

# Working together is making a difference in Dubbo

**Superintendent Scott Tanner has driven an attitude and behaviour change throughout the Dubbo Police, inspired by his involvement in the Children and Prison Working Group (CAPP Group).**

Superintendent Tanner describes the 8am morning meetings, where he urges Police Officers to *'think outside the square'* and encourages them not to breach juveniles for minor issues, and to make use of warnings and cautions.

This has been reflected in a decrease in breach of Bail charges and lower numbers of young people being incarcerated in Orana Juvenile Justice Centre in Dubbo. Crucially, there has not been any spike in crime which the

Superintendent describes as his real learning – *'what we were doing previously was not doing anything at all to reduce offending'*, hence his driving a new way.

Breach of Bail is by far the number one 'offence' among Aboriginal people aged 10 to 24 years proceeded against by the Police in Dubbo, so changes in policing relating to breach of Bail are having an immediate impact on reducing the number of Aboriginal young people entering custody in Dubbo.

*'I'm so invested in the CAPP Group because we have built relationships with each other that I would never have had otherwise. We have had successes between us with a number of young people, so we have made a difference already. This has changed my attitude and I have passed that on to my staff – my eyes have been opened from this. Locking up young people does not work, I am convinced of that now.'* Scott Tanner, Superintendent of the Orana Local Area Command



Apollo House, Dubbo NSW



Apollo House, Dubbo NSW



Superintendent Scott Tanner, Dubbo NSW