



Neighbourhood Watch
Let's watch out for each other

2025 / 2026 Annual Report

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc
Registered charity
Incorporation Number: A0018739R
ABN: 41 586 657 273
Registered address: 311 Spencer St, Docklands VIC 3008

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters across Victoria on which we live, work and connect. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and recognise the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country, culture and community. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



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About Neighbourhood Watch Victoria



Neighbourhood Watch Victoria is a registered charity that works with communities, volunteers, Victoria Police and partner organisations to help prevent crime and build safer, better-connected neighbourhoods.

Across Victoria, our affiliated groups and volunteers turn crime prevention advice into practical local action. They understand their communities, build trusted relationships with local police and bring people together through events, campaigns and conversations about the steps everyone can take to reduce opportunities for crime.

Our role is to make that local effort easier and more effective. We provide groups and volunteers with practical resources, campaign materials, information and support; help establish and strengthen local groups; connect members with police and other partners; and advocate for the needs and interests of the Neighbourhood Watch network.

At a statewide level, we develop evidence-based campaigns, programs and tools that make reliable crime prevention advice accessible to all Victorians. By combining local knowledge and volunteer commitment with the expertise and reach of our partners, we help people take achievable action to protect their homes, vehicles, businesses and neighbourhoods.

Neighbourhood Watch has always been built on a simple idea: when neighbours are informed, connected and supported, they can make a meaningful difference in their communities.

**4,900 +
members**
**across 223
active groups**



President's message

Anika Dell



On behalf of the Board of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria, I am proud to reflect on a year of genuine growth and impact for our organisation.

Our membership grew to over 4,900 individuals across 223 active groups, and our campaigns, media presence and in-person activities reached approximately four million Victorians. The Safety In Neighbours media campaign achieved real behaviour change, with people who saw the campaign roughly twice as likely to lock up consistently and secure their vehicle keys. Our How Safe Is My Place program continued to prove its worth too, with 70 per cent of participants improving their home security within months of completing a survey, and the tool now extending to small businesses for the first time. During Crime Prevention Month, our campaign with RACV earned over 14 million potential news impressions, entirely through positive editorial coverage that reflects the trust Victorians place in this partnership.

None of this happens without exceptional leadership and hard work behind the scenes. Our CEO, Bambi Gordon, has again led the organisation with skill and dedication this year, guiding the delivery of the campaigns and programs described in this report. Bambi has decided to retire at the end of June 2027, and the Board has begun a considered succession process to ensure a smooth transition. We look forward to properly recognising her decade of service to NHW Victoria in next year's report.

I also want to acknowledge our previous President, Edwina Ogilvie, who stood down in April 2026 after two years on the Board and a year in the President's role. Edwina's contribution to strengthening our governance structures has left NHW Victoria on a stronger footing, and the Board is grateful for her leadership and the

standard she set. Good governance is not always visible from the outside, but it underpins everything else this organisation achieves, from the confidence of our funders and partners to the trust our volunteers place in the organisation they give their time to. We remain committed to building on that foundation.

We thank the wider NHW Victoria staff team for their professionalism and dedication throughout the year. We are equally grateful to RACV, whose partnership continues to extend our reach and credibility, to Victoria Police, whose operational support and local intelligence remain central to everything our groups achieve on the ground, and to the Victorian Government for its continued investment in our work.

Above all, I want to recognise the thousands of volunteers who give their time to Neighbourhood Watch groups across Victoria. Whether hosting a street barbecue, running a local information session, or simply keeping an eye on their street, these volunteers are the reason our model works and the reason it has endured for over 43 years.

As we look ahead to new partnerships and opportunities to strengthen communities and neighbourhoods across Victoria, I thank every member of the NHW Victoria community for their continued trust and commitment. With 44 years of partnership between our volunteers, police and community behind us, I am confident NHW Victoria is well placed to keep building safer, more connected communities in the years ahead.

Anika Dell

President,
Neighbourhood Watch Victoria

CEO's message

Bambi Gordon



This is the last time I will write to you in these pages. By 1 July 2027 I will have handed the reins of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria to a new CEO, and so this letter is, for me, both a report on the year and something of a look back over ten. I have tried to keep the second part short. The first part is what matters.

The year in numbers

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria finished 2025/26 with 4,903 members in 223 groups across 49 local government areas. Behind each of those numbers is a person who gave up an evening, a Saturday morning, to make their neighbourhood a little safer. That is the whole point of us, and it remains as true today as it was when the first group met in 1983.

Our crime prevention messaging reached an estimated 14.5 million people through earned media this year. More importantly, when we ask people whether our advice changed what they actually do, 70 per cent tell us it did. Reach is easy to buy. Behaviour change is not, and it is the measure we hold ourselves to.

Successes

Crime Prevention Month 2025, delivered with RACV, reached 3.5 million Victorians across out-of-home, digital and social channels, with a media value of \$3.2 million. For an organisation of three full-time staff, that is a result we are proud of, and it is only possible because of the way RACV backs us with far more than a logo on a page.

How Safe Is My Business launched this year as the newest module of the How Safe Is My Place platform we built with RACV. It gives small business owners a practical, plain-language self-assessment covering physical security, operational risk and cybercrime, and

it has already found its way into business chambers and networking groups across the state. Small business is where crime prevention has been thinnest, and this is the start of correcting that.

Safety in Neighbours 2026 is the most substantial piece of research we have produced. Drawing on responses from residents across the state, it looks at how safe Victorians feel in their own neighbourhoods and what shapes that feeling. The findings challenge a comfortable assumption. Recorded offence rates vary more than sevenfold from one local government area to the next, yet how safe people feel sits within a surprisingly narrow band, and the thing that moves it most is not the crime rate but how well people know the neighbours around them. That is a finding with real consequences for how councils, police and community organisations spend their crime prevention effort. We have written to the CEO of every Victorian council offering a tailored data report for their own LGA, showing how their residents feel.

New partnerships and projects took shape during the year. We have partnered with Police Bank, quietly established the NHW Alliance between Neighbourhood Watch bodies in Victoria, New South Wales, and the Northern Territory, (plus our collaboration with the other States/Territories as hosted by SA Police), formed a Memorandum of Intent with the Master Grocers & Independent Businesses Association, and continue to work with the Safer Places Network.

Challenges

I will not pretend the year was without difficulty. Our funding model remains the single largest challenge to the organisation. Our core funding from the Department of Justice and Community Safety keeps

FROM THE CEO

the lights on and we are grateful for it, but the gap between what Victorians ask of Neighbourhood Watch and what three staff can deliver grows every year. We continued our advocacy for Deductible Gift Recipient status, which would open the door to philanthropic support, and we prepared the ground for the renewal and expansion of our base funding in the year ahead.

What comes next

Though I am finishing up, there is still a great deal to do, and I intend to do it. In the coming year we will deliver the number plate screw program (Protect Your Plates) with RACV, and deliver Crime Prevention Month 2026. We will keep pressing the case for a state-wide DNA property marking program with Victoria Police, and we will keep pressing the case for sustainable funding with whoever forms government after November.

None of that will pause for a change of CEO. My job over the next nine months is to leave the organisation in a shape where it doesn't need to.

Thank you

To RACV, and in particular to Megan Ballantyne and her team, thank you. 7 years of partnership is rare in this sector. What RACV gives Neighbourhood Watch Victoria is not sponsorship, it is genuine shared purpose, and it shows in every campaign we have delivered together. To our colleagues at the Department of Justice and Community Safety, thank you for your confidence in us and for a working relationship that has always been constructive.

To the many people at Victoria Police I have worked alongside over the past decade, from the Chief

Commissioner's office through to the crime prevention officers and station staff who turn up to our forums and stand beside our volunteers at community events, thank you. The willingness of Victoria Police to back new ideas, share what they know and treat a small not-for-profit as a genuine partner has made everything in this report possible.

To Geoff Kloot, who has served this organisation as Secretary for more years than most of our members have been involved, I owe a debt I cannot properly repay in a paragraph. Geoff hired me. He has been my mentor, my sounding board and, on the days when it was needed, my conscience. Much of what Neighbourhood Watch Victoria has become in the last decade has Geoff's fingerprints on it, quietly and without any wish for credit. Thank you, Geoff.

To the team – in particular Adriana and Arsh - thank you. Everything in this report was done mainly by three people. You have carried more than any team this size should, and you have done it with dedication and passion. The next CEO will be lucky to have you.

To Nicoll – Your enthusiasm and determination has been instrumental in all that we have achieved. I am incredibly grateful for your work both with and for the Members, and the support you have given me.

To every volunteer thank you for teaching me, over and over, what dedication looks like.

I'm leaving NHW Victoria in better shape than I found it. And that's all I ever wanted to be able to say.

Bambi Gordon

Chief Executive Officer,
Neighbourhood Watch Victoria



Making crime prevention **visible**

Safety in Neighbours

In March 2026, NHW Victoria ran a four-week paid media campaign under the Safety in Neighbours platform, across Out of Home (OOH), broadcast video on demand (BVOD), and digital display, with substantial bonus media secured at zero additional cost.

The campaign delivered exceptional value on a modest spend. A \$75,000 investment generated \$2.26 million in total media value, a 30× return, across more than 70 OOH sites around Melbourne and total impressions exceeding 10.1 million across all channels.

The result was a campaign that stretched a modest media budget into reach usually well beyond NHW Victoria's means, reinforcing the Safety in Neighbours message across the state.



**10.1 million campaign impressions
and 30× return on media investment**

70%
of participants
improved their
home security



Neighbourhood Watch
Let's watch out for each other
Victoria

**Crime
Prevention
Month** | **Oct
2025**

Supported by



33+
community
events

Bringing back Crime Prevention Month

Individual NHW groups had marked October informally for years, but 2025 was the first time Neighbourhood Watch Victoria brought the whole state together under one coordinated banner. With RACV's backing, a \$100,000 investment, October was formalised as Crime Prevention Month: a structured, statewide program built on the Safety in Neighbours creative platform, with a clear call to action for every Victorian: join NHW.

The month combined an out-of-home advertising presence with genuine grassroots activity. More than 33 community events ran across the state, Safe Plate installation days in partnership with Victoria Police, cyber security awareness workshops, tradies' and SME breakfasts, pop-up activations at Bunnings and shopping centres, and community connect barbecues, alongside a regional activation reaching beyond metropolitan Melbourne. The How Safe Is My Place tool was promoted throughout as a practical, immediate resource for households.

The results proved the model was worth resurrecting. Earned media alone delivered a potential reach of 14.5 million Victorians, generating an advertising value equivalent of \$141,000 with 100% positive sentiment, and ABC Online as the campaign's top placement. Digital and social channels added a further 303,700 social views, 137,000 social reach, and 778 new followers, while the campaign drove 7,542 new users to the NHW website, 509 completions of the How Safe Is My Place quiz, and 3,100 organic searches related to the campaign.

It was a modest budget stretched into genuine statewide visibility, and it set the benchmark that the 2026 campaign is now being built to exceed.

Community in action

Bellarine

For Leonie, the Bellarine group didn't start as a Neighbourhood Watch initiative at all. It began with a friendship, and a woman named Rhonda Rotherham running NHW Greater Geelong and another local community group largely on her own.

"We talked about the synergy of safety across both organisations," Leonie says. Recognising the overlap, they worked together to bring a Neighbourhood Watch group to the Bellarine, drawing on Rhonda's local network, her knowledge of the area, and her strong relationship with police. These days, Leonie is one of those volunteers who seems to work everywhere at once, and says NHW simply "enhances the police connection with the community."

That partnership pays off in small, practical ways. At Coffee With a Cop events, community members have flagged road issues that police then acted on immediately. "The key to success is the commitment by police to participate," Leonie says.



The moment that reminded Leonie why the work matters came on the road. After years of NHW messaging, they knew exactly what to do when a close call with a child on an e-bike happened right in front of them: call 000. Police responded straight away.

Since the group became active, Leonie has noticed something beyond the crime figures. "There is a lot of generosity, and we are stronger working together on joint projects."

The hardest part isn't the work itself, it's getting people to step up. "It's not onerous," Leonie says. Rotating positions helps, and so does reassurance: support is there, and nobody has to reinvent the wheel.

Which is, in the end, Leonie's message to anyone thinking about joining.

It's not a hard gig.

“It's not a hard gig”



Community in action

Hobsons Bay

After hearing about a string of violent crimes in the local area, after having just moved back to Hobsons Bay following several years living in New Zealand and Sydney for work, Alister Dias, (former Managing Director of Google Cloud Australia and New Zealand) reached out to locals via social media mid-2025, to find likeminded people who wanted to do something positive to increase safety, reduce preventable crime and create a more connected community.

Alister originally formed a group called Safer Williamstown and surrounds, but soon after establishing recognised the need for a crime prevention group that focused on the whole of Hobsons Bay and aligned with Police and Council boundaries, and that's how Neighbourhood Watch Hobsons Bay started.

Carolyn Shanks has lived in Hobsons Bay all her life. She had a career as a public servant – 13 years with the Department of Social Security, followed by 21 years with the ATO, before retiring about ten years ago. She met Alister through mutual friends and quickly discovered they shared similar concerns, but hopeful visions for a safer more cohesive community. Carolyn says “I got involved because I care about my local community and I was inspired by Alister’s passion to make a positive difference. I have grandkids and like a lot of us, I worry about what sort of world we’re leaving them.

Carolyn says that the original group and committee has changed a lot since those early days, as people realised how much work was involved in establishing as an incorporated association and registered charity, raising funds through grant applications and seeking donations, building collaborative relationships with local Police, Council, Trader Associations, Community Groups, MP’s and of course, engaging with our local residents. Many originally involved have stepped back as they couldn’t commit the time and energy required to get the initiative up and running.



Currently they are operating with only four committee members, two of whom are still working, and one of which also has two young children. Despite being a small committee they have been able to achieve a lot in their first year, hosting a Safe Plate Day, Community Safety Meeting, delivering multiple crime prevention presentations across Hobsons Bay, acquiring a seat on the Hobsons Bay City Council – Safety Council, raising community concerns and suggestions with Police at the Hobsons Bay Policing Forum, many Coffee With A Cop events across the local government area and having regular catch ups with the local area Police Inspector.

Although they are a small team and ideally need more committee members to lighten the load, Carolyn says that she feels very proud of her fellow committee members (Alister, Tori and Liz) for persevering through what she thinks has been the most difficult and demanding part of getting this initiative up and running and for being able to achieve so much in our inaugural year. The group now has 107 members and close to 2,000 Facebook followers.

They hope to recruit more committee members in the near future, but rather than asking newcomers to step into an office-bearer role straight away, they’re inviting anyone interested to get involved as an assistant committee member first, to see if they enjoy it and have a skill set suitable for a role.

Coming up, they are delivering a crime prevention presentation at Altona Library on 1st October and hosting their first sausage sizzle at Bunnings Altona North on 11th October. Carolyn says they plan to really encourage residents to take advantage of the NHW/ RACV offer of free safe plate screws during October (Crime Prevention Month) as it’s a great opportunity to reduce number plate theft, which is one of the most prevalent crimes in Hobsons Bay. They also hope to host another event for seniors in October, to align with the Seniors Festival.

Between financial reports and preparing for the group’s first AGM as an incorporated association, she’s philosophical about the learning curve. “None of us have done this before, so it’s all been a learning experience. We’ll get there.”

Community in action

Manningham

The Vertical Village

How Manningham NHW is taking crime prevention up the lift.

If you live in a high-rise, you probably don't know your neighbours the way people do on a regular street. But you do see them in the lift most days, and that turns out to be a bit of a secret weapon.

Two earlier projects, one in the CBD in 2020 and another run by Manningham Council in 2023, showed just how worried apartment residents can be about crime. Trouble was, both wrapped up and left nothing behind. New residents moving in never even knew they'd happened.

With around a quarter of high-rise residents turning over every year, Manningham NHW figured a one-off wouldn't cut it. So, backed by a \$3,000 Council grant, they built something that keeps going.



How it works

Every eight weeks, residents get a postcard through the door (deliberately an odd size, so it actually gets noticed) packed with quick crime-prevention tips and a QR code for anyone who wants more. Fire Rescue Victoria even pitched in postcards on high-rise fire safety.

Getting buildings on board has taken patience: the team works through building managers to reach Owners Corporations, and once committees see what's on offer, most say yes pretty quickly. The grant money has run out, but Manningham NHW is still funding it, because it's working, and because it's turning apartment blocks into something closer to a village, where people actually look out for one another.

11

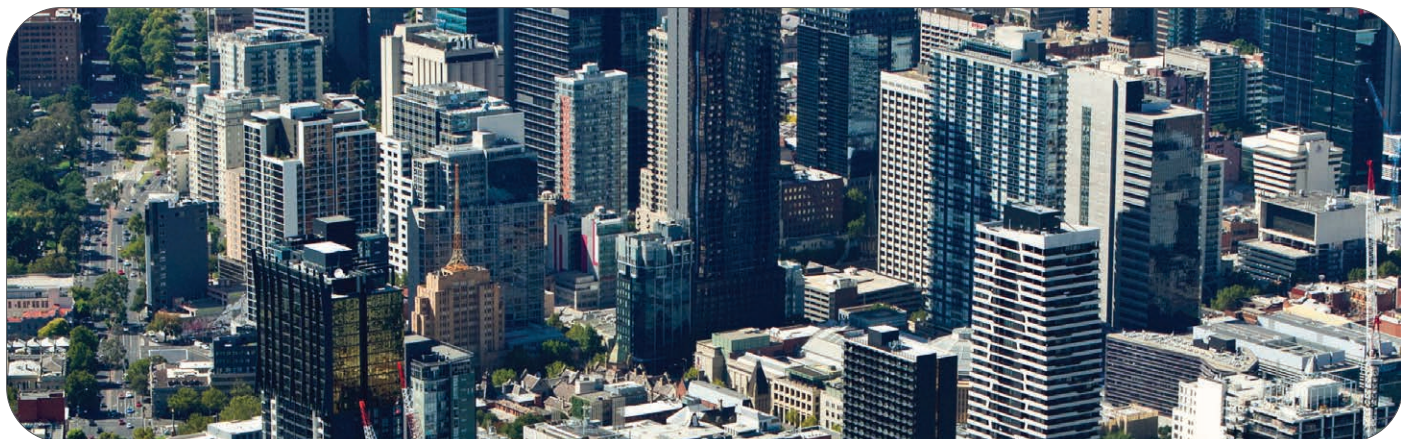
Buildings and counting

590

Apartments reached

1,250

Residents in the program



Stronger through partnership



Megan Ballantyne, Head of Community Programs | Corporate Affairs, RACV



More than seven years working together

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria and RACV partnership

“RACV’s partnership with Neighbourhood Watch Victoria helps support safer, more connected communities by supporting practical crime prevention programs that encourage people to look out for one another.

For more than seven years, RACV has worked with Neighbourhood Watch to help Victorians better understand and reduce everyday safety risks through initiatives such as How Safe Is My Place, Safe Plate Days and Community Crime Prevention Month. Together, these programs provide simple, accessible ways for people to improve safety at home, on the road and in their neighbourhoods.

The partnership benefits the community by increasing awareness of crime prevention behaviours giving Victorians practical tools to feel safer and more confident where they live. Through this partnership, RACV contributes to meaningful social impact while reinforcing its commitment to helping people stay safe, connected and informed.”



Victoria Police partnership



VICTORIA POLICE

A voice for Victoria Police at the table

Every NHW Victoria Board meeting includes a seat reserved for someone who sees community safety from the inside of Victoria Police. Detective Senior Sergeant Purdie Long's role there was to support and build on the collaborative relationship between the two organisations, with one aim in mind: strengthening how Victoria Police engages with the Victorian community.

Day to day, that meant identifying where local crime trends and prevention initiatives created genuine openings for collaboration, then helping the Board and NHW staff act on them. "This provided the opportunity for NHW volunteers to become involved in Victoria Police led crime reduction strategies," Purdie says, "seeing NHW as a resource to assist Victoria Police in crime prevention and community engagement strategies."

It's a different vantage point to the community and volunteer board members sitting around the same table. Coming from inside Victoria Police, Purdie brought a working understanding of internal crime prevention initiatives, and could spot where NHW programs could be leveraged to support them, an angle no one else in the room had.

If there's one thing Purdie wishes more police officers appreciated, it's what actually sustains a local NHW group: people. "The success of many local NHW groups relies heavily on individuals who generously contribute their time, skills and local knowledge for the benefit of their community," . That donated time builds safer, more connected neighbourhoods, promoting social cohesion and a shared sense of responsibility for community safety, work that, with Victoria Police's support, can have real impact on crime prevention.

Asked what Victoria Police would lose if NHW Victoria didn't exist, the answer comes without hesitation: a volunteer network that shares advice on home security, suspicious activity and local crime issues, works alongside police to promote prevention, and builds the kind of local knowledge that can't be manufactured from outside a community. Without it, Purdie says, people may feel less safe and less connected. "Communities would lose a valuable layer of local vigilance, education, and neighbour-to-neighbour support that can help deter opportunistic crime and improve residents' feelings of safety and connection."



Victoria Police partnership



Inspector Raj Tillerkeratne, Victoria Police

VICTORIA POLICE



“I’ve worked pretty much every side of policing over the years: frontline uniform work, complex investigations, and leadership roles with the Major Drug Squad, the Human Source Team, the Joint Organised Crime Task Force and Crime Command. These days I’m Inspector of the Priority and Safer Communities Division, but it’s the community-facing side of the job I keep coming back to.

As an Inspector, I’ve led local policing areas across Hume, Brimbank, Moonee Valley and Merri-bek, along with Specialist Operations and Investigations. Those roles sharpened something I already believed: crime prevention works best when it’s built on partnership, not just enforcement.

That’s exactly what drew me to representing the Chief Commissioner on the Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Board. NHW does something police can’t do on their

own. It breaks down barriers, builds trust, and gets practical safety advice into people’s hands in a way that actually sticks.

My priority is simple: get local police and NHW groups talking more, so community concerns and local crime trends actually shape the prevention work happening on the ground. A big part of that will be making sure more people know about, and use, NHW’s Community Crime Prevention Activations, things like targeted hotspot letterbox drops, Safe Plate events, school safety programs, community festivals and informal meet-and-greets with police.

None of it works without the volunteers who show up and do it. Together, police and NHW can reach further than either could alone, and that’s what makes for safer, better connected, more resilient communities.”

Delivering real results

David Bartlett, Safer Places Network

“Our first full year as Neighbourhood Watch Victoria’s Partner in Crime Prevention has delivered real results for both organisations.



More than 750 people registering with the Safer Places platform this year asked to learn more about Neighbourhood Watch during sign-up, and we continue to promote NHW membership and its practical safety advice across our wider network. Every registration helps police access CCTV footage faster while connecting another household to NHW’s preventative safety education.



Our teams have also worked side by side at community events across Melbourne throughout the year, talking with residents about simple, practical steps to protect their homes and streets.

We are proud to partner with NHW on the Bunnings Safer Places program, which launched in Victorian stores this year. The program funds community safety grants through the sale of home security cameras, hosts in-store crime prevention events with local police and Neighbourhood Watch, and encourages residents to register their devices with the Safer Places Network.

A connected community is a safer community. We thank Bambi and the NHW team for a genuinely productive partnership and look forward to building on it in the year ahead.”



From NHW to Victoria Police

Arsh Singh, from a NHW Volunteer to a police officer

“Back in 2019, when I was a much younger man and, according to the photos, apparently had a lot more hair, I was looking for a way to give back to the amazing Victorian community.

That was when Senior Constable Sandy O'Connor from Whittlesea's Proactive Policing Unit invited me to join Whittlesea Neighbourhood Watch. At the time, I had absolutely no idea what I was getting myself into. I simply knew I wanted to contribute to the community, and somewhere in the back of my mind was a dream of one day joining Victoria Police.

One thing led to another. I joined the SES alongside NHW and quickly found myself involved in all sorts of community activities, from endless community events and Safe Plate blitzes to fitting one-way screws, taking photos with NHW and generally finding new and creative ways to keep myself busy.

Then came an important turning point. I was looking for work when Maureen helped connect me with the team at NHW Victoria about a potential position. They took a chance on me and showed an incredible amount of trust by handing me the keys to Lionel, the NHW vehicle that would very quickly become my best mate.

My first major assignment was to take Lionel to Warrnambool and set him up in the way I thought would work best. And so began my never-ending and, some might say, slightly excessive OCD relationship with Lionel. From that moment on, keeping him looking perfect became almost a second job!

Working alongside NHW volunteers and helping to run community events taught me one of the most valuable lessons I have carried into policing: the more effort you put into your community, the more you get back from it.

The satisfaction of seeing people come together, helping others and knowing our work made a difference was incredibly rewarding. More importantly, NHW gave me the confidence, experience and pathway to keep working towards my dream of becoming a police officer.



Throughout my time with NHW, I was fortunate to have people around me who believed in that ambition. The staff and volunteers encouraged me to keep pursuing my goal, gave me opportunities to learn and trusted me with real responsibility. They also made sure I stayed accountable and actually did my job along the way!

The experiences, friendships and contacts I gained through NHW continued to support me throughout my journey. Even the things I never expected to learn became important. Eventually, I even learned how to swim, something the whole team knows took me a very long time to achieve. I'm pleased to report that I can now, at the very least, save myself in the water!

In January 2025, I was selected to join Victoria Police, and in May that year I began my training at the Victoria Police Academy.

One of the most special moments came when I graduated in December 2025 and saw Bambi, Nicoll and Rhonda there to celebrate with me. It meant more than I could put into words. They had seen my journey from the very beginning, from a young volunteer joining NHW in 2019, through the community events, SES adventures, Lionel obsession, swimming lessons and everything in between, right through to achieving the dream I had spoken about for years.

Looking back, NHW was so much more than an organisation to me. It was where I learned about community, service, teamwork and commitment. It gave me opportunities, friendships and mentors but, most importantly, it gave me a place to start.

Six years after joining Whittlesea NHW, I found myself standing at my Victoria Police graduation. I couldn't have asked for a better team to have been there to see it.

From fitting one-way screws to wearing the uniform, it's been one hell of a journey.

And somewhere, I'm sure, Lionel is still waiting for me to come back, clean him and set him up again.”

Our people

Our volunteer Board and staff team work together to support members, strengthen partnerships and help communities across Victoria take practical action to prevent crime.



Anika Dell
President



Richard Thornton
Vice President



Brittany Langner
Treasurer



Geoff Klood
Secretary



Ben Michalke
Board Member



Carolyn Van Der Ree
Board Member



Kathy Rhodes
Board Member



Megan Love
Board Member



Rhonda Rotherham
Board Member



Raj Tillekeratne
VicPol Representative



Bambi Gordon
CEO



**Staff: Nicoll Peschek
and Adriana Sahrizan**

Looking ahead

Building on the strong foundations established during 2025/26, Neighbourhood Watch Victoria will continue to focus on practical crime prevention initiatives that help Victorians turn reliable advice into action. Our priorities will be guided by the needs of our members and communities, emerging crime trends and the evidence about what makes a meaningful difference.

We will strengthen the support provided to affiliated Neighbourhood Watch groups and volunteers, equipping them with useful resources, campaign materials, information and opportunities to build their skills. We will also continue to advocate for our groups and ensure their local knowledge and experience help shape the organisation's statewide priorities. By making it easier for volunteers to engage their communities, we can extend the reach and value of Neighbourhood Watch across Victoria.

Strong partnerships will remain central to this work. We will continue collaborating with Victoria Police, RACV, government and other organisations that share our commitment to safer and more connected communities. We will also seek opportunities to develop new partnerships, strengthen existing programs and bring practical crime prevention information to more Victorians.

We will continue improving how we measure and demonstrate our impact. This means looking beyond the number of people reached to better understand whether our programs, campaigns and resources are prompting people to take action and adopt safer behaviours. These insights will help us refine our work, direct resources where they can have the greatest effect and clearly demonstrate the value of Neighbourhood Watch to our members, partners and funders.

By combining the trusted local presence of our groups with strong statewide partnerships, practical resources and evidence-led programs, Neighbourhood Watch Victoria will continue helping communities take achievable steps to prevent crime and feel safer where they live, work and connect.



Financial statements

For year ended 30 June 2026

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc.
Reg. No. A0018739r

Responsible person's declaration

Regulation 15

Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012

Sections 94(2)(b), 97(2)(b) and 100(2)(b)

We, Anika Dell and Brittany Langner, being members of the Committee of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc, certify that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 5 to 14, fairly present the financial position of the entity as at 30 June 2026 and its performance for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of preparation described in Note 1.

2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

3. The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of:

- the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013; and
- the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic) sections 94(2)(b), section 97(2)(b) and section 100(2)(b) where applicable.

Annual statements give true and fair view of financial performance and position of incorporated association

4. The entity is not a reporting entity, and the financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1.

5. The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to promote community safety, crime prevention, and awareness through local initiatives, education, and engagement with residents, local Councils, and Victoria Police.

6. Significant changes in the affairs of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc during the year include the resignation of the previous Honorary President, Edwina Ogilvie who has been succeeded by the current responsible persons signing this statement.

Signed:



Anika Dell

Dated: 30 September 2026

Signed:



Brittany Langner

Dated: 30 September 2026

Submission of financial statements to Annual General Meeting

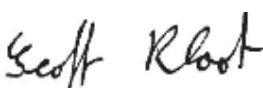
Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012

Sections 94(2)(b), 97(2)(b) and 100(2)(b)

I, Geoff Kloot, being a member of the Committee of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc, certify that:

I attended the annual general meeting of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc. on 15th October 2026 and the financial statements of the association for the financial year ended on 30 June 2026 were submitted to the members of the association at that annual general meeting.

Signed:



Geoff Kloot

Dated: 15 October 2026

Statement of comprehensive income

For year ended 30 June 2026

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Income		
Funding DJCS	487,000	439,640
Funding DJCS – Street Engagement Project	-	8,500
Funding DJCS & NMVTRC – Vehicle Crime Project	150,804	38,508
Property Developers Sponsorship	14,545	26,000
RACV - Sponsorship and Project Funding	259,300	113,539
Donations/Sponsorships	300	-
Total Income	911,949	626,187
Other Income		
Interest	16,337	20,137
Other Revenue	909	9,052
Total Other Income	17,246	29,189
Total Income	929,195	655,376
Expenditure		
Employee Expenses	423,157	464,851
Annual Leave	(13,459)	(858)
Long Service Leave Expense	3,295	12,858
Telephone and Internet	2,145	1,974
Contractors and Consultants	18,692	26,021
Community Safety Perceptions Data Report	5,741	-
Database and IT Support	22,516	20,425
Depreciation	2,166	2,736
DJCS - Street Engagement Projects	-	8,500
DJCS - Vehicle Crime Projects	4,614	38,319
Audit	2,800	1,310
Insurance	26,829	31,251
Marketing	330,838	36,100
Other Expenses	7,315	13,413
Project Development - How Safe Is My Business	17,836	-
Software Subscriptions	6,557	3,948
Printing and Stationary	1,569	356
Website Maintenance	8,992	2,064
Total Expenditure	871,603	663,266
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	57,592	(7,891)

The accompanying notes form part of this Statement of Comprehensive Income

Statement of financial position

For year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 \$	2025 \$
Assets			
Financial Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	921,226	1,224,069
Accounts Receivable		11,000	-
Prepaid Expenses	5	21,625	15,445
Total Financial Assets		953,851	1,239,514
Property Plant and Equipment	6	3,167	4,524
Total Assets		957,018	1,244,038
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	7	36,700	89,146
Total Current Liabilities		36,700	89,146
Non-current Liabilities			
Provisions and Funding in Advance	8	457,345	749,512
Total Non-current Liabilities		457,345	749,512
Total Liabilities		494,045	838,657
Net Assets		462,973	405,381
Equity			
Current Year Earnings		57,592	(7,891)
Retained Earnings		405,381	413,271
Total Equity		462,973	405,381

The accompanying notes form part of this Statement of Financial Position

Statement of changes in equity

For year ended 30 June 2026

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Accumulated Surplus		
Opening Balance	405,381	413,271
Surplus / (Defecit) For The Year	57,592	(7,891)
Total Accumulated Surplus	462,973	405,381

The accompanying notes form part of this Statement of Changes in Equity

Statement of cash flows

For year ended 30 June 2026

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Operating Activities		
Funding - Department of Justice and Community Safety	487,000	421,211
Receipts for RACV Projects	99,300	554,048
Receipts for Property Developer Projects	14,545	26,000
Receipts from Donations and Sponsorships	1,209	9,052
Monies from Closed LGA's	18,800	3,739
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(939,226)	(602,238)
Asset Purchases	(809)	(2,414)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(319,180)	409,397
Investing Activities		
Interest Received	16,337	20,137
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	16,337	20,137
Net Cash Flows	(302,843)	429,535
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	1,224,069	794,535
Net Change in Cash For Period	(302,843)	429,535
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	921,226	1,224,069

The accompanying notes form part of this Statement of Cash Flows

Notes to the financial statements

For year ended 30 June 2026

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The annual financial statements represent the reviewed special-purpose financial statements for Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc for the period ended 30 June 2026.

The purpose of the report is to provide users with information about Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc stewardship of resources entrusted to it.

Comparative figures are reported for a 12-month period.

(A) Basis of preparation

The special-purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012. The Board have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the

disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statement of Cash Flows', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for-profit oriented entities.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

(B) Basis of measurement

The accrual basis of accounting has been applied in the preparation of these financial statements whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. Prior years' comparatives have been restated, where necessary.

(C) Reporting entity

The financial statements cover Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc as an individual reporting entity.

The principal address is:

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc.
Victoria Police Complex
311 Spencer Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

(D) Objectives and funding

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc is funded by a range of funding sources. Currently the main source is via accrual-based appropriations from Department of Justice and Community Safety "The Department" and "DJCS".

The funding provided by the Department consists of:

Core funding agreement - Extension of original agreement dated 1st July 2022 for 3 years for a further 2 years.

The total additional funding for general activities from the extension is \$986,000 covering from 1 July 2025 through to 30 June 2027.

(E) Scope and presentation of financial statements

Comprehensive operating statement

Income and expenses in the comprehensive operating statement are classified as 'transactions' as there are no 'other economic flows'. This classification is consistent with the whole government-reporting format and is allowed under AASB 101 Presentation of financial statements.

'Transactions' and 'other economic flows' are defined by the Australian system of government finance statistics: concepts, sources and methods 2005 and Amendments to Australian system of government finance statistics, 2005 (ABS catalogue No. 5514.0) (the GFS manual).

'Transactions' are those economic flows considered to arise as a result of policy decisions, usually interactions between two entities by mutual agreement. Transactions also include flows within an entity, such as depreciation where the owner is simultaneously acting as the owner of the depreciating asset and as the consumer of the service provided by the asset. Taxation is regarded as mutually agreed interactions between the Government and taxpayers. Transactions can be in kind (for example assets provided/given free of charge or for nominal consideration) or where the final consideration is cash.

'Other economic flows' are changes arising from market re-measurements including:

- Gains and losses from disposals of non-financial physical assets
- Net gain or loss from the revaluation of long service leave.

The net result is equivalent to profit or loss derived in accordance with AASs.

Statement of Financial Position

Assets and liabilities are presented in liquidity order with assets aggregated into financial assets and non-financial assets.

Current and non-current assets and liabilities (non-current being those assets or liabilities expected to be recovered or settled more than 12 months) are disclosed in the notes, where relevant.

Statement of changes in equity

The statement of changes in equity presents reconciliations of each non-owner and owner changes in equity from opening balance at the beginning of the reporting period to the closing balance at the end of the reporting period. It also shows separately, changes due to amounts recognised in the 'comprehensive result' and amounts recognised in 'other economic flows – other movements in equity' related to 'transactions with owner in its capacity as owner'.

Cash flow statement

Cash flows are classified according to whether or not they arise from operating, investing or financing activities. This classification is consistent with the requirements under AASB 107 Statement of cash flows.

(F) Income from transactions

Income is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow into Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc and the income can be reliably measured at fair value.

Income from grants is recognised when Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc obtains control over the contribution and is amortised over the remaining period of the grant.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

(G) Expenses from transactions

Expenses from transactions are recognised as they are incurred and reported in the financial period/year to which they relate.

Employee expenses

These expenses include all costs related to employment including wages and salaries; fringe benefits tax and leave entitlements.

Superannuation

The amount recognised in the comprehensive operating statement is the employer contributions for superannuation plans that are paid or payable during the reporting period.

Other operating expenses

Other operating expenses generally relate to training courses, maintenance costs, and the day-to-day running costs, incurred in the normal operations of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc. These items are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred.

(H) Financial assets

Cash

Cash comprises cash on hand and cash in bank accounts.

For cash flow statement presentation purposes, cash includes cash floats included as assets on the balance sheet.

Receivables

Receivables consist of contractual receivables.

Impairment of financial assets

At the end of each reporting period, Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired.

Receivables are assessed for bad and doubtful debts on a regular basis using professional judgment in accordance with AASB136 Impairment of Assets. At 30 June, the Board considered that no provision for the impairment of assets was necessary.

Property, plant and equipment

All non-financial physical assets are measured initially at cost and depreciation over the estimated useful life.

(I) Liabilities

Payables

Payables consist of:

- Contractual payables, such as accounts payable. Accounts payable represent liabilities for goods and services provided to Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc prior to the end of the reporting period that are unpaid and arise when Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of those goods and services. The amounts are unsecured and usually paid within 30 days of recognition.
- Statutory payables, such as tax payables.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured using the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Employee benefits

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages, salaries and annual leave for services rendered to the reporting date.

(i) Wages, salaries and annual leave

Provision is made for the liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period.

(ii) Long service leave

Provision for long service leave has been provided in accordance with the applicable accounting standard.

(iii) Termination benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before the normal retirement date or when an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits. Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc recognizes termination benefits when it is demonstrably committed to either terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. At 30 June 2026 no provision has been made for any foreseeable termination benefits.

Employee benefits on-costs

Employee benefits on-costs such as workers compensation are recognised separately from provision of employee benefits.

(J) Commitments

Commitments for future expenditure include operating and capital commitments arising from contracts. These commitments are disclosed by way of a note (Note 2).

(K) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet, but are disclosed by way of a note (Note 3).

(L) Responsible persons

For the purposes of reporting responsible person's remuneration, Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc has complied with the requirements of FRD 21B Responsible personal and executive officers disclosures in the financial statements. AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures requires not-for-profit public sector entities to disclose of key management personnel compensation as follows

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Short Term Employee Benefits	200,664	192,675

The Victorian Government, has significant influence over Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc as 63% of the funding is provided by the Department of Justice and Community Safety "The Department". Thus Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc is exempt from the disclosure requirements of AASB 124 per paragraph 25, in relation to related party transactions and outstanding balances with the Victorian Government. The total funding received during 2025/26 from the Department was \$535,700 (inc GST). There were no other significant transactions with The Department during the financial year.

(M) Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, except where GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other payables in the balance sheet.

2. Capital Commitments - Nil

3. Contingent Liabilities - Nil

4. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2026 \$	2025 \$
ANZ Business Essentials Card	2,543	407
ANZ Cash Management	226,932	673,227
ANZ Cheque	132	132
ANZ Operating	28,727	500,304
Term Deposits	662,893	50,000
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	921,226	1,224,069

5. Prepayments

Prepaid Expenses	3,000	-
Prepaid Expenses (Insurance)	18,625	15,445
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	21,625	15,445

6. Property, Plant, and Equipment

Computer Equipment		
Cost	17,503	17,844
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Computer Equipment	(15,477)	(13,912)
Total Computer Equipment	2,025	3,932
Office Equipment		
Cost	8,578	7,736
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Office Equipment	(7,437)	(7,144)
Total Office Equipment	1,142	592
Motor Vehicles		
Cost	25,926	25,926
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Motor Vehicle	(25,926)	(25,926)
Total Motor Vehicles	-	-
Total Property, Plant, and Equipment	3,167	4,524

7. Trade and Other Payables

Accounts Payable	9,530	17,435
Accruals	21,325	15,148
GST	(2,865)	42,204
PAYG Withholdings Payable	8,125	12,157
Superannuation Payable	585	2,202
Total Trade and Other Payables	36,700	89,146

8. Provisions and Funding in Advance

Unexpired Income - RACV	300,000	450,000
Unexpired Income - RACV - Anti-theft Screws	23,232	24,345
National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction	-	74,670
DJCS Funding - Vehicle Crime	-	75,020
Provision for Annual Leave	71,891	87,564
Provision for LSL	30,352	24,843
Monies Held for Closed Groups	31,870	13,069
Total Provisions and Funding in Advance	457,345	749,512

9. Events After The Reporting Period

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2026 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the operations of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs in future financial years.

Independent Review Report

To the members of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Inc. Reg. No. A0018739R

Report on the Financial Report

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, and the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Committee's responsibility for the financial report

The Committee of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the annual financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Assurance practitioner's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2400 Review of a Financial Report Performed by an Assurance Practitioner who is not the Auditor of the Entity, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report is not presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

ASRE 2400 requires us to comply with the requirements of the applicable code of professional conduct of an accounting body.

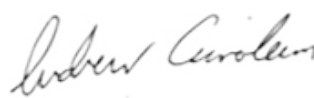
A review of an annual financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Conclusion

Based on our review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the annual financial report of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria does not present fairly, in all material respects, the Neighbourhood Watch Victoria's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.



Andrew Girolami

Registered Company Auditor

BHP Partners (Audit) Pty Ltd
Level 1, 963 Main Road, Eltham Vic 3095

Dated: 17 September 2026



Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

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Victoria Police Centre

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www.nhw.com.au

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