

Module 1

An introduction to CPNZ

Welcome to Community Patrols of New Zealand (CPNZ). This module will give you an understanding of CPNZ, the community patrols that affiliate with CPNZ and our relationship with other community groups as well as some governmental agencies.

We will also look at why community patrols are needed; what patrols can do to assist in preventing and reducing crime and build safer communities; and what other organisations a patrol work with in the community

This manual is supported by our website training modules. For more information on this go to www.cpnz.org.nz.

Community Patrols of New Zealand

The Community Patrols of New Zealand Charitable Trust was formed in 2002. Its purpose was to establish and promote a collaborative working relationship with Police and provide resources, support and guidance to affiliated community patrols.

CPNZ is a volunteer led organisation funded primarily by the New Zealand Government which enables communities to be proactive and assist with crime prevention and safety at a local level.

Purpose Statement

To empower communities to prevent crime and create safer environments through the utilisation of trained and equipped volunteer patrols.

Our Vision

Safe, resilient communities.

Our Values

- To be professional and consistent in all our activities
- To serve our communities
- To maintain a strong and mutually supportive working partnership with Police
- To work cooperatively with governmental and non- governmental agencies with similar objectives to CPNZ
- To recognise and respect human rights, including the right to equal opportunity
- To respect people of all ethnicities and cultures and encourage their involvement in CPNZ

Memorandum of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was originally signed with Police in 2002 and renewed in 2006, 2012 and 2014.

This MOU principally allows for Police and CPNZ to work closely at a national, district and local level to achieve the principles of the Police 'Prevention First' strategy. It also works towards achieving the Police aim of 'Safer Communities Together' and their vision to have the trust and confidence of all.

The intended outcomes of the MOU are

- To enhance community safety and community capability in the prevention of crime through the promotion and development of CPNZ
- To enhance opportunities to work towards consistency in service delivery in terms of support for CPNZ patrols throughout New Zealand ; and
- To provide feedback, appreciation and positive public comment on their services to their communities

Have a look on the CPNZ website (www.cpnz.org.nz) where you can read the document in its entirety.

National Structure

CPNZ is made up of membership of community patrols from around New Zealand. A full list of current patrols is available on the CPNZ website. The Trust Board provides governance, strategic direction, leadership and oversees the management of the organisation.

The CPNZ office is situated within the New Zealand Police National Headquarters building in Wellington where the staff sit alongside Neighbourhood Support NZ and Police in the National Prevention Centre.

Strategic Partnerships

While CPNZ works alongside many other community organisations, both volunteer and professional, there is one very important strategic alliance that makes CPNZ a credible and successful national organisation; this is the New Zealand Police.

Over the years we have also had and continue to have relationships with The Ministry of Justice and The Office of Ethnic Communities.

Governing Documents

Community patrols are guided by the national organisation's governance documents. These include:

- Charitable Trust Deed
- Strategic Plan
- Rules and Procedures
- Memorandum of Understanding between NZ Police and CPNZ

All these documents are available on the CPNZ website. (www.cpnz.org.nz)

District Support Committees

District Support Committees have been established for each of the 12 geographical districts across New Zealand. These districts are *aligned* with the NZ Police Districts. District Support Committees vary in size and nature depending on the need and the availability of volunteers to support them.

Committees are made up of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and District Support Officers. For more info go to the CPNZ website.

District Support Officers

- Support Patrols
- Assists in the establishment of new patrols
- Identifies patrols at risk
- Assists with crime prevention projects
- Carry out the requirements of the District Support Committee

The districts covered are;

- Northland
- Waitemata
- Auckland
- Counties-Manukau
- Waikato
- Eastern
- Central
- Bay of Plenty
- Wellington
- Tasman
- Canterbury
- Southland

Community Patrols

The most important part of CPNZ is the *PATROL* itself. A Community Patrol is a self administering body or group of people that focus on crime prevention and community safety within their particular community.

The Patrol is set up under the guidance of CPNZ and the Police, according to a set criteria determined by CPNZ. For example, a Patrol must have a Police Liaison Officer (a sworn member of Police) attached to their patrol in order to operate. Some community patrols have been in existence for over 25 years, and were operating long before a national body was set up in 2002.

Affiliation

A local community patrol affiliates with the national body - The Community Patrols of New Zealand Charitable Trust (CPNZ). This affiliation allows for the strategic cooperation between them and the local police. A community patrol, under CPNZ is not allowed to set up without the cooperation and support of the local police.

Each patrol has a committee which generally comprises a Patrol Leader (Coordinator or Chairperson), Secretary/Treasurer, Training Coordinator, Health & Safety Officer and District Support Officer/s although sometimes these positions are often combined. As above, each patrol also has a Police Liaison Officer assigned to it.

Patrol Leader (may be called a Coordinator or Chairperson)

- Chairs all meetings
- Leads the Management Committee
- Coordinates the patrol
- Ensures rosters are created and maintained. (A roster coordinator position is often created)
- Ensures sufficient patrollers for special events
- Coordinates activities of the District Support Officer/s
- Ensures communication with CPNZ
- Ensures compliance with CPNZ rules

Secretary

- Records the minutes of all meetings
- Receives and sends all correspondence
- Maintains the files of the patrol
- Ensures that the correct paperwork and vetting is completed by all new patrollers

Treasurer

- Maintains the financial accounts of the patrols
- Provides accurate financial reports
- Completes applications and reports for grants

Training Coordinator

- Organises patrol training sessions for new patrollers as well as ongoing refresher training
- Maintains the training records
- Provides mentors for new patrollers
- Monitors organisational development in training matters.

Health & Safety Officer

- Promotes a health & safety culture within the patrol
- Reviews the activities of the patrol
- Ensures patroller participation in health & safety matters
- Identifies patrols actions that have not been recorded in the Hazard Register
- Completes a Hazard Assessment on identified issues
- Maintain the patrols Health & Safety Hazard Register
- Assists the Training Coordinator in health & safety training

Police Liaison Officer

A sworn Police member is appointed by the Police District to act as the liaison officer between the patrol and the police.

- Is an ex officio member of the Patrol Management Committee but cannot vote or be involved in financial matters
- Maintains liaison with the patrol
- Can assist the patrol with training on community and police related matters
- Can organise visits to Police Centres
- Identifies Police needs
- Supplies intelligence and receives patrol reports

Other Positions

Other positions at times considered of value to the patrol are vehicle maintenance, equipment management, fundraising, sponsorship, rosters, recruiting, mentorship and anything else that the patrol deems necessary.

Why Community Patrols Are Needed

The NZ Government, for many years, has promoted and supported community safety & security organisations such as CPNZ, Neighbourhood Support NZ, Maori, Pacific and Ethnic wardens. This is done because it has been recognised that the response to crime and the drivers of crime can only be achieved by a shared responsibility across a range of government agencies and service providers.

The information in this module, and more, is freely available on the Ministry Of Justice website (www.justice.govt.nz).

About The Justice Sector.

The Justice Sector includes the

- Ministry of Justice (MOJ)
- New Zealand Police
- Department of Corrections

- Crown Law Office
- Serious Fraud Office
- Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki (part of the Ministry of Social Development)

The sector collaborates to reduce crime and enhance public safety and to provide access to justice by delivering modern, effective and affordable services.

The justice sector has seen much success over the past few years. Criminal justice makes up about 80% of justice sector spending. Falling crime, fewer people entering the system, and fewer people in prison means the sector can switch focus from dealing with volume to improving performance. New technology provides the opportunity to improve service delivery and modernise operating models.

Better Public Services: Reducing Crime

The NZ Government has, over the years, set ambitious Better Public Services targets for the justice sector. In 2012 they set targets for crime reduction by June 2017 which were

- Overall crime by 20%
- Violent crime by 20%
- Youth crime by 25%
- Reoffending by 25%

Better Public Services: The Next Steps

The new targets and supporting measures for 2018 - 2021 reflects the Government's focus on crime which has the greatest impact on people in New Zealand - that is - serious crime. Serious crime has serious social and economic costs. It affects people's ability to interact with each other, lead productive lives, and realise their full potential.

The target is 10,000 fewer serious crimes by 2021, based on the number of serious crimes in the year ended June 2017.

For more information on this go to; www.ssc.govt.nz/bps-reducing-crime-new

Drivers Of Crime

The underlying drivers of crime represent the most difficult problems in our society today - stemming from risk factors within family, community and educational environments. The underlying drivers of crime are interrelated, yet many services are focused on dealing with a single issue, for example, special education needs or substance abuse.

The initial Drivers of Crime Ministerial Meeting was held at Parliament in April 2009. The aim of the meeting was to bring together those involved in preventing and dealing with crime to agree on the underlying drivers of crime.

The meeting laid the foundation for the development of a new approach to reducing crime and victimisation. This approach focuses on addressing the underlying drivers of crime, rather than just the criminal justice system's response to it.

Addressing The Drivers Of Crime Involves:

- A shared responsibility across a range of government agencies and service providers
- A focus on improved value for money through better coordinated, better targeted and more effective services and programmes
- A particular focus on improving outcomes for Māori
- Providing the right services, at the right time, to the people most in need of them.

Any effective response aimed at the drivers of crime must include:

- Coordinated action targeted at early prevention
- Treatment for specific needs related to offending
- Justice sector responses that reduce re-offending.

Four Priority Areas

1. Managing low-level repeat offenders
2. Reducing harm from alcohol and improve treatment
3. Improving maternity and early parenting support
4. Addressing conduct and behaviour problems in childhood

Crime Prevention

The MOJ has identified the following areas that need to be managed better if our communities are to reduce offending and the personal and social costs of crime:

- Priority Offenders
- Youth Justice
- Alcohol
- Reducing knife crime
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Crime Prevention and Community Safety Projects
- Sexual violence primary prevention services
- Stop Graffiti

Traditional Response To Crime

The traditional response to crime and criminal behaviour has typically been reactive. Police are sent to apprehend criminals, the criminal justice system (courts) impose penalties and offenders are incarcerated in prisons.

This traditional response has only been partially successful, and some may argue that it has not been successful at all, in addressing the drivers of crime. The response by the NZ Police to the MOJ's focus has been to develop their 'Policing initiative.

NZ Police - Prevention First

The Police Model of 'Prevention First' is the operating strategy which sets the scene for the overall delivery of policing services. It makes a change from reactive to prevention-focussed policing.

District Command Centres

Police District Command Centres (DCC) are running in all 12 policing districts of New Zealand. The DCC includes a deployment manager and DCC staff. The shift commander is able to see what crime or antisocial activity is going on in their district with real-time information. This information can be received from Police, community patrols, the public as well as CCTV systems. They are then able to focus on sending the right people to the right places at the right time.

Tasking And Coordination

CPNZ Community Patrols, Maori, Pacific and Ethnic Wardens as well as other community safety and security groups are all organisations which can support the Police. Community patrols are being utilised more and more by the Police District Command Centres in situations where their 'eyes and ears' roles and community knowledge are beneficial.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams

Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) are prime examples of police deployment in action and personify the 'Prevention First' strategy. This initiative sees dedicated teams of Police officers operating in priority areas where

people are more likely to be a victim of a crime. The term used for people in these situations is 'vulnerable'.

They target the specific drivers of crime in those areas and create safer, more secure neighbourhoods. Features of NPTs are:

- Preventing and reducing crime and road crashes in their communities
- Working to reduce victimisation and repeat victims
- Being highly visible
- Being accessible 24/7
- Developing partnerships with their communities
- Obtaining local knowledge and intelligence
- Targeting known offenders
- Making sure communities are, and feel, safer

NPT areas typically have a Community Patrol set up in the area along with other community organisations. These organisations work closely with the Police to reduce crime and create a safer and more resilient community.

So, Why Are Community Patrols, Neighbourhood Support, Maori, Pacific, Ethnic Wardens Needed?

While many members of the community volunteer their time and put effort into keeping the community a safe place, the drive by the New Zealand Government has been to put the focus on the prevention of crime. They recognise that this requires far more resources than just the NZ Police, Courts and Corrections.

Police are partnering with community groups in many ways in order to address causes of crime, prevent crime and reduce the number of victims.

Volunteers carry out valuable community service functions because they have time as well as the desire to create safer and more secure communities.

Safer communities requires everybody to do what they can and support Police, Government agencies as well as local bodies.

Organisations such as Community Patrols of New Zealand enable members of the community to join a credible group of people, supported by a national framework and dedicated to ensuring safer and more secure communities.