



Hon Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

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YOUNG OFFENDERS CLEAN UP ILLEGAL GRAFFITI

Young offenders under Juvenile Justice supervision would spend the weekend repairing graffiti damage around the state in recognition of Graffiti Action Day on Sunday, Attorney General and Minister for Justice Greg Smith said today.

“Juvenile Justice has partnerships with local councils around the state where young offenders on Community Service Orders to undertake clean-up work in council areas,” Mr Smith said.

“This weekend young offenders removed graffiti or cleaned up council areas in Newcastle, Blacktown, Fairfield and Ashfield as part of Graffiti Action Day. Sites included bus shelters, council properties, football ovals, parks and playgrounds.

“Graffiti removal work is a priority for Juvenile Justice and the council.

“Graffiti removal teaches young offenders to take pride in their local community, and in turn, be steered away from a life of crime.”

Mr Smith said Juvenile Justice worked closely with more than 20 local councils and community groups around the state to supervise young offenders on community service orders as they remove graffiti from public view.

“Clean up teams remove graffiti at a range of sites, including bus shelters, council properties, community centres, shopping centres, playgrounds, businesses, parks and playgrounds.”

“Last year, young offenders completed over 10,000 hours of graffiti removal around the state.”

The NSW Government has linked with Keep Australia Beautiful NSW for Graffiti Action Day.

“Studies have shown that removing graffiti quickly discourages graffiti vandals, boosts civic pride, minimises crime and the perception of crime and can even increase property values,” Mr Smith said.

“Graffiti Action Day is about local communities taking a stand against illegal graffiti.”