting as the focus will be Youth, and SDECC can provide alcohol and drug expertise to this discussion.	Community Safety Coordinator	Prior to 18 November 2020 meeting

*The meeting concluded at 9.53am*

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 9 pages numbered 1 to 9 of the Community Safety Committee meeting held on Thursday 8 October 2020 and confirmed on Thursday 26 November 2020