



Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

20 September 2019

Neighbourhood Watch CEO Encourages Victorians to Continue to Support Their Communities During Crime Decline

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria response to latest crime stats

The Crime Statistics Agency have released their new report which showed a decrease in crime and the lowest figures since the year ending June 2015. In particular the last 12 months has shown the number of criminal incidents dropping by 5.6% or 22,876 incidents to 383,100. This included the criminal incident rate also declining by 7.8% to 5,921.9 incidents per 100,000 Victorians.

“We welcome that the crime rates are down” said NHW Victoria CEO Bambi Gordon, with the latest positive news of the crime rates decreasing in Victoria, “But it is still as important as ever to get involved in our local communities and watch out for each other.”

After another strong year for Neighbourhood Watch, with groups coming together in new developing communities and social media reach and engagement being at a high point for the organisation, Neighbourhood Watch maintains their involvement in encouraging community participation in building safe, confident communities and strengthening the partnership of community and police.

Other key statistics from the report have shown a decrease in family related incidents by 0.5% in the last 12 months to 76,124 incidents. The family incident rate declined by 2.7% to 1,176.7 incidents per 100,000 population. Both figures are also the lowest since the year ending June 2015. However, while the decrease across the board in this year's report has been impressive, a minor increase of alleged offender incidents increased by 1.0% to 174,793 in the last 12 months. Victorian population growth contributed to the alleged offender rate dropping 1.3% to 2,701.9 per 100,000 population. The number of unique alleged offenders also increased in the last 12 months, up by 2.7% to 82,211.

With the population of Victoria booming, Gordon stresses the importance of Neighbourhood Watch: “Thousands of new families are being established in brand new neighbourhoods. Forming connected and safe communities is as important today as it was when we launched 35 years ago.”

For more information about the latest figures from the Crime Statistics Agency visit www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data . To learn about Neighbourhood Watch and how you can get involved in your local community visit www.nhw.com.au or like their Facebook page www.facebook.com/nhw.vic

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