



## **GLENORCHY AND CLARENCE COMBINE FOR CAR THEFT YOUTH FORUM**

The National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) today applauded Glenorchy and Clarence City Councils for convening a joint Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Youth Forum to raise awareness among young people of car theft and the importance of securing older vehicles.

The forum, being hosted by Glenorchy City Council's Youth Task Force and Clarence City Council's Youth Network Advisory Group, is being conducted as part of *Operation Bounce Back*, a community campaign being funded across Australia in 2008 by the NMVTRC's partnership with local crime prevention partners, which aims to prevent vehicle theft and immobilise older vehicles.

The NMVTRC's Director of Strategy and Programming, Geoff Hughes, said, "It is extremely important to discuss car theft with young people as they are in the unique position of comprising not only the largest group of offenders but also a significant volume of victims."

"While one out of every five cars are stolen by young males, around eight in ten vehicles of those stolen in Glenorchy and Clarence are older sedans (manufactured prior to 1992) which are often owned by young people. Almost all these thefts could have been avoided had these cars been protected by engine immobilisers."

The forum will bring together around 35 young people from Glenorchy and Clarence to discuss messages that young people can relate to that could prevent car theft and car burglary.

"Young people often rely heavily on their cars yet as a group they are often difficult to reach with car theft prevention messages. The youth forum provides an excellent way to gauge young people's awareness of car theft to ensure preventative messages are relevant and relatable," Mr Hughes said.

The forum will be held today at the Glenorchy Civic Centre from 9.30am – 12.10pm.

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

**Further information about the Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Program Youth Forum:**

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**Further information about the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council:**

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