



LOGAN LAUNCHES OPERATION BOUNCE BACK

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

The campaign is one of twelve projects being funded across Australia in the first half of 2009 by the NMVTRC's partnership with local crime prevention partners.

The NMVTRC's Executive Director, Ray Carroll, 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.

"Around one in two cars stolen in Logan are older sedans: the family runabout or your teenager's first car. Many of these thefts could have been avoided had these cars been protected by an engine immobiliser."

Logan's *Operation Bounce Back* program is giving 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. Information days where residents can learn more about car theft prevention will be held throughout March and April, starting 3 March at Griffith University, Logan Campus, from 10am-3pm, and followed by 7 and 8 March at the Greenbank Show, 19 March at Beenleigh Library, 7 April at Jimboomba Library and shopping centre displays on 14 and 28 April at Beenleigh Marketplace.

"Most car owners do not consider the inconveniences to family, work and social lives that having a car stolen can cause. Unfortunately in the last year over 300 drivers of older cars in Logan found out that both the financial and emotional impact can be quite significant," Mr Carroll said.

Motorists that miss out on a free immobiliser can still have an Australian Standards approved immobiliser installed for around \$200 at a participating installer.

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

Further information about Logan City Council's *Operation Bounce Back* program:

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MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT IN THE CITY OF LOGAN

- 784 motor vehicles were reported stolen in the 12 months to June 2008 in the City of Logan.
- Older cars amounted for 47 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 more thefts. The most popular theft targets in the City of Logan are:
 - Holden Commodore (1989 to 1992)
 - Hyundai Excel (1995 to 1997)
 - Ford Laser (1989 to 1991)
- The best protection against short-term theft for older vehicles is to fit an Australian Standards approved electronic engine immobiliser.
- Australian Standards approved immobilisers are available through the NMVTRC's Immobilise Now! program for around \$200.
- The NMVTRC is funding a total of twenty-five *Operation Bounce Back* grant packages across Australia in 2009.



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