

minutes

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee

MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2009

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CITY OF JOONDALUP

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 2, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members:

Cr Geoff Amphlett	Deputy Presiding Person	
Mayor Troy Pickard		
Ms Christine Hamilton Prime	Community Representative	<i>from 1847 hrs</i>
Ms Denise Farquhar	Community Representative	
Ms Diana Squires	Community Representative	
Mr Ian Counsell	Community Representative	
Mr Joe Kelly	Community Representative	
Mr Mervyn Rea	Community Representative	
Mr Wesley Buzza	Community Representative	

Officers:

Mr Mike Tidy	Director, Corporate Services
Mr Malcolm Jenkinson	Manager, Rangers, Parking and Community Safety
Mrs Janet Foster	Administrative Services Coordinator

DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Deputy Presiding Person declared the meeting open at 1810 hrs.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Apology:

Cr Russ Fishwick

Leave of absence previously approved:

Cr Tom McLean 1 September – 23 September inclusive

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2009

MOVED Ms Squires SECONDED Mr Buzza that the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee held on 23 July 2009 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (8/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Amphlett, Mayor Pickard, Ms Farquhar, Ms Squires, Mr Counsell, Mr Kelly, Mr Rea and Mr Buzza.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

IDENTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY SIT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil.

PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

REPORTS

ITEM 1 COMMITTEE COMMENT ON THE DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

WARD: All

**RESPONSIBLE
DIRECTOR:** Mr. Mike Tidy
Corporate Services

FILE NUMBER: 78623

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment 1 Draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention
Plan

PURPOSE

For the Committee to consider the comments provided by Committee Members to the draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan (the Plan).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A presentation on the draft Plan was made to the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee at its meeting on the 23 July 2009. Committee Members were provided with copies of the Plan and asked to provide feedback for Committee consideration prior to a recommendation on the Plan being made to Council.

Feedback has been received and is summarised in the report. Feedback was very supportive of the thrust of the Plan but also included some changes which are supported. As a result a new version of the Plan showing the proposed changes is included at Attachment 1.

It is proposed that the Committee consider the proposed changes to the Plan and recommend that it:

1. *NOTES the feedback made by individual Committee Members and the responses;*
2. *RECOMMENDS to Council that the draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan (Attachment 1 to this Report) be approved for release for public comment.*

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on the 23 July 2009 the Committee considered a presentation on the draft Plan and copies were provided to Committee Members for consideration and feedback. The Committee resolved to:

“PROVIDES comments on the draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan by 21 August 2009 for consideration at the next meeting of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee”

At its meeting on 18 August 2009 Council endorsed the minutes of the Advisory Committee meeting of the 23 July 2009 (refer CJ186-08/09).

Significant feedback has subsequently been received.

DETAILS

There is a strong level of consistent support for the draft Plan in its current form. There is common acceptance that a holistic approach to deterrence and prevention is more like to be successful than a piecemeal approach where individual organisations or levels of Government act independently. There is also acknowledgement that some matters are completely within the scope of State Government to deal with and that the Police, Courts and other agencies can only be lobbied and influenced.

Issues and options considered:

The feedback on the Plan and the responses to that feedback are set out as follows.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND CHILD SAFETY

Feedback

Some Members commented on the “Give 20” program which is now only an optional curriculum item in Secondary Schools. One Member considered a reduced program such as “Give 10” could be offered to upper age Primary School students as a preparatory course. The “Give 20” program is operated by the WA Education Department.

Response

The City can only influence the Department for Education to vary its policy on mandatory curriculum activities.

Feedback

Some Members commented that they would like to see more emphasis on “youth engagement” particularly on youth considered to be “at risk”. There is support from Members for additional services such as a “drop in centre” either as a permanent structure or through the use of equipped buses.

Response

The Committee has previously requested a report on the City’s approach to youth engagement. Future programs would be fully examined for relevance and outcomes and be subject to the usual budget setting process. There is no requirement to amend the current draft Plan.

Feedback

Lack of parental supervision is also identified as an issue for the community generally with calls for greater efforts in this regard. One suggestion is for a Local Law with the power to fine the parents of offenders for failing in their duty as parents or for the State to require compulsory parenting classes for the parents of repeat offenders.

Response

A Local Law to fine parents with wayward children is very unlikely to succeed scrutiny by the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (JSCDL). The JSCDL is a Parliamentary Committee established to determine if Local Laws are consistent with the Acts under which they are developed. There are no provisions in any Acts through which the City has power that would stretch so far as to allow for such fines.

Parenting classes and similar programs sit more properly with the State Government in Departments such as Children and Family Services. The City can provide information and be a conduit for those services into the community.

HOONING AND SPEEDING

Feedback

Hooning is recognised as a subject of considerable interest. Some members commented that more could be done to tackle this issue. One recommendation is that the State Government invests more in speed cameras for local roads.

Response

The City responds to resident requests for traffic treatments to reduce speeding where possible. Speeding per se is predominantly a Police matter and the City cooperates with the Police as they carry out enforcement action.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Feedback

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) was identified by some Members as a particularly strong brand with the potential to bring together members of the community to help themselves in their local areas. Comment was made that joining and then participating needs to be made easier and more rewarding. One Member noted that Residents Associations and Community Groups could also serve the same purposes as local NHW groups.

Response

Officers from the City are actively engaging with the WA Police to develop stronger and closer links with the Neighbourhood Watch program. The City sees NHW as a strong program with considerable potential for further development.

GRAFFITI

Feedback

Members commented that the clean up rate for graffiti has improved in recent times. Some Members would like to see more programs or improved programs to deter graffiti offenders. There is support for the “restorative justice” concept where convicted offenders are made to clean up graffiti or compensate the City for cleanup costs.

Response

The WA Local Government Association is researching options for local governments to recover costs from convicted graffiti offenders and the City is actively supporting that research.

Feedback

There is strong support from Members for “Mural Art” with recommendations that it be used as widely as possible.

Response

The City's Mural Arts program is designed to be flexible and the support from Members is encouraging

Feedback

A Member questioned whether a "graffiti safe-wipe" pack could be introduced to encourage residents and businesses to clean up their own property fronts.

Response

A "graffiti safe wipe" pack has been investigated. The risks associated with chemicals and variable standards of cleaning are considered to be too great to warrant this as a program.

Feedback

There is support for the local graffiti removal volunteer program with a Member suggesting local groups such as Cubs or Scouts be encouraged to join in.

Response

Support already exists from a number of High Schools. Finding ways to bring other groups into the "volunteer" service area will be explored.

CCTV

Feedback

The use of public areas video surveillance (more usually called CCTV) is broadly supported provided it is targeted and used effectively.

Response

The City is examining the development of an approach on the use and conditions under which CCTV could be used in the district.

DOMESTIC SAFETY

Feedback

A Member suggested the City implement a "City of Joondalup Light and Safe" program. The program is essentially about fitting motion activated sensors to external lights for previous victims of crime to assist them to feel safer in their homes.

Response

The proposal requires more investigation and this will be done in the period leading up to the next budget. Future programs would be fully examined for relevance and outcomes and be subject to the usual budget setting process. There is no requirement to amend the current draft Plan.

Additional resources to improve perceptions of safety for vulnerable citizens would always be welcome. Any suggested program would be fully developed and costed and then examined on its merits against other competing demands on available resources

CITY WATCH

Feedback

There is some recognition amongst Members that some in the community are not familiar with the City Watch service provided by the City and that more could be done to raise the profile and subsequent awareness of this service within the community at large.

Response

The City has a marketing program for the City Watch service which seeks to raise awareness and improve recognition.

STATISTICS AND PRESENTATION

Feedback

One Member asked that the existing tables in section 2.1 be extended to include offences or graffiti removals “per head of population” for the suburb and all tables should be indexed. There is also a suggestion for an appendix which is a “Plan on a page” showing all the programs and their linkages and who is responsible for them in a colour coded chart.

Response

The charts and tables have been reviewed and amended as suggested. The “plan on a page” does have merit however the plan in its current format has been presented in the format required by the Office of Crime Prevention.

Feedback

A Member suggested that all supporting documents from stakeholder programs such as “Towards Zero: Road Safety Strategy 2008 – 2020 (Office of Road Safety WA) could be included as appendices to the Plan.

Response

The inclusion of so many appendices would make the Plan unwieldy and would be very likely to discourage readers because of the initial bulk. Readers with an interest in these other programs may easily find them at the appropriate stakeholder websites.

Feedback

A member suggested an inclusion from the World Health Organisation Manifesto on Safe Communities in the definition of safety.

Response

This definition has been included.

Feedback

A Member suggested the inclusion of a City map by suburb in Section 2.1 Demographic and Socio-Economic Indicators.

Response

A map has been included

Feedback

A Member suggested the inclusion of the definition of “North Metropolitan Region” as a Police District and to list Police Stations addresses and contact details.

Response

It is considered confusing to add other Cities or Shires into a Plan that is specific to Joondalup in this context. It is also considered un-necessary to add detail of Police stations when that information is readily available elsewhere.

Feedback

A Member suggested additional columns showing percentages in the “offences” table IN Section 2.2

Response

The changes have been made.

Feedback

A Member suggested listing both the offences and clean ups carried out in relation to graffiti in 2008.

Response

For the purposes of this analysis each clean up listed is an offence.

Feedback

A Member suggested that a Community Survey be conducted of perceptions before the Plan is offered for public comment referring to Sections 3.1 and 3.4 of the Plan.

Response

The Plan is designed to identify current programs and approaches to the crime and safety. It is open to Council to use the plan as a benchmark and further survey the community if it considers this appropriate.

Feedback

A Member suggested the inclusion of website addresses and telephone numbers for all the non City of Joondalup stakeholders identified in Section 5 – Actions.

Response

The inclusion of this additional information within the document is considered to make the Plan unwieldy in the context of briefly identifying programs and participants.

Feedback

A Member suggested every program have listed against it all the different measures of success and performance indicators for each element of each program.

Response

The inclusion of this additional information within the document is considered to make the Plan unwieldy in the context of briefly identifying programs and participants.

Feedback

A Member suggested that Occupational Safety and Health is a program that could be included as a program with WorkSafe as the principal stakeholder.

Response

The inclusion of WorkSafe has merit and is aligned to similar approaches to falls and injury prevention. It has been listed in Section 5.2

SUGGESTIONS AND NEW PROGRAMS

Feedback

There is a recommendation that the City look at the Child Wise program.

Response

Officers have done some preliminary research into the Child Wise program, an international protection program for children at risk of sexual abuse. It aims to raise awareness of the issue and to encourage organisations that look after children (schools, playgroups, associations etc) to self assess their ability to deter or when necessary respond to issues of child abuse. It is considered that this program is better supported by State Government.

Feedback

A Member asked that the Pub Watch program, recently instigated by the licensed premises operators in the City Centre, be included in the Plan as an active program.

Response

PubWatch came into being after the development of the draft Plan. It has now been included.

Feedback

It is suggested that “Business Watch” program be considered by the City.

Response

Business Watch is a parallel program to Neighbourhood Watch and the City will investigate how this program could be adopted.

Feedback

There is a suggestion that there should be a single coordination point for all references and programs to the Plan with a single telephone number for making contact; the analogy is a Joondalup “Crimestoppers”.

Response

There is a position within the staff establishment of the City that effectively fills the role envisaged and has a responsibility both for programs managed in that area and for other programs operated from other areas of the City. Regular meetings help to ensure a good flow in intelligence between stakeholders. There are no names or roles identified or intended to be identified in the Plan. Contact information about the Plan will be published on the City’s website when it is released for comment.

Legislation/Strategic Plan/Policy Implications

Legislation The Committee is established in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995.

Strategic Plan

Key Focus Area: Community Wellbeing.

Objective: 5.4 To work collaboratively with stakeholders to increase community safety and respond to emergencies effectively.

Policy Not applicable.

Risk Management considerations:

Not applicable.

Financial/Budget Implications:

Programs listed in the Plan have all been subject to the normal budget setting process. Any new programs or revisions of programs in the future would be subject to the same processes.

Regional Significance:

Not applicable

Sustainability implications:

Not applicable

Consultation:

Council will consider referring the draft Plan for community comment once the Committee has made a recommendation in relation to the Plan.

COMMENT

Individual suggestions and comments have been addressed in the report. A new version with changes shown has been attached for Committee consideration.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee:

- 1 NOTES the feedback made by individual Committee Members and the responses;
- 2 RECOMMENDS to Council that the draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan (Attachment 1 to this Report) be approved for release for public comment.

The Director Corporate Services provided an overview of the report. Further feedback on the Plan was sought from Committee members. The following key comments/issues were raised:

Youth engagement and child safety:

- It was requested that the wording in the Plan be amended to reflect that the "Give 20" program is an optional curriculum item.
- A suggestion was made that a "Give 20" program be established by the City of Joondalup.

Neighbourhood Watch

- Discussion ensued on ways to promote Neighbourhood Watch, with the suggestion made that consideration be given to information on the Neighbourhood Watch program being included in the information pack provided to new residents of the City.

Ms Hamilton-Prime entered the Room at 1847 hrs.

Graffiti

- The first dot point on Page 11 of the attachment to be amended to include the suburb of Woodvale, as follows:

“A significantly higher number of graffiti removals carried out in the suburbs of Craigie, Kingsley, Heathridge, **Woodvale**, Duncraig and Joondalup compared to other suburbs in the City.”

City Watch

- A suggestion was raised to display the City Watch contact number on signs in parks and public areas within the City.

Statistics and Presentation

- Tables within the Plan that refer to “Number of offences per 1000 of usual resident population” to be amended as the percentages under this heading were incorrectly reflected.

Suggestions and new programs

- It was requested that different options be investigated for providing contact numbers of programs, products and services listed.

Following Council’s consideration of the Plan, Committee members requested that they be advised of the timeline for the public comment period.

MOVED Mr Rae, SECONDED Mr Kelly that the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee:

- 1 NOTES the feedback made by individual Committee Members and the responses;**
- 2 RECOMMENDS to Council that the draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan, as amended (Attachment 1 to this Report) be approved for release for public comment;**
- 3 REQUESTS that relevant feedback received during the public comment period that falls outside of the specific jurisdiction of the City of Joondalup be captured and reported separately to the Western Australian Local Government Association, through the North Metropolitan Zone.**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (9/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Amphlett, Mayor Pickard, Ms Hamilton Prime, Ms Farquhar, Ms Squires, Mr Counsell, Mr Kelly, Mr Rea and Mr Buzza.

Appendix 1 refers

To access this attachment on electronic document, click here: [Attach1agn030909.pdf](#)

MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Nil

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Deputy Presiding Person declared the Meeting closed at 1933 hrs; the following committee members being present at that time:

Cr Geoff Amphlett
Mayor Troy Pickard
Ms Christine Hamilton Prime
Ms Denise Farquhar
Ms Diana Squires
Mr Ian Counsell
Mr Joe Kelly
Mr Mervyn Rea
Mr Wesley Buzza