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MEDIA RELEASE

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Chance to have your say on community safety and policing in Ballarat

Residents of Ballarat will have the chance to vent their spleens about community safety and policing in the city at a public meeting later this month and through an associated survey.

The public meeting, organised by the Committee for Ballarat, will be held on July 25 and is aimed at developing a community response on community safety and policing resources in the city.

A survey of the Committee's more than 100 members, including representatives of business and the wider community, showed community safety and crime was an issue of great concern and which needed to be addressed.

As a result, the Committee established a Community Safety and Policing Task Group which is organising the public meeting and survey.

The meeting will be facilitated by the managing director of SED Consulting, Mr Mark Schultz.

It will present details about community safety and policing in Ballarat and seek responses, including anecdotal information from the experiences of those in attendance.

People who are unable to attend the public meeting will also have their chance to have a say through a Community Safety and Policing Survey.

A survey form is available through the Committee for Ballarat website www.committeeforballarat.com and will also be published in The Ballarat Courier.

It asks people whether they think Ballarat is a safe city and seeks their views on policing resources in the city.

It also offers the chance to select the issues which respondents feel are most important in creating a safer Ballarat and gives the opportunity for general comment.

From responses at the public meeting and through the survey, the Committee for Ballarat Community Safety and Policing Task Group will prepare a submission to present to the State Government and State Opposition.

The public meeting will be held on July 25 at the Mulkerns Theatre, Australian Catholic University, 1200 Mair St, Ballarat, at 7 pm.

ENDS