



GLENORCHY CITY COUNCIL WINS THEFT PREVENTION AWARD FOR OPERATION BOUNCE BACK

The National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) congratulated Glenorchy City Council (GCC) today on its award for outstanding achievement in theft reduction for 2007. The award was announced at the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators conference in Melbourne, Victoria. The award recognises GCC's successful *Operation Bounce Back* program to reduce vehicle theft in local communities through targeting older, unsecured cars.

The NMVTRC's public education driven grants program, *Operation Bounce Back*, addresses the issue of vehicle theft across Australia through offering funding to local governments in each state and territory. *Operation Bounce Back* aims to raise community awareness of vehicle theft and protect older, at-risk vehicles by providing vehicle owners with fully-installed, Australian Standards approved engine immobilisers.

GCC's program delivered outstanding results, with the area experiencing a 4% decrease in vehicle thefts compared to the state increase of 18% in 2005/6. The success of the Glenorchy program is directly related to both the level of innovation and commitment demonstrated by the Council.

A key feature of the program were three community television announcements produced with the assistance of the WIN Television Network and a local youth community group Pulse.

The NMVTRC's Director of Strategy and Programming, Geoff Hughes, said, "*Operation Bounce Back* is a great example of how local government and police can work together to tackle a major crime issue. Importantly, the project really confronts the key issue that drives local statistics – the high number of older, unsecured cars that are vulnerable to theft."

"This award is testimony to the commitment of Glenorchy City Council and its partners to addressing the problem of older vehicle theft through innovative community education, and is further evidence of the success of the NMVTRC's *Operation Bounce Back* partnerships."

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

Further information:

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