



## **GOSNELLS SET TO TACKLE VEHICLE THEFT**

The National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) today applauded the City of Gosnells' *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 one in two cars stolen in Gosnells are older sedans with relatively low values. All these thefts could have been avoided had the cars been protected by an engine immobiliser."

Gosnells' *Operation Bounce Back* program is giving away 130 Australian Standards approved engine immobilisers, fully-installed, to owners of older vehicles and those who have been a victim of vehicle theft. Information stalls where residents can learn more about vehicle theft prevention will be held at the upcoming 'People in Parks' event on 21 March, as well as at Centro Maddington Shopping Centre on 1 April.

"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 in Gosnells 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 the City of Gosnells *Operation Bounce Back* program:**  
Sue Spiegl, Community Safety Officer, City of Gosnells 08 9391 6020

**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 THE CITY OF GOSNELLS

- 333 motor vehicles were reported stolen in 2009 in the City of Gosnells.
- Older cars amounted for 46 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 the City of Gosnells are:
  - Holden Commodore (1995 to 2003)
  - Ford Falcon (1988 to 1996)
  - Toyota Camry (1988 to 2001)
- 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.



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