

## **NATIONAL SUMMIT ON DRUG ICE**

Submitted by Councillor Vincent De Luca OAM

580/14 **RESOLVED**

That this Council:

1. Supports the recent concerns by NSW Police Commissioner, Andrew Skipione concerning the Drug Ice epidemic and his calls for a National Summit on the issue.
2. Notes with concern that:
  - i. That the Minister for Roads, The Hon Duncan Gay MLC, released in August statistics that indicate that 11 per cent of road fatalities involved a driver or motorcyclist who had illicit drugs in their system and in the last four years, at least 166 people died on our roads in crashes involving motorists with at least one of three illicit drugs, cannabis, speed or ecstasy in their system.
  - ii. Ice and base are methamphetamine, part of the amphetamine family of drugs which also includes speed. The difference between ice, base and speed is that ice is the most pure form, followed by base then speed. The 'high' experienced from ice and base is much more intense, and with intense reactions come powerful responses including comedown, the potential for dependence (addiction) and chronic physical and mental problems
  - iii. Effects include:
    - Increased heart rate
    - Hypertension (high blood pressure)
    - Irregular body temperature
    - Increased breathing rate
    - Constricted blood vessels
    - Heart problems.
    - Aged appearance
    - Damaged teeth
    - Lesions on skin

- Risk of stroke
- Decreased lung function
- Poor cognitive function – memory and decision making issues
- Exposure to blood-borne viruses

iii Studies have shown the use of ice and base is associated with brain and mental health conditions, including ruptured blood vessels in the brain, memory- loss indecision, depression and psychosis. These drugs can cause paranoia and hallucinations and the user may also become aggressive and violent – possibly requiring sedation and physical restraint or police intervention.

v. The Northern Beaches are not immune from Drug Ice and Base and sadly numerous people of differing ages have had their lives and those of their families and loved ones devastatingly effected by the drug.

vi. Several people on the Northern Beaches have been charged for making and/or trafficking in Drug Ice.

3. Writes to the Prime Minister, Premier and Police Commissioner expressing its support for calls for a National approach to eliminate Drug Ice and that a National Summit is needed for a co-ordinated response across Australia to combat this illegal drug.

4. Extends its congratulations to the Federal and NSW Police and other law enforcement agencies for their continued efforts to arrest those involved in drug ice and seize the drug.

## **VOTING**

**For the resolution:** Crs De Luca, Giltinan, Gobert, Harrison, Heins, Menano-Pires and Moskal

**Against the resolution:** Nil