



LOCAL THEFT PREVENTION CAMPAIGN APPLAUDED

The National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) today applauded Glenorchy City Council on its *Operation Bounce Back* campaign to prevent vehicle theft and immobilise older vehicles.

The campaign is one of twenty projects being funded across Australia by the NMVTRC's partnership with local government.

The NMVTRC's Director of Strategy and Programming Geoff Hughes said, "Glenorchy City Council has been a leader in innovative approaches to local vehicle theft and the *Operation Bounce Back* grant provides an opportunity for the Council to extend its work. Importantly, the project really confronts the key issue that drives local statistics—the high number of older, unsecured cars that are vulnerable to theft.

Four out of five cars stolen in Glenorchy are older sedans with relatively low values. All these thefts could have been avoided had the cars been protected by an engine immobiliser."

Glenorchy's *Operation Bounce Back* project will give away one-hundred Australian Standards approved engine immobilisers, fully-installed, to owners of older vehicles and those who have been a victim of vehicle theft in the past. The Council will also run a high profile education campaign targeting motorists and young people.

Glenorchy Council, in conjunction with Clarence and Hobart City Councils and the WIN Television Network, have also produced three advertisements focusing on preventing vehicle theft, to be aired on the WIN Network throughout the second half of 2006.

Geoff Hughes said, "Most vehicle owners think 'nobody would want to steal my old bomb'. Unfortunately in the last year more than 500 vehicle owners in Glenorchy found out that this isn't true," Mr Hughes said.

Motorists that miss out on a free immobiliser can still have an Australian Standards approved immobiliser installed for under \$200 by calling the CAR-SAFE 24 hour hotline on 1300 132 146 (for the cost of a local call).

The NMVTRC is an initiative of all Australian governments and the insurance industry.

Further Information: Geoff Hughes, Director of Strategy and Programming,
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National Motor Vehicle
Theft Reduction Council

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT IN THE CITY OF GLENORCHY

- 528 motor vehicles were reported stolen in the 12 months to June 2005 in the City of Glenorchy. This represents a more than a quarter of all vehicles stolen in Tasmania.
- Older cars account for the overwhelming majority of vehicle theft in Glenorchy with 86 per cent of stolen vehicles manufactured prior to 1992.
- Vehicles manufactured ten or more years ago tend to lack adequate security and as a result, account for most thefts. The most popular theft targets in the City of Glenorchy are:
 - Holden Commodores, from 1980 to 1991
 - Ford Falcons, from 1984 to 1991
 - Ford Lasers, from 1981 to 1991
- The best protection against opportunistic theft for older vehicles is to fit an Australian Standards approved electronic engine immobiliser.
- Australian Standards approved immobilisers are available through the NMVTRC's CAR-SAFE program for under \$200. Contact 1300 132 146.
- The NMVTRC is funding twenty *Operation Bounce Back* grant packages across Australia in 2005/06. Eight of these programs are follow-up grants continuing from 2004/5 and the remaining thirteen are full grants valued at \$35,000 each.
- The NMVTRC is an initiative of all Australian governments and the insurance industry.