



Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan

2020-2025



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INTRODUCTION

The City of Kalamunda has been actively facilitating and supporting an environment and community where its residents feel safe and secure. Community safety is so much more than crime levels, statistics, or police presence. It is about the communities perceived level of safety and security in their homes and surrounding environment.

For a community driven crime prevention program to be successful, partnerships must be made, and strategies put into place involving key stakeholders such as members of the public, local government, police, state government, community organisations and local businesses.

The Community & Safety Crime Prevention Plan 2020- 2025 (CSCPP) builds on the City’s existing community safety activities and the City’s previous 2013-2018 CSCPP.

The City will continue to work toward making public spaces more accessible, better utilised and protected through increased usage and visitation. Designing out crime through the collective effort of the community and the City working closely together to find new and creative solutions to old problems shall remain a priority.

The City continues to maintain a strong commitment to community safety through the provision of emergency management and ranger services, and the continued delivery of a range of community safety programs and services to enhance community safety as well as reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

Community safety and crime prevention is something that needs to be integrated across the City’s operations from planning and development, building services, engineering services, ranger services, community development and health services. This plan will ensure that community safety is implemented and planned across all the City’s operations.

AIM

The aim of CSCPP is to provide guidance to the City in its development of initiatives to enhance safety and reduce crime within the City.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- A cooperative approach will be sought across agencies, local government, and the community to improve the effectiveness and implementation of strategies.
- Ongoing consultation with the community and agencies to develop solutions to local safety and crime issues.
- Actions and activities developed will consider policies and programs of the State Government.
- Actions will be evidence-based and researched prior to implementation.
- The plan will be monitored and reviewed annually for progress and to ensure the document remains dynamic and relevant.

BACKGROUND

Previous plans have been built on similar strategies from neighbouring local governments by taking the best parts from parallel approaches and mixing them with our own adaptations. No two communities are ever the same, therefore a one size fits all approach will likely not prove successful. Including the community in the planning, implementation, and management of the CSCPP is imperative for its long-term success and community ownership, this philosophy and model will continue to be implemented with the current plan.

Part of the consultation process will include ongoing meetings and regular engagement of key stakeholders. Key areas will always remain the focus for the plan as they are traditionally associated with crime and anti-social behaviour. The key areas of the CSCPP 2020 – 2025 include but are not limited to:

 <p>Youth</p>	 <p>Targeting offences (burglary, traffic offences, assault, family, and domestic violence)</p>	 <p>Target known problem areas (hot spots)</p>	 <p>Fear and perception of crime</p>
 <p>Alcohol and drug problems</p>	 <p>Anti-social behaviour and graffiti</p>	 <p>Prevention and early intervention</p>	 <p>Creating safer public spaces</p>
 <p>Social infrastructure, social programs and community strengthening strategies</p>	 <p>Aboriginal, senior, and teen focused community events</p>	 <p>Information sharing, partnerships and collaboration forums and event profiles</p>	 <p>Funding and resources</p>



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The City undertook various methods to engage with the community in its developmental stages of the Plan to ascertain how the project could align with the community's needs.

Survey Release: Printed and electronic versions made available.

- Over 565 surveys completed and returned
- 530 Household Surveys
- 35 Business Owner Surveys
- Website information release: Total of 1,340-page visits
- One on one engagement at pop-up stalls at local shopping malls

Survey participants were asked a variety of questions determining their views on how safe their suburb is, what security measures they have in place, do they feel safe in public places etc.

An example of the results from the survey for both household and business are depicted below.

Figure 1 Household Survey

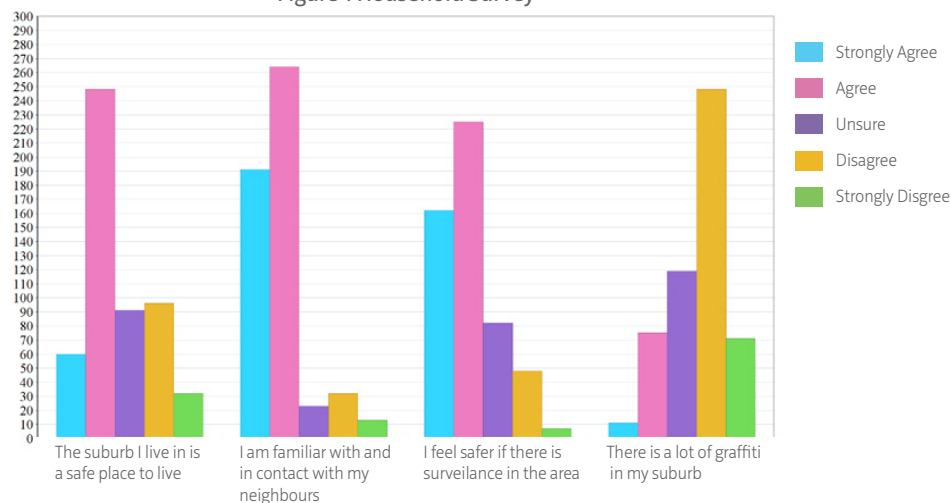
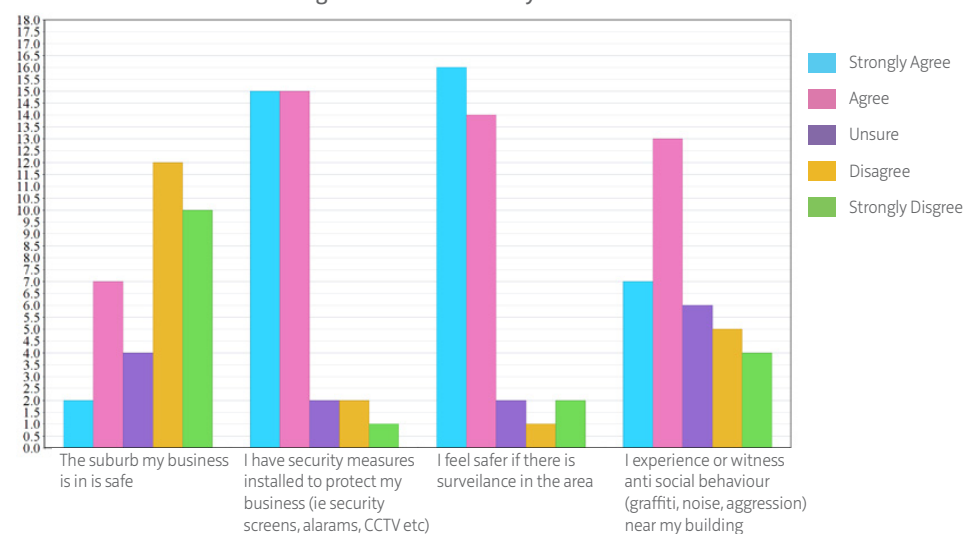


Figure 2 Business Survey



A full copy of the results can be obtained by visiting Kalamunda.wa.gov.au



COMMUNITY CRIME PROFILE DATA

The West Australian Police (WAPOL) publish crime statistics for a broad range of offence categories and these can be broken down by suburb for specific trending information. The reports allow for crime increases or decreases to be monitored and acted upon depending on their nature.

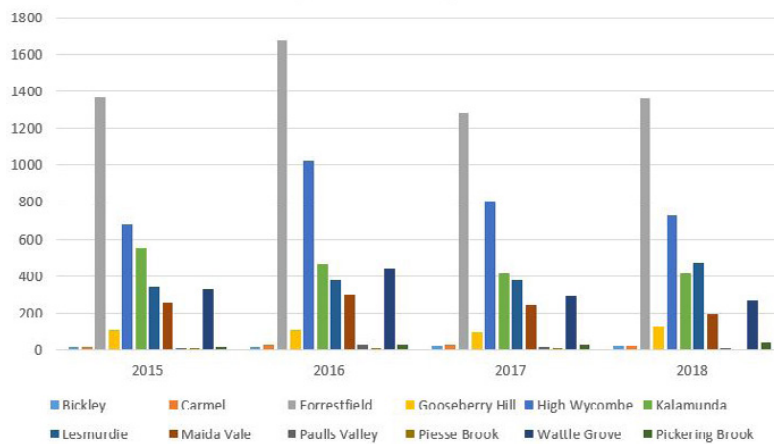
The data collated can assist with pinpointing trouble spots, allow an insight into the kind of awareness or prevention programs that can be rolled out or indicate success of crime prevention strategies that have been completed in the area.

There have been some limitations identified with the recorded crime data that must be recognised:

- Recorded crime data only reflect crimes reported to police. That is not all crimes are reported. Therefore, the data is simply a snapshot of the crimes reported through appropriate police channels.
- Increases in reported crime may reflect increased activity by one or several offenders. If the offender/s are removed, crime rates can change dramatically.
- Time lags in offences taking place and reporting can take place.
- Recorded crime data tells us nothing about police clearance rates or successful prosecutions.

The following table shows the number of reported offences by suburb over the last four years. Four-year suburb profile of reported crime for all suburbs within the City, data courtesy of WAPOL crime statistics.

Reported Crime by Suburb



Reported Offences by Type

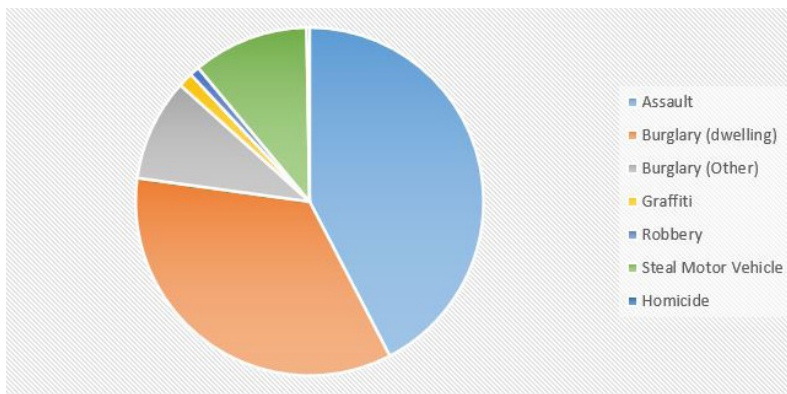


Chart displayed details 2018 offences by type.

City of Kalamunda Community Safety and Crime prevention Plan 2020 - 2025

Explanation of Offence Type:

Assault - This group is made up of the offences non-aggravated sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, non-aggravated assault, and aggravated assault.

Burglary (dwelling) - To enter or attempt to enter any building, structure, tent, vehicle, or vessel that is ordinarily used for human habitation without consent, with intent to commit an offence such as steal property.

Burglary (other) - To enter or attempt to enter a building, structure, tent, or conveyance other than a dwelling without the owner’s consent, with intent to commit an offence such as steal property.

Steal Motor Vehicle - Unlawfully using a motor vehicle without the consent of the owner or the person in charge of that motor vehicle.

Robbery - This group is made up of the offences non-aggravated robbery, aggravated robbery (firearm) and aggravated robbery (other).

Graffiti - Property damage caused by the application of substances (e.g. paint, posters and/or plastic, metal, or wood compounds) to the surface of the property. Most graffiti offences are committed against public property and the number of offences reported during a period can vary due to the strategies and practices adopted by some Government agencies, local government authorities and private enterprise. Graffiti offences are, on occasions, reported by victims in batches rather than individually. This may result in a significant variation in reported graffiti offences over consecutive periods. (Source: Western Australia Police)

PLANNING FRAMEWORK

In 2017 the City of Kalamunda adopted KALAMUNDA ADVANCING: STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN TO 2027- A Plan to Shape our United Future. The ten-year plan comprises the following six priority areas which provide a framework for service delivery to the community: Kalamunda Cares, Kalamunda Interacts, Kalamunda Develops, Kalamunda Employs, Kalamunda Clean and Green, and Kalamunda Leads.



The plan is one of several informing strategies which support the implementation of the Strategic Community Plan. Informing Strategies about specific issues, such as the CSCPP assist in delivering the services, assets and projects required by the community. The CSCPP will support the achievement of key outcomes for Kalamunda Cares and Interacts: such as inclusive connected communities, healthy communities, safe and secure communities and engaged communities. Specifically, it will operationalise the following relevant objectives and strategies from the Strategic Community Plan.

Objectives	Strategies
1.1 To be a community that advocates, facilitates, and provides quality lifestyles choices	1.1.1 Facilitate the inclusion of the ageing population and people with disability to have access to information, facilities, and services 1.1.2 Empower, support, and engage and with young people, families, and our culturally diverse community
1.2 To provide safe and healthy environments for community to enjoy	1.2.1 Facilitate a safe community environment 1.2.2 Advocate and promote healthy lifestyles choices by encouraging the community to become more physically active.
1.3 To support the active participation of local communities	1.3.1 Support local communities to connect, grow and shape the future of Kalamunda. 1.3.2 Encourage and promote the active participation in social and cultural events
4.2 To proactively engage and partner for the benefit of community	4.2.1 Actively engage with the community in innovative ways

STRATEGY AREAS

The City of Kalamunda Community Safety & Crime Prevention Plan (2020-2025) contains five broad strategies developed to address community concerns. Each Strategy Area includes objectives and detailed actions to achieve the objectives. For each action internal responsibility, a timeframe for implementation and a method for evaluation have been identified.

The five Strategy Areas are:

Strategy 1 – Community Awareness

Strategy 2 – Programs and Partnerships

Strategy 3 – Physical Environment

Strategy 4 – Emergency Management and Ranger Services

Strategy 5 – Precinct Planning

Strategy One – Community Awareness	
<p>The City aims to increase community awareness of how to prevent crime and maintain and/or improve safety. Through awareness programs, the community will better understand the local environment and its associated risks and then be able to make informed decisions to minimize the risks in their lives. This will also contribute to a better quality of life by reducing unjustified fears held by the community.</p> <p>Strong community links, a sense of belonging to a community, and pride within a neighbourhood can reduce levels of crime. Strong community links can also result in detecting crime, as unusual or suspicious activity is more likely to be reported to police.</p> <p>Empowering the community through education and other means will have an influence over and above government (Local, State and Federal) and community specific resource allocations towards community safety and crime prevention.</p>	
Objective 1.1	Increase community awareness and understanding of community safety and crime prevention in the City of Kalamunda.
Objective 1.2	Promote community development, education, and empowerment services to create links and resources within the community.

Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Evaluation/Comment
Enhance and promote community safety and crime prevention information on the City website.	Community Safety / Customer & Public Relations	2020-2025	Website hits and number of comments received on "have your say" link.
Distribute community safety and crime prevention materials and resources on priority issues identified by the community.	Community Safety	2020-2025	Range of materials and resources distributed to the community by demand or via targeted means such as awareness seminars.
Increase internal stakeholder knowledge of CSCPP.	Community Safety/ People Services	2020-2025	Employee induction presentations. Business Unit briefings conveying plan/focus areas.
Raise awareness of community safety brand and level of service provided to community.	Community Safety / Customer & Public Relations	2020-2025	Participation – Community Safety Forum
Consider circulation of localised police crime messages periodically (E-Watch) through a database of emails that the community members register to and through social media.	Community Safety / Customer & Public Relations	2020	Note dependence on human resource capacity and greater liaison with local police and Neighbourhood Watch Groups in relation to electronic communication processes.
Develop and implement a plan to enhance community engagement via education forums and other City events and activities.	Community Safety	2020	Consider target market approach – youth, seniors, women, 'hot spot' neighbourhood areas. e.g. 'Meet the Neighbours' localised BBQs.
Provide transparency with developments and ongoing feedback	Customer & Public Relations	2020-2025	Ongoing updates via a variety of platforms such as social media, news reports and community events.

Strategy Two – Programs and Partnerships

Working together with key stakeholders and community groups to plan and implement community safety and crime prevention initiatives is a priority.

Proactive programs such as alcohol and drug education for young people, diversionary programs for young offenders, and early intervention education initiatives have been developed by experts in these field areas. The City has opportunity to contribute to implementing and promoting some of these programs in the community in conjunction with State Government and other agencies.

To further support and develop crime prevention and safety initiatives, the City has developed positive working relationships. Where possible a coordinated approach with the police and other organisations, such as the Office of Crime Prevention, local schools, Neighbourhood Watch groups, community groups and the general community.

Existing community safety programs that are being facilitated or supported by the City of Kalamunda include: Eyes on the Street, Adopt a Bus Shelter, Vandalism Reward, and Constable Care.

Objective 2.1	Maintain existing and develop new community safety and crime prevention programs.
Objective 2.2	Maintain effective working relationships with State Government, key organisations, and community groups to plan and implement community safety and crime prevention initiatives.

Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Evaluation/Comment
Identify and link with stakeholders in the community to promote safety and reduce crime.	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	Networking with local police, neighbourhood watch groups, Zig Zag Action Groups, and others.
Continue to implement existing programs such as Eyes on the Street, Adopt a Bus Shelter program, Vandalism Reward and Constable Care.	Community Safety	On-going	Annual reporting on existing programs
Establish and support the Community Safety & Crime Prevention Advisory Committee.	Community Safety	On-going	Ensure appropriate membership and meet periodically to ensure implementation of CSCPP
Assist with the development and implementation of early intervention programs that address safety issues and reduce crime.	Community Development	2020-2025	Via internal program and external grant funds, consider and implement youth (urban) art and other targeted programs as appropriate.
Seek internal and/or external funding assistance to assist in enabling the implementation of community safety and crime prevention initiatives.	Community Safety	2020 -2025	Volume of grant applications and internal project budget allocation as appropriate.



Strategy Three – Physical Environment	
<p>Many factors appear to influence peoples 'perceptions' of community safety in public spaces. Built and environmental factors such as light, open spaces, clear sight lines and the ability to seek refuge are well documented as key elements in determining how a person perceives the safety of an area.</p> <p>The planning and design of places, spaces and buildings can assist in reducing crime through improvements to lighting, fencing, landscaping, and surveillance of the area – this is called Designing Out Crime. Designing Out Crime focuses on several principles – use of surveillance, territorial reinforcement, access control, space management, target hardening and mixed-use development.</p> <p>This can be factored into future community facility developments or upgrades and can improve existing, well utilised community facilities that are often exposed to anti-social or criminal behaviours such as vandalism/graffiti.</p> <p>The aims are to decrease the incidence of anti-social behaviour and crime; and promote constructive social relations and harmony in the community. These works are being carried out as part of the Federal Government's Safer Suburbs Plan, funded by the Attorney General's Department.</p> <p>CCTV has been installed at sites around the City to deter and potentially capture criminal activity. Since 2017 the Jack Healey Centre has had CCTV installed and the City plans to install CCTV surveillance at the Zig Zag carpark along with Lions look Out and Lesmurdie Falls carparks. The City Administration Building, Hartfield Park Recreation Centre, High Wycombe Community & Recreation Centre, and Kalamunda Library/Kalamunda Community & Cultural Centre are already monitored. These works were carried out as part of the Federal Government's Safer Suburbs Plan, funded by the Attorney General's Department. Additional funding was also received from the Office of Crime Prevention.</p>	
Objective 3.1	Contribute to and promote a safe physical environment

Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Evaluation/Comment
Maintain and monitor the implementation of the graffiti management plan for the City.	Asset Services	2020 - 2025	Monitoring volume of graffiti removal undertaken by dedicated graffiti removal team.
Review and enhance CCTV, lighting, to assist in surveillance of key community facilities/areas or those readily subject to anti-social or criminal behaviour.	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	Continue to target areas and source funding internally and externally as appropriate to enable provision in areas of need. Liaise with local Police regarding intelligence for further justification.
Promote and support positive urban art programs within the City.	Community Development	2020 - 2025	Number of urban art installations each year
Improve lighting in businesses within activity centres and into surrounding carparks and sporting grounds.	Asset Services	2020-2025	Monitoring numbers via asses records and lux improvement.
Develop and implement a Designing Out Crime Strategy for the City.	Planning	2020 - 2025	Consider other Local Government strategies and ensure incorporation into new facilities or existing facility re-developments.
Road Safety Committee link with the Community Safety & Crime Prevention Committee and ensure that road safety concerns remain on the agenda.	Asset Services & Community Safety Services	2020-2025	Ongoing agenda items to be discussed and actioned within a timely manner. Road safety data will be collated including speed/number of vehicles and changes to road safety based on changes implemented.
Investigate and report the possibility and Financial impact of introducing a security patrol service.	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	Consider other similar Local Governments Security Programs and/or Strategies



Strategy Four – Emergency Management and Ranger Services

Local government has an important role to play in emergency management for the local community although it is not a provider of emergency services. The role of supporting emergency services and the community both during and after emergencies is a traditional role. Bushfires during the summer season and storm damage during winter are the most common emergency management issues for the City.

Ranger Services are an important component of local government operations, particularly in relation to community safety. Rangers respond to community complaints and concerns relating to dogs, animals, and parking issues, provide a presence on the street and assist with the prevention and outbreak of bush fires.

Objective 4.1	To ensure the community has the resilience to respond and protect itself from danger and disasters
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Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Evaluation/ Comment
Coordinate and support the ongoing functions of the Local Emergency Management Committee.	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	Number of meetings held a year
Provide adequate resources to ensure the City is well prepared for a disaster or danger that may confront its community.	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	Annual budget
Continue to deliver a range of fire management services to the community in partnership with the State and local volunteer services.	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	Annual budget
Provide a well-resourced and responsive rangers service for the community.	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	Annual budget

Strategy Five – Precinct Planning

Creating a safer community is about addressing local community issues regarding safety and crime. The way in which the CSCPP will be delivered at a local level will be through a precinct planning approach. This approach aims to provide a framework for working in partnership with the community to identify local issues and concerns and develop solutions.

Communities that participate in precinct planning will be empowered to find solutions for dealing with issues of crime and anti-social behaviour; build healthy relationships among residents, authority figures and businesses; minimize fear of crime; and enhance community participation.

The precinct planning framework is conceptualised in the diagram below. The CSCPP provides overarching direction for community safety and crime prevention in the City and provides the framework for delivering precinct planning. A generic CSCP Community Action Plan will be developed to provide a basis for implementing precinct planning. This generic template will then be used to develop local precinct CSCP Community Action Plans at several prioritised localities.

New and creative ways of improving its amenity have been suggested so that visitors and residents can make better use of its unique features as a safe, valued, and active recreation zone. The outcome of the meetings was a Zig Zag Scenic Drive Community Action Plan created by the community with the purpose of: increasing usage of the Zig Zag Scenic Park, using methods that will make it a safe, active, and highly valued leisure area for both visitors and the local community.

Objective 5.1	To utilise local knowledge and solutions to improve community safety
Objective 5.2	Empower local communities to get involved in community safety

Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Evaluation/Comment
Determine priority locations for precinct initiatives and determine a timeline for implementation	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	To be done in consultation with state government and community groups
Draft Community Safety Action Plan Template	Community Safety	2020- 2025	Use Zig Zag Community Action Plan as basis along with other WA and National examples.
Develop Community Safety Planning Toolkit including engagement tools and resources	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	To be added to on an ongoing basis as knowledge and resources increase
Undertake local community safety action planning	Community Safety	2020 - 2025	As per action plan template.
Support the Town Team movement and engage with Town Teams to create positive change in a place or space, often a town centre, community meeting place or main street.	Community Safety	2020-2025	No of Town Teams engaged and supporting community safety and crime prevention initiatives.

IMPLEMENTATION

Community Safety & Crime Prevention Advisory Committee

The purpose of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee is to provide guidance to Council on the development of initiatives to enhance community safety and reduce antisocial behaviour within the City.

Objectives	
1.1	To consider issues relevant to the implementation of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan (CSCP).
1.2	To provide recommendations to Council, based on local community safety and crime prevention needs.
1.3	To liaise and consult with relevant agencies, individuals and community groups that will assist in the implementation of the CSCP Plan.
1.4	To monitor and review the strategies and actions adopted as part of the CSCP Plan.

Funding/Resources

To ensure the actions can be delivered it is recommended a 0.5 - FTE (minimum) City Officer allocation to the Community Safety & Crime Prevention portfolio be allocated for the purpose of promoting awareness and relevant projects/initiatives/ services of the City.

The sourcing of alternative funding will also be an integral component of implementing many projects or activities linked to strategies and consequent actions of the plan. The following agencies in addition to others will consistently be reviewed to ensure grant opportunities are pursued to complement the plan:

1. Office of Crime Prevention
2. Department of Local Government and Regional Government
3. Australian Government – Department of Home Affairs
4. Australian Institute of Criminology
5. Lotterywest

In addition, focusing on advocacy activities and opportunities to develop close working partnerships with adjacent local governments and other stakeholders will be explored to ensure shared funding and project responsibilities are sourced as appropriate.

Evaluation and Review

This Plan will be a working document requiring annual review to ensure that it remains current and relevant for the community. As part of the ongoing review, it is important to consult with key stakeholders and the broader community in relation to any key strategies and projects in addition to their perceptions of safety and crime within the community.

It is suggested that the localised crime statistics of the City of Kalamunda be added to the Plan on an annual basis and discussed at committee meetings to enable a current source of comparison throughout the timeframe of the Plan.



References

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City of
Kalamunda



2 Railway Road, Kalamunda WA 6076

PO Box 42, Kalamunda WA 6926

T: 08 9257 9999. F: 08 9293 2715

E: enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au

kalamunda.wa.gov.au