

**Submission
No 29**

COMMUNITY SAFETY IN REGIONAL AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

Name: Mr Timothy Brooks

Date Received: 16 April 2024

Parliamentary Enquiry

I am writing this parliamentary submission regarding community safety in the regional area of the Central Coast, specifically pertaining to the suburbs of Gosford and Wyong.

Regarding this matter, my main concern is the inconsistent distribution of Police Officers and Security Personnel. As a resident of Gosford, I have seen and experienced several concerns, particularly on the Main Street, that I believe are contributing to the perception of lack of safety for its residents.

Some of these concerns are:

- Public Intoxication and Drug Use
- Poorly Lit streets at night and early morning
- Violent and Aggressive behaviour

Despite these matters, I continuously notice a lack of Police or Security presence on the main streets in the area. As someone that uses the Public Transport System daily, I seem to find Police and Security gathered around the train stations in what could be perceived as a disproportional distribution of resources. Though I understand the importance of monitoring fair evasion, I would question the appearance that this may suggest in terms of revenue raising and its importance over safety. At many times I have experienced up to 6 Police officers congregated around the turn-styles. However, minimal presence on the Platforms or on the surrounding streets. I would suggest that this is an issue that needs to be looked at regarding monitoring the areas safety in accordance with the welfare of the community.

Yours Sincerely,

Timothy Brooks