

SAFER VINCENT ADVISORY GROUP

Wednesday, 24 July 2019 at 6:00pm

Venue: Function Room

City of Vincent
Administration and Civic Centre
244 Vincent Street Leederville

Attendees:

City of Vincent Councillors

Cr Joanne Fotakis (Chairperson) (JF)
Cr Susan Gontaszewski (SG)

City of Vincent Officers

John Corbellini – A/Executive Director Community and Business Services (JC)
Sandra Watson – Manager Community Partnerships (SW)
Karen Balm – Senior Community Partner (KB)
Cara Finch – Community Partner (CF)
Jean Lowther – Coordinator Ranger and Parking Services (JL) (from 6.12pm)
Chris Dixon – Projects and Strategy Officer – Community Safety (CD)

Representatives

Senior Sergeant Jason Gough – Perth Police (JG)
Maria McAttackney – CEO Nyoongar Outreach Services (MM)
Senior Sergeant Peter Gilmour – Wembley Police Station (PG)
Senior Sergeant John Waghorn – Bayswater Police Station (JW)

Community Representatives

Natashya Cox (NC)
Chris Parry (CP)
Irina Lobeto (IL)
Sharan Kraemer (SK)

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1. Welcome/Declaration of Opening

Councillor Fotakis opened the meeting at 6:05pm and delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

2. Apologies

Senior Sergeant Peter Gilmour – Wembley Police.
John Corbellini – A/Executive Director Community & Business Services, City of Vincent.
Sharan Kraemer
Chris Parry
Irina Lobeto

3. Confirmation of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 15 May 2019 were received and confirmed as a true and correct record.

4. Business

4.1 Action Item Review

CF discussed the action items listed and the progress the City has made with the particular actions over the past few months.

CF advised that the pocket cards with information relating to homelessness services were currently being reviewed and updated by the City of Perth, and that she would follow up to obtain copies once the new version was available.

CF provided NC with a copy of the draft Safer Vincent Plan.

CF confirmed that the Ranger team had reviewed dog signage at Weld Square and found it to be appropriate.

MM advised that NOS and the City's Ranger team had both liaised with this group on a number of occasions, to reiterate the consequences of allowing their dog off-lead at this location. JG advised that Police had observed that this group and dog had now moved from Weld Square into the City of Perth (Northbridge area).

Jean Lowther entered the meeting at 6.12pm

4.2 Draft Safer Vincent Plan 2019-2022 – Update

CF advised that the consultation period was now complete. A total of thirty seven visitors had viewed the draft Plan on the EHQ website, with nine (9) responses received through the website and a further eight received through written correspondence.

Administration believes that concerns raised through the consultation will be addressed through existing actions and deliverables within the draft Plan. WA Police Force have provided feedback regarding the inclusion and presentation of crime statistics in the Plan, and have made an offer to provide commentary about crime trends and priority offences in the Plan which will be considered by Council shortly. The final version of the draft Plan was subject to further formatting and styling changes prior to publication.

SG asked how the Plan actions and deliverables would be incorporated into the SVAG agenda. KB advised that the Plan actions and deliverables would be tracked and reported on at SVAG meetings as appropriate. SW also advised that there would be an opportunity for SVAG to workshop relevant actions and initiatives contained within the Plan.

4.3 CCTV Objectives and Purpose – Update

CD advised that the City was considering replacing the recently expired CCTV Strategy with a CCTV Implementation Plan that supports the strategic CCTV actions and deliverables identified in the draft Safer Vincent Plan.

KB advised that the wording in the draft Safer Vincent Plan could be amended to reflect this.

SG suggested that CCTV could be a contentious issue within the community and would still like to see the objectives and purpose of the City's CCTV program clarified through a dedicated strategy and associated consultation.

JL advised that Community Safety staff recently visited the City of Perth CCTV Surveillance Centre and that the City of Perth were keen to facilitate further meetings, training and networking opportunities within the local government CCTV space, to improve inner City collaboration.

ACTIONS:

- (1) CD to provide a copy of the City's (recently expired) CCTV Strategy and Policy to SVAG and Council members for information.

(2) CD to provide a further update on the proposed format to replace the City's expired CCTV Strategy.

4.4 Weld Square – Collaborative Grant Update – Uniting Care West Outreach Officer

SW advised that the City had recently awarded an \$85,000 Collaborative Grant to Uniting Care West to fund an outreach worker to be based at Weld Square five days a week. KB advised that the outreach worker (Hush) would report directly to Uniting Care West, who were required to provide quarterly reports to the City as a part of their funding agreement with the City.

JG advised that Police had already noticed a reduction in Police demand at Weld Square, coinciding with commencement of the outreach worker (Hush).

SW advised that Council had recently endorsed the City of Vincent's participation in the trial of an accreditation process for homelessness service providers within the City, an action of the City Homelessness Framework Committee. The trial was expected to launch within the City of Vincent from 1 August 2019 but has been re-scheduled to 1 September 2019 to coincide with the City of Perth launch. The City of Vincent's trial would be implemented through the City's Property Local Laws.

MM advised that NOS would be meeting with Uniting Care West to discuss how NOS could support the new outreach officer, particularly in regards to his safety. JL suggested that the City could provide the outreach officer (Hush) with a two-way radio so that he could communicate with City Rangers and NOS staff as required.

JF advised that Mayor Cole had provided an update on the new arrangements at Weld Square to the resident who attended a SVAG meeting in February to discuss his concerns at this location.

ACTION: JL to progress offer of a two-way radio to Uniting Care West for their new Outreach Officer.

4.5 Stakeholder Updates

Perth Police (Snr Sgt Jason Gough)

JG advised that Operation Four Squares was ongoing and provided Police with the ability to track and report on jobs and trends within Yagan, Wellington, Weld and Russell Squares.

JG reported that there was no jobs raised at Weld Square over the past weekend and only two jobs had been raised so far this week. Issues near Noongar Radio also seemed to have reduced.

Nyoongar Outreach Services (Maria McAtackney)

MM has noticed larger gatherings of up to 200 people at locations such as Wellington Square where homeless service providers were currently congregating to provide support. MM would like to see these services spread to outer suburbs such as Fremantle and Midland, which would reduce the amount of people visiting the City to access these services and potentially some of the associated anti-social behaviour.

MM asked if the location of the Manna Inc food service at Weld Square would be reviewed, suggesting safety was a concern for volunteers. KB advised that the location of the food service would be subject to a further Council report in October.

MM was concerned about a shortage of beds in the City and suggested that partnerships could be considered with Backpackers and other accommodation providers to house those in need of shelter. SW advised that the Member for Perth was currently exploring a night shelter option in Claisebrook and would be seeking corporate sponsorship to help support such an initiative.

MM saw an opportunity for the sobering centre (Bridge House) to support those with mental health issues as well as drug and alcohol problems. This would provide consistency and greater alignment in service provision, now that the Drug and Alcohol Office was part of the Mental Health Commission, and also ensure that unused beds were better utilised. JG agreed that the sobering centre was not utilised as much in recent years.

MM and JL identified that improved liaison with the Department of Housing could assist the City and service providers to better manage the fall out of evictions and associated squatting and trespass in the area. CF advised that Snr Sgt Gilmour (Wembley Police) had recently spoken to her about the City developing a Vacant Property Register to assist Police and the City in monitoring vacant properties, and that this initiative would be pursued to the Health Services team for consideration.

Natashya Cox, Community Representative

NC advised that she had observed a greater number of people on the streets of Perth in recent weeks. MM advised that this could be because of people visiting for NAIDOC events from regional areas.

NC advised that she had recently seen a family with a baby accessing services at Wellington Square. MM advised that this was a welfare issue and that NOS would liaise with the Department of Child Protection where required in these situations.

NC asked about the long-term plan to end homelessness within the City and the importance of wrap-around services for those at risk, to ensure more positive outcomes. SW confirmed that a number of initiatives had been identified through the State Government's 10 Year Strategy to End Homelessness and the Homelessness Framework Committee Action Plan to make progress in this area.

5. Close/Next Meeting

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 7:21pm. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 25 September 2019.

Signed _____ Councillor Joanne Fotakis (Chairperson)

Dated this _____ day of _____ 2019

Summary of Actions	Date	Status
CF to liaise with WA Police Force and City of Perth to source pocket cards with homelessness information for Ranger Services staff	15 May 2019 (pending)	Ongoing
CD to provide a copy of the City's (recently expired) CCTV Strategy and Policy to SVAG and Council members for information.	24 July 2019	Not started
CD to provide a further update on the proposed format to replace the City's expired CCTV Strategy.	24 July 2019	Not started
JL to progress offer of a two-way radio to Uniting Care West for their new outreach officer.	24 July 2019	Not started