

# BRAD HAZZARD MP

SHADOW MINISTER FOR PLANNING  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR REDFERN-WATERLOO  
MEMBER FOR WAKEHURST

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **URGENT ACTION NEEDED TO AVOID WARRINGAH BECOMING 'GRAFFITI CENTRAL'**

**A dramatic increase in graffiti on signature building sites in Warringah highlights the need for private property owners to take action to avoid Warringah becoming 'graffiti central'.**

"The appalling level of graffiti on some privately owned properties where owners in Warringah fail to act is making life tougher for the rest of the community," Member for Wakehurst, Brad Hazzard, said today.

"Warringah Council and local police have both sought to continually respond to the challenges of graffiti, but private property owners need to do their bit also.

"Dee Why and Brookvale shopping areas have become classic examples of graffiti artists having a free reign and the rest of the community having to wear the ugly image of tag-covered buildings.

"Many locals have raised concerns with me about graffiti throughout Dee Why, but now one particular building vacated about a year ago is earning the ire of the community.

"This building sits smack in the middle of a residential/shopping area.

"This old car dealership building on the corner of Mooramba Road and May Road, Dee Why, has become the symbol of over-active graffiti vandals with no apparent action being taken at any level to remove the graffiti.

**"This site is effectively a war zone for community concerns versus out of control graffiti vandals.**

"A failure to immediately respond to graffiti and general vandalism sends a message that no-one cares and in this case, a fire a few months ago may well have reinforced that message.

"Since this particular site became 'graffiti central', graffiti on nearby buildings has also increased – pointing to the clear need for every property owner to take responsibility of their own property to minimise the cumulative effect.

"I'm calling for all property owners to secure their buildings if they are vacant and to remove graffiti as soon as practicable if it occurs.

"Graffiti should also be reported to the Council if it's public land, and the police whether or not it's public or private land.

**"If we are to avoid Warringah becoming overrun with graffiti there has to be concerted and immediate responses and I call on the owners as well as the police and council to respond to this escalating problem," Brad Hazzard said.**

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