



Shire of Northam  
*Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle*

# **Shire of Northam**

## **Notes**

### **Community Safety Committee**

**17 November 2020**

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## 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

A quorum was not achieved, therefore no formal decisions were made.

## 2. ATTENDANCE

### Committee Members:

Chairperson  
Northam Police  
Northam Roadwise Committee  
LDAG  
DLGSC  
  
Dept. of Communities Housing  
Northam Chamber of Commerce  
Department of Education

Cr Julie Williams  
SSGT David Hornsby  
Mr Cliff Simpson  
Mrs Rose Power  
Ms Samantha  
Cornthwaite  
Mr Attila Mencshelyi  
Ms Esther Bliss  
Mrs Sharon Bray

### Committee Ex-Officio Members:

Chief Executive Officer  
Shire of Northam  
Shire of Northam  
Senior Ranger

Mr Jason Whiteaker  
Ms Jaime Hawkins  
Miss Jordyn Budas  
Ms Kellee Walters

### 2.1 APOLOGIES

Councillor  
Wundowie Police  
Northam Youth Wellbeing Plan  
Community Representative  
Northam PCYC  
Councillor  
Avon Community Services  
WA Country Health

Cr Rob Tinetti  
SGT Sarah Clarke  
Ms Jo-Anne Woodruff  
Mr Denis Beresford  
Ms Jane Atterby  
Cr Maria Girak  
Ms Kristie-Ann Andela  
Ms Sonya Furnyvall

### 2.2 APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

### 2.3 ABSENT

Dept. of Communities Child Protection  
& Family Support

Ms Dawn Lamperd

### 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### 3.1 DV ASSIST TELEPHONE COUNSELLING & SUPPORT SERVICE

<b>Address:</b>	DV Assist, PO Box 1249 Esperance WA 6450
<b>Owner:</b>	Inez Carey, Client Services Manager, DV Assist
<b>File Reference:</b>	1.3.12.1
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	N/A
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	N/A
<b>Officer Declaration of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirement:</b>	-
<b>Press release to be issued:</b>	Nil

#### BRIEF

For the committee to be informed of the new services being offered by DV Assist to support people in the Northam area impacted by family or domestic violence.

#### ATTACHMENTS

Nil

#### A. BACKGROUND / DETAILS

DV Assist are a new telephone counselling and support service for anyone living in rural and remote WA experiencing family or domestic violence. They are keen to meet with agencies and services that support people impacted by family and domestic violence and discuss ways they may work alongside one another and establish referral pathways.

#### B. CONSIDERATIONS

##### B.1 Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Theme Area 2: Safety and Security.

Outcome: Northam residents are able to pursue the fullest life possible without fear of or hindrance from crime and disorder.

Objective: Plan and implement strategies to address crime and safety within the Shire of Northam:

- o increase community participation in identifying and reporting of crime

- increase community awareness and understanding of how to prevent crime and improve community safety
- work with key stakeholders and community groups to plan and implement community safety and crime prevention initiatives

**B.2 Financial / Resource Implications**

Nil

**B.3 Legislative Compliance**

Nil.

**B.4 Policy Implications**

Nil.

**B.5 Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation**

Nil

**B.6 Risk Implications**

Risk Category	Description	Rating (likelihood x consequence)	Mitigation Action
Financial	N/A		
Health & Safety	N/A		
Reputation	N/A		
Service Interruption	N/A		
Compliance	N/A		
Property	N/A		
Environment	N/A		

**DISCUSSION**

Mrs Sharon Bray entered at 11.08am

Ms Esther Bliss entered at 11.15am

Ms Kellee Walters entered at 11.29am

Inez from DV Assist presented to the committee.

DV Assist is an online service, specialising in meeting the challenges faced by women experiencing family and domestic violence in rural, regional and remote WA. They provide support to people experiencing violence and those

worried about friends/family members. They have counsellors available 10am-7pm, via telephone counselling and silent support (webchat) and all counsellors are experienced in family violence etc. DV Assist provides one off support as well as long term counselling, creating a care plan to fill in the gaps and providing that additional support to what can be provided locally. In a year's time DV Assist are hoping to be able to provide perpetrator support. DV Assist is a funded 3 year project, of which it is a year in.

Mr Mencshelyi questioned where DV Assist is based. Ms Inez responded advising that they are located in Subiaco, however are an online based support service. DV Assist have started to advise services that people tend to disclose (hairdressers, childcare centres, schools).

Ms Inez advised that there is a BHP grant currently open for COVID response for family and domestic violence.

Cr Williams asked if being a website, are people worried partners are watching what they are doing. Ms Inez responded stating that they ask the person if they know how to clear their web browser, and if the device that they are using is a shared device before they ask any questions. Hoping to have daily contact by February next year.

Ms Inez stated that apart of their strategy they connect with GP clinics, day care centres, businesses where a woman might go alone and can get disclosure, is there a room or space that has a phone that can be used to call anonymously?

Mrs Rose Power questioned if they have contacted chaplaincies (i.e schools)? Ms Inez responded not yet, but they are on the list. There is a remote farmer's chaplaincy Service for those living on farms and can't leave or are not allowed to.

<https://dvassist.org.au/>

### 3.2 REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2017 - 2021

<b>File Reference:</b>	1.3.12.1
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Jaime Hawkins Community Development Officer
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Jason Whiteaker Chief Executive Officer
<b>Officer Declaration of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirement:</b>	Simple majority
<b>Press release to be issued:</b>	No

#### BRIEF

For the committee to be informed of the process proposed for the review and update of the Community Safety & Crime Prevention Plan 2017 – 2021.

#### ATTACHMENTS

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##### A. BACKGROUND / DETAILS

The Shire of Northam Community Safety & Crime Prevention Plan (CSCP) 2017 – 2021 was developed as a four year outlook aiming to map the issues of primary concern to the community and document the strategies and partnerships to deal with these issues.

The Community Safety & Crime Prevention Plan considers the perception of crime as well as the actual crime. Together with key partners, forming the Shire of Northam Community Safety Committee, the Shire is committed to achieving our visions for Northam to be a vibrant growing community that is safe, caring and inclusive.

As the plan is nearing the end of its four year lifespan it is important to review the plan. Input is sought from the Committee to determine the process for the reviewing and updating of the plan.

##### B. CONSIDERATIONS

###### B.1 Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Theme Area 2: Safety and Security.

- Outcome: Northam residents are able to pursue the fullest life possible without fear of or hindrance from crime and disorder.
- Objective: Plan and implement strategies to address crime and safety within the Shire of Northam:
- o increase community participation in identifying and reporting of crime
  - o increase community awareness and understanding of how to prevent crime and improve community safety
  - o work with key stakeholders and community groups to plan and implement community safety and crime prevention initiatives

## B.2 Financial / Resource Implications

There is a budget allocation of \$5,000 for Community Safety Plan initiatives

## B.3 Legislative Compliance

Nil.

## B.4 Policy Implications

Nil.

## B.5 Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

There has been ongoing engagement and consultation with stakeholders of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan.

## B.6 Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (likelihood x consequence)	Mitigation Action
Financial	Nil	Nil	Nil
Health & Safety	Nil	Nil	Nil
Reputation	Community safety is an area of public concern.	Low(3) x Moderate (3)= Moderate (9)	Cross agency Community Safety and Crime committee work together to implement strategies to reduce community crime and anti-social behaviour.

Service Interruption	Nil	Nil	Nil
Compliance	Nil	Nil	Nil
Property	Nil	Nil	Nil
Environment	Nil	Nil	Nil

### C. OFFICER'S COMMENT

The Community Development Officer has contacted the Local Government Community Safety Online Network for information on the processes undertaken by other Councils to review and update their Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plans. Information received includes,

- using a recommended community safety consultant,
- merging the community safety plan with the public health plan,
- Incorporating the objectives of the community safety plan into Councils Strategic Community Plan, and doing away with the CSCPP, whilst retaining the Community Safety Committee.

Other local governments have agreed to share information, but this was not made available in time for this meeting. This information will continue to be obtained and taken into consideration.

The review will commence prior to the next meeting of the Community Safety Committee. It will be undertaken following the proposed stages:

1. Data measures pertaining to the objectives of the CSCPP to be obtained from 2017 to present.  
 Timeframe – February 2021
2. Report to be presented to the committee of the Shire's performance against the objectives of the CSCPP 2017 – 2021.  
 Timeframe – February 2021
3. Undertake community consultation process, seeking to understand the perceived issues in the area of community safety and obtain community input into strategies and actions Council may take to address these concerns.  
 Timeframe – May 2021
4. Undertake stakeholder consultation, seeking to understand the issues faced in relation to community safety and crime prevention and their suggestions for dealing with these. Committee to provide suggested list of stakeholders and relevant contacts.  
 Timeframe – May 2021
5. Workshop with Committee to develop the key focus areas and objectives of the plan.  
 Timeframe – May 2021
6. Develop draft plan and present to committee.  
 Timeframe - August 2021
7. Present the draft plan to the community for public comment.  
 Timeframe – August 2021
8. Report outcome of public comment period to the Committee.

Timeframe – September 2021

9. Present final plan to committee for endorsement.

Timeframe – October 2021

10. Present final plan to Council for endorsement

Timeframe – November 2021

The proposed timeframe has been suggested based upon the schedule for the 2021 Community Safety Committee meetings, however there may be the requirement for additional meetings and workshops.

## DISCUSSION

Discussion was held on the best way to proceed with the plan.

The Chief Executive Officer suggested that it needs to be understood what the communities perception by conducting a survey.

SSGT David Hornsby stated that it's about getting down to the nitty gritty and putting a plan together that is achievable, to work on a range of actions that are based on the community perception of safety, creating it for things that can be achieved. Come together work together.

The Chief Executive officer responded to make 3-4 manageable outcomes, once those are achieved make another set of outcomes. The current plan is large and broad, it shouldn't be to rely on Council staff, but for everyone.

The Senior Ranger advised that in previous years, there has been a lead agency for the meetings making someone responsible. Mrs Sharon Bray added that at the Youth Wellbeing plan meeting they have lead agencies – at each meeting someone is responsible for certain outcomes.

The Chief Executive officer queried who to get the information from for the survey. SSGT David Hornsby suggested the elderly, ATSI, schools (youth focus), sporting clubs.

The Chief Executive officer recommended that members of the committee go to the schools, to see how they feel in the community. The senior ranger suggested to go about the approach in different ways for the different groups/people. Mrs Rose Power suggested to survey the already existing groups i.e. senior groups – carpet bowls, silver wings etc.

Mrs Sharon Bray suggested to conduct a community/broad survey and have the groups add to the information.

SSGT David Hornsby stated to be aware of the way asking and how the questions

Review why not always getting a quorum for the committee meetings.

**4. DECLARATION OF CLOSURE**

There being no further business, Chairperson Cr Williams declared the meeting closed at 11.53am.

"I certify that the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee Meeting held on 17 November 2020 have been confirmed as a true and correct record."

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

