



Onrus Vermont SRA Newsletter 2nd Quarter 2023



Dear Ratepayers and Residents of the OVSRA

Warm winter greetings from all of us on the Board of Directors.

The Onrus Vermont Special Rating Area is two years old this month, and we are very pleased with all we have achieved in this time, especially considering that we have severe budgetary constraints. Since we started monitoring and response in February 2022 we have responded to over 3500 incidents, of which nearly 3000 were related to crime or crime prevention, and 25 arrests were made. We have a stable, dedicated team that is on duty 24/7 and works closely with law enforcement agencies and neighbourhood watches. We strongly encourage you to get involved with your neighbourhood watches as the more eyes and ears out there the greater our opportunity to respond to incidents timeously.

Since our last newsletter we have hosted our first two Meet & Greet sessions. Don't worry if you have been unable to attend so far - we plan to have several such opportunities throughout the year, and you are always welcome to engage with us in a private meeting - just give us a call. The aim of the Meet & Greet is for you to have a face-to-face chat with directors and staff in order to get to know them better and share your ideas/concerns with them.

Please pay special attention to the safety tips in this newsletter - and be sure to call 079 469 8606 in an emergency as internet calling/messaging is not always reliable.

Best wishes

Anton du Preez

OVSRA Chair

Board of Directors

Our current Board of Directors is comprised of the following voluntary community members:

Anton du Preez	Chair
Jana Smith	Vice-Chair, Human Resources
Hennie Greeff	Secretary, Cleansing
Duncan Heard	Treasurer, Environment
Renate van Dyk	Legal, Policies, SLAs
Jean Orban	Marketing, Events, Community Safety, SOPs
Caroline Gabb	Communications, Community Liaison, Operational Backup

Thank You to the Community

A very big thank you from the enviro-patrollers to Charlene Hendrikse from Stir it Up Catering. She regularly supplies them with lunch which helps a great deal in fueling them for the ~50km that they each walk and cycle every day!

We are also very grateful to Onverwag Neighbourhood Watch for supplying the enviro-patrollers with bicycles and arranging a sponsorship from Basson Workwear of boots. The first three bikes have gone for refurbishing and they were recently given replacement bikes to use. These bicycles enable us to cover more ground every day, attend incidents promptly and allow us to travel silently around the streets.

The armed response patrollers work closely with Afriforum Alfa Buurtwag in the middle of the night while we are all sleeping peacefully - this is when Alfa's drone and night patrols come into their own and when most arrests and recovery of stolen property occur.

Thank you for joining hands with us - we are stronger together!

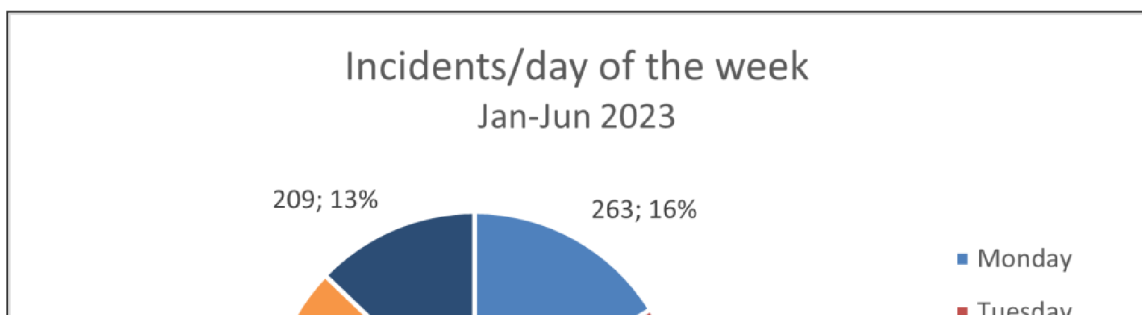
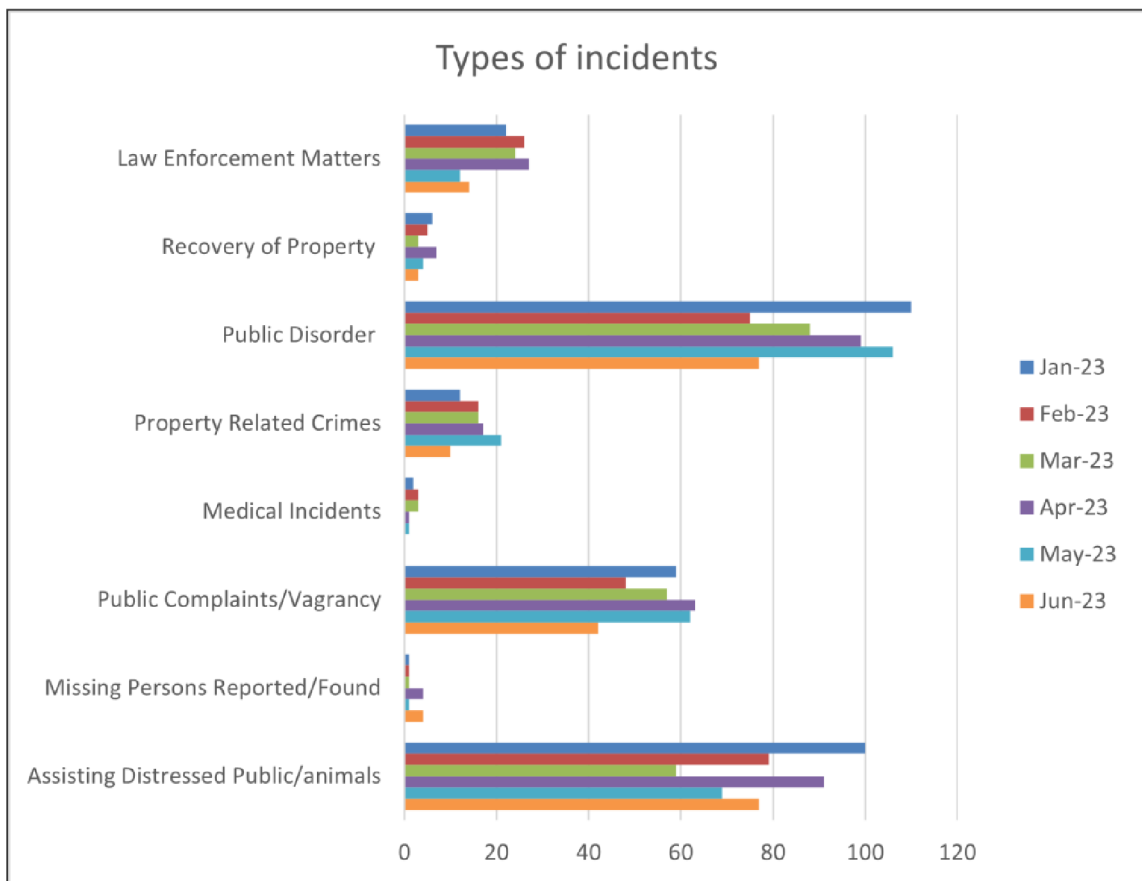
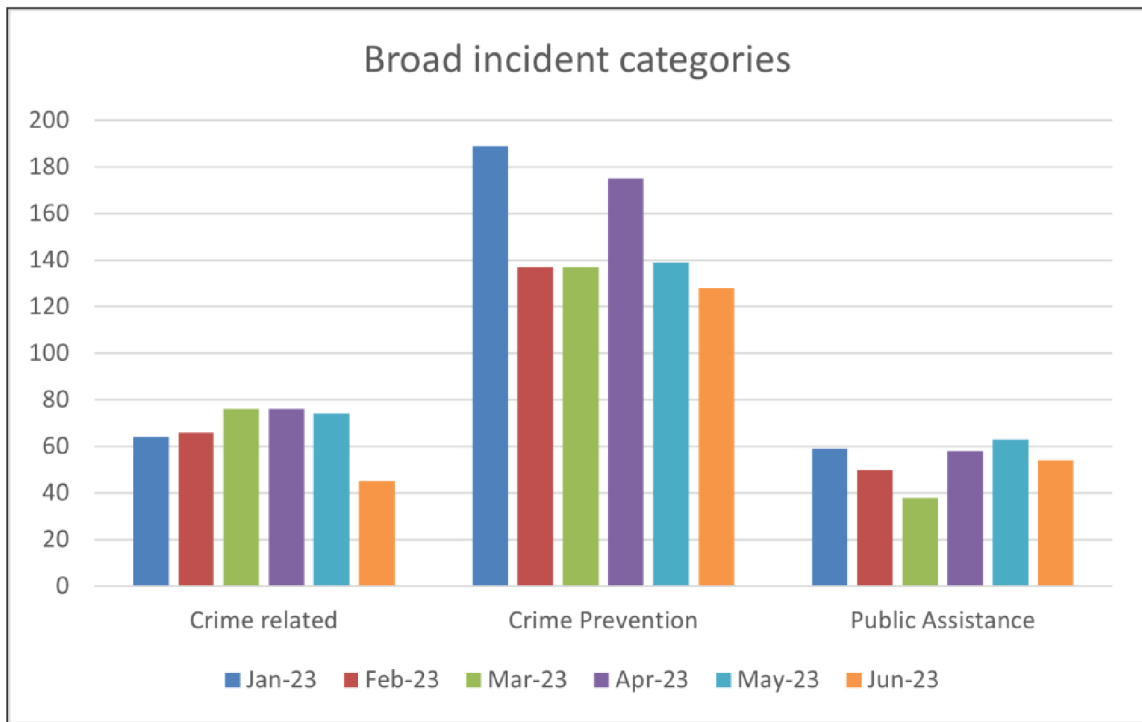


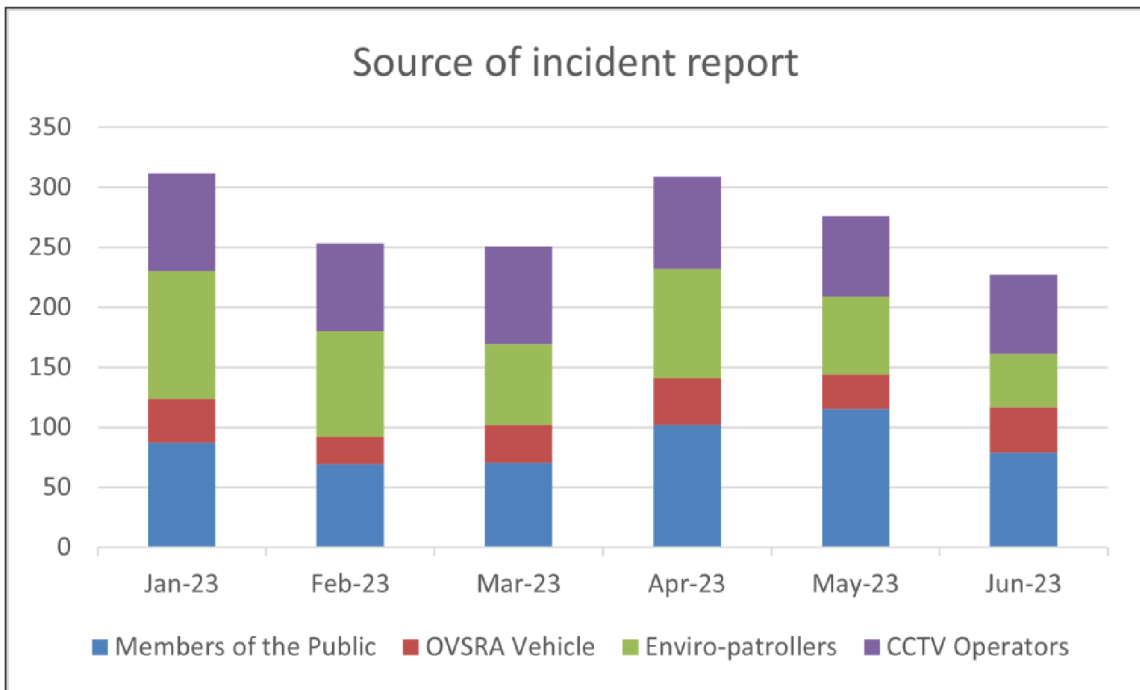
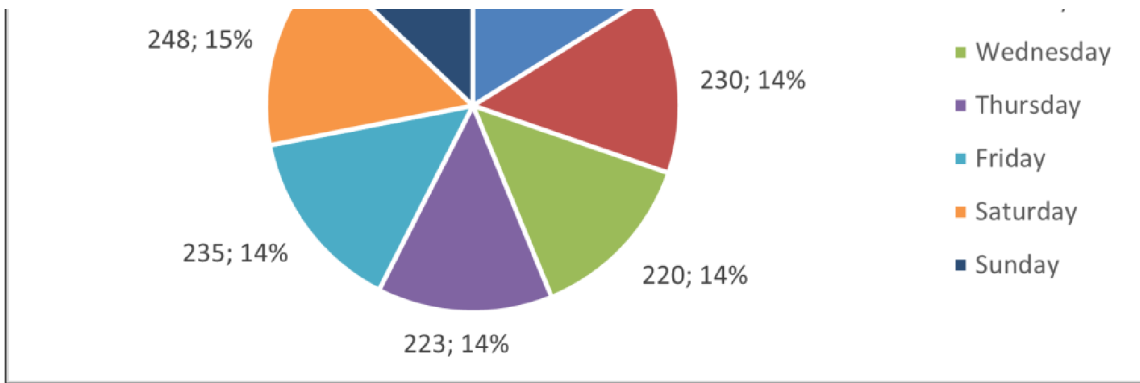
Left - Right: Anne Droomer (Onverwag Chair) presenting one of the new bicycles to Meredith Thornton (OVSRA General Manager)

PHOTO CREDIT: ONVERWAG

Safety and Security

The OVSRA's mandate is to provide supplementary services in public open space. One of our main initiatives is Safety and Security. We are involved in crime prevention and react to concerns and incidents reported by the public, as well as those seen by our CCTV operators, armed response vehicle and enviro-patrollers. **We are on duty 24/7.**





Safety Tips

Please make sure the OVSRA 079 469 8606 number is saved on your phone so that it is easy for you to find it when you need it. This number will get a quick response to all emergencies. **Please remember not to rely on internet services i.e. DON'T WhatsApp in an emergency, rather make a normal voice call.**

LIGHTING

Make sure you have adequate exterior lighting, both in and outside your property, especially focusing on your entrance.

The use of motion detector lights is encouraged.

The use of timers to turn lights on and off in an empty house gives the impression that someone is home.

When your lights are on inside, ensure your curtains are drawn.

LOAD SHEDDING

Check your alarm and security system regularly.

Ensure gates and garages are locked.

If your alarm is triggered by load shedding, be sure to cancel the false alarm with your service provider ASAP.

REMOVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CRIME

Lock up doors and windows thoroughly.

Keep vehicles locked, and don't leave garage / gate remote controls in vehicles parked outside your property.

Do not leave valuables visible in your vehicle.

Remain vigilant and report suspicious activity ASAP.

Keep gate tracks clear of gravel, plant matter etc. in wet and windy weather.

If you arrive home and see any signs of forced entry, do not go inside.

Reporting criminal activity



PRIVATE PROPERTY

Call SAPS, your security company
and your *Neighbourhood Watch

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

SAPS 028 313 5300
Onrus Vermont SRA 079 469 8606
*ALFA 082 042 8467 or *OnVerWag 079 419 9276

BY-LAW TRANSGRESSIONS

OM Law Enforcement 028 313 8000
Onrus Vermont SRA 079 469 8606



REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY



**PAY ATTENTION TO
WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE & WHY**



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