

8.1 LATE REPORT: DRAFT SAFER VINCENT PLAN 2019–2022

TRIM Ref: D19/39800
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Attachments: 1. Draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council;

1. **RECEIVES** the draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022;
2. **AUTHORISES** the Chief Executive Officer to advertise the draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022 for public comment for a period of 21 days inviting written submissions in accordance with Council Policy No. 4.1.5 – Community Consultation;
3. **NOTES** that a further report will be presented to the Ordinary Council Meeting in July 2019 detailing any submissions received during the public comment period; and
4. **NOTES** that the draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022 will be subject to further formatting, styling and graphic design as determined by the Chief Executive Officer prior to publication.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To receive the draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022 (**Attachment 1**) for the purposes of advertising for public comment prior to further consideration and adoption.

BACKGROUND:

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 August 2015 the Safer Vincent Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2015–2018 was adopted to provide strategic direction, and ensure that community safety and crime prevention was addressed in a timely and coordinated manner. The Plan represented the City's ongoing transition towards contemporary community safety and crime prevention methods in response to changing community needs.

The Plan included 11 objectives and 30 actions across the following priority areas:

- Community safety promotion and awareness;
- Safety through effective partnerships; and
- Safe places and safe spaces.

With the implementation period concluding in 2018, Administration recently completed a comprehensive review of the Plan in consultation with the Safer Vincent Advisory Group, including WA Police and Nyoongar Outreach Services. It is evident that through the 2015–2018 period each of the 11 community safety and crime prevention objectives were achieved with 28 actions were effectively implemented, one action partially implemented, and one action not effectively implemented. The actions deemed not fully implemented include:

- 2.3.1 Adopt a process of continual research and review of effective technology applications applicable to enhancing and promoting community safety and crime prevention initiatives (partially implemented); and
- 3.2.3 Support and encourage the installation of CCTV and other security requirements with local community and business representatives (not implemented).

The review of the Safer Vincent Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2015–2018 and analysis of community safety and crime prevention feedback received through the Imagine Vincent community engagement initiative has highlighted the need to streamline and strengthen the key priorities within any future community safety plans to meet emerging challenges and trends within the Vincent community.

DETAILS:

The draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022 builds upon the strategies and objectives within the previous Plan and aims to provide a framework that:

- Provides the community with an overview of current local community safety priorities; and
- Promotes strong community partnerships and connections that contribute to positive community safety outcomes within the City.

Three key themes emerged from the review and consultation process that will underpin a range of actions and deliverables:

Safer Spaces

Vibrant, welcoming and safe places are integral to Vincent's identity, economy and appeal. Our town centres, local neighbourhoods and other gathering spaces must provide environments that reduce opportunities for criminal behaviour, positively impact perceptions of community safety, and support utilisation and activation. The City recognises that community safety and crime prevention principles must inform the planning, design and management of town centres, open spaces and streets. We will work with government agencies, businesses, and community organisations to promote and support activities and programs that make our public spaces safer.

Key actions include:

- Establish Town Centre specific community safety priorities;
- Improve and expand lighting infrastructure within the public realm;
- Provide support to organisations working with people experiencing homelessness and their clients;
- Plan for the expansion and management of the City's CCTV network;
- Promote the State CCTV Register to the community;
- Review and prepare local emergency management procedures and plans;
- Manage the risk of terrorist activity in crowded places;
- Undertake public health planning to reduce the risks of anti-social behaviour in entertainment precincts;
- Manage anti-social behaviour in parks and public spaces; and
- Investigate security patrol services.

Community Connection

Vincent has a diverse, welcoming and engaged community that wants to connect with those around us. Building and maintaining these strong community connections creates a sense of safety within local neighbourhoods, provides support networks where people look out for each other, and strengthens passive surveillance. Activities that promote community involvement are particularly important for people in our community who are socially isolated and more vulnerable as they are already at a higher risk of being a victim of crime. The City recognises that activated and thriving public places provide opportunities for residents to connect and build relationships.

Key actions include:

- Increase local community events that build connections;
- Support organisations that create a safer and more connected community; and
- Utilise the Safer Vincent Advisory Group to workshop ideas and concepts and provide advice on community safety matters.

Crime Prevention

Responsiveness to crime trends and the perception of crime, and the implementation of evidence based crime prevention strategies, requires a close working relationship between the City of Vincent and WA Police. Residents and businesses can also assist through the timely reporting of any criminal activities and

helping to address any disparity between actual incidents of crime and community perceptions of crime. The City recognises that the provision of information, education, awareness, and resources to both businesses and residents will reduce their risk of becoming a victim of crime.

Key actions include:

- Review the community safety resources program;
- Share crime prevention messages with the public;
- Improve the management of squatting in vacant properties;
- Prevent and remove graffiti vandalism within the City; and
- Promote the WA Police Eyes on the Street Program.

CONSULTATION/ADVERTISING:

As per Council Policy No. 4.1.5 – Community Consultation it is proposed to seek community feedback and input on the draft Safer Vincent Strategy 2019–2022 through a 21-day public comment period. This will include notices on the City’s website and social media channels, dedicated project page on the City’s Imagine Vincent community engagement portal, notices at the City’s Administration & Civic Centre and community buildings, and targeted engagement with key stakeholders including Town Teams.

As the draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022 remains subject to amendments following the public comment period **Attachment 1** does not reflect the appearance of the final document that will be formatted and styled before publication.

LEGAL/POLICY:

Nil.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS:

Low: There is no legislative requirement to adopt a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan; however, the development and implementation of such a Plan will promote and maintain a collaborative, whole of community approach to crime prevention and overall community safety.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

This Plan aligns with the City’s *Strategic Community Plan 2018–2028*:

Connected Community

We have enhanced opportunities for our community to build relationships and connections with each other and the City.

Thriving Places

Our town centres and gathering spaces are safe, easy to use and attractive places where pedestrians have priority.

Our physical assets are efficiently and effectively managed and maintained.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Specific actions and deliverables within the draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022 will be delivered through allocations in the draft 2019/20 operating budget and subsequent budgets subject to Council consideration. Administration will seek grant funding through the Australian and State Governments as opportunities arise.

COMMENTS:

The draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019–2022 aims to deliver safe spaces, improved community connections, and help to prevent crime through 19 actions and 62 deliverables. The Plan places a strong emphasis on collaboration and partnerships with WA Police, Nyoongar Outreach Services, Safer Vincent Advisory Group, City Homelessness Framework Committee, Western Central Local Emergency Management Committee, Vincent Liquor Accord, local businesses and residents.

Upon adoption, the Plan will guide the strategic direction of community safety and crime prevention initiatives that effectively respond to key challenges and trends within our community. Targeted actions and deliverables will ensure that community safety and crime prevention is addressed in a timely, coordinated and appropriate manner.

Acknowledgment of Country

The City of Vincent would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

We recognise the unique and incomparable contribution the Whadjuk people have made and continue to make to our culture and in our community. We will continue to seek the input of the Traditional Owners.

The land on which we live, meet and thrive as a community always was and always will be Noongar land.

Mayor's Message**CEO's Message****WA Police Message****Background**

“Community safety is the right of all residents and businesses within Vincent to experience an environment free of risk and/or fear of harm or injury, and the shared responsibility of everyone in the community to prevent harm or injury where possible.”

The City of Vincent has a strong history of collaboration with WA Police and other stakeholders to foster a safe and welcoming environment for our community. Feeling safe is key to residents, workers and visitors being able to enjoy our public spaces, town centres and local streets. In 2007, the City developed its first Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan followed by further Plan's in 2010 and 2015.

In preparing this new Plan, the City has responded to both community feedback and expert advice from key stakeholders. When preparing the City's Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 more than 4,000 responses were captured from residents, businesses, community organisations, and visitors through the Imagine Vincent community engagement initiative. Through a comprehensive analysis of these 4,000 thoughts, ideas and views all information relevant to community safety and crime prevention was extracted and analysed. Further feedback and inputs were also sought from key stakeholders including:

- Council
- WA Police
- Nyoongar Outreach Services
- Safer Vincent Advisory Group Community Representatives

Crime Trends and Perception of Crime

WA Police statistics demonstrate that many offences across Western Australia including homicide, robbery, burglary and stealing of motor vehicles are lower on average when compared to the previous five-year period. Although there has been notable increases amongst other offences including domestic assaults, drug offences, stealing and fraud. Given the location of major activity centres and entertainment precincts, higher density living and proximity to public transport there are certain offences more prevalent within the City of Vincent when compared to other suburban areas. Stealing from motor vehicles is a common issue particularly in on-street parking areas where electronic devices are often left unattended. Anti-social behaviour and alcohol related crime remains a challenge within Town Centres and the complex issue of homelessness is increasingly visible within public spaces necessitating a collaborative response by a range of key stakeholders.

The City of Vincent is fortunate to have an active community that is keen to engage and connect with others. Strong community connections can assist with communicating crime trends and messages from Police as well as in creating an environment where the community actively reports suspicious activity and keeps a look out for their neighbours. Although the sharing of information, particularly via mass communication channels such as social media, can also lead to a perception that crime rates are higher than they actually are through increased exposure to these incidents. Managing this perception remains important so that the community does not become overly fearful or distrusting of others.

Themes

Three key themes underpin a broad range of actions and deliverables aimed at enhancing community safety and reducing criminal and anti-social behaviour through collaboration and partnerships. These themes are 'Safer Spaces', 'Community Connection' and 'Crime Prevention'.

Safer Spaces

Town centres, open spaces and streets within the City of Vincent are welcoming and safe for the whole community to use.

Vibrant, welcoming and safe places are integral to Vincent's identity, economy and appeal. Our town centres, local neighbourhoods and other gathering spaces must provide environments that reduce opportunities for criminal behaviour, positively impact perceptions of community safety, and support utilisation and activation. The City recognises that community safety and crime prevention principles must inform the planning, design and management of town centres, open spaces and streets. We will work with government agencies, businesses, and community organisations to promote and support activities and programs that make our public spaces safer.

Community Connection

City of Vincent encourages and supports activities that connect residents, businesses and visitors as well as projects that activate public spaces.

Vincent has a diverse, welcoming and engaged community that wants to connect with those around us. Building and maintaining these strong community connections creates a sense of safety within local neighbourhoods, provides support networks where people look out for each other, and strengthens passive surveillance. Activities that promote community involvement are particularly important for people in our community who are socially isolated and more vulnerable as they are already at a higher risk of being a victim of crime. The City recognises that activated and thriving public places provide opportunities for residents to connect and build relationships.

Crime Prevention

City of Vincent works collaboratively with key stakeholders and our community to help prevent crime.

Responsiveness to crime trends and the perception of crime, and the implementation of evidence based crime prevention strategies, requires a close working relationship between the City of Vincent and WA Police. Residents and businesses can also assist through the timely reporting of any criminal activities and helping to address any disparity between actual incidents of crime and community perceptions of crime. The City recognises that the provision of information, education, awareness, and resources to both businesses and residents will reduce their risk of becoming a victim of crime.

Theme: Safer Spaces				<i>Strategic Community Plan 2018-2028 Priorities</i>
<i>Town centres, open spaces and streets are welcoming and safe for the whole community to use</i>				
Actions	Deliverables	Timeline	Responsibility	
Establish Town Centre specific community safety priorities	Undertake night inspections of all Town Centres to identify priority areas for action	December 2019	Policy and Place Community Safety Community Partnerships	Thriving Places Accessible City
	Identify streetscape, public realm, lighting and CCTV improvements in hotspot areas	December 2019	Community Safety Community Partnerships Asset and Design	
	Ensure priority community safety projects align with Town Centre Place Plans	June 2020	Policy and Place Community Partnerships	
	Implement a Citywide approach to projects that impact community safety ensuring alignment with planning, development and activation considerations	June 2022	Community Partnerships Asset and Design Development and Design	
Improve and expand lighting infrastructure within the public realm	Gather and maintain information and statistics from WA Police and the community to determine priority lighting areas	June 2022	Community Safety Asset and Design	Thriving Places Accessible City
	Undertake GIS mapping of public lighting infrastructure	June 2020	Asset and Design	
	Develop and implement a public area lighting plan	June 2021	Asset and Design	
	Allocate funding within the City budget to the laneway lighting program	February 2020	Community Safety Asset and Design	
	Obtain external grant funding to implement lighting in priority areas	June 2022	Community Safety Asset and Design	
Provide support to organisations working with people experiencing homelessness and their clients	Collaborate with the City Homelessness Framework Committee to deliver an accreditation system for organisations delivering emergency relief services within Vincent	June 2020	Community Partnerships Governance and Risk	Thriving Places Connected Community
	Maintain an interagency approach to assisting people within Vincent experiencing homelessness by collaborating with outreach and other community organisations and provide information on available support and services to people experiencing homelessness	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety	
	Continue to provide funding to Nyoongar Outreach Services to deliver support to Aboriginal people within our community	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety	

	Refine the Collaborative Grants program to better support the delivery of projects that assist people experiencing disadvantage, homelessness or who are at risk within the community	December 2019	Community Partnerships	
Plan for the expansion and management of the City's CCTV networks	Review, update and implement the City's CCTV Strategy	December 2019	Community Safety Asset and Design Information Technology	Thriving Places Innovative and Accountable
	Maintain a Memorandum of Understanding with WA Police for access and sharing of CCTV footage under the State CCTV Strategy	June 2022	Community Safety Governance and Risk	
	Obtain external grant funding to implement CCTV in priority areas	June 2022	Community Safety	
	Undertake GIS mapping of all CCTV cameras owned by the City	June 2021	Community Safety Information Technology	
	Investigate the feasibility of purchasing a mobile CCTV unit for use at events and in hotspot areas	June 2020	Community Safety Information Technology	
	Work with WA Police, residents and businesses to identify priority locations for CCTV within our Town Centres	December 2019	Community Safety Community Partnerships Policy and Place	
Promote the State CCTV Register to the community	Promote the Register to businesses and residents and encourage registration of cameras in the public realm to assist police with investigations	June 2022	Community Safety Community Partnerships Policy and Place	Thriving Places
Review and prepare Local Emergency Management procedures and plans	Participate in the Western Central Local Emergency Management Committee	June 2022	Community Safety	Innovative and Accountable
	Maintain a current Local Emergency Recovery Plan	June 2022	Community Safety	
	Develop review and implement Local Emergency Management Plans	June 2022	Community Safety	
	Facilitate and manage funding for Northshore State Emergency Services through the Department of Fire and Emergency Services Local Government Grant Scheme	June 2022	Community Safety	
Manage the risk of terrorist activity in crowded places	Participate in 'Crowded Places Forums' with WA Police to increase resilience and awareness of this type of risk		Community Safety Marketing and Communications	Thriving Places
	Undertake security audits in high risk areas to mitigate risks and inform contingency planning		Community Safety Asset and Design	
Undertake public health planning to reduce the	Maintain the Vincent Liquor Accord for local businesses and WA Police	June 2022	Regulatory Services	Accessible City

risks of anti-social behaviour in entertainment precincts	Work with WA Police to identify hotspots for anti-social behaviour associated with licenced premises and act to address identified issues	June 2022	Regulatory Services Community Partnerships Policy and Place	
Manage anti-social behaviour in parks and public spaces	Collaborate with Nyoongar Outreach Services to identify and monitor hotspot areas and provide outreach services in public spaces across the City	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety	Thriving Places
	Work with high-risk service delivery organisations to ensure Management Plans include actions that minimise risks of anti-social behaviour in the surrounding area	June 2022	Community Partnerships Marketing and Communications	
	Conduct rangers patrols in parks and public spaces and report all suspicious and anti-social behaviour to WA Police	June 2022	Community Safety	
Utilise CPTED principles to design and create safer parks and public spaces	Further embed the application of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles within public spaces through the City's Built Form Policy and the adoption of 'Creating Safer Space' guidelines	June 2021	Development and Design Policy and Place Asset and Design	Thriving Places Accessible City
	Ensure community safety priorities are addressed within public space master and development plans	June 2022	Development and Design Policy and Place Community Partnerships	
Investigate security patrol services	Prepare a business case to determine community sentiment for a service, as well as the effectiveness, cost and feasibility of dedicated patrol services in the City	December 2020	Community Safety Community Partnerships	Innovative and Accountable
Theme: Community Connection				
<i>Objective: City of Vincent encourages and supports activities and projects that connect residents, businesses and visitors and that activate public spaces</i>				Strategic Community Plan 2018-2028 Priorities
Actions	Deliverables	Timeline	Responsibilities	
Increase local community events that build connections	Promote the Open Streets Program to encourage street parties and other local events that build relationships between neighbours	June 2022	Community Partnerships	Thriving Places
	Promote Neighbour Day to the community to encourage residents getting to know each other	March 2022	Community Partnerships Marketing and Communications	

	Investigate a joint initiative between the City and businesses to encourage Neighbour Day activities	December 2019	Community Partnerships Policy and Place Marketing and Communications	Connected Community
	Develop and implement a Play Streets Kit and promote Play Streets to the community	June 2020	Community Partnerships Marketing and Communications	
Support organisations that create a safer and more connected community	Map organisations that deliver support or safety services within the community and identify any areas not currently being serviced, for potential collaboration	December 2020	Community Partnerships Marketing and Communications	Thriving Places Connected Community
	Build relationships with organisations providing services to seniors and people with disability and promote community events to their clients	June 2020	Community Partnerships	
	Continue to provide funding to Constable Care to deliver educational programs including performances and mascot appearances in local schools and at community events	June 2022	Community Partnerships	
	Identify and collaborate with groups and organisations that influence community safety including outreach services and community groups	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety	
Utilise the Safer Vincent Advisory Group to workshop and provide advice on community safety matters	Safer Vincent Advisory Group to be a forum for residents, businesses and community groups to present key community safety issues and assist with appropriate actions and coordinated responses	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety	Connected Community, Innovative and Accountable
Theme: Crime Prevention				
<i>Objective: The City of Vincent supports our community and key stakeholders to help prevent crime</i>				Strategic Community Plan 2018- 2028 Priorities
Actions	Deliverables	Timeline	Responsibility	
Review the community safety resources program	Review the program to ensure effective and useful resources are being provided to residents and businesses	June 2020	Community Partnerships Community Safety	Innovative and Accountable
	Provide a resources program targeted at vulnerable groups including seniors and young people	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety	
	Undertake feasibility analysis for a security rebate program within the City	December 2020	Community Partnerships Community Safety	

			Finance Services	
Share crime prevention messages with the public	Promote crime prevention messages by sharing relevant content created by WA Police, Crime Stoppers and Neighbourhood Watch on social media, variable message boards and at events and forums	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety Marketing and Communications	Connected Community Innovative and Accountable
	Provide crime prevention information to new residents through welcome packs	June 2022	Community Partnerships Marketing and Communications	
	Provide information to homeowners on home security design measures on receipt of building applications	June 2022	Development and Design Community Partnerships	
	Monitor crime trends in collaboration with WA Police and provide updates to the public on hotspot locations and trends	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety Marketing and Communications	
	Develop specific content for social media, the website and other distribution channels to address crime and community safety trends and current issues affecting the City	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety Marketing and Communications	
	Encourage sharing of crime prevention content through local social media channels and neighbourhood groups	June 2022	Community Partnerships Policy and Place Marketing and Communications	
	Host community safety forums as and when relevant for residents and businesses with WA Police and City representatives	June 2022	Community Partnerships Community Safety	
Improve management of squatting in vacant properties	Establish a policy or guidelines outlining owner responsibilities for management of vacant properties within the City of Vincent and to prevent unauthorised use	June 2021	Community Partnerships Regulatory Services Governance and Risk	Innovative and Accountable
Prevent and remove graffiti vandalism within the City	Continue to remove graffiti on City property and graffiti on private property that meets eligibility criteria, within 48 hours of reporting	June 2022	Asset and Design Community Safety	Enhanced Environment Thriving Places
	Upload all reported graffiti incidents to the WA Police Goodbye Graffiti database	June 2022	Asset and Design Community Safety	
	Identify priority public artworks for anti-graffiti coating	December 2019	Marketing and Communications Policy and Place	
	Support and encourage urban art projects in graffiti hotspots in line with the Arts Development Action Plan	June 2022	Marketing and Communications Policy and Place	
	Rangers to provide 'Eyes on the Street' and act as a visual deterrent to criminal and anti-social behaviour	June 2022	Community Safety	Accessible City

Promote the WA Police Eyes on the Street Program	Review Ranger vehicles and branding to improve visibility and ensure effectiveness as a deterrent	December 2019	Community Safety Marketing and Communications	Thriving Places
	Undertake data collection to identify hotspots that inform Ranger patrol patterns	June 2022	Community Safety	
	Rangers to undertake 'Eyes on the Street' training with WA Police	June 2022	Community Safety	

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