COMMUNITY SAFETY

AND

CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

2016-2020
INTRODUCTION

The Town of Cambridge is committed to making the community a safe place in which to live, work and recreate through working collaboratively with the community as a whole, including Council, residents, local businesses, State and non-government agencies.

Within the Town's Strategic Community Plan 2013-2023, a priority is to 'create and maintain safe environments', with key actions being:

• Implement the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan.
• Implement the Public Health Plan.
• Plan for recovery operations in the event of a local emergency.
• Monitor, inform and educate the community on community safety issues.

In 2009 The Office of Crime Prevention (OCP) endorsed the Town's first Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan, with the last review of the plan undertaken in 2013. The aim of the plan is to map the safety issues of primary concern to the community and document the strategies and partnerships to deal with these issues. The key objective of the plan is to make the Town a safer place to live and visit for all members of the community through the coordinated actions of government, local groups and residents.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2014-2016

The current Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan was implemented over a two year period (2014-2016) and reviewed at the conclusion of this time. The key priority areas that were identified in the Plan were as follows:

• Residential Burglary;
• Community awareness of safety and crime prevention;
• Theft from motor vehicles;
• Anti-social behaviour;
• Graffiti and vandalism; and
• Road Safety

The Town achieved many of the actions set out for each of the priority areas and continues to support these through the following ongoing community safety initiatives:

• Blue Light Disco;
• Free child car restraint fittings;
• Safety Houses;
• Graffiti management;
• Constable Care;
• Eyes on the Street;
• Get to Know Your Neighbour program; and
• Regional and Western Suburb Community Safety Networking Meetings.

The Town engaged a new graffiti removal company in 2015 and along with new recording devices and software saw much improved streamlining of the graffiti removal service.

The Town continued its successful Vehicle Child Restraint fitting and checking service (note: service suspended from June 2014 to April 2015). The service is free of charge for Town residents and provided at a low cost for non-residents. There were 51 checks undertaken from April 2015 to April 2016 and a joint checking station was also implemented in June 2015.
In May 2014, staff completed E-Watch training provided by representatives from WA Police Community Engagement division. In October 2015 as part of Community Safety Month, the Town provided a successful Cyber Security seminar for local seniors, presented by Surf Online Safe.

Another initiative included the Community Safety CCTV and Lighting trial at Dodd Street toilets and cul-de-sac in December 2015 and January 2016. This saw the reduction of anti-social behaviour in the area and led to the Council approving $60,000 towards permanent lighting in Dodd Street cul-de-sac.

Once again the Town partnered with Constable Care, providing $10,000 so that Constable Care could provide safety themed puppet shows at local primary schools.

In April 2016, the Town was successful in receiving $5,000 from the WA Police State Graffiti fund to implement the Solar Security and Motion Sensor Lighting project. This project targets graffiti hotspot locations at residential properties with rear laneways.

Once again the Town joined with other Western Suburbs Councils to participate in the Halloween Hotspot program. This initiative was supported by Neighbourhood Watch provides a safe and positive Halloween experience for children.

The ‘Get to Know Your Neighbour’ program is a new initiative launched in December 2015, which assists in creating safer neighbourhoods through encouraging community members to host a BBQ for their neighbours. The Town provides hosts with a voucher for $100 towards the provision of food for the BBQ as well as safety information packs.

Once again the Town organised Christmas and Easter Safe Driver Campaigns, with the support of Wembley and Cottesloe Police. The Town provided safety packs to Police who gave them out to drivers displaying safe driving behaviours; these individuals also went into a prize draw to win a nights accommodation.

**Results of 2016 Community Safety and Crime Prevention Survey**

During September 2016 the Town co-ordinated an on-line survey as well as a random mail out to 100 residents, to enable local residents to provide feedback on local safety and crime prevention issues. A total of 48 completed surveys were received, and the key results and responses have been assessed and incorporated into the updated 2016-2020 Plan.
1. Perception of Safety
76% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that they feel safe living in the Town. 9% disagreed or strongly disagreed and 6% were undecided. The remaining 9% neither agreed or disagreed.

![Safety Survey Chart](image)

50% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that the crime rate in Cambridge is low. 17% disagreed with the statement and 13% were undecided. The remaining 20% neither agreed or disagreed.

![Crime Rate Chart](image)

Although only a small sample group, the results indicate that resident's generally feel safe living in the Town.

2. Priority Safety Issues
The top 5 offences that respondents believe have increased compared to five years ago are:
1. Home Burglary;
2. Anti-social behaviour;
3. Theft from vehicles and Dangerous Driving (rated equally);
4. Graffiti; and
5. Vandalism.

Respondents to the survey believe the following crime areas should be addressed as priorities:

1. Home Burglary;
2. Theft from Vehicles;
3. Dangerous Driving - vehicle offences;
4. Drug Use/Graffiti/Vandalism; and
5. Robbery (stealing with violence).
Respondents were asked what they believe would be the one most effective strategy to reduce crime in their local area. The top five responses were as follows:

1. Increase Police patrols and Police presence;
2. Better lighting in parks and streets;
3. Install CCTV;
4. Neighbourhood Watch - formal and informally; and
5. Reduce State Housing.

Respondents identified a number of locations within the Town where they feel unsafe. These include Lake Monger/Dodd Street, local Parks and Beaches at night and shopping precincts. The reasons given were due to respondents being a victim of crime, knowledge of crimes that occurred previously and environmental factors including lack of lighting.

**Police Statistics**

The Town has reviewed the Police statistics from June 2014 to June 2016 which outlined the crime rates for the Cambridge area, broken down into offence type. The top five offences were:

1. **Theft** - 1564 offences
   The unlawful taking or obtaining of money, goods or services, without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception, with the intent to permanently deprive the owner or possessor of the use of the money or goods. This category of offence includes the theft of vehicle parts or the contents of a vehicle.

2. **Burglary (Dwelling)** - 375 offences
   To enter or attempt to enter any building, structure, tent or caravan that is ordinarily used for human habitation without consent, with intent to commit an offence such as to steal property.

3. **Drug Offences** - 178 offences
   The unlawful possession or use of a prohibited drug or plant, or the unlawful possession of a smoking implement.

4. **Burglary (Non-dwelling)** - 177 offences
   To enter or attempt to enter a building, structure or tent other than a dwelling without the owner's consent, with intent to commit an offence such as to steal property.

5. **Steal Motor Vehicle** - 119
   Unlawfully using a motor vehicle without the consent of the owner or the person in charge of that motor vehicle. 'Steal motor vehicle' excludes attempts to steal a motor vehicle, damaging or tampering/interfering with a motor vehicle, or the theft of motor vehicle parts or the contents of a motor vehicle.
Cambridge Offences
June 2014 to June 2016

Cambridge trend of the top five offences 2011-2016 (WA POL Statistics)
Western Australia trend of the top five offences 2011-2016 (WA POL Statistics)

It is clear from the data that Cambridge and the rest of Western Australian (WA) are experiencing the same top five crime offences, with theft clearly the biggest offence. Drug offences have increased considerably throughout WA since 2013/2014, however Cambridge has not seen a significant spike. Burglary from Dwellings and Non-Dwellings and Motor Vehicle Theft has remained fairly constant with no great spikes across the five years.

**Town of Cambridge Strategic Community Plan 2013-2023**

As part of the development of the Town's Strategic Community Plan 2013-2023, extensive consultation was undertaken with the local community in the form of both a telephone and postcard survey. A key area highlighted through this consultation was the area of Road Safety, with comments relating to safety around roads, crossings and schools and the need for more cycleways for children to be able to safely navigate their neighbourhood. An overwhelming theme was that 90% of the 402 responses were 'delighted' with their suburb, with 11% referring to the "very low crime rate making it very safe to live here" as the best thing about living in the Town.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The information gathered through consultation with both the local community and key stakeholder (WAPOL) supports that the Town does not experience high rates of crime and in general is perceived to be a relatively safe place to live, work and recreate.

The five key priority areas from the Town's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2014-2016 still remain the areas of most concern for local residents and key stakeholders and will therefore remain in the updated 2016-2020 plan.
The priority goals for the Town of Cambridge Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2016-2020 (in no particular order of priority) are as follows:

- **GOAL 1** - Reduce residential burglary
- **GOAL 2** - Decrease levels of graffiti and vandalism
- **GOAL 3** - Reduce antisocial behaviour
- **GOAL 4** - Increase education and awareness of community safety and crime prevention
- **GOAL 5** - Decrease levels of theft from motor vehicles
- **GOAL 6** - Increase Road Safety

Education in crime prevention is one of the best ways to reduce the types of crime experienced within the Town. Therefore targeted public education strategies and campaigns, along with continued efforts to increase the level of community interaction in the area, are key features of the updated plan.

The Town will work with WA Police Community Engagement Division to secure grants and funding to implement recommended crime prevention strategies.
# 2016 -2020 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

## GOAL 1 - REDUCE RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

### Strategy 1.1 Educate community groups, businesses and Council Officers (Rangers and outdoor workers) to be aware of community safety and crime prevention and encourage them to report suspicious behaviours to Police.

| Actions | • Continue with “Eyes on the Street” program. Community Safety Officer is now qualified to deliver the training to new staff.  
• Provide workshops and other initiatives to assist and educate seniors and families in community safety issues including home security.  
• Work in partnership with WA Police Community Engagement Division to promote new initiatives including advertising campaigns. |
| Key Stakeholders | • Town of Cambridge staff  
• WA POL |
| Resources | • Local Police  
• Funding and resources sought by the Town through WA Police Community Engagement Division  
• Operational budgets as required |
| Outcomes | • To reduce the level of burglaries throughout the Town of Cambridge |
| Time Line | • Ongoing |
| Evaluation | • Reduction in recorded crime as per statistics from police and ABS |

### Strategy 1.2 Build partnerships with Key Stakeholders to improve community safety

| Actions | • Continue to offer support to Police with community programs including:  
- Blue light Disco  
- Safety Houses  
- Constable Care  
• Work closely with local Policing Teams.  
• Implement Salvation Army and Western Suburb LGA’s Homelessness Strategy Trial.  
• Work cooperatively with neighbouring LGA’s. |
| Key Stakeholders | • Town of Cambridge  
• WA POL  
• Salvation Army and Neighbouring LGA’s |
| Resources | • Funding and resources sought by the Town through WA Police Community Engagement Division  
• Operational budgets as required  
• Monitor and evaluate the Plan at each Local Law Enforcement Working Group meeting to ensure its continued progress and effectiveness |
| Outcomes | • To reduce the level of burglaries throughout the Town of Cambridge |
| Time Line | • Ongoing |
| Evaluation | • Reduction in recorded crime as per statistics from police and ABS  
• Number of discos/participants/performances held annually |
### Strategy 1.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Strategy 1.3</strong></th>
<th>Promote and implement CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) Assessments to local residents</th>
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</table>
| **Actions**      | • Community Safety Officer to implement CPTED/security assessment to local residents.  
                    • Continue implementation of Solar Security and Motion Sensor Lighting project. |
| **Key Stakeholders** | • Town of Cambridge  
                           • WAPOL |
| **Resources**    | • Local Policing Teams  
                    • Funding and resources sought by the Town through WA Police Community Engagement Division  
                    • Operational budgets as required |
| **Outcomes**     | • To reduce the level of burglaries throughout the Town of Cambridge  
                    • Increased education for the community to reduce opportunities for crime |
| **Time Line**    | • Ongoing  
                    • Lighting project - JUNE 2017 |
| **Evaluation**   | • Reduction in recorded crime as per WA Police Statistics |

### Strategy 1.4

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Strategy 1.4</strong></th>
<th>Build Neighbourhood Community Safety Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Actions**      | • Provide Community Events incorporating a Community Safety theme.  
                    • Support Community Neighborhood's to host ‘Get to Know Your Neighbour’ initiatives. |
| **Key Stakeholders** | • Town of Cambridge |
| **Resources**    | • Local Policing Team  
                    • Operational budgets as required |
| **Outcomes**     | • To reduce the level of burglaries throughout the Town of Cambridge through people building street networks  
                    • Increased education for the community to reduce opportunities for crime |
| **Time Line**    | • Ongoing |
| **Evaluation**   | • Reduction in recorded crime as per WA Police Statistics |

### GOAL 2 - DECREASE LEVELS OF GRAFFITI AND VANDALISM

### Strategy 2.1

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<tr>
<th><strong>Strategy 2.1</strong></th>
<th>Increased Lighting at Council Parks and Reserves</th>
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</table>
| **Actions**      | • Community Safety Officer to work with Parks Department to look at specific problem areas as a priority with annual budget planning.  
                    • Refer to Community Safety Lighting Audit for specific details. |
| **Key Stakeholders** | • Town of Cambridge  
                           • WAPOL |
| **Resources**    | • Funding and resources sought by the Town through WA Police Community Engagement Division  
                    • Operational/Capital budgets as required |
| **Time Line**    | • Ongoing. However areas addressed in the Community Safety Lighting Audit to take priority with funding requests. |
| **Evaluation**   | • Decrease in anti-social behaviour graffiti and vandalism at Council Park and Reserves  
                    • Intramaps Graffiti statistics |
### Strategy 2.2 Graffiti Management Program

#### Actions
- Continue to operate a program to remove graffiti within two working days of it being reported.
- Provide information to the public on preventing graffiti vandalism.
- Promote the State Government “goodbye graffiti” reporting hotline.
- Continuation of Graffiti Reporting and Recording Software project.
- Continue training the Town's graffiti removal contractor on software package.
- Continue Juvenile Graffiti Referral program.
- Continue Cambridge “Safewipe” Graffiti Packs for Residents, Businesses and Cambridge staff.

#### Key Stakeholders
- Town of Cambridge
- Town’s Graffiti Contractor
- WAPOL
- Crime stoppers

#### Resources
- Graffiti removal provider contracted for 3 years with an option to extend for a further two years.
- Funding and resources sought by the Town through WA Police Community Engagement Division

#### Time Line
- Ongoing

#### Evaluation
- Reduction in reported levels of graffiti and vandalism

### Strategy 2.3 Urban Art Programs

#### Actions
- Engage urban artist to implement urban art projects at identified graffiti hot spot areas.
- Engage Cambridge Youth Services to be involved in these projects.
- Education projects on legal urban art vs illegal graffiti vandalism.

#### Key Stakeholders
- Cambridge Youth Services
- WAPOL
- Local Schools

#### Resources
- Funding and resources sought by the Town through WA Police Community Engagement Division
- Operational budgets as required

#### Time Line
- Ongoing

#### Evaluation
- Reduction in reported levels of graffiti and vandalism
- Increased levels of awareness and education for youth

### GOAL 3 - REDUCE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

#### Strategy 3.1 Introduce and continue with actions to reduce ‘anti-social’ behaviour within the Town particularly in public areas and within public facilities

#### Actions
- Work in partnership with WA Police Community Engagement Division to maintain “Eyes on the Street” program.
- Identify appropriate locations for replacement or upgrade of public facilities (toilets/changerooms) with CPTED as a key consideration. Strategy to be undertaken over a 5 year period.
- Engage urban artist to implement urban art projects at identified public facilities where anti-social behaviour is a regular occurrence.
- Provide a positive environment for youth activities during school
holidays to reduce boredom and exposure to anti-social behaviour.
- Work with local sporting and recreation clubs and Club Development Officer to promote responsible serving of alcohol.
- Work with local schools and Cambridge Youth Services to raise awareness of the consequences of drug use.

| Key Stakeholders | Town of Cambridge  
|                  | WAPOL  
|                  | Licensee’s within the Town (including Sporting Clubs)  
|                  | Local schools  
|                  | Office of Drugs and Alcohol  
| Resources | Funding and resources sought by the Town through WA Police Community Engagement Division  
|            | Local Policing Teams  
|            | Cambridge Youth services Operational Budget  
|            | Town of Cambridge Community Safety and Lighting Audit  
|            | Operational and Capital Works Budget as required  
| Time Line | Ongoing  
| Evaluation | Number of reported incidences as identified by Police and Community  
|           | Reduced statistics of reported Beat activities at key areas  
|           | Attendance rates at No. 86 Youth Centre and associated activities  
|           | Upgrade/installation of lighting to key recreational areas  
|           | Number of new public facilities (toilets/changerooms) erected with CPTED implemented  

GOAL 4 - INCREASE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION

| Strategy 4.1 | Increase community knowledge in community safety and crime prevention  
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------  
| Actions      | Work in partnership with WA Police Community Engagement Division to promote new initiatives including advertising campaigns.  
|              | Continue workshops to educate seniors and families in community safety issues including home security, fire alarms and home accidents.  
|              | Promotion of brochures and other advertising materials that are available from WA Police Community Engagement Division.  
|              | Re-Invigorate Business Beat initiative.  
|              | Continue promotion of Crime Prevention in fortnightly newsletter when opportunity arises.  
|              | Continue Eyes on the Street training.  
|              | Promote and support E-Watch.  
|              | Continue to support Constable Care.  
|              | Community Safety Officer trained in ‘So You Think You Know’ national cyber safety program. To be provided on an as requested basis.  
| Key Stakeholders | Town of Cambridge  
|                  | WAPOL  
| Resources | Funding from WA Community Engagement  
|           | Operational budgets as required  
|           | Use of Town's website and facebool page to disburse information  
| Time Line | Ongoing  

### Evaluation
- Increase in the number of positive stories in local media outlets
- Community workshops held and number of attendees

### GOAL 5 - DECREASE LEVELS OF THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 5.1</th>
<th>Reduce thefts from motor vehicles particularly at beachfront and other car parks within the Town</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Actions      | • Continue ‘Eyes on the Street’ program to educate community groups, businesses and Council Officers (Rangers and other field staff) to be aware of community safety and crime prevention and encourage them to report suspicious behaviours to police.  
• Investigate creation of vehicle dash stickers for beach and park users to have in their car to deter car break-ins.  
• Work closely with WAPOL to increase awareness of risk of theft from motor vehicles.  
• Maintain Ranger patrols during peak seasons at the beach fronts.  
• Disseminate and promote resources on motor vehicle crime E.g. Motor Vehicle Crime brochure available from WA Police Community Engagement Division.  
• Continue promotion of Crime Prevention in quarterly E-Watch newsletter.  
• Utilise Variable Message Board during peak summer periods to warn beach patrons to remove all valuables from their cars. |

| Key Stakeholders | • Town of Cambridge  
• WAPOL |
| Resources        | • Training provided by WA Police Community Engagement Division  
• Grant applications and resources available from WA Police Community Engagement Division  
• Operational budgets as required |
| Time Line        | • Ongoing |
| Evaluation       | • Reduction in recorded crime as per statistics from police and ABS  
• Increase in reporting of crime/suspected crime |

### GOAL 6 - INCREASE ROAD SAFETY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 6.1</th>
<th>Implement a road safety awareness campaign to focus on Road Safety concerns (Safe Road Use, Safe Roads and Roadsides, Safe Driving Speeds, Safe Vehicles and Child Car Restraints).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Actions      | • Implement the Roadwise Fleet Safety Policy.  
• Implement the Roadwise program of ‘Community Safe Speed Promise’.  
• Continue promotion of “Slow Down Consider our Kids” bin stickers.  
• Continue to offer the Child Car Restraint Fitting Service (free to Town residents).  
• Liaise with Town Infrastructure Department on identified areas of concern, as identified in the 2016 Community Safety and Crime Prevention Survey.  
• Utilise Variable Message Boards for key road safety campaigns throughout the year particularly Easter, Christmas and New Year’s Eve.  
• Continue Safe Driver Campaigns (Christmas and Easter). |
| Key Stakeholders | • Town of Cambridge  
• WAPOL |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Child Car Restraint training offered free by Roadwise</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Grant applications and resources available from Roadwise</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Operational budgets as required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time Line</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Number of restraints checked/fitted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Number of bin stickers distributed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Number of safe driver campaigns implemented</td>
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & REFERENCES

The Town of Cambridge acknowledges and appreciates the support and assistance from the following individuals and Agencies with the creation of this Community safety and Crime Plan:

- WA Police Community Engagement Division
- Wembley Police
- Residents in the Town of Cambridge