



Crime Prevention Plan

March 2001



CITY OF NEWCASTLE CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

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RATIONALE

1. Introduction

This is the second Crime Prevention Plan for the city of Newcastle and focuses on the city as a whole. The first plan concentrated on a limited area of the City Centre and Inner City. This plan has been developed as part of the Safer Towns and Cities Program, an initiative of the Crime prevention Division of the Attorney General's Department. This program has funded a total of 17 such projects around NSW.

The theme of this crime prevention plan is the creation of community safety and crime prevention dividends by promoting stronger communities. It seeks to build upon the strong base of services and programs which already promote community cohesion.

This plan takes a broadly social and developmental crime prevention approach to dealing with the specific issues of concern identified at a Community Safety Forum organised by Council's Community Safety Panel. The issues identified at the Forum were then prioritised by the Panel. The strategies outlined in this plan coalesce to promote the development of stronger communities which encourage and foster greater participation by community members. Stronger communities are safer communities which discourage crime.

2. Process

This plan has been developed in consultation with, and under the guidance of, Council's Community Safety Panel. The Panel comprises representatives from Newcastle City Council, Newcastle and Waratah Police Local Area Commands, and community representation. The impetus for this plan was a Community Safety Forum held on 16 August 2000 and which was auspiced by the Community Safety Panel.

Issues raised at the Community Safety Forum were prioritised by the Panel. These issues were complemented by extensive consultation and the incorporation of existing data. This combination of consultation and existing data became the basis for the plan including:

- NCC Social Plan and Community Survey
- NCC Public Space Policy
- NCC Community Safety Policy
- NCC Commitment To Young People
- Crime Intelligence provided by Officers from Newcastle and Waratah Local Area Commands.
- Data from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics

Consultation undertaken in the preparation of this plan included focus groups and consultations with:

- Schools
- Community Forums
- Youth Council
- Government and non government agencies and service providers
- Indigenous organisations and NESB organisations
- Mainstreet Committees and Chambers of Commerce
- Council Officers

2.1 Issues

The major issue to emerge from this process was the perceived decline in community cohesion, everyday interaction between people living in communities, which has contributed to lack of a sense of community ownership within and among communities. The community safety forum identified the fact that if there were a stronger sense of community spirit, if people felt more a part of their community and community bonds were strengthened, they would be more likely to be safer communities and to experience less crime. These outcomes could occur in two ways:

- Stronger community bonds may offer the opportunity for greater security of homes and community resources as a result of increased passive observation and shared responsibilities.
- Stronger community bonds may offer the opportunity for a greater sense of ownership of community resources which would see a decline in vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

The following were identified as significant crime or crime-related issues which would benefit from a greater sense of community cohesion:

- Alcohol and drug related crime
- Personal safety in public places, particularly with regard to lighting and transport
- Vandalism

Another issue was raised at the Forum which was not a crime issue. However the Forum felt that this was an essential element in the promotion of stronger communities. This issue was:

- The need to engage with young people

This plan identifies a number of strategies for addressing these issues.

3. Aims

The City of Newcastle Crime Prevention Plan aims to:

- promote stronger communities and community cohesion between and among communities
- promote community cohesiveness as a positive crime prevention measure
- promote a strategic approach to crime prevention
- reduce the level of crime and change community perceptions of crime within the Newcastle Local Government Area
- promote the concept of joint responsibility for crime prevention between the police, Council, government agencies and the community

4. Crime Prevention

In the past crime prevention has been perceived in terms of the criminal justice system: police, courts, prisons. Indeed the prospect of being caught committing a crime acts as a deterrent to many people. However much of the work of the justice system is reactive, dealing with the problem after the event. More recently there has been increasing attention given to crime prevention by analysing factors which lead to people committing a crime and attempting to intervene to prevent the crime from occurring in the first place. In many ways this approach is analogous with the preventative aspects of health promotion (healthy diet, exercise, giving up smoking) as an alternative to trying to cure people after they become ill.

The Crime Prevention Division of the NSW Attorney General's Department and the NSW Bureau of Crime statistics has identified the following factors which can lead to or predict criminality¹:

- access to schooling and education
- levels of employment and income
- family background
- alcohol and other drug use
- personal opportunities and incentives for the commission of crime
- gender
- age
- other environmental factors
- peer relations

- moral beliefs
- risks and punishment, and
- criminal history.

Clearly many of these causal factors are beyond the scope of the criminal justice system. However there are approaches which can intervene to modify attitudes and values or to modify behaviour. These approaches have been categorised as: situational, social and developmental crime prevention.

Situational crime prevention seeks to change the environment to make it harder to commit a crime or to increase the risk so that the offender will not commit a crime because the risk of being detected or caught is too high. A major component of this approach is categorised under the label of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Social crime prevention seeks to strengthen communities and change social conditions:

A neighbourhood which has strong social bonds, where people take pride in their street and 'own' their public spaces, where the needs of all groups in the community are met and where people regard the area as an attractive and safe place to live and work, is likely to have a low crime rate.²

Developmental crime prevention seeks to intervene at critical stages in individual's and group's lives to reduce risk factors which may cause a person or group to commit a crime; or to increase protective factors which may prevent a group or individual from committing a crime.

This plan adopts a combination of all three approaches although there is a strong emphasis on the social and the developmental approach.

4.1 Partnerships

A central tenet of crime prevention is the need to work in partnership with other agencies. This crime prevention plan is one of a number of projects and initiatives within the local Newcastle community that is either specifically addressing issues of crime prevention and community safety, or which promote community harmony and are likely to have preventative outcomes.

These include:

- The Newcastle Licensing Accord which involves the Police, licensees, NCC, Department of Gaming & Racing, The Premier's Department and Hunter Area Health and which promotes the responsible service of alcohol.

¹ *Crime Prevention Resource Manual*, Crime Prevention Division, NSW Attorney General's Department, 1998, p 5

² *Crime Prevention Resource Manual*, Crime Prevention Division, NSW Attorney General's Department, 1998, p 79.

- The NSW Premier's Department has employed a Hunter Region Project Manager under its Drugs and Community Action Strategy, and a community-focused action strategy is currently being developed.
- Regional Violence Prevention Program which promotes violence preventative measures.
- The Newcastle City Council Social Plan
- Newcastle City Council Youth programs and associated services including Newcastle Youth Council, Newcastle Youth Association, Wondiyali, Koori Youth Services, SK8 Association and the Palais Youth Venue.
- The NCC Graffiti Blasters and Graffiti Hotline project
- Newcastle City Council Community Forums which provide a forum for community concerns and initiatives in 8 areas of the city
- The Merchandising Plan for the City of Newcastle
- Community support service providers
- Preventative and developmental programs are run by the Department of Education & Training, Department of Community Services, Department of Housing, Department of Sport & Recreation,
- The Newcastle, Waratah and Lower Hunter Local Area Commands each have designated Community Safety Officer and specialist Domestic Violence and Youth Liaison Officers. Each Command has developed a number of preventative strategies, both short-term and long-term, that co-exist with their ongoing intelligence and taskforce-based policing.
- The Broadmeadow Police & Community Youth Centre facilitates a broad range of recreation and pro-active developmental programs.

5. The Newcastle Community

(source: Newcastle Local Government Area Community Profile For The Regional Advisory Committee Of The Hunter Area Assistance Scheme 1998)

Newcastle is situated at the mouth of the Hunter River and initially developed as the regional port for the Hunter Valley with an industrial sector the major source of employment. The city has a regional focus with a proportion of the recreational, cultural and community services available catering for the region and subregion. This is due to the fact that historically, Newcastle developed as a major city in the region, and provided a significant population base with transport patterns radiating from the city to other local government areas.

The initial establishment of the city was on the southern side of the Hunter River and subsequent development has been to the south and west of that area with gradual infill of available space for residential areas. This has resulted in the population being spread throughout the city rather than in isolated communities which in turn has led to service provision generally catering for a wider geographical area rather than discrete communities.

The inner city and middle ring suburbs are well established and presently experiencing an increase in medium density development as older residential stock is recycled. The newer residential areas and the greatest population growth is occurring in the western

sectors of the city, where the infrastructure for community functioning is still in the early stage of development.

Those communities which could be considered isolated are separated by physical boundaries. Stockton on the northern side of the harbour is separated by the Hunter River mouth from other sections of the city and the North West has the Hexham Swamp and wetlands which limit development.

The area is closely aligned to Lake Macquarie in the southern and south western sectors, Maitland to the northwest and Port Stephens to the north.

The City of Newcastle covers an area of 213.5 sq km. The population in June 1996 was 133,686. The population projection for 2006 is 141,400 an increase of 5.8%. The population of the Lower Hunter comprising the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland Cessnock and Port Stephens LGAs is 449,773. This is projected to grow to 540,000 by 2006, an increase of 20%.

Newcastle experienced a decrease in population over a period from 1971 to 1986. This reduction was turned around in 1991 when a slight increase of 1.4% occurred. This trend has continued with an increase in population of 1.7% from 1991 to 1996.

The major indicators identified for Newcastle include:

1. Continued growth of the Western Lands with increased demand on services and facilities from the population increase of 2234 people from 1991 to 1996.
2. The Inner City consolidation programs such as:-
 - The Honeysuckle Development
 - Building Better Cities Programwith the attendant social problems for existing population which can arise with urban renewal and demand on services and facilities. The area had an increase in population between 1991 and 1996 of 365
3. The cyclical regeneration which is being experienced in established areas together with the medium density housing strategies point to maintenance of existing population levels and continued utilisation of services and facilities with an additional 3798 dwellings built in the city between 1991 and 1996.
4. Employment related issues including :-
 - high unemployment statistics particularly with young people
 - the incidence of part time work
5. High ratio of aged people with over 12% of the population aged 70 years plus in comparison to the Australian average of 8.3% .
6. High proportion of residents on low income levels with 54% of individuals earning less than \$15,500 per year.
7. High proportion of people in the 20 to 24 years age group - 9.61% in comparison to the Australian average of 7.45%

8. Increase in numbers and proportion of the population receiving disability pensions from 4798 in 1992 to 6642 in 1997 .

One other factor that has had a significant impact on the city's development needs to be noted. The ending of steelmaking at BHP in September 1999 is symbolic of a city in transition to a post-industrial era.

In terms of police administration the Newcastle and Waratah Local Area Commands service most of the LGA. The North West sector is administered from the Lower Hunter Command.

6. Crime Profile and Issues of Concern

The Community Safety Forum identified the promotion of community cohesion as the theme which would inform this plan. This theme emerged as a response to community concerns with regard to safety and crime issues. Alcohol and drug related crime, personal safety in public places, particularly in terms of inadequate lighting and transport, and vandalism were identified by the Forum as major concerns. In addition the issue of the need to engage with young people was also identified as an issue of concern. Although not a crime issue, engaging with young people was seen as an integral aspect of the process of building stronger communities.

Alcohol & Drug-related Crime:

Crime statistics indicate that offences against property comprise the major component of general crime within the Newcastle LGA³. The nexus between illicit drug use and property crime has been well established⁴. Similarly there is a strong causal link between alcohol and petty property crime, malicious damage, assault and anti-social behaviour⁵. This link has been confirmed by Police Crime Intelligence units at Newcastle and Waratah LACs.

Crime statistics indicate that offences against the person are at the lower end of crimes committed within the LGA, and are, in the main, no worse than the state average⁶. The exception to this general statement is Assault⁷. Discussions with local police Crime Intelligence Units indicate that there is a strong correlation between the consumption of alcohol and the incidence of Assault, and that a significant proportion of Assaults are random and incidental rather than pre-meditated. Statistics also suggest that the victims of Assault are more likely to be male and aged under 35 years.

³ CRIME STATISTICS NEWCASTLE LGA and NSW. *Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research*

⁴ See Addresses by Police Commissioner Ryan and Dr Don Weatherburn, Director NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Drugs Summit 17/5/99; and John Walker ESTIMATES OF THE COST OF CRIME IN AUSTRALIA IN 1996 Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice #72 August 1997 Australian Institute of Criminology

⁵ Tony Makkai ALCOHOL AND DISORDER IN THE AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY PARTS 1&2. *Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice #76, 77 December, January 1998* Australian Institute of Criminology; Michael Teece & Paul Williams ALCOHOL-RELATED ASSAULT *Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice #169* Australian Institute of Criminology

⁶ CRIME STATISTICS NEWCASTLE LGA and NSW. *Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research*

⁷ *ibid*

Personal safety in Public spaces particularly in terms of inadequate lighting:

As stated earlier crime statistics indicate that offences against the person are at the lower end of crimes committed within the LGA. However there is a great deal of concern within the community with regard to personal safety. This concern with personal safety in public places is, for example, reflected in Council's Social Plan survey. Clearly, despite the statistics, there is a perceived threat to personal safety within the community. Consultations conducted as part of the development of this and the previous plan as well as safety audit recommendations indicate that improved lighting would contribute significantly to people's perceptions of personal safety.

Safety on transport:

Crime statistics suggest that there has been a marked reduction in crimes on public transport in recent years⁸. However anecdotal evidence has emerged which suggests that transport (or lack of it) may be a significant contributor to the commission of incidental crime caused by people unable to get to or from their destinations⁹.

Vandalism:

Crime statistics suggest that incidents of Malicious Damage is a significant problem in the Newcastle area. However much of this malicious damage is linked with excessive alcohol consumption¹⁰. Similarly graffiti and other vandalism contribute to perceptions of a lack of safety.

Need to engage with young people

This is not a crime issue. However it was identified at the Community Safety Forum as an issue of concern. Clearly the Forum acknowledged that alienation of young people was an obstacle to the development of stronger communities and that if communities are to grow stronger and the community is to benefit from resultant crime prevention dividends, this issue needs to be addressed.

⁸ Police Transit Unit Broadmeadow, ANNUAL REPORT 1999, 2000; & BUS INCIDENT MONTHLY REPORTS for the year 2000

⁹ Consultations with young people and other stakeholders in the development of both crime prevention plans.

¹⁰ Discussions with Crime Intel Officers Newcastle and Waratah LAC

7. Key Areas and Issues

The key areas and issues which form the basis for the strategies outlined in this plan were identified by the Community Safety Forum and then prioritised by the Community Safety Panel.

	<i>Key Area</i>	<i>Key Issues</i>
1.	Promoting stronger communities	1.1 The need to support and complement current strategies which promote stronger communities 1.2 The need to develop complementary strategies which promote stronger communities 1.3 Promotion of crime prevention and issues and factors influencing criminality amongst the community
2	Alcohol & Drug-related Crime	2.1 Need to respond to changed patterns of entertainment consumption 2.2 The promotion of responsible consumption of alcohol 2.1 Need to work with and support local, state and national government drug use reduction initiatives 2.2 Drug addiction related secondary crime, particularly property crime
3.	Personal safety in public places particularly in terms of inadequate lighting and transport	3.1 The need for an integrated and co ordinated approach to street lighting 3.2 The need to improve transport services, particularly late-night transport services
4.	Vandalism	4.1 The need to develop management strategies which deal with incidental and other vandalism 4.2 Promoting the link between the creation of stronger communities and a sense of ownership of community assets and reduced vandalism
5.	The need to engage with young people	5.1 The need to foster a greater sense of being a part of their community amongst young people

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Key Area 1. – Promoting Stronger Communities

ISSUE:1.1	Need to support and complement current strategies which promote stronger communities
STRATEGIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1.1 Identify and support current federal and state government programs which promote stronger communities1.1.2 Promote a whole of Council approach to developing stronger communities by supporting current Council initiatives and developing complementary strategies for input into those strategies
RATIONALE:	<p>There are already a large number of programs, policies and strategies which promote stronger communities. Council has the capacity to promote these programs via its various contacts with the community. Similarly Council has identified the promotion of stronger communities via strategies such as its Social Plan. The nexus between stronger communities and crime prevention has been outlined elsewhere in this document (see Crime Prevention). The Crime Prevention Division of the Attorney General's Department stresses the importance of adopting crime prevention as a core council value and the need to make crime prevention part of the strategic planning process. A whole of council approach to promoting stronger communities can serve to further crime prevention across the community.</p>

STRATEGY 1.1.1	Identify And Support Current Federal And State Government Programs Which Promote Stronger Communities
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop a database of current federal and state government programs which promote stronger communities. ➤ Promote these programs as an integral adjunct to Council's community safety/crime prevention initiatives ➤ Promote greater co-operation between program and service providers
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enhanced community awareness of available programs ➤ Enhanced community awareness of the link between stronger communities and crime prevention
PARTNERS	State and Federal government stakeholders; Council departments: Community Forums; Town Committees etc, Non government organisations
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Incorporation of stronger communities and crime prevention into Council community survey ➤ Database of programs developed
TIMEFRAME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Database developed June 2001 ➤ Promotion of programs is ongoing
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NCC Community Safety program ➤ Already existing Council programs ➤ State and Federal Government programs ➤ Current programs undertaken by local community organisations

STRATEGY 1.1.2	Promote A Whole Of Council Approach To Developing Stronger Communities By Supporting Current Council Initiatives And Developing Complementary Strategies
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote and support the incorporation of the concept of community identity into the Urban Code. ➤ Support Council's Lifelong Learning Project initiative ➤ Support Council's role in encouraging the use of appropriate and effective volunteerism. ➤ Explore possible funding opportunities via the Federal Government's Stronger Families and Communities Strategy (SF&CS) ➤ Develop and deliver a crime prevention training module to train Council employees ➤ Work with Council Place managers and the business community to encourage activities in the public domain. ➤ Support the implementation of the Public Space Position Statement. ➤ Support the investigation of Council facilitated street parties as outlined in the social plan. ➤ Support the development of indicators to measure social capital concepts. ➤ Support the development of communication and consultation strategies. ➤ Support the community sector to resolve and address local problems and where appropriate advocate for support/funding to increase local capacity. ➤ Support and promote Council's public art and art placemaking and public events initiatives ➤ Support and promote the use of Council's website as a means of promoting stronger communities and of communities making links
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Urban Code Working Party includes CSO. Urban Code incorporates crime prevention and community safety principles ➤ Presentation to SMT on crime prevention and community safety principles. ➤ Funding opportunities under the SF&CS identified ➤ Presentation to Council Cultural Advisory Panel on crime prevention and community safety principles ➤ Business community is more aware of the link between safety and

	<p>activities in the public domain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Crime prevention training module developed ➤ Council website adapted to be more community interactive
PARTNERS	Council departments: City Strategy; Cultural Development Officer; Community Partnerships; Community Forums; Mainstreet Committees; Business community; Non government organisations
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ongoing
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NCC: Community Safety Program; Urban Code development, SF&CS Social Planning, City Strategy, Human Services; Community organisations,

Priority Area 1 – Promoting Stronger Communities

ISSUE: 1.2

The Need To Develop Complementary Strategies Which Promote Stronger Communities

STRATEGIES:

- 1.2.1 Identify existing groups and organisations which are already promoting stronger communities
- 1.2.2 Promote the correlation between crime prevention and the development of strong communities to these groups
- 1.2.3 Identify participants to establish a cross-Council working group to develop a methodology for establishing and promoting community-building activities
- 1.2.4 Advocate for more “Beat” police to promote a stronger connection between the police and the community and to promote perceptions of safety
- 1.2.5 Explore the potential for Community Conferencing as a strategy for dealing with community safety issues within and among communities

RATIONALE:

There are a number of organisations and groups operating outside of state and federal programs but which have a significant stake in promoting stronger communities. In broad terms these groups, by their very existence, promote stronger communities. These three strategies, which need to be viewed as an integrated whole rather than in isolation, seek to build upon the considerable community-building strengths which these groups already exhibit.

Consultations conducted as part of the research for this and the previous plan have highlighted the practice of beat police patrolling local communities as having a powerful practical and symbolic impact upon communities. The benefits accruing to the presence of Beat police are twofold:

1. The presence of police on foot in a community acts to promote interaction between the police and the community. The police are perceived as being part of the community.
2. The presence of the police serves to reassure members of the community.

Given that there are community perceptions of personal safety or lack of it, the presence of beat police would be a positive form of reassurance for the community. Community conferencing is a strategy for raising and dealing with problems within and amongst communities. The police service has for several years now successfully used community conferencing which brings together stakeholders to discuss and deal with their problems in a managed way.

<p>STRATEGY</p> <p>1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3</p>	<p>Identify Already Existing Groups And Organisations Already Promoting Stronger Communities</p> <p>Promote The Correlation Between Crime Prevention And The Development Of Strong Communities To These Groups</p> <p>Identify Participants To Establish A Cross-Council Working Group To Develop A Methodology For Establishing And Promoting Community-Building Activities</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish and maintain a database of community groups and organisations ➤ Develop an information kit on crime prevention for distribution to these groups ➤ Hold a series of consultations with community groups to develop community building strategies which will enhance perceptions of community safety ➤ Facilitate the overcoming of bureaucratic barriers which many communities face in attempting to organise community events ➤ Promote the concept of a “town centre” for individual suburbs and communities as a focus for community interaction.
<p>OUTCOMES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Database developed ➤ Information kit developed ➤ Consultations undertaken ➤ Strategies developed ➤ Administrative and other barriers to the easy organisation of community events identified. Strategies for overcoming same developed ➤ Beat police discussed in appropriate forums
<p>PARTNERS</p>	<p>Community groups and organisations; Newcastle City Council: Mainstreet Committees; Community Forums; Community Forums Co-ordinator; Place Managers; Police, Community organisations</p>
<p>EVALUATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information kit and community strategies evaluated via questionnaire survey ➤ Identification of, and plan for overcoming bureaucratic hindrances
<p>RESOURCES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NCC: Community safety program, Social Planner, Cultural Development, City Integration; Mainstreet Committees; Community Forums; Community Forums Co-ordinator; Place Managers; Community organisations

STRATEGY 1.2.4	Advocate For More “Beat” Police To Promote A Stronger Connection Between The Police And The Community And To Promote Perceptions Of Safety
ACTIONS	➤ Promote the notion of roving beat police as a means of promoting stronger community links and of promoting community safety
OUTCOMES	➤ Issue of the need for beat police is raised in appropriate forums
PARTNERS	Police, Community, Business community
EVALUATION	➤ Ongoing
RESOURCES	➤ Police

STRATEGY 1.2.5	Explore The Potential For Community Conferencing As A Strategy For Dealing With Community Safety issues Within And Among Communities
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Explore how the conferencing process may be adapted for wider use. ➤ Support police use of community conferencing ➤ Canvass the strategy across the community ➤ Explore potential scenarios which might be appropriate issues for conferencing
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community conferencing is more widely known and understood ➤ Potential for wider use of conferencing explored
PARTNERS	Police, community
EVALUATION	➤ Literature search
RESOURCES	➤ NCC: Community Safety Program, Police

Priority Area 1 – Promoting Stronger Communities

ISSUE: 1.3

Promotion of crime prevention and issues and factors influencing criminality amongst the community

STRATEGIES:

- 1.3.1 Develop a series of information briefs on crime and community safety for distribution to the media.
- 1.3.2 Develop a crime prevention resource library which is accessible to the community. Explore how the Council website can house this resource
- 1.3.3 Develop an integrated evaluation strategy to measure the success of strategies contained in this plan. Monitor behaviour and attitudinal change within the community

RATIONALE:

Crime prevention is made more effective if the community is better informed about the issues associated with the committing of crime. The Crime Prevention Division stresses the importance of communication strategies to educate the community and promote crime prevention.¹¹ A more informed community will enable the members of that community to distinguish between the perceptions and the reality of crime and also to make their own contribution to crime prevention.

Effective evaluation is integral to any planning process. Each of the strategies identified in this plan has an evaluation component. However it is important to assess the effectiveness of this plan as a whole. Evaluating crime prevention is a nebulous process: eg crime stats which increase may indicate the effectiveness of a program. (This has been the case in domestic violence and child abuse. The promotion of the Police Assistance Line produces similar results) So a multi-pronged approach which includes crime statistics, community surveys and focus groups and other evaluation tools needs to be developed.

¹¹ *Crime Prevention Resource Manual*, Crime Prevention Division, NSW Attorney General's Department, 1998, pp 90 - 93

STRATEGY 1.3.1, 1.3.2	<p>Develop A Series Of Information Briefs On Crime And Community Safety For Distribution To The Media</p> <p>Develop A Crime Prevention Resource Library Which Is Accessible To The Community. Explore How The Council Website Can House This Resource.</p>
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop information briefs. ➤ Explore media opportunities for disseminating the information ➤ Compile library ➤ Develop means for distribution and community access including using Council access points such as libraries ➤ Explore the development of a Crime Prevention Link on Council's website to disseminate information
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information briefs developed and distributed ➤ Library compiled and housed ➤ Access to library negotiated ➤ Website link canvassed
PARTNERS	NCC: Internet Services Co-ordinator; Communications Manager, NCC Libraries, Department of Education and Training
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information accessed ➤ Website contains Crime prevention link
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NCC Website, Community Safety program, NCC libraries

STRATEGY 1.3.3	Develop An Integrated Evaluation Strategy To Measure The Success Of Strategies Contained In This Plan. Monitor Behaviour And Attitudinal Change Within The Community
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop survey instrument ➤ Survey community ➤ Evaluate survey results ➤ Prepare a report on survey results ➤ Utilise survey results for future crime prevention and community safety planning ➤ Undertake a series of focus groups within the community
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Evaluation tool developed ➤ Consultation undertaken ➤ Data gathered
PARTNERS	NCC: Social Planner; Manager Communications
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Survey instrument developed ➤ Survey conducted ➤ Findings evaluated and reported
RESOURCES	➤ NCC Community Safety Program

Key Area 2 - Alcohol & Drug-Related Crime

ISSUE: 2.1	Need To Respond To Changed Patterns Of Entertainment Consumption.
STRATEGIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1.1 Develop a 12 month trial of the Nightrider City Loop Bus2.1.2 Develop an ongoing funding strategy for the Nightrider City Loop Bus2.1.3 Support and promote the strategies outlined in the Activating Public Transport in the Newcastle Region Issues Paper May 20002.1.4 Support the Newcastle Licensing Accord in its promotion of the responsible serving of alcohol
RATIONALE:	<p>Newcastle and particularly the CBD acts as a regional hub for commerce, entertainment and modern city life drawing as it does participants and patrons from across the LGA, the region and even outside the region. The past 20 year period has seen a wholesale shift in the way patrons consume entertainment: from an 8pm – 1am culture twenty years ago, to an 11pm – 5am culture now. This new culture has evolved without the same levels of services (police, transport) and without the presence of other patrons (attending films, restaurants, theatre). The provision of transport and other services needs to respond to this new pattern of usage. The NCC Transport strategy and the Newcastle Licensing Accord are effective vehicles for promoting these strategies.</p>

STRATEGY 2.1.1, 2.1.2	Develop A 12 Month Trial Of The Nightrider City Loop Bus Develop An Ongoing Funding Strategy For The Nightrider City Loop Bus
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify partners to support the Nightrider service ➤ Develop a funding strategy for the 12 month trial ➤ Evaluate the trial ➤ Seek out partners for ongoing funding for the service
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Partners for trial identified and enlisted ➤ Funding strategy in place ➤ Partners for ongoing funding identified
PARTNERS	AHA, Clubs NSW, Individual licensees, Newcastle Police LAC, Licensees, Licensing Accord Steering Committee, RTA/IPWEA, sponsors, Precinct Committees, Newcastle and Hunter Business Chamber, Crime Prevention Division of the Attorney General's Department
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Crime statistics for trial period compared with previous 12 months ➤ Qualitative survey of stakeholders to determine effectiveness of service in reducing anti-social behaviour
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community Safety Program, Partners contribution, Safer Community Compact Fund (AGD), RTA/IPWEA, Sponsors

STRATEGY 2.1.3	Support And Promote The Strategies Outlined In The Activating Public Transport In The Newcastle Region Issues Paper May 2000
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote discussion of late night transport needs in appropriate forums (Licensing Accord Steering Committee, Community Safety Panel,) ➤ Promote a trial of strategies outlined in the Issues Paper ➤ Promote a meeting of stakeholders to discuss late night transport issues ➤ Integrate the Nightrider service with the Nightcare initiative ➤ Develop an integrated evaluation methodology for the Nightrider and Nightcare initiatives with the University of Newcastle
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Late night transport is agenda item of appropriate forums ➤ Meetings of stakeholders arranged ➤ Nightrider and Nightcare initiatives integrated ➤ Comprehensive evaluation methodology developed
PARTNERS	Licensing Accord Steering Committee, Community Safety Panel, AHA, Clubs NSW, Newcastle Taxis, Newcastle Buses, State Rail, Newcastle & Waratah LAC, University of Newcastle
EVALUATION	➤ Evaluation as per strategy outlined
RESOURCES	➤ Community Safety Program, Activating Public Transport in the Newcastle Region Issues Paper May 2000

STRATEGY 2.1.4	Support The Newcastle Licensing Accord In Its Promotion Of The Responsible Serving Of Alcohol
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop crime prevention initiatives in concert with Licensing Accord Steering Committee ➤ Ensure Nightrider service and other alcohol related initiatives are promoted as part of the Accord process
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Greater awareness of Licensing Accord and related crime prevention initiatives ➤ Greater awareness of responsible serving of alcohol practices ➤ Extension of responsible serving of alcohol practices across the industry
PARTNERS	Licensing Accord Steering Committee, Accord Project Worker
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hunter Health CFHA to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Liquor Accord
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Licensing Accord Steering Committee; Liquor industry; Police; Department of Gaming and Racing

Key Area 2 – Alcohol and Drug-Related Crime

ISSUE: 2.2

The Promotion Of Responsible Consumption Of Alcohol

STRATEGIES:

- 2.2.1 Develop an In-Schools performance piece which explores the theme of responsible alcohol consumption in association with the Regional Community Safety Working Party
- 2.2.2 Integrate this program with other alcohol and other drug programs
- 2.2.3 Support the work of the Newcastle Licensing Accord in promoting responsible alcohol consumption

RATIONALE:

It has been pointed out many times in consultations that there is a strong correlation between anti-social behaviour and alcohol consumption. This correlation has been confirmed by discussions with police. It has also been pointed out that the exhibited anti-social behaviour is not in evidence in other countries which have a different cultural approach to the consumption of alcohol (France, Italy and Greece have been cited as examples). Clearly the relationship between alcohol consumption and anti-social behaviour involves patterns of learned behaviour underpinned by a set of attitudes and values. It is important that strategies which try to prevent and reduce this behaviour need to address current behaviour of those already of a legal age. This, the Licensing Accord attempts to achieve. It is also important to develop strategies which target those who are yet to reach their legal majority in order to try and prevent or modify learned attitudes and values which manifest themselves in anti-social behaviour.

STRATEGY 2.2.1, 2.2.2	Develop An In-Schools Performance Which Explores The Theme Of Responsible Alcohol Consumption In Association With The Regional Community Safety Working Party Integrate This Program With Other Alcohol And Other Drug Programs
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seek the co-operation of members of the regional working Party in developing a regional project ➤ Develop a briefing framework for the development of the performance piece ➤ Seek the co-operation of the Department of School Education in order to facilitate the play's performance in schools ➤ The creation of an appropriate reference group including Department of Health representatives to oversee this project and to ensure the play is integrated with other alcohol and other drug programs ➤ Investigate funding sources for the project ➤ Develop the play in co-operation with a local theatre company with expertise in this area
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The identification of funding sources. Development and submission of funding applications ➤ The development of an appropriate in-schools performance piece ➤ The presentation of this piece in schools across the region ➤ The development of an associated education “package” to complement the performance
PARTNERS	Regional Community Safety Working party; DET, Local theatre company, Licensing Accord Steering Committee, Department of Health
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of performances of the play ➤ Internal evaluation included in the education package
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regional Community Safety Working Party; AGD

STRATEGY 2.2.3	Support The Work Of The Newcastle Licensing Accord In Promoting Responsible Alcohol Consumption
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop responsible consumption of alcohol initiatives in concert with Licensing Accord Steering Committee ➤ Ensure Nightrider service and other alcohol related initiatives are promoted as part of the Accord process
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Greater awareness of Licensing Accord and related crime prevention initiatives ➤ Greater awareness of responsible consumption of alcohol initiatives ➤ Promotion of responsible consumption of alcohol practice as part of the Accord process.
PARTNERS	Licensing Accord Steering Committee
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hunter Health CFHA to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Licensing Accord
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Newcastle Licensing Accord Steering Committee; Liquor industry; Police; Department of Gaming and Racing

Key Area 2 - Alcohol & Drug-Related Crime

ISSUE: 2.3

Need To Work With And Support Local, State And National Government Drug Use Reduction Initiatives

STRATEGIES:

2.3.1 Facilitate the participation of the Project Manager – Central Coast/Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy in the Regional Community Safety Working Party

2.3.2 Support the Initiatives of the Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy

RATIONALE:

The link between crime and drug use is long established. The NSW Drugs and Community Action Strategy is a major initiative to emerge from the NSW Drugs Summit held in 1999. Co-ordinating crime prevention initiatives with the Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy is an efficient use of resources. The Regional Community Safety Working Party is the most appropriate vehicle to drive this.

STRATEGY 2.3.1	Facilitate The Participation Of The Project Manager – Central Coast/Hunter Drugs And Community Action Strategy In The Regional Community Safety Working Party
ACTIONS	➤ Invite the Project Manager – Central Coast/Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy to join the Regional Community Safety Working Party
OUTCOMES	➤ Project Manager becomes member of Working Party
PARTNERS	Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy
EVALUATION	➤ Membership of Working Party
RESOURCES	➤ Regional Community Safety Working Party; Central Coast/Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy

STRATEGY 2.3.2	Support The Initiatives Of The Hunter Drugs And Community Action Strategy
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify relevant initiatives in Action strategy ➤ Support where appropriate the relevant initiatives
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Issues identified ➤ Initiatives supported
PARTNERS	Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy
EVALUATION	➤ Evaluation strategies identified in Strategy
RESOURCES	➤ Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy

Key Area 2 - Alcohol & Drug-Related Crime

ISSUE: 2.4	Drug Addiction Related Secondary Crime, Particularly Property Crime
STRATEGIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.4.1 Evaluate the Cocoon model. If successful, resource and promote the Cocoon Strategy across the Local Government area2.4.2 Seek the assistance of the Real Estate Institute, the Property Council and the Department of Housing in promoting the Cocoon Strategy and associated measures amongst tenant occupiers2.4.3 Promote and support the Hunter Regional Police IT'S WRONG TO STEAL. HOW WOULD YOU FEEL? Offender behaviour modification program.2.4.4 Promote the initiatives of the Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy (see 2.3.1, 2.3.2)
RATIONALE:	<p>Secondary crime committed to fund illicit drug use is a major cause of property crime. This correlation is confirmed by the high rate of property crime contained in crime statistics. The cocoon strategy operates at a number of levels. It is a local community-based security initiative which encourages neighbours to "look out" for each other and builds upon and formalises the kinds of informal security arrangements which many neighbours already have in place. But it also promotes stronger communities by encouraging neighbours to work together, to share resources and to socialise. Consultations undertaken in the development of this plan have identified the transience of renting populations as a barrier to the success of this initiative. It is important therefore to target tenant occupiers via the first point of contact: the real estate agent.</p> <p>The Hunter Regional Police Offender behaviour modification program seeks to reduce property crime by targeting offender behaviour. It looks to develop a set of integrated strategies built around the focus of a series of TV commercials targeting offender behaviour and also the families of offenders. In doing so this program promotes the development of stronger communities Supporting this targeted program is an efficient use of resources.</p>

STRATEGY 2.4.1	Resource And Promote The Cocoon Strategy Across The Local Government Area
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Evaluate the trial of the Cocoon strategy for the Inner City ➤ Develop and modify the Cocoon strategy in line with the lessons learnt from the Inner City evaluation ➤ Develop a promotion and distribution strategy for the Cocoon kits ➤ Distribute the Cocoon kits ➤ Develop a Cocoon strategy reference group to monitor and advise on the strategy
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Evaluation of trial completed ➤ Cocoon kits with modifications developed ➤ Promotion and distribution strategy developed ➤ Reference group established
PARTNERS	Community Forums; Residents Groups; Police
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Formal evaluation included in the Cocoon strategy
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community Safety Program

STRATEGY 2.4.2	Seek The Assistance Of The Real Estate Institute And The Department Of Housing In Promoting The Cocoon Strategy And Associated Measures Amongst Tenant Occupiers
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Engage with the Real Estate Institute to seek their co-operation as a partner in the Cocoon and community building initiatives. ➤ Engage with Department of Housing (DOH) to seek their co-operation as a partner in the cocoon and community building initiatives ➤ Develop an information package on community building for distribution to individual real estate agents and DOH . ➤ Seek the assistance of the Real Estate agent responsible for a property in becoming an interested party in individual cocoons ➤ Make cocoon information available to developers
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Real estate Institute becomes a partner ➤ DOH becomes a partner ➤ Information package developed ➤ Individual real estate agents are aware of the Cocoon strategy
PARTNERS	Real estate Institute, Real estate agents, DOH, Property Council, Developers
EVALUATION	➤ Incorporated in Cocoon Strategy
RESOURCES	➤ NCC Community Safety Program

STRATEGY 2.4.3	Promote And Support The Hunter Regional Police IT'S WRONG TO STEAL. HOW WOULD YOU FEEL? Offender Behaviour Modification Program
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seek support for this program from the Regional Community Safety Working Party in order to ensure a regional focus for the program. ➤ Provide advice and to Hunter Regional Police on the program including advice on the preparation of the integrated program brief including a community education kit ➤ Become a partner in the program ➤ Seek out funding sources to resource the program ➤ Help prepare funding applications to resource the program ➤ Support the development of the initial TV ads
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support for program endorsed by Regional Community Safety Working Party. ➤ TV ad is developed and run ➤ Brief for the integrated program prepared ➤ Funding sources identified. Grant applications prepared and submitted
PARTNERS	Hunter Region Police, Regional Community Safety Working Party, NBN, Sponsors
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Evaluation developed by Police as part of the program development ➤ Reduction in property crime
RESOURCES	➤ NCC Community Safety Program, Hunter Region Police, Regional Community Safety Working Party

Key Area 3 – **Personal Safety In Public Places Particularly In Terms Of Inadequate Lighting And Transport**

ISSUE: 3.1

The Need For An Integrated And Co-Ordinated Approach To Street Lighting

STRATEGIES:

3.1.1 Extend the parameters of Council's internal lighting working party to a city-wide focus

3.1.2 Develop a comprehensive Council lighting policy which embraces community safety as a core component

RATIONALE:

The establishment of an internal working party bringing together Council officers with responsibility for lighting was a key strategy from Council's first crime prevention plan. This working party is now firmly established. A logical extension of this working party's brief is for it to encompass a city-wide approach. Similarly, the development of a comprehensive lighting policy will provide the vehicle for ensuring that community safety issues affecting lighting are addressed as a matter of course. Given that the lifespan of street light fittings (approximately 22,000) is 20 years and given the size of Council's financial commitment to street lighting (net \$1.2 million), a strategic approach via sound policy development is the most effective means of bringing about improvements.

STRATEGY 3.1.1, 3.1.2	Extend The Parameters Of Council's Internal Lighting Working Party To A City-Wide Focus Develop A Comprehensive Council Lighting Policy Which Embraces Community Safety As A Core Component
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Extend the operational focus of the Lighting Working party to include a city wide focus ➤ Develop framework and criteria for policy development ➤ Establish timeframe for the development and implementation of the policy ➤ Create the policy
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working Party has city wide focus ➤ Framework and criteria for policy development including timeframe developed ➤ Policy developed
PARTNERS	Lighting Working Party
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Benchmarking incorporated within lighting policy
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lighting Working party, City Services and Presentation; City Strategy; Development and Environment; CSO

Key Area 3 - **Personal Safety In Public Places Particularly In Terms Of Inadequate Lighting And Transport**

ISSUE: 3.2	The Need To Improve Transport Services, Particularly Late-Night Transport Services
STRATEGIES:	3.2.1 Support and promote the strategies outlined in the Activating Public Transport in the Newcastle Region Issues Paper May 2000 (see also 2.1.3)
RATIONALE:	See 2.1

Priority Area 4 – Vandalism

ISSUE: 4.1 **The Need To Develop Management Strategies Which Deal With Incidental And Other Vandalism**

STRATEGIES: 4.1.1 See 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1
4.1.2 Develop ongoing pro- active graffiti programs and reduction strategies

RATIONALE: With the exception of graffiti vandalism most other vandalism and anti-social behaviour is associated with 20 – 35 year old males and more than likely involves alcohol. The influence of alcohol introduces a random or incidental factor. Diversionary strategies (2.1, 2.2) seek to reduce incidental vandalism associated with alcohol. Strategies which seek to promote stronger communities (1.1, 1.2) aim to create a greater sense of ownership amongst members of communities thereby reducing the numbers of disaffected and marginalised groups and individuals who might commit vandalism. Situational strategies (3.2) seek to discourage vandalism by making it more difficult to commit and easier to detect.

A Council internal Graffiti Working Party was a key strategy of Council’s first crime prevention plan for the inner city. This working party is now firmly established. Council has a number of Graffiti management and reduction programs including Youth Programs and the GRAFFITI BLASTERS project which are monitored by the Working Party. The Working Party brings together Council Officers with responsibility for pro-active programs and graffiti reduction. A logical extension of this working party’s brief is for it to encompass a city-wide approach.

Pro-active strategies have proven effective in reducing illegal graffiti. This has been recognised by the state government which has introduced its BEAT GRAFFITI funding program which funds pro-active graffiti reduction strategies. Pro-active strategies when combined with a targeted and effective graffiti removal strategy make for a systematic and co-ordinated graffiti management program.

STRATEGY 4.1.2	Develop Ongoing Pro-Active Graffiti Programs And Reduction Strategies
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Extend the operational focus of the Graffiti Working party to include a city wide focus ➤ Develop a Beat Graffiti project ➤ Prepare and submit a Beat Graffiti grant application ➤ Continue to promote the work of the Graffiti Blasters program and the Graffiti hotline ➤ Develop a holistic graffiti management plan ➤ Graffiti Working Party to monitor and assess graffiti management and reduction strategies
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working Party has city wide focus ➤ Beat Graffiti project developed. Grant application submitted ➤ Graffiti management plan developed ➤ Graffiti Working Party evaluates current strategies
PARTNERS	NCC Graffiti Working Party, other utilities, property owners & managers
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Graffiti WP monitoring and evaluating current strategies ➤ Internal evaluation in Beat Graffiti project ➤ Evaluation incorporated in management plan
RESOURCES	➤ Beat Graffiti Grant program, City Services and Presentation Graffiti Management Services, City Strategy; Graffiti Working Party, Juvenile Crime Prevention Manual

STRATEGY 4.2	Promote The Link Between The Creation Of Stronger Communities And A Sense Of Ownership Of Community Assets In Order To Reduce Vandalism
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop a community resource kit to promote community activities and the shared use of public space. ➤ Enlist the aid of Community Forums and other similar community organisations in the promotion of stronger communities ➤ Enlist the aid of business organisations in the promotion of stronger communities
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Resource kit developed ➤ Kit distributed to Community Forums and residents groups and community organisations
PARTNERS	Community Forums; Residents Groups; Mainstreet committees; Business organisations; The Alliance; NCC: Youth Programs, Place Managers; DET; DS&R, Youth sector, Community organisations, Young people
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Resource kit has its own evaluation ➤ Ongoing
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community Forums, Community organisations, Community Safety Program, Social Impact Consultative Panel

Priority Area 5 – The Need To Engage With Young People

ISSUE: 5.1 **The Need To Foster A Greater Sense Of Being A Part Of Their Community.**

- STRATEGIES:**
- 5.1.1 Support the work of Newcastle Youth Council and NCC Youth Programs
 - 5.1.2 Support the Youth Venue and its activities
 - 5.1.3 Provide ongoing support for Council's COMMITMENT BY NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE CITY
 - 5.1.4 Regularly consult with young people
 - 5.1.5 Incorporate in the community resource kit (4.2) information and ideas for encouraging people of different ages to positively interact
 - 5.1.6 Promote already existing recreational services, facilities and programs for young people. Support the extension of these services, facilities and programs.
 - 5.1.7 Promote the development of programs and activities which encourage positive interaction between young people and police
 - 5.1.8 Encourage the development of programs which facilitate intergenerational learning
 - 5.1.9 Encourage a positive media representation of young people
- See also 1.2, 2.4.1

RATIONALE: There is a tendency to “demonise” young people particularly with regard to the way young people are represented in the media. It is important to remember that the overwhelming majority of young people are, like the majority of their adult counterparts, decent law-abiding citizens. However there are young people who feel alienated from their community. It is important for the community as a whole to address this alienation and to ensure that young people feel included. Council's Public Space Policy is an example of this kind of inclusiveness. The theme of this plan is community cohesion. Clearly in order to promote stronger communities, it is necessary to develop strategies which are inclusive of young people and which encourage and develop intergenerational contact and rapport. Young people who feel they are included in their community and who feel valued, are less likely to offend against that community.

<p>STRATEGY 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4</p>	<p>Support The Work Of Newcastle Youth Council And NCC Youth Programs</p> <p>Support The Youth Venue And Its Activities</p> <p>Provide Ongoing Support Council's COMMITMENT BY NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE CITY</p> <p>Regularly Consult With Young People</p>
<p>ACTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote Youth Council and NCC Youth programs as part of the Community Safety program ➤ Advocate on behalf of the Youth Venue as a focus for youth activities ➤ Promote Council's Commitment To Young People as a positive and practical inclusive strategy ➤ Explore the practicality of joint community safety initiatives with NCC Youth Programs ➤ Ensure young person representation on Community Safety panel ➤ Undertake regular reporting by CSO to Newcastle Youth Association and Youth Council
<p>OUTCOMES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Council's youth programs and Commitment To Young People are seen as pro-active programs and policy. ➤ Possible joint community safety initiatives with NCC Youth Programs are identified ➤ Youth-related safety issues are incorporated within the ambit of the safety program
<p>PARTNERS</p>	<p>NCC Youth programs, Young people</p>
<p>EVALUATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ongoing
<p>RESOURCES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NCC Community Safety Program, Youth programs

STRATEGY 5.1.4	Incorporate In The Community Resource Kit (4.2) Information And Ideas For Encouraging People Of Different Ages To Positively Interact
ACTIONS	➤ Identify information and ideas for encouraging people of different ages to positively interact for inclusion in the kit
OUTCOMES	➤ Ideas and information identified
PARTNERS	DS&R, Youth interagency, Youth Access
EVALUATION	➤ Included in kit
RESOURCES	➤ NCC Community safety program

STRATEGY 5.1.5	Promote Already Existing Recreational Services, Facilities And Programs For Young People. Support The Extension Of These Services, Facilities And Programs
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support and promote the programs of NSW Department of Sport & Recreation (DSR) and the Active Australia Program (AAP) ➤ Support and promote the programs of Youth Access ➤ Support and promote partnership programs which target marginalised and “at risk” young people ➤ Support and promote the discussion group youthaustralia-subscribe@egroups.com which provides a forum for young people wishing to become involved in their communities
OUTCOMES	➤ Programs are more widely known and used
PARTNERS	Newcastle Youth Programs, PCYC, Dept. DSR, AAP, <i>Youth Access</i>
EVALUATION	➤ Ongoing
RESOURCES	➤ PCYC, DSR, AAP

STRATEGY 5.1.6	Promote The Development Of Programs And Activities Which Encourage Positive Interaction Between Young People And Police
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support existing sporting and other recreational activities which encourage interaction between police ➤ Promote additional activities and the development of a calendar of activities ➤ Work with Police Youth Liaison Officers (YLOs) to explore the development of a regional approach ➤ Seek the support of the Regional Community Safety Working Party in developing a regional approach
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Annual calendar of activities developed ➤ Police YLOs invited to a meeting of Regional Community Safety Working Party
PARTNERS	Police, Regional Community Safety Working Party, D S & R, Wondiyali, Koori Youth Service, NCC:Youth Programs, PCYC
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ongoing
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DSR, Police YLO programs, PCYC, AAP, Youth service providers

STRATEGY 5.1.7	Encourage The Development Of Programs Which Facilitate Intergenerational Learning
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support the development of programs which encourage intergenerational learning as per Council's Social Plan.
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Learning is perceived as an ongoing lifelong activity ➤ Intergenerational learning ➤ Support the work of the STAR Foundation
PARTNERS	Educational institutions; STAR Foundation; NCC: Social Planner
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Incorporated in the strategy
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Educational institutions; STAR Foundation

STRATEGY 5.1.7	Encourage a positive media representation of young people
ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Encourage the Regional Community Safety Working Party to develop a positive media representation of young people media strategy ➤ Promote the work of NCC Youth programs, Youth Council etc ➤ Monitor and report on representation of young people in the media
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Positive media representation of young people media strategy developed ➤ NCC Youth Programs, Youth Council more widely known ➤ Media representation of young people monitored. Regular reporting.
PARTNERS	NCC: Youth Programs, Youth Council, Youth Interagency, Regional Community Safety Working Party
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ongoing
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NCC Youth programs, Youth Council

TIMEFRAME FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Completed by (year)

STRATEGY		1	2	Ongoing
1.1.1	Identify and support current federal and state government programs which promote stronger communities	✓		
1.1.2	Promote a whole of Council approach to developing stronger communities by supporting current Council initiatives and developing complementary strategies for input into those strategies		✓	
1.2.1	Identify existing groups and organisations which are already promoting stronger communities	✓		
1.2.2	Promote the correlation between crime prevention and the development of strong communities to these groups			✓
1.2.3	Identify participants to establish a cross-Council working group to develop a methodology for establishing and promoting community-building activities	✓		
1.2.4	Advocate for more "Beat" police to promote a stronger connection between the police and the community and to promote perceptions of safety	✓		
1.2.5	Explore the potential for Community Conferencing as a strategy for dealing with community safety issues within and among communities	✓		
1.3.1	Develop a series of information briefs on crime and community safety for distribution to the media.			✓
1.3.2	Develop a crime prevention resource library which is accessible to the community. Explore how the Council website can house this resource		✓	
1.3.3	Develop an integrated evaluation strategy to measure the success of strategies contained in this plan. Monitor behaviour and attitudinal change within the community		✓	
2.1.1	Develop a 12 month trial of the Nightrider City Loop Bus	✓		
2.1.2	Develop an ongoing funding strategy for the Nightrider City Loop Bus	✓		
2.1.3	Support and promote the strategies outlined in the Activating Public Transport in the Newcastle Region Issues Paper May 2000			✓
2.1.4	Support the Newcastle Licensing Accord in its promotion of the responsible serving of alcohol			✓
2.2.1	Develop an In-Schools performance piece which explores the theme of responsible alcohol consumption in association with the Regional Community Safety Working Party	✓		
2.2.2	Integrate this program with other alcohol and other drug programs	✓		
2.2.3	Support the work of the Newcastle Licensing Accord in promoting responsible alcohol consumption			✓
2.3.1	Facilitate the participation of the Project Manager – Central Coast/ Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy in the Regional Community Safety Working Party	✓		
2.3.2	Support the Initiatives of the Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy			✓
2.4.1	Evaluate the Cocoon model. If successful, resource and promote the Cocoon Strategy across the Local Government area		✓	
2.4.2	Seek the assistance of the Real Estate Institute, the Property Council and the Department of Housing in promoting the Cocoon Strategy and associated measures amongst tenant occupiers		✓	
2.4.3	Promote and support the Hunter Regional Police IT'S WRONG TO STEAL. HOW WOULD YOU FEEL? Offender behaviour modification program		✓	

2.4.4	Promote the initiatives of the Hunter Drugs and Community Action Strategy (see 2.3.1, 2.3.2)			✓
3.1.1	Extend the parameters of Council's internal lighting working party to a city-wide focus	✓		
3.1.2	Develop a comprehensive Council lighting policy which embraces community safety as a core component	✓		
3.2.1	Support and promote the strategies outlined in the Activating Public Transport in the Newcastle Region Issues Paper May 2000 (see also 2.1.3)			✓
4.1.1	See 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.14.1.2			✓
4.1.2	Develop ongoing pro-active graffiti programs and reduction strategies			✓
4.2	Promote the link between the creation of stronger communities and a sense of ownership of community assets in order to reduce vandalism		✓	
5.1.1	Support the work of Newcastle Youth Council and NCC Youth Programs			✓
5.1.2	Support the Youth Venue and its activities			✓
5.1.3	Provide ongoing support for Council's COMMITMENT BY NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE CITY			✓
5.1.4	Regularly consult with young people			✓
5.1.5	Incorporate in the community resource kit (4.2) information and ideas for encouraging people of different ages to positively interact		✓	
5.1.6	Promote already existing recreational services, facilities and programs for young people. Support the extension of these services, facilities and programs.		✓	
5.1.7	Promote the development of programs and activities which encourage positive interaction between young people and police			✓
5.1.8	Encourage the development of programs which facilitate intergenerational learning			✓

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Bureau of Crime Statistics	The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research is a statistical and research agency within the New South Wales Attorney General's Department. It records and documents crime statistics for the state.
Community Conferencing	A strategy for raising and dealing with problems within and amongst communities which brings together stakeholders to discuss and deal with their problems in a managed way.
Crime Prevention Division	A unit of the Attorney General's Department which facilitates crime prevention programs and projects across the state.
Developmental crime prevention	Interventions to reduce risk factors and/or increase protective factors that affect an individual's behaviour.
Local Area Commands (LAC)	Police administrative units. Most of the Newcastle LGA is in either Newcastle or Waratah LAC
Newcastle Licensing Accord	Agreement between the Licensees, Newcastle and Waratah Local Area Commands, Newcastle City Council, the Premier's Department, NSW Department of Gaming and Racing and Hunter Area Health to support and promote responsible serving and consumption of alcohol.
Police Crime Intelligence Section	Local police unit responsible for collecting and interpreting crime data.
Regional Community Safety Working Party	Interagency of crime prevention officers working in the Lower Hunter. It also includes Officers responsible for Licensing Accords, as well as regional programs addressing violence and drugs strategy.
Situational Crime Prevention	Crime prevention by changing the environment so that it is more difficult or riskier to commit a crime.
Social Crime Prevention	Aims to strengthen communities and change social conditions
Transit Police	Police unit responsible for policing public transport.
Urban Code	A document that incorporates all of Council's Planning documents and will provide technical details that help with the implementation of the Newcastle Urban Strategy and Newcastle Local Environmental Plan.