

Hunters Corner Town Centre – Summary 2015r 2016

Crime Prevention Meeting – monthly

On the 3rd Tuesday of every month Hunters Corner Town Centre hold a Crime Prevention meeting with key stakeholders including representatives of the Police, Crime Patrol, Crime Prevention Officer, Town Centre Management, Hunter Plaza Management, Papatoetoe Centennial Pools staff, Kolmar Sports Centre and the chair of the Hunters Corner Town Centre.

These meetings are held to reflect on the months criminal activity and decisions are made as to where the police direct their resources in the immediate future. It has been very positive in the solving of intrinsic problems related to crime prevention.

Outcome – These monthly meetings proved to be an invaluable solution to help combat crime in the area. The regular monthly meeting has also created a network of people who consider that crime prevention is a major solution to decreasing the level of offences.

Costr \$1500 pa

Ambassador Programme

This programme was first set up in Hunters Corner with the recommendation and help from the police. Initially Work and Income reimbursed Hunters Corner Town Centre for the full amount of a minimum wage which at the time was \$11.25 per hour. However, over that time the minimum income rate has increased to \$15.25 an hour with Work and Income still only contributing the original amount of \$11.25 an hour. Although this was not what was originally agreed upon there is no indication that the situation will change at any time soon.

The Ambassador programme has proved invaluable to the town centre as it has helped to reduce criminal activity in the area. There has been a definite reduction of car thefts, breaking into cars, and bag snatching which the police attribute to the programme. Also evident is the reduction in the incidence of rubbish dumping and there is no visible graffiti in the area. The ambassadors have a rapport with the police which has been responsible for the decrease in drinking, glue sniffing and drug taking in the town centre.

Outcome – Although the Ambassadors are only employed on a six month contract, it should be noted that all of these people were on a benefit of some description when they came onto the ambassador programme. Hunters Corner has taken on over 110 people over the years and 80% of those participating have graduated into full time employment. Hunter Corner considers their contribution is well worth the expense.

Costr \$33,000 pa

Crime Prevention Officer

The Crime Prevention Officer is an integral part of the Town Centre. This particular employee has been in this position for over a decade and has excellent knowledge of the people who frequent the area. He has proved to be a valuable asset to police with his excellent identification skills of criminals and his memory of car registration numbers.

An important part of his job description is the training of the ambassadors and keeping them aware of their responsibilities. He has on two occasions helped two other local town centres set up their ambassador programme which has resulted in closer working relationships with the neighbouring town centres. He is also responsible for educating the retailers in what they can do to assist with the running of the centre. This is vital with newcomers establishing their business for the first time. He has daily contact with the police and is highly regarded as an excellent source of information.

The CPO also has an informal agreement with the street workers that they do not work in the town centre during day light hours. To date this has been a successful negotiation.

Outcome – Hunters Corner rarely has street workers working on the streets in day time hours. The ambassadors receive on the job training and up skilling. Retailers feel safer with the CPO on duty and welcome the advice the CPO provides. They will often call him before the police. The CPO has an excellent relationship with police to the point that he is able to contact them at any time. Retailers and the community feel safer because he is always around and everyone knows him.
Costr \$58,500

Pacific Wardens

The Pacific Wardens are an important part of the Hunters Corner team. They patrol the streets at night until the early hours of the morning. They are not paid but instead do this as a contribution to their community and their church. It is because of this group we have seen a decrease in crime on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. They are often seen on our CCTV system in their fluo vests patrolling the BID. The HC committee appreciates the enormous contribution they have made to the BID and the community and have made a donation to them for a Christmas function to celebrate all their contribution to the community.

Outcome – By encouraging and nurturing this resource we have decreased the criminal activity on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening.
Costr \$1000pa

Health & Safety Seminar

With the new laws on Health & Safety coming into force in April this year the Hunters Corner Town Centre held a H & S Seminar for all businesses. Paul Diver and Associates facilitated the seminar. There was excellent participation and many questions. It was apparent that many businesses did not realise the importance of Health & Safety and how it can impact on their business. The seminar was well presented and the organisers were impressive with their simplification of what looked like being a complex issue.

A booklet was designed specifically for the Hunters Corner BID by Paul Diver & Associates which covered the workshop notes and any forms and information needed in the future. These were distributed out to the 250 businesses.

Outcome – Those who were unable to attend in seminar expressed disappointment when informed of the success of the evening as they now realise the importance of Health & Safety.
Costr \$12,000

Strategic Business Plan

Hunters Corner is currently having a strategic business plan compiled. This plan will create a vision for the BID for the next 5r10 years. Consultation by the firm Evolve is currently been carried out with the retailers followed by consultation with various community groups. This document will pave the way for the future. So far businesses that have been approached by Evolve have been enthusiastic and willing to talk and give their opinions and ideas they would like to see for the area.

Outcome – This SBP is still going through the consultation process, however, it is pleasing by the comments so far that there is enthusiasm from local business people for the development of Hunters Corner and the betterment of their security.
Costr \$15,000 (OPLB have already contributed \$7500)

EVENTS

Mrs Hunters Tea Party was again a resounding success with an attendance of over 120 people. Many of those present adopted the theme of the morning and dressed in the manner of the period which was being celebrated. This has become a very popular event for our older citizens especially those who are descendants of early settlers

This event was established by Papatoetoe 150th celebrations committee four years ago and has become an important part of the district heritage. This year it was a "sell out" with tickets on a first come first served basis.

The elderly felt that this is their event and relish the opportunity to come together and talk about yesteryear.

Outcome – Papatoetoe Seniors feel this event is especially for them and relish the opportunity to come together and talk about yesteryear.

Costr \$5200

Diwalir By far the most successful yet. The organisers were the Indian retailers in the BID and along with Indian media ensured the day was successful. Thousands of people invaded Hunters Corner for this daylong event. An International comedian from India was a huge draw card as were the many giveaways contributed from local businesses.

Outcome – Many of those present on the day had not been to Hunters Corner before and were delighted with the celebration. This hugely successful day put Hunters Corner on the Indian map.

Costr \$10,000

Christmas Window Competition – The standard was very high last year due to the \$1500 prize money offered in total. The street came alive at night and with so many businesses entering the competition. It was interesting to see people from different religions enter this competition and particularly interesting to see there were several nativity scenes in the windows.

Outcome – This event has the potential to grow and brighten up the whole street in the month of December. It attracted many people out in the evenings to see the displays

Costr \$1500

Market Day – This is a new initiative requested by the Indian retailers. Market Day will be held on the last Sunday of every month. The retailers can advertise on the Indian Radio Station who will be on site for the entire day.

Although there have only been three Market Day's to date they are gaining momentum and have attracted people for all over Auckland.

Outcome – Once the Market Day is fully established it will attract people from outside the BID

Costr \$12,000 pa

Narinda Singla

Chair – Hunters Corner Town Centre