



Safer Communities  
Partnership

# Strategic Plan 2015-18



The City of Karratha has come a long way in addressing community safety over the last half decade. Since the implementation of the Cleansweep Taskforce in 2010 there has been a vast improvement in the liveability of our towns, with a number of Taskforce initiatives proving particularly successful. These programs have seen substantial reductions in graffiti, vandalism and littering and have made our City a better place to live for all.

These programs would not have enjoyed the same level of success if it wasn't for the participation and dedication of our valued community. Whether that be as part of a community group clean-up or simply reporting suspicious behaviour to the Police, our community partnerships have played a crucial role in promoting safety and reducing preventable crime.

With these great achievements under our belt it is time to take the next steps towards a safer City of Karratha. Recognising the value of working closely with our community, the Cleansweep Taskforce has been reinvigorated with a greater emphasis on establishing meaningful and productive partnerships and addressing the issues important to our residents. It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Safer Communities Partnership and the Strategic Plan 2015-2018 which will guide the City in its safety and crime prevention efforts over the next three years.

The plan will focus on creating safe and well maintained public spaces, strengthening our valued partnerships with industry, Police and the community, increasing public awareness of safety and crime prevention initiatives and encouraging action from our community.

Crime prevention is about working together as a community to improve public safety, but more importantly it's about encouraging cooperation and a sense of responsibility for our own personal safety. By building partnerships with key government and industry stakeholders as well as the community, the City seeks to empower every resident to be part of our shared vision for a safer City of Karratha.

### **Peter Long**

Mayor, City of Karratha







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## Background

The Safer Communities Partnership is a joint initiative comprising representatives of Local Government, State Government and industry, which was initially formed in 2010 (and was known as the Cleansweep Taskforce) in response to a Community Survey conducted by the City of Karratha that showed crime and safety issues were a high priority for our community.

The Safer Communities Partnership Terms of Reference outlines the scope and limitations for the Partnership, including functions, membership and management.

The Partnership delivers community safety initiatives focusing on the following five key areas:

- Crime/anti-social behavior
- Graffiti management
- Litter management
- Drug and alcohol management
- Road and vehicle safety

The Cleansweep Taskforce Strategic Plan 2012-2015 has been successfully implemented and the Safer Communities

Partnership Strategic Plan 2015-2018 has been developed to build on the successes of the previous plan to further enhance our community as a safe and desirable place to live.

The renaming of the Cleansweep Taskforce to the Safer Communities Partnership was considered a priority by the Steering Group and has been implemented in conjunction with the development of the new Strategic Plan.

The new name is a more relevant reflection of the goals of the partnership and commitment of the Steering Group membership who are working together to address community safety within the communities throughout the City of Karratha.



# How was the Plan developed?

Following the outcomes of the 2015 City of Karratha Community Survey, which identified community safety as the number one priority for the City, it was decided to conduct an additional Community Safety Survey to provide further clarity of the community's perception of safety within the City. The survey was conducted over a four-week period in July 2015 and resulted in 686 responses from the community.

The City also conducted a Strategic Planning workshop with members from the Cleansweep Taskforce Steering Group to review the results from the survey as well as results from the Cleansweep Taskforce Strategic Plan 2012-2015.

Data from all three consultation methods has been used to develop this Plan.

Key findings from the Community Safety Survey:

- The top five priorities identified by the community were property crime, drug and substance abuse, alcohol related issues, anti-social behavior and burglary. Previously high-ranking priorities litter management and graffiti management moved down the list to rank 10 & 11.
- Public awareness of the Cleansweep Taskforce and its safety initiatives are relatively low with only 40% of respondents identifying with the brand.
- Perception of crime within the community is extremely high with 84% of respondents believing the crime rate in the City to be high or very high.
- More than half of respondents feel unsafe or very unsafe in the City.
- Reporting crime continues to be a challenge with nearly a third of respondents who had been a victim of crime in the past year, not reporting that crime to Police.



## Key findings from the Steering Group Strategic Planning Workshop

Key findings from the Strategic Planning Workshop:

- There is a negative perception of safety within the community which, more often than not, is not reflective of the current environment.
- More can be done to promote community safety initiatives and raise the profile of the Cleansweep Taskforce.
- Communication between Steering Group members and other agencies could be improved to ensure up to date data and information is shared often and in a timely manner.
- The name and brand of the Cleansweep Taskforce is dated and misrepresents the Terms of Reference for the initiative.
- The role of the Cleansweep Taskforce is one of partnership and sharing of knowledge between member groups, not an enforcement agency.
- The five (5) key focus areas for the Cleansweep Taskforce will remain the same, however, their priority is likely to change in response to community expectations.

## Steering Group

The Safer Communities Partnership comprises a Steering Group, which meets on a regular basis. All meetings are chaired by the City of Karratha Mayor, and in the Mayor's absence, meetings are chaired by the City's Director, Development or Manager Regulatory Services. The Community Safety Coordinator manages the Safer Communities Partnership and the City of Karratha community safety and crime prevention function. Members include organisations with different roles and expertise that are involved in promoting wellbeing and safety initiatives within the City of Karratha.

As per the Terms of Reference current Steering Group Members include representatives from:

- City of Karratha
- WA Police
- Rio Tinto
- Woodside / North West Shelf Project
- Housing Authority

A key outcome from the community and stakeholder consultation was that the Safer Communities Partnership should be a 'value add' service to bolster existing services available within the community. To support the delivery of the Safer Communities Partnership Strategic Plan 2015 – 2018 it is recommended a wider group of referral agencies is called upon on an ad hoc basis when required to contribute to the Steering Group. Management of the Plan and key decision-making, however still lies with the Steering Group.

Suggested agencies to reference include:

- Industry
- Government Departments
- Schools
- Indigenous Corporations
- Community Associations
- Sporting Groups
- Community Groups
- Youth Groups

## Reporting & Review

Progress of this Plan will be reported to the Council and community through quarterly progress reports. A review of the Plan will be scheduled in 2017/18 in accordance with its final year of implementation.





# Safer Communities Partnership Strategic Plan 2015-2018

Four strategic goals were identified through the review of the Cleansweep Taskforce Strategic Plan 2012-2015 and following the community and stakeholder consultation process.

Specific objectives have been set in relation to each of these goals and an action plan process will be undertaken with the Steering Group to affirm the key projects to be delivered each year under the Safer Communities Partnership Strategic Plan 2015-2018.

## 1. Safe and well maintained public spaces

To create built and natural environments that are safe, attractive, well maintained and utilised by the community.

## 2. Partnering for a safer community

To strengthen existing and establish new partnerships which enable collaborative and effective approaches for addressing community safety.





### 3. Communications and promotion

To create awareness within the community on safety and crime prevention initiatives.

### 4. Community action, connection and involvement

To engage and collaborate with the community to implement effective programs to address crime prevention and community safety.

# 1. Safe and well maintained public spaces

**Goal:** To create built and natural environments that are safe, attractive, well maintained and utilised by the community.

## Objective

**Improve access and safety at key locations within the City and areas of high pedestrian traffic.**



## Action implemented

- > Develop & implement the Footpath Lighting Strategy
- > Develop & implement the CCTV Plan for key community facilities

## Achieved through

- > New footpath lighting
- > CCTV on key community facilities
- > Lighting upgrades on identified facilities and locations

## Objective

**Facilitate and support programs and initiatives that promote clean, attractive towns that are well utilised by the community.**



## Action implemented

- > Develop & implement the City of Karratha Graffiti Management Plan
- > Develop & implement the City of Karratha Litter Management Plan
- > Implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles for community facilities

## Achieved through

- > Graffiti removal contractor
- > Community graffiti removal kits
- > Community Art projects
- > Juvenile Justice referrals
- > Bucks for Bags
- > iCARE
- > Traveller Litter kits
- > Secure your load
- > Corrective Services programs
- > CPTED Audits



## 2. Partnering for a safer community

**Goal:** To strengthen existing and establish new partnerships which enable collaborative and effective approaches for addressing community safety.

### Objective

Improve communications between key agencies to facilitate the regular sharing of information.

### Action implemented

- > Formalise groups of reference agencies to contribute to Steering Group meetings on a regular basis
- > Establish a communication protocol to respond quickly to negative feedback or community sentiment

### Achieved through

- > Regular updates to be disseminated through media and digital channels as appropriate
- > MOU with Housing Authority

### Objective

Identify and support partnerships that promote positive community outcomes.

### Action implemented

- > Participate in relevant externally driven community wellbeing and safety initiatives

### Achieved through

- > West Pilbara Alcohol & Other Drug Management Group
- > Community Associations
- > West Pilbara Liquor Accord
- > Pilbara Industry Road Safety Alliance (PIRSA)
- > WA Police programs - Eyes on the Street
- > Youth organisations
- > Crime Stoppers

### Objective

Support WA Police with regular communication activities.

### Action implemented

- > Contribute to the development of communication material

### Achieved through

- > E-news
- > Radio
- > Web
- > Social Media
- > Advertising
- > Display Messaging
- > Letter drops

### 3. Communications and promotion

**Goal:** To create awareness within the community on safety and crime prevention initiatives.

#### Objective

**Increase public awareness of community safety initiatives.**

#### Action implemented

- > Review Cleansweep Taskforce brand
- > Implement Community Safety Partnership Communications Strategy

#### Achieved through

- > Internal communication
- > External communication
- > Logo
- > Name
- > Web
- > Social Media
- > Promotional & marketing material
- > Advertising

#### Objective

**Increase public awareness of crime prevention and community safety reporting functions.**

#### Action implemented

- > Promote reporting functions available to community
- > Improve web presence of community safety initiatives on City's web page

#### Achieved through

- > Improve online reporting functionality
- > Review and update web content



## 4. Community action, connection and involvement

**Goal:** To engage and collaborate with the community to implement effective programs to address crime prevention and community safety.

### Objective

**Increase awareness and community participation in crime prevention and community safety initiatives.**



### Action implemented

- Promote Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in the community

### Achieved through

- CPTED Audits

### Action implemented

- Develop relevant community education campaigns

### Achieved through

- Captain Cleanup performances
- Community forums
- Library displays
- Shopping Centre displays
- Love Where You Live Expo
- Cuppa with a Councillor / Police Officer

### Action implemented

- Develop relevant community safety campaigns

### Achieved through

- Meet the Neighbours
- Bicycle lock program
- Motorcycle lock program
- Lock it or Lose it
- Burglary cocooning

# Further information

For further information contact:

**City of Karratha**

Welcome Road, Karratha WA 6714

PO Box 219, Karratha WA 6714

Tel: (08) 9186 8555

Email: [enquiries@karratha.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@karratha.wa.gov.au)

Web: [www.karratha.wa.gov.au](http://www.karratha.wa.gov.au)



**Safer Communities  
Partnership**

Keeping the City of Karratha safe



**RioTinto**

North West Shelf Project



City of  
**Karratha**