



## **FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL BOUNCES BACK**

The National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) has applauded Frankston 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 2010 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 four in five cars stolen in Frankston 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."

Frankston'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 the last week of each month at Bayside and Karingal Shopping Centres, commencing 26 February.

"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 500 drivers of older cars in Frankston 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 Frankston City Council's *Operation Bounce Back* program:**

Gillian Jones, Community Safety Officer, Frankston City Council  
03 9784 1886

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

Geoff Hughes, Director of Strategy and Programming, NMVTRC 1300 668 410

## MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT IN FRANKSTON CITY

- 678 motor vehicles were reported stolen in the 12 months to June 2009 in the Frankston City municipality.
- Older cars amounted for 80 per cent of stolen vehicles manufactured prior to 1998.
- 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 Frankston City municipality are:
  - Holden Commodore (1987 to 1991)
  - Ford Laser (1986 to 1989)
  - Ford Telstar (1988 to 1990)
- 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-seven *Operation Bounce Back* grant packages across Australia in 2010.



[www.carsafe.com.au](http://www.carsafe.com.au)