

Onehunga Community Watch

Community Police Newsletter

March Issue

2023

Over the last few weeks, your local community policing team have assisted with a number of police operations such as cordons and check points at Muriwai Beach, a Global Strike climate protest march, training in armed vehicle stops and high-risk room clearance techniques, local area check points and traffic stops, and most recently our Onehunga Festival last Saturday.

We also support our front-line public Safety policing teams from Mt Wellington when required. In addition, we continue to undertake our core business here at Onehunga where we put crime prevention at the forefront of our core business.

Our main tasks here at Onehunga include ensuring compliance for bail checks, Traffic enforcement, area patrols and high visibility foot patrols through our town and community centres.

While crime continues to be a main concern for our team, it is encouraging to see that reported incidents throughout our suburb are finally starting to decline to what we were observing in pre-covid times.



Number plate theft prevention.

“Safer Plates”

Countdown Greenlane
29th March 2023
10am -2pm



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While it is too early to say that this trend will continue, we hope that we will see further reductions in property related incidents across our suburb as we continue throughout the year.

Number plate theft also continues to be an issue in Auckland with a high number of licence plates stolen monthly.

Do your part to help reduce number plate theft and make sure you visit one of our community patrols events - 'Safer Plates'

Our next licence plate theft prevention event will be held on March 29th at Countdown Greenlane between 10am and 2pm.



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Reporting Suspicious Activity

If you see suspicious behaviour in your neighbourhood the best thing you can do is report this activity to police. If you observe activity occurring now, call 111. If that activity is historic and does not require immediate police attendance, report the behaviour to Police on 105 or online through our police website.

Calls of this nature are important. They can prevent victimisation, and create valuable intelligence for police when determining locations of interest to conduct proactive patrolling for both police and community patrol groups.

Community Patrol groups (CPNZ) 'Community Patrols of New Zealand'

We are starting to see an increase in the number of community led patrol groups throughout Auckland.

Community patrol groups are made up of a group of like-minded residents from our suburbs who patrol our streets being the eyes and ears of the police.

These community patrols help deter criminal activity and provide valuable information directly to our police communications and local community policing teams.



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Most importantly, Community patrol groups help their communities by being the eyes and ears of police. Their direct support helps in making our neighbourhoods safer for our families and businesses.

If you are interested in becoming a community patrol volunteer please contact me directly on donald.allan@police.govt.nz

I can assist with your application process and place you in direct contact with a community patrol group.

We currently have community Patrols in:

Mt Albert

Mt Roskill

Onehunga

Ellerslie

Mt Wellington

Eastern Bays (St Heliers, Kohimarama)

Please feel free to contact me directly to learn more about community Patrols New Zealand.



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Safer Plates

The Onehunga Community Patrol in partnership with Police, run a number plate theft prevention initiative called “Safer Plates”

The purpose of this initiative is to make it harder for thieves to steal your car licence plate for the purpose of evading detection when committing other crimes.

Our next event is scheduled to occur at Countdown **Greenlane** on the **29th of March** from 10am -2pm

For community patrol membership please visit the Onehunga Patrol at <http://onehunga.patrol.org.nz/> or via email on onehunga@cpnz.org.nz

Reported incidents of number plate theft continue across Auckland with an excess of 100 licence plates stolen monthly.

Please help prevent your vehicle from being targeted by securing your plates with anti- tamperproof screws or other such target hardening fixing.



Hillsborough crime summary for February 2023

Last month, reported incidents of property crime throughout Hillsborough decreased by around 39% compared to those incidents reported throughout January 2023.

This reduction in crime was associated to three less burglaries and eight less incidents of thefts from vehicles.

Of these incidents reported to police, 57 % of burglaries were reported to have occurred throughout the night-time, including 90% of all vehicle crime associated to the theft of, and from vehicles.

The streets in Hillsborough that had multiple incidents of reported crime during February 2023 were:

Hillsborough Road x 6 incidents – (these included five burglaries and one theft of a vehicle)

Goodall St x 3 incidents – (all these were all associated to vehicle crime)

Carlton St x 2 incidents (one burglary, one theft from a vehicle)



Hillsborough crime map – February 2023



Burglary



Theft ex-shop



Theft ex-car



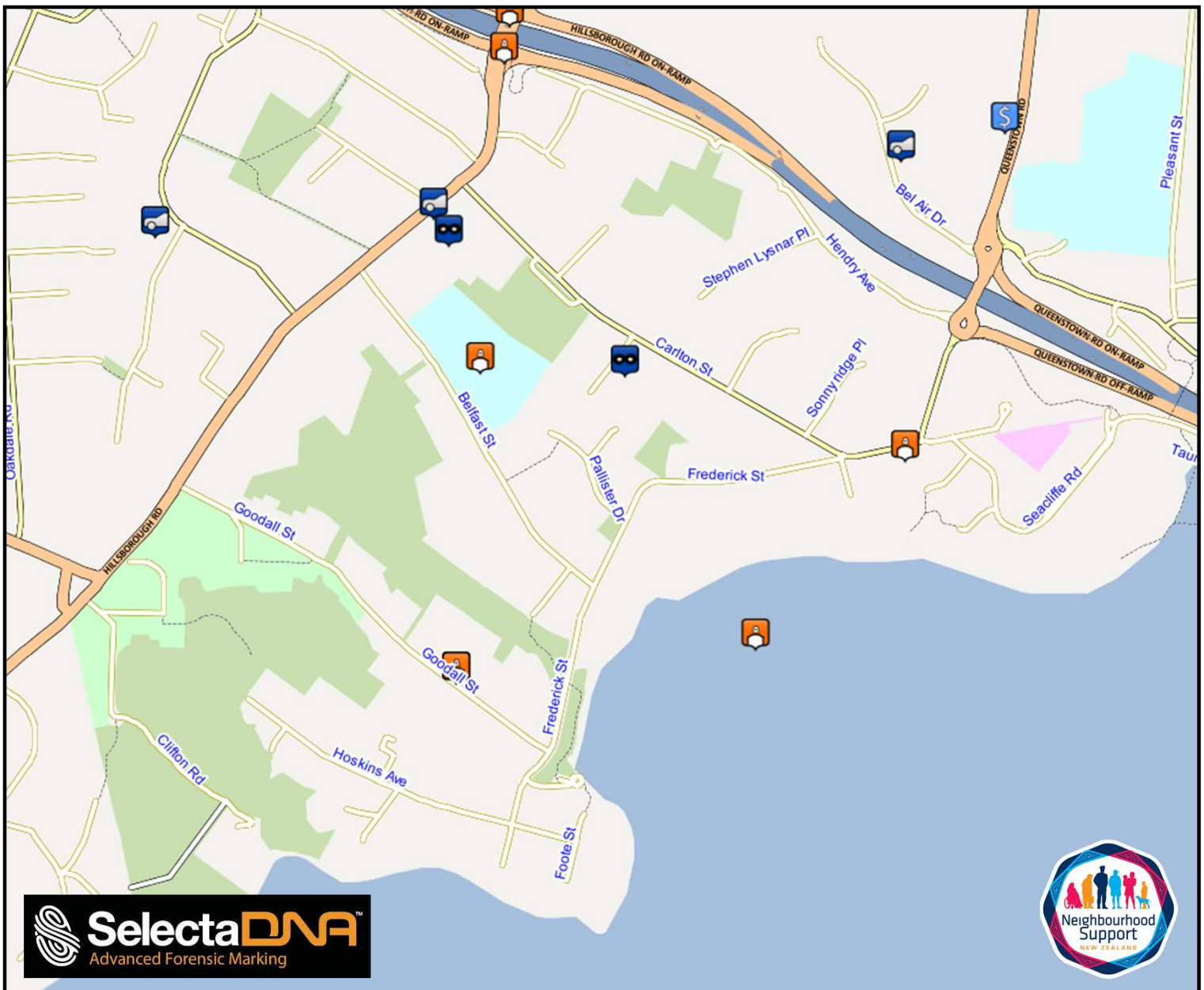
Unlawful takes



Other theft



Property damage



Onehunga Crime Summary for February 2023

Last month, Onehunga residents reported a 25% reduction in property crime throughout their suburb during February 2023

This reduction in property crime was associated to four less burglaries, four less thefts from motor vehicles and nineteen less stolen cars.

Of these burglaries reported to Police, around 77% of these were reported to have occurred throughout the night,

As for vehicle related crime such as theft of vehicles and theft from vehicles, 54 % were reported to have occurred during the night-time.

The streets with multiple reported incidents were:

Onehunga Mall (9 incidents) 3 burgs, 5 theft ex-cars, 1 vehicle theft

Princes St (5 incidents) 1 theft ex-car, 4 vehicle thefts

Arthur St (4 incidents) 1 burg, 2 theft ex-car, 1 vehicle theft

Victoria St (3 incidents) 1 burg, 1 theft ex-car, 1 vehicle theft

Grey St (3 incidents) 2 burgs, 1 theft ex-car

Galway St (3 incidents) 3 burgs

Church St (3 incidents) 1 burg, 1 theft ex-car, 1 vehicle theft

Neilson St (3 incidents) 3 burgs

Cameron St (3 incidents) 3 burgs

Alfred St (2 incidents) 2 burgs

Moana Ave (2 incidents) 1 burg, 1 vehicle theft

Hills St (2 incidents) 1 burg, 1 vehicle theft

Trafalgar St (2 incidents) 2 burgs

Beachcroft Ave (2 incidents) 1 burg, 1 vehicle theft

Spring St (2 incidents) 1 burg, 1 theft ex-car

Mt Smart Rd (2 incidents) 1 burg, 1 theft ex-car



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Onehunga South & Onehunga February 2023



Burglary



Theft ex-shop



Theft ex-car



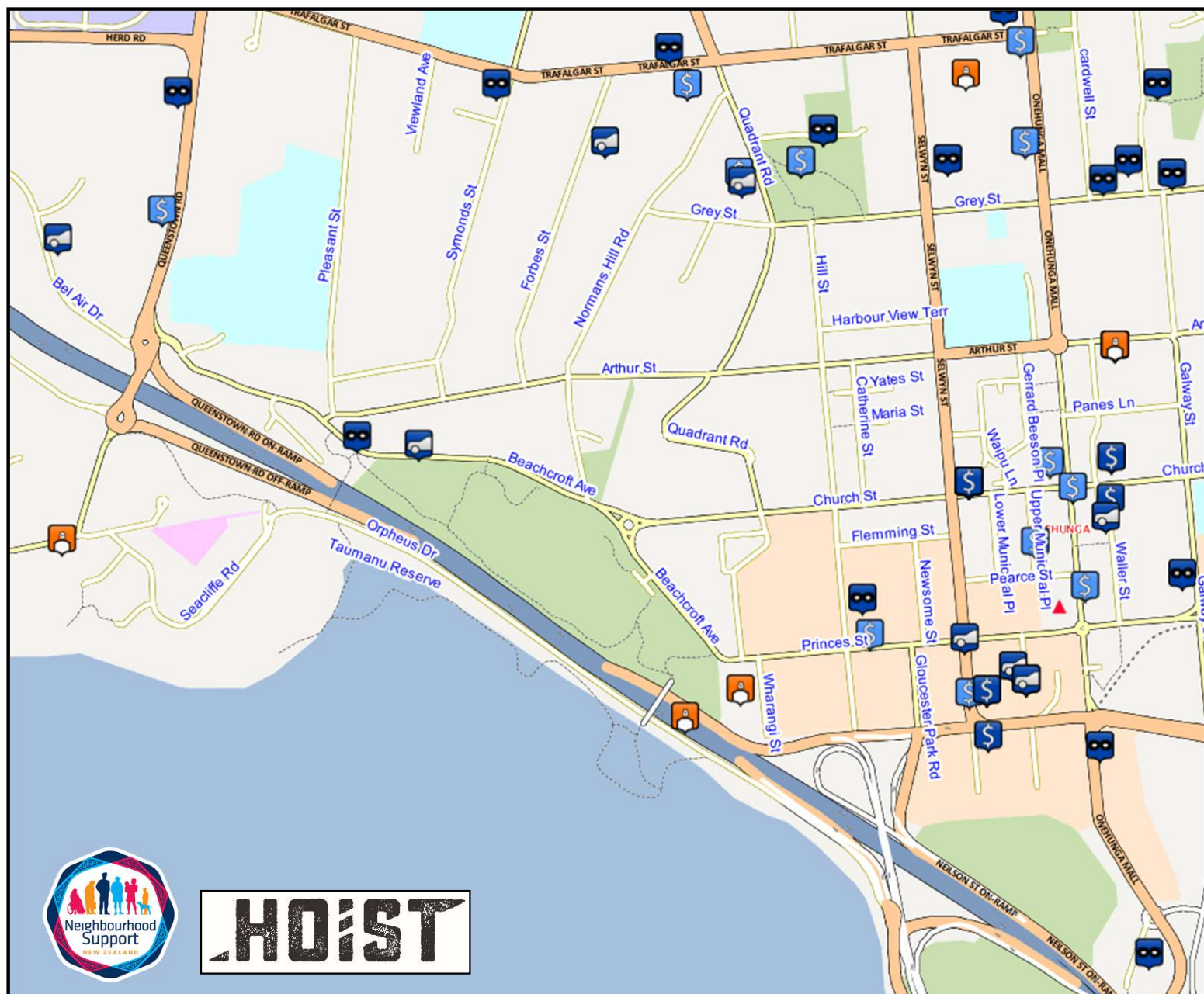
Unlawful takes



Other theft



Property damage



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Te Pāpapa – February 2023



Burglary



Theft ex-shop



Theft ex-car



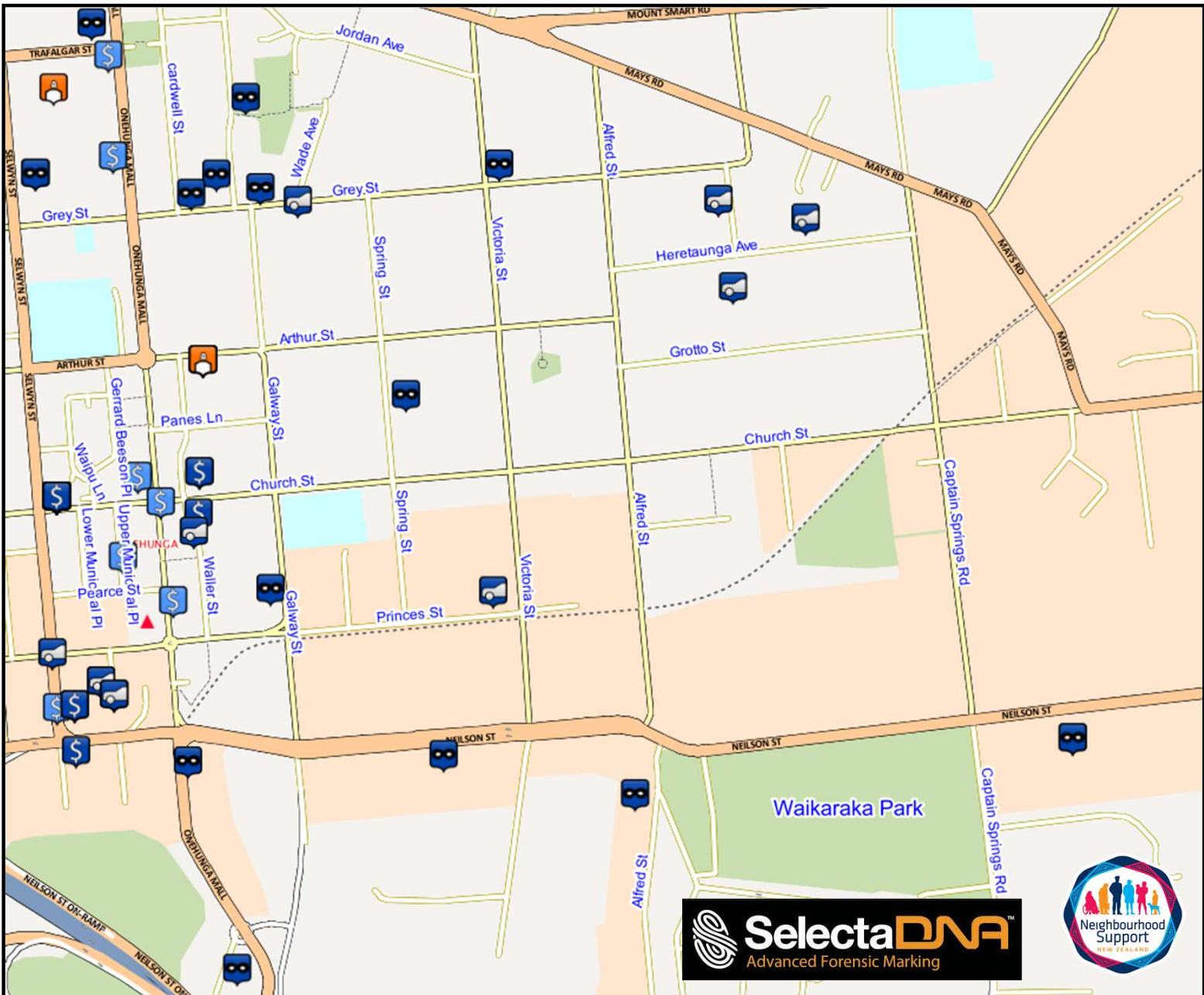
Unlawful takes



Other theft



Property damage



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Oranga - One Tree Hill February 2023



Burglary



Theft ex-shop



Theft ex-car



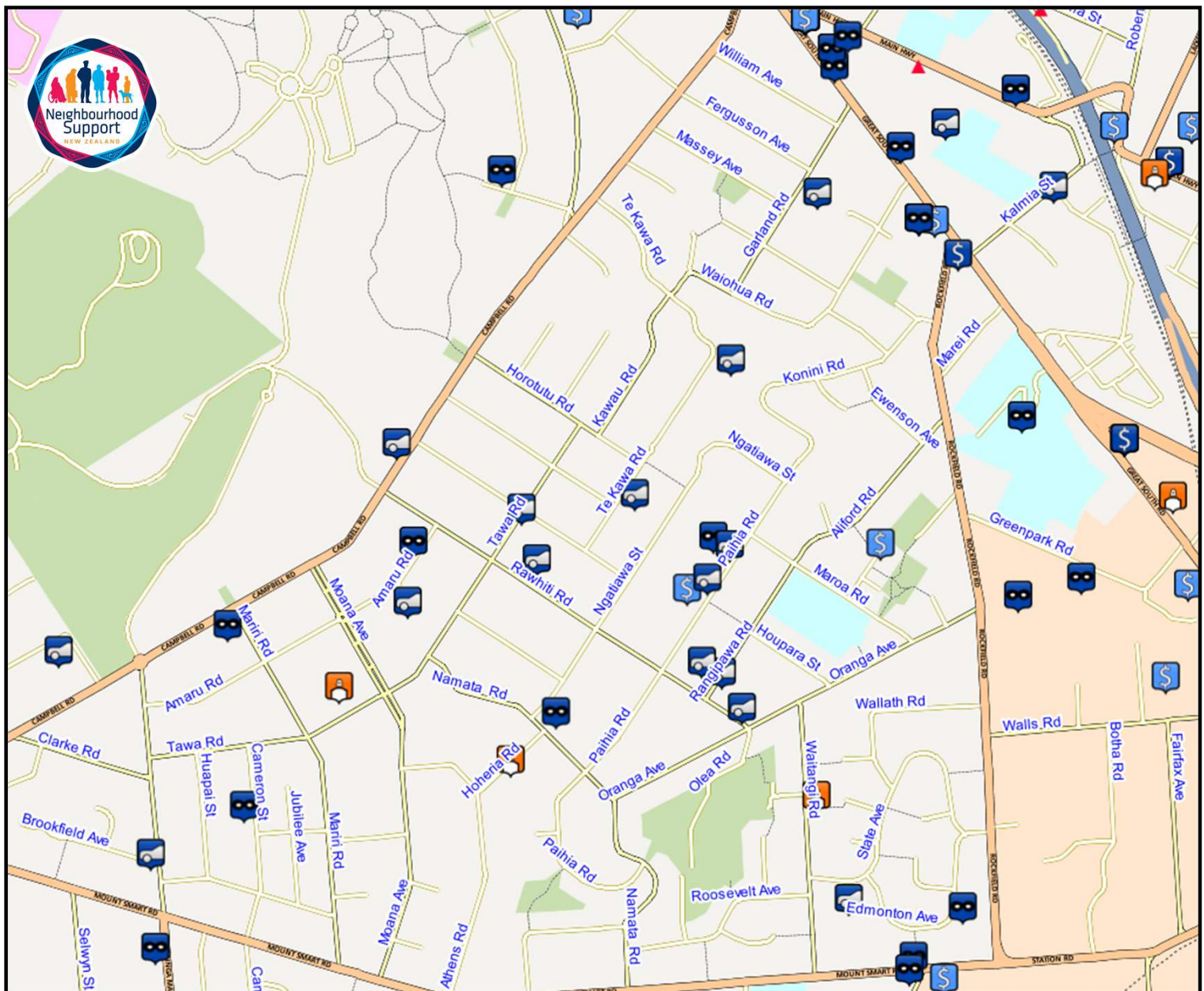
Unlawful
takes



Other theft



Property damage



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Penrose February 2023



Burglary



Theft ex-shop



Theft ex-car



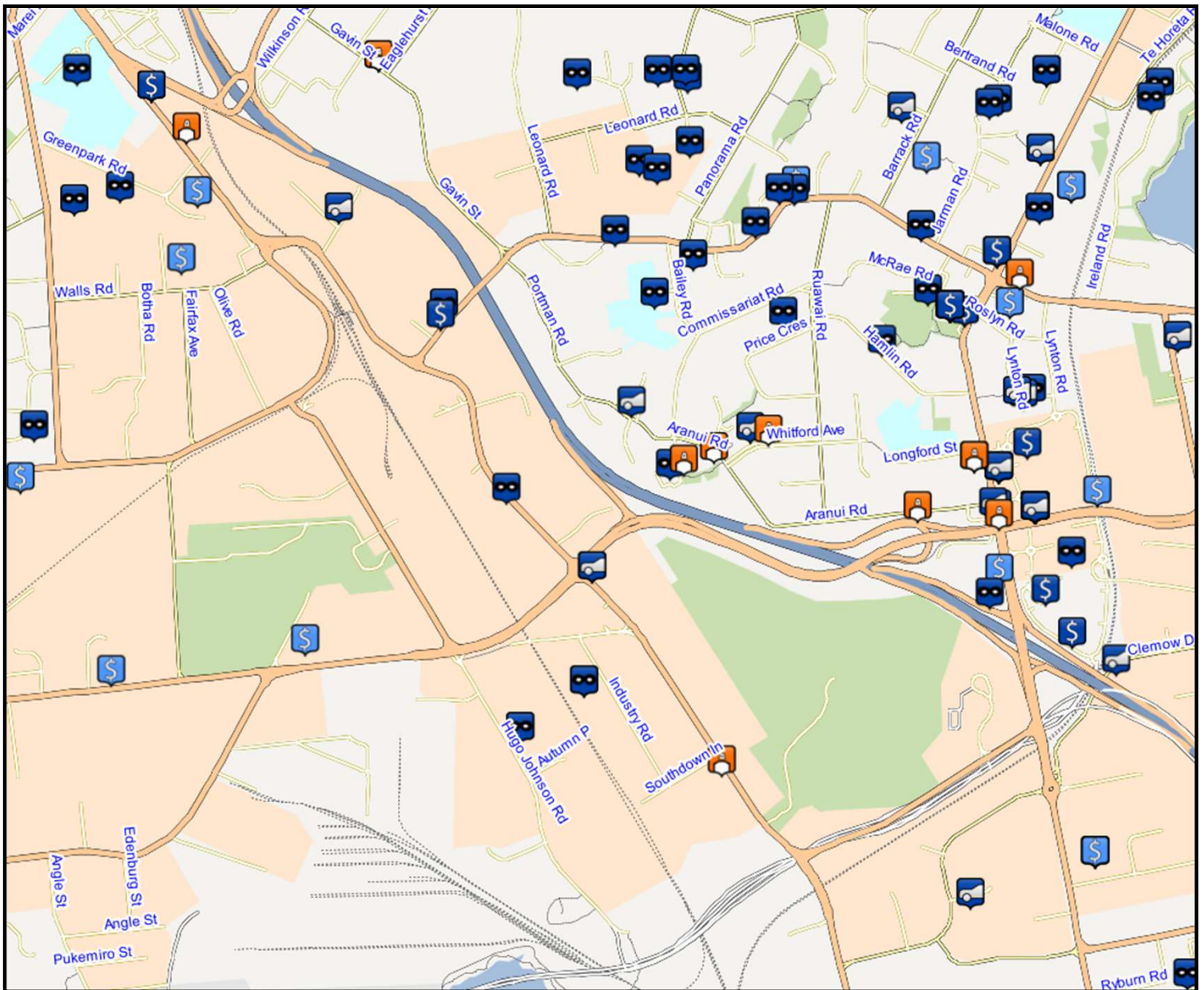
Unlawful takes



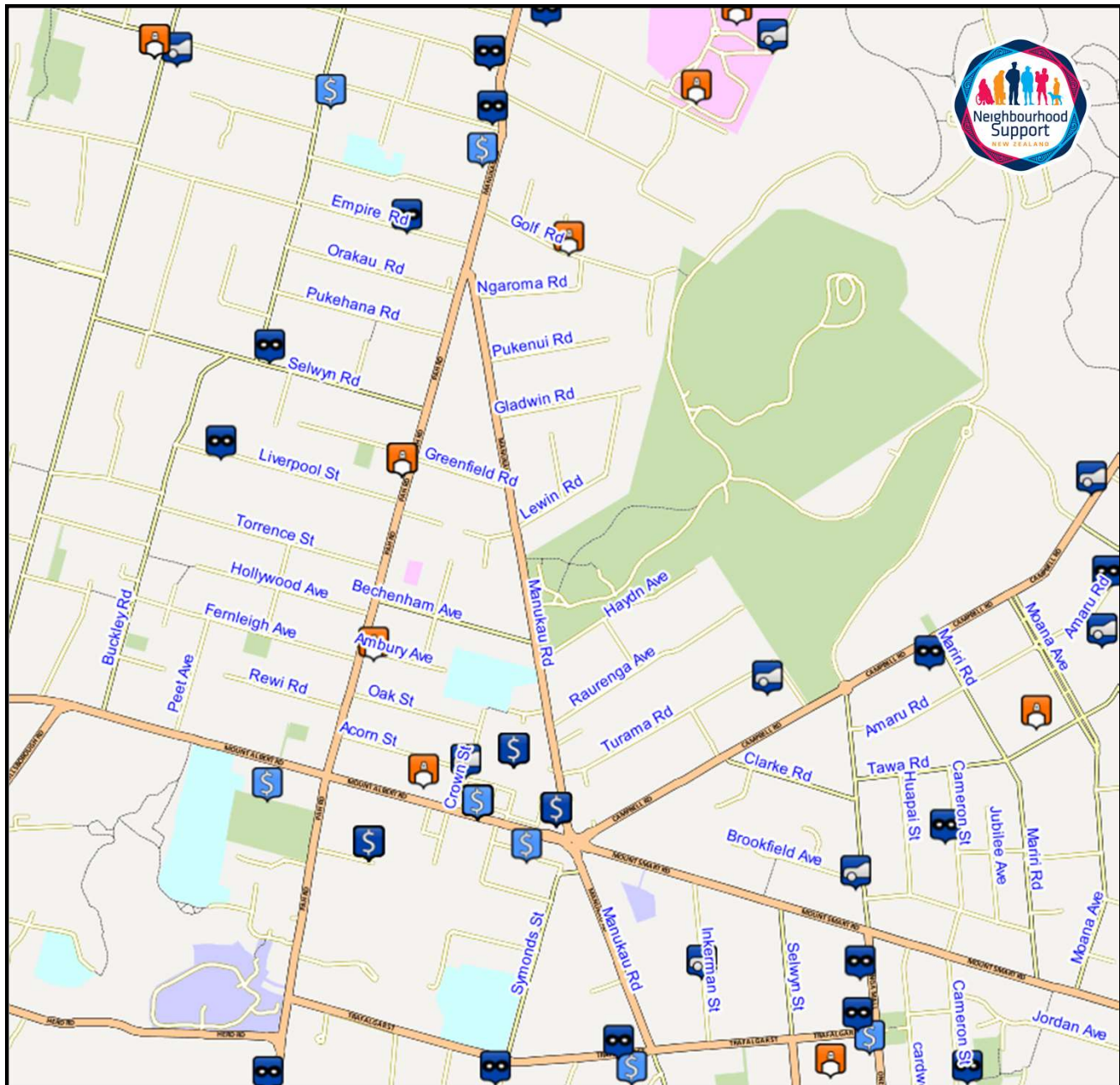
Other theft



Property damage



Royal Oak – Epsom South February 2023



Property damage



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Ellerslie February 2023



Burglary



Theft ex-shop



Theft ex-car



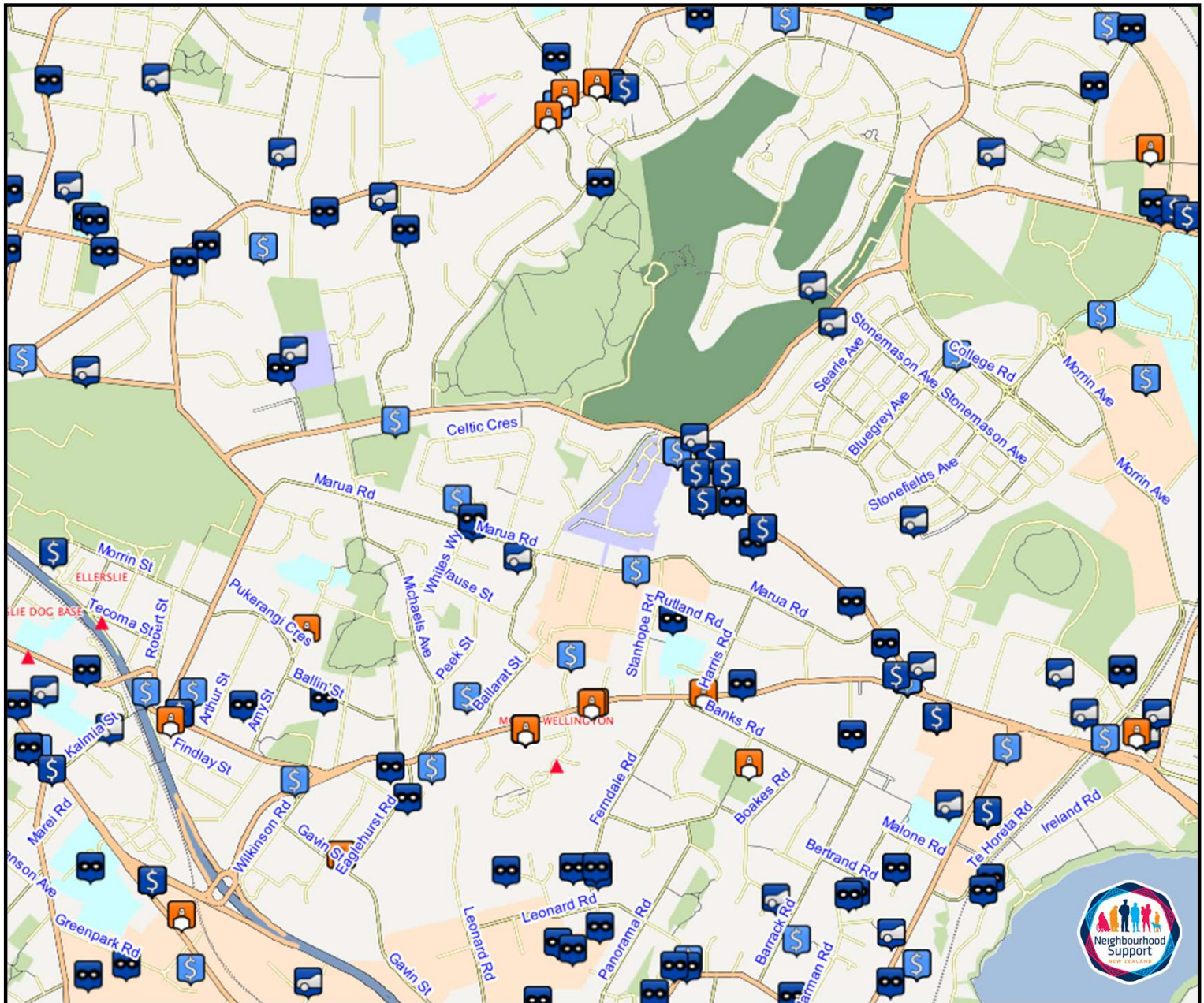
Unlawful takes



Other theft



Property damage



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Reducing burglary opportunities

Knowing how a burglar thinks and operates is good background information to help put things in place to prevent you, or someone you know from becoming a burglary victim.

Burglaries can account for more than 50% of all property crime in our communities.

- Set up or join a Neighbourhood Support Group in your area and advertise the fact by displaying Neighbourhood Support signs and stickers.
- Make sure doors and windows, and other entry and exit points from your house have good quality effective catches and locks. Deadlocks are the best, so always get into the habit of using them.
- Always lock doors and windows at night.
- Keep garden sheds and garages secure, and lock away any valuables such as bikes and garden tools.
- Have an alarm system professionally installed, and consider getting home security cameras which are now very affordable. Door bell cameras are a great option as they can notify the owners of people coming to the address whilst recording their movements.
- Trim Trees and shrubs which may hide a burglar's activity.
- Fences are great, however these may also conceal a burglar's activity and reduce passive monitoring by neighbours who can't see your home.



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- Install sensor lights on main paths and entry points. Additional lighting will help deter unwanted visitor while increasing the effectiveness of home cctv cameras.
- Get to know your neighbours and develop plans to deal with problems or suspicious activity. Exchanging phone numbers or emergency contact information is a great start. Members of Neighbourhood support are especially good at doing this.
- If you're going away, ask your neighbours to keep an eye on your property, clear mail, mow berms etc. You want to make the property look lived in and not do anything to suggest that the house is temporarily vacant.
- Don't post images on social media whilst your on holiday. Some criminals may have access to these sites and target your home while you're away.
- Don't place boxes of your new purchases out on the curb side. This may elude to the fact that you have new items of value in your home.
- Above all, remember that burglars like easy and tempting opportunities. Don't overlook the obvious and do all you can to reduce the risk of being burgled.
- Record serial numbers and keep a property record database. There are a number of very good phone apps such as 'Hoist' which was created for this very specific purpose. Phone apps enable you to record all your purchases and export your property list information to your email address which you can share with Police.



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Preventing vehicle crime

Putting security measures in place to prevent vehicle crime may be some of the least affordable actions you can do prevent yourself from becoming a victim of car crime. These types of crimes involving motor vehicles can account for as much as 50% of all reported property crime to Police.

- Install an alarm system or engine immobilizer on your vehicle.
- Use a good quality steering wheel lock, and ensure that it is fitted in the correct manner that makes removal by criminals difficult.
- Install anti-tamperproof screws on your licence plates. Licence plate is very common and is associated to more serious types of crime.
- Install a wheel clamp to prevent your vehicle, trailer or boat from being stolen.
- Remove all contents from inside your vehicles. If you leave it on show, expect it to go. The majority of car crime is committed by opportunists, and in most occurrences the damage caused to gain entry to your car can be greater than the value of the property stolen.
- Park in well lit areas. Try to identify public areas with CCTV cameras, nonetheless the forementioned actions are the best deterrents to preventing car crime.





Personal Safety for Seniors

Plan Ahead

- Make a list of the phone numbers of people you can call in an emergency and keep a phone by your bed. You may be able to pre-programme these numbers for speed dialling.
- Arrange with a neighbour to look out for you. For example, arrange for a neighbour to phone or visit you if you have not drawn your curtains by 8.00am.
- Consider getting a medical or personal alarm that you can activate in an emergency

Don't be tricked

- Don't open the door to strangers. Look through a peephole in your door or through a window, and always ask who it is. If you don't know them, keep the door closed.
- If someone you don't know asks to use your phone, offer to make the phone call yourself. They don't need to enter your home and you don't need to open the door.
- Don't do business with strangers who come to the door or call you by phone.
- Don't discuss your finances with strangers or give out details of your bank or credit cards over the phone.
- Talk to friends and get several quotes before you employ tradespeople. [Age Concern](#) may be able to recommend someone.
- If you think someone is trying to cheat you, contact the Police. You may be able to prevent someone else from being tricked.



General Safety tips

- Don't open the door to strangers.
- Never admit to being alone.
- Install a wide-angle peephole in your door.
- Install security chains on the inside of external doors.
- If someone asks to use your phone, say no. Keep them locked out and direct them to the nearest phone box or offer to make the call for them.
- If you receive a wrong number phone call, don't chat and never give out your name and address.
- Ask for a security checklist from your Neighbourhood Support contact or Community Constable



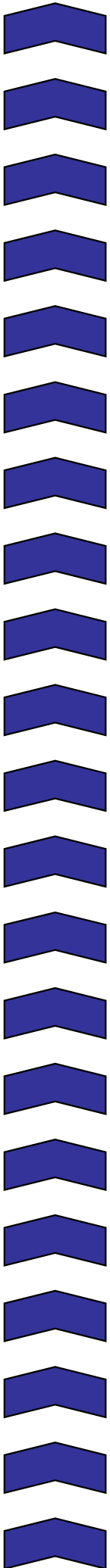
Keeping your information safe online

How do I protect my passwords?

- Choose a password that is difficult for others to guess. For example, don't use yours pets name, your birthday, or 1234.
- Preferably use a mixture of letters, numbers and symbols. Its safest to use different passwords for different accounts.
- If one password is compromised, the rest of your accounts will be safe.
- If you need to write down your passwords, keep them hidden somewhere (not in your wallet, or by your phone

How do I protect my information online?

- Make sure you've got up-to-date virus software, especially if your shopping or banking online. Look for the padlock on the web page, which suggests its secure
- Emails from people you don't know often contain viruses that let others access your computer. Don't click on any links or attachments and delete emails without responding.
- Never email personal details like your bank account or credit card number to anyone, even if you think they're a friend. You don't always know who you're dealing with online



- Never email personal details like your bank account or credit card number to anyone, even if you think they're a friend. You don't always know who you're dealing with online.
- Think carefully before sending an email or putting something on a webpage. Once your information's out there, you cant take it back. If you use Facebook, set your profile to private so you only share information with people you choose

You can help make your Neighbourhood safer

Don't be put off calling 111, Your call is important regardless of police ability to attend. There will be times when serious risk to life and property may prevent attendance, however your call is still important to us. Be patient and if necessary call back. Your call may help determine future proactive police and community patrol deployment.

111 - Police Emergency

- You or your property are or someone else or their property is in immediate danger
- You are witnessing someone committing an offence eg. Assault, Tagging, Breaking into cars
- An offence has been committed and the offender is still present.
- Someone acting suspiciously

105 Police Crime Reporting Line <https://www.police.govt.nz/use-105>

- You wish to report an offence or suspicious behaviour that has happened and doesn't require emergency attendance

*555

- You wish to report bad driving or boy racer activity

0800 555 111 Crimestoppers if:

- You wish to report some information about crime whilst keeping your identity anonymous

(09) 3010101 Auckland City Council

- You wish to make a noise complaint: It can be loud cars, music or people!
- You wish to report graffiti

0800 7867 8247 (0800 STOP TAGS)

- You have information about a tagger operating in your area

Community Constable Don Allan
donald.allan@police.govt.nz 021 1913077 or 09 2138691