



Minutes

Crime Prevention Committee Meeting
Date: Monday 28 September 2020
Venue: Committee Room
Time: 4:00 pm

Lithgow Crime Prevention Committee	
Item Number	Agenda
1	Present and Apologies
2	Previous Minutes
3	Business Arising from Previous Minutes
4	Police Report
5	General Business

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Clr Coleman (via Zoom), Inspector Chris Sammut, Senior Constable Sue Rose, Kath Compton, Jill Cusack (from 4.15pm), Jeff Smith and Danny Whitty.

Apologies: Clr Goodwin

Officers: Craig Butler (from 4.20pm) and Matthew Johnson

Declaration of Interests: Nil

ACTION

THAT the Present, Apologies and Declarations of Interest be noted.

MOVED: Danny Whitty

SECONDED: Kath Compton

ITEM: 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

SUMMARY

The previous minutes from 15 June 2020 were endorsed by three members present and will be reported to Council on 28 September 2020.

ACTION

That the reporting of the previous minutes to Council on 28 September 2020 be noted.

MOVED: Danny Whitty

SECONDED: Kath Compton

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

ITEM: 4 POLICE REPORT

SUMMARY

The Police representatives provided a report on local crime and policing activities.

COMMENTARY

The following data was provided on number of offences for the period June – August 2020:

Offence	June	July	August
Break and enter	5	6	5
Malicious damage	10	16	10
Move on Directions	27	28	33
Vehicle searches	7	3	12

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Offence	June	July	August
Serious motor vehicle crashes	0	5	5
Drug detections			1

It might be that increased number of people working from home during Covid has reduced the number of break and enter incidents.

There has been no discernible increase in domestic violence incidents but there has been an increase in domestic verbal arguments.

Staffing Levels

Lithgow Command has a full complement of Police, Detectives and Highway Patrol officers although one position has been seconded to border checkpoints.

Newnes Plateau

The Police have increased Policing levels in the state forest particularly targeting unregistered motor bikes and under age riders. RBT patrols are being undertaken and signage installed (and replaced when vandalised) to discourage illegal activities.

October Long weekend

The Police will be out in force for the weekend. The Bathurst races will restrict spectator numbers to 4,000 and with no camping allowed.

Licensed Premises

The Police undertake spot checks on licensing matters and Covid social distancing. There was concern raised about the several hundred maintenance contractors coming to the area during the upcoming Mount Piper shutdown and what would be done to ensure public safety and social distancing in licensed premises.

ACTION

THAT the Police report be noted

MOVED: Jill Cusack

SECONDED: Jeff Smith

ITEM: 5 GENERAL BUSINESS

SUMMARY

The Bureau of Crime Statistics report dated June 2020 was tabled.

COMMENTARY

The most recent BOCSAR crime trends report to June 2020 shows the incidence of various offences as follows:

Lithgow Trends in violent and property offences over the 60 months to June 2020 (page 13)

- **Violent offences:** 4% average annual percentage change over last 5 years (1.4 times NSW rate)
- **Property offences:** -5.1% average annual percentage change over last 5 years (1.3 times NSW rate)

Lithgow Trends in recorded criminal incidents for major offences over the 24 months to June 2020 (page 27):

- Steal from Motor vehicle - up 56.4%

Ratio of Lithgow rate to NSW rate of recorded criminal incidents per 100,000 population over 12 months to June 2020. Only incidents with significant variations shown. (Page 29)

Offence	Lithgow rate compared to the NSW rate
Domestic Violence Related assault	1.3 times
Non - Domestic Violence Related assault	1.3 times
Indecent assault	1.5 times
Sexual Assault	2.2 times
Break and enter non dwelling	2.2 times
Steal from dwelling	1.9 times
Malicious damage to property	1.5 times
Motor Vehicle theft	1.3 times

Actual Number of recorded criminal incidents for major offences over 12 months to June 2020 and also June 2019 (pages 31 and 33)

Criminal incident	Actual number 12 months to June 2020	Actual number 12 months to June 2019
Domestic violence related assault	115	118
Non- Domestic violence related assault	108	134
Sexual assault	39	18
Indecent assault	33	34
Robbery without a weapon	1	1
Robbery with a firearm	0	0
Robbery with a weapon not a firearm	2	0
Break and enter dwelling	66	80
Break and enter non dwelling	53	37

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Criminal incident	Actual number 12 months to June 2020	Actual number 12 months to June 2019
Motor vehicle theft	45	42
Steal from motor vehicle	86	55
Steal from retail store	71	46
Steal from dwelling	93	86
Steal from person	4	6
Fraud	153	130
Malicious damage to property	222	247

It was noted that the number of domestic violence incidents in the 12 months to June 2020 went down slightly compared to the previous 12 months when it had been forecast that DV rates across the country would increase during Covid shutdowns. The Police stated that they undertake regular AVO compliance checks and target high risk offenders. These initiatives help to build trust with victims.

ACTION

THAT the discussion of the Bureau of Crime Statistics report dated June 2020 be noted.

MOVED: Danny Whitty **SECONDED:** Jeff Smith

Meeting Closed 4:55pm

Next Meeting Monday 23 November 2020