



POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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PRESS RELEASE

Hunter Valley LAC – more police needed

The Police Association of NSW (PANSW) is working closely with our Hunter Valley local Branch Officials reviewing staffing levels and completing a staffing submission, highlighting the deficiency in staffing levels across the Hunter Valley.

Police Association Northern Region Executive Member, Dean Koenig, today said, “We are aware of the local issues raised and are currently drafting a submission to go to the NSW Police Force hierarchy and the Government outlining the concerns of our members.

“Consultation is underway with Hunter Valley police officers on the staffing submission which identifies the immediate need for more police at the Hunter Valley LAC.

“Once completed it will be given to the Region and Local Area Command to review workload and current staffing levels.

“The importance of delivering a better policing model for communities across NSW was highlighted by Deputy Premier & Minister for Justice and Police, The Hon. Troy Grant MP, with the announcement earlier this year of the reengineering of the New South Wales Police Force (NSWPF).

“The Deputy Premier emphasised a police allocation model as being a part of this process, saying, “*Reengineering the Force is aimed at delivering police on the ground where they’re needed and when they’re needed – this means our communities will reap the safety benefits.*”

“The PANSW has called for the recognition that regional areas, and centres outside of Sydney, have different challenges and resource requirements than metropolitan centres.

“We are committed to working on local solutions for local problems, but are willing to escalate matters on behalf of members should appropriate solutions, due to workload and staffing levels, be unable to be negotiated.

“It is critical the Hunter Valley has appropriate staffing levels to prevent crime, keep the community safe and protect officers who are on the frontline responding to calls for assistance.

“We owe it to local police and the Hunter Valley community to secure a commitment and clear timeline to increase police numbers, and will work with NSWPF and the Government to secure this outcome.”

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