





2018-22

# COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN







PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



I am proud to present this Community Safety Plan, as it demonstrates that Council is committed to building, maintaining and promoting Penrith as a safe, vibrant and welcoming community. We want people to be

– and to feel – safe, no matter where they are or what they're doing across our City.

This plan builds on the achievements of our three previous Community Safety Plans. Penrith is a safe place to live, visit and work in. We generally have low rates of crime and in recent community surveys residents have told us that they feel safe at home, at work or out and about enjoying our public spaces.

Penrith is transforming, our city is growing and changing significantly. We are focused on creating more local jobs and housing choice, while continuing to enjoy a great lifestyle with vibrant and safe public places and a range of open spaces.

Council is proud to demonstrate leadership and play an active role in community safety. We are making sure that aspects such as design, lighting and landscaping support community safety in all new developments, infrastructure and public space projects.

However we know that community safety relies on effective collaboration between Council and residents, police, community groups, local businesses and various other organisations at the local, state and federal levels. This plan will see Council continue to work closely with a range of partners to help prevent crime, address safety concerns and encourage safe, vibrant and well-connected communities.

We have developed this plan through extensive engagement with local residents and businesses, and with the support of local police and the Penrith Community Safety Partnership. It is based on crime data analysis as well as rigorous consultation to understand community perceptions of safety and areas of concern.

Key priorities identified for action during the next four years include a commitment to provide safe, well-maintained and well-used public spaces for our community to enjoy. There is a focus on raising awareness of domestic and family violence, and supporting those affected by it. There is also a focus on supporting community cohesion and resilience through initiatives and events that bring people together, build positive relationships and activate our public spaces.

Community safety is everyone's responsibility. We all have a role to play in promoting and maintaining a safe city, and Council welcomes your support and input as we work towards a safer Penrith into the future.

Councillor John Thain Mayor of Penrith

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### **SUMMARY**

Penrith City Council has developed this Penrith Community Safety Plan 2018-22 following extensive engagement with residents, business owners and visitors to the city, and with the support of the Nepean Police Area Command and our community partners.

The plan outlines Council's commitment to promoting Penrith as a safe and vibrant city, emphasising the importance of a 'whole of community' approach to fostering places where people feel safe and well-connected.

The plan has been informed by research and evidence, using information provided through community consultation as well as data from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) and local police. We have analysed this information and identified a number of key community safety and crime prevention priorities for Penrith City.

The plan focuses on three priority areas for 2018-22:

- Public space safety
- Domestic and family violence, and
- Community cohesion and resilience.

Strategies have been developed in response to each of the priority areas and will be implemented over the next four years with the help of police, local partners and communities.

Crime and safety issues vary from location to location and can be influenced by a range of environmental, social and economic factors. While this Community Safety Plan will be delivered city-wide there is flexibility for targeted, situational responses that are responsive to local crime and safety problems.



## INTRODUCTION

#### WHAT IS COMMUNITY SAFETY?

A safe community is a place where people can go about daily life free from fear for their own safety, or the safety of others. Community safety is about fostering communities where all individuals live without fear that their lives will be impacted by crime and with the ability to positively engage with their community.

Feeling safe is integral to maintaining good health and wellbeing which in turn helps to develop liveable communities that inspire activity and connectedness.

Given that both real and perceived fears can significantly impact on the quality of community life, community safety programs aim to provide individuals and communities with the ability to address safety concerns, using a number of innovative approaches.

Local councils, being the level of government closest to the community, play an important role in promoting community safety.

#### WHAT IS CRIME PREVENTION?

Crime prevention refers to initiatives that aim to reduce crime and the risk of crime before it occurs. Crime prevention programs generally work by changing a combination of environmental and social factors relating to the incidence of offences, to reduce crime and opportunities for crime to occur.

Council is well placed to initiate crime prevention efforts as these often extend beyond the responsibility of the police and other law enforcement agencies, requiring a whole of community approach. All levels of government, community groups, businesses and individuals need to actively support programs and strategies to minimise crime.

There are a range of crime prevention approaches that Council implements in collaboration with our community partners:

Social and educational crime prevention approaches focus on the link between social factors and crime (such as a lack of community awareness and cohesion, poor education, financial disadvantage, unemployment). Social crime prevention programs seek to positively influence the factors which may contribute to a person or community being at greater risk of being a victim or perpetrator of crime. Examples may include youth engagement programs that also focus on shifting community attitudes or campaigns to raise awareness about domestic and family violence.

Situational crime prevention approaches influence the environmental factors which may make an area more susceptible to crime or create poor perceptions of safety. This may include improving surveillance, improving street lighting, management and maintenance of public spaces, use of signage and bollards, landscaping to prevent graffiti or the use of closed circuit television.



#### COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council plays a key role in delivering community safety outcomes in the City. We work with community, State and Federal government agencies to reduce the risk of crime and encourage safe, confident and well connected communities.

Part 4 of the *Children* (*Protection and Parental Responsibility*) Act 1997 provides the basis for local councils in NSW taking a lead role in identifying and implementing local community safety and crime prevention strategies.

This legislation is also the impetus for councils to develop their own Community Safety Plans. Under this legislation, councils with Community Safety Plans endorsed by the NSW Department of Justice are eligible to apply for NSW Crime Prevention Grant Funding to implement strategies contained in their plans.

This new Community Safety Plan builds on the success of Council's three previous plans which resulted in several adopted policies that support community safety and crime prevention strategies. These include:

- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Development Control Plan

   outlines design controls to help minimise the crime risk of new development, such as appropriate lighting, security features, landscaping and building design.
- Alcohol Free Public Spaces Policy outlines procedures for establishing Alcohol Free Zones and Alcohol Prohibited Areas in public spaces where alcohol related issues have been identified. The aim is to promote safe, wellutilised public spaces for the community to enjoy.
- Public Domain Lighting Policy provides guidelines for appropriate lighting in public spaces in accordance with best practice and Australian Standards.
- Public Spaces Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Program Code of Practice – outlines management practices for Council's public spaces CCTV cameras in accordance with relevant legislation.

The strategies within this Community Safety Plan also strongly align with Outcome 4 of Council's Community Strategic Plan: We have safe, vibrant places which focuses on making sure our public spaces are safe, pleasant places to be.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

The Penrith Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) is a multi-agency forum that addresses community safety issues in our City. It is a formal committee of Council with representatives including Council, Police, local business and community organisations.

The partnership works together to:

- identify community safety issues and prioritise strategies in response
- integrate the concept of community safety throughout the member organisations and the City, and
- monitor and review the implementation of the Penrith Community Safety Plan.
- Council is committed to a collaborative approach and will continue to work with our community partners to deliver the strategies contained in this Community Safety Plan over the next four years.



# DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

The development of this Community Safety Plan has been informed by research and evidence, including an analysis of local crime data and extensive consultation with our community.

The three priority areas identified in this plan respond to the needs of our growing City to continue to provide safe and vibrant places throughout Penrith.

#### MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Council, together with our community partners will be responsible for implementing, monitoring and evaluating the plan for the next four years.

Projects will be measured against the performance measures outlined in the Action Plan and will include a review of:

- crime data from BOCSAR and local police
- levels of involvement from project partners, and
- changes in community perceptions of safety.





**DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT** 

**ABOUT PENRITH** 

**POPULATION: 201,400 POP. BY 2031:** 260,000

AREA: 404km<sup>2</sup> including a mix of urban, suburban, rural and semi-rural areas. Two main city centres, Penrith and St Marys.



**SUBURBS** 

#### WE ARE GROWING **NEW COMMUNITIES:**

Glenmore Park (Mulgoa Rise), Caddens Release Area (Kingswood and Claremont Meadows), Jordan Springs and North Penrith (Thornton).

25% residents





# median age of residents

# **LANGUAGES SPOKEN:**

English, Arabic. Filipino/ Tagalog, Hindi and Punjabi.







OF DWELLINGS MEDIUM OR HIGH DENSITY

**SEIFA INDEX OF** Penrith is more disadvantaged than national **DISADVANTAGE:** and Greater Sydney average

Further demographic data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics can be found in Appendix 1.

### CRIME PROFILE

#### LOCAL CRIME DATA

The Penrith LGA crime profile has been developed using data from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR).

Data from BOCSAR is based on incidents reported to and recorded by the police. It is important to remember that recorded crime statistics may not accurately reflect the actual level of crime in a community, since some crimes may go unreported or unrecorded.

Crime data over the five-year period (2012-16) shows Penrith LGA to be stable across most crime categories. There were some modest increases experienced for steal from retail store, fraud and assault - domestic violence related, with decreases

reported for break and enter (dwelling), steal from motor vehicle and malicious damage offences.

An increase in the five-year trend for assault – domestic violence related and indecent assault and other sexual offences may be in some part due to greater public awareness of these issues and willingness to report them to police. Changes to policing policy regarding these offences has also contributed to an increase in reporting and a greater awareness of the impacts of domestic violence.

While Penrith is trending down in recorded incidents for a number of offence categories we rank highly in some offences when compared to other councils in NSW with populations over 3000.



Trends 2012-16, Source: BOCSAR.

In 2016 the offences for which Penrith ranked highest and lowest against 140 other councils were:

HIGHER RANK	LOWER RANK		
Robbery (11th)	Break and enter non-dwelling (71st)		
Fraud (15th)	Steal from dwelling (72nd)		
Steal from person (15th)	Break and enter dwelling (71st)		
Motor vehicle theft (18th)	Breach AVO (64th)		

See Appendix 2 for more recorded crime data from BOCSAR.

#### WHERE AND WHEN ARE INCIDENTS **OCCURRING?**



Residential premises were identified as being the most common location for many offence types to occur (assault – domestic violence related, assault

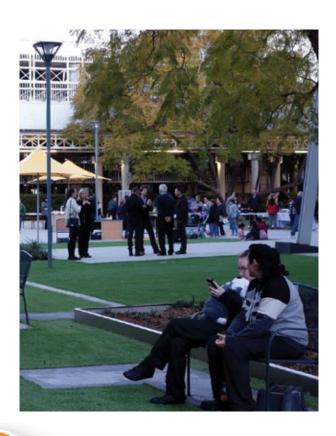
- non-domestic violence related, sexual offences, motor vehicle theft, steal from motor vehicle and malicious damage to property).



Outdoor/public spaces experienced high numbers of incidents of assault that were nondomestic violence related and alcohol related. Robberies were

also most common in outdoor/public places.

BOCSAR's hotspot maps highlight areas of high crime density in the Penrith LGA for several offences. The hot spot maps for July 2016 – June 2017 indicate that:



#### In the Penrith and St Marys City Centres

- Non-domestic violence related assaults were generally centred around licenced premises from 6pm to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays. Alcohol related assaults also peaked across the weekend.
- Break and enter dwelling occurred in residential areas not far from the city centres and were most likely to occur in the morning until midday.
- Malicious damage to property was particularly concentrated along the rail corridor.

## Banks Londonderry Berkshire **Park** Castlereagh or shops. Emu Heights PENRITH corridor. ST MARYS **Orchard** Érskine Hills Park Mulgoa Kemps Creek Luddenham

Agnes

#### In Residential Areas

- Domestic violence was reported throughout the suburban areas with spikes during weekends.
- Malicious damage to property was prevalent close to areas with hotels
- Motor vehicle theft and steal from motor vehicle were more common in car parks along the rail

Mount Vernon



# COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Council consulted with community members and a range of stakeholders from September to December 2017, to gauge community perceptions of safety and to identify local crime and safety concerns. More than 1,000 community members participated in the consultation process.

#### **SURVEYS**

Council designed and promoted a Community Safety Survey to help identify where people felt safe and unsafe, what contributed to these feelings, what their crime and safety concerns were and what would help them feel safer in their community.

The survey was available online at yoursaypenrith.com.au and printed copies of the survey were also made available and distributed to local businesses, community groups, schools and other networks. People aged 15-24 could choose to fill in a youth version of the survey. A total of 548 survey responses were received.

The online surveys told us that overall people feel safe in our community. Respondents were asked to indicate how safe they felt in a range of locations.

Locations where people felt most unsafe (day or night) were in public spaces including local train stations, around public toilets and amenities, and in local car parks. People felt most safe (day or night) in their homes, at their local shopping centre and in their car.

Factors that contributed to respondents feeling safe in public places included:

- good lighting
- police presence/response, and
- clean streets and facilities.

Factors that contributed to feeling unsafe included:

- people affected by drugs and alcohol
- poor lighting, and
- graffiti and vandalism.

Responses to the youth survey similarly identified police presence and clean and vibrant streets as important in contributing to young people feeling safe. Developing a connection to community through events and activities was also an important factor in promoting safety.



#### **CONSULTATIONS**

Council held a total of 24 consultation sessions to gather further input from the community and other stakeholders about crime and safety priorities. The targeted consultations allowed for more in-depth discussion of issues that were not highlighted in the survey results.

**Focus groups** were held in Erskine Park, Glenmore Park and Werrington. **Listening posts** were set up in Llandilo, Londonderry, Mulgoa, Penrith and St Marys. We consulted with **local businesses** through a Penrith CBD Coffee Catch-up and visits to the St Marys and Kingswood centres.

The conversations generated through the consultations echoed those of the survey that Penrith was a safe community to live in and visit. Some of the community safety issues raised included general concerns for safety in public spaces such as requests for improved lighting, a stronger police presence and concerns regarding drug and alcohol use.

A desire for a greater sense of community connectedness and more events in public spaces was also a recurring theme, as were concerns for the safety of women and children and the prevalence of domestic and family violence in our community.

Council would like to thank the following groups for their contributions to the consultations:

#### **Networking and Interagency Meetings**

- Penrith Youth Interagency
- Penrith Multicultural Interagency
- Nepean Domestic Violence Network
- Sydney Region Aboriginal Corporation

#### Organisations and community programs

- Werrington Youth Space (Community Junction)
- Colyton Youth Space (Community Junction)
- Fusion Youth Service
- Village Café, North St Marys (residents aged 50+)
- No Boundaries: Art group for people with a disability

#### Resident groups

- Evolve Housing: Kingswood resident
- #NorthStMarysMatters resident group
- Chinese Community Group (Jordan Springs)
- Thornton Community Group

#### TALKING TO LOCAL POLICE

In late 2017, the two police commands that formerly covered the Penrith LGA (Penrith Local Area Command and St Marys Local Area Command) merged to form the Nepean Police Area Command (PAC).

Discussions with the Nepean PAC highlight a strong alignment between Council, police and community priorities, with community connectedness considered by all to be an important indicator of community safety and wellbeing.

The police also emphasised the high volume of domestic and family violence offences being recorded in our area. Nepean PAC is ranked in the top five in the state for the volume of domestic assault incidents attended by local police.

Other areas of concern highlighted (and reflected in the crime statistics) included an increase in fraud offences, particularly fuel theft and mail tampering in multi-unit complexes.

## PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED

A thorough analysis of the crime data and findings from the community consultations has identified common themes in both actual and perceived crime and safety issues for Penrith.

The priority areas identified for the Community Safety Plan 2018-22 include:

#### 1. Public Space Safety

Ensuring the safety of residents and visitors in public spaces through activation and effective management, lighting, vehicle mitigation systems, design, CCTV strategy, alcohol management and graffiti minimisation.

#### 2. Domestic and Family Violence

Awareness raising through events such as White Ribbon Day, support for DV networks and organisations, and support and resources for people experiencing domestic and family violence.

#### 3. Community Cohesion and Resilience

Supporting connected and inclusive communities where residents know their neighbours and know who to call when needing assistance, events that raise awareness regarding fraud prevention or cyber bullying.

The Action Plan provided in the next section outlines strategies to address each of these crime and safety issues, using a mix of social and situational crime prevention measures in conjunction with local police and key community partners. Importantly, the three areas are consistent with the priorities of the Nepean Police Area Command.

The three priority areas are also broad and flexible to support the development of further initiatives or respond to grant funding streams that may emerge over the coming years.



## **ACTION PLAN 2018-22**

## Priority Area 1: Public Space Safety

#### **RATIONALE**

Crime data and community consultations highlight that offences in the public space and perceptions of safety in public spaces are a priority area for Penrith. Crime statistics indicate that a high proportion of crimes in Penrith including assaults, robberies, steal from motor vehicle and offensive behaviour occur in outdoor/public spaces (BOCSAR, 2017). Council, Police and our partners can positively impact public space safety and perceptions of safety through implementing a range of situational, social and educational crime prevention measures at the local level.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To maintain and promote Penrith as a safe, vibrant and welcoming community. To minimise crime, improve safety and perceptions of safety in our public spaces.

#### LEAD AGENCY AND PARTNERS

Penrith City Council, Nepean Police Area Command, identified community partners and other government agencies.

#### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

Our public spaces are safe, inclusive, vibrant, well-utilised and well-maintained.

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
1	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), Place Management & Innovative Design Solutions	<ul> <li>a) Apply innovative design, place management and CPTED approaches to provide safe, inclusive and vibrant public spaces.</li> <li>b) Apply CPTED and community safety principles are in local urban design projects and planning processes across Council (eg Development Control Plan amendments).</li> <li>c) Provide advice on major projects with regard to safety and security infrastructure (eg lighting, fencing, CCTV, vehicle mitigation).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of treatments/ projects implemented</li> <li>Levels of CPTED understanding and application are increased in Council staff</li> <li>Major projects are delivered in line with CPTED principles</li> <li>Reduction in crime/safety issues</li> <li>Change in community perceptions</li> <li>Positive/active uses of public space</li> </ul>	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>Community Safety budget</li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Identify issues/ locations</li> <li>Baseline data</li> <li>Project implementation</li> <li>Evaluation</li> <li>Ongoing maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>NSW Department of Justice</li> <li>Funding bodies</li> </ul>
2	Development Application (DA) Assessment	<ul> <li>a) Undertake assessments of DA referrals to apply CPTED and community safety principles in local developments.</li> <li>b) Refer relevant DAs to local police for assessment and crime prevention advice.</li> <li>c) Participate in pre-DA lodgement meetings to provide early advice on safety and security treatments.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of DAs assessed</li> <li>No. of conditions implemented</li> <li>No. of DAs referred to local police</li> <li>Participation in pre-DA lodgement meetings</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Community Safety staff time	Ongoing –     undertake DA     assessments     for each     referral made     by Council's     Development     Assessment     team.	<ul> <li>Council's         Development         Assessment         Team</li> <li>Nepean Police</li> </ul>

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
3	Alcohol Free Public Spaces	<ul> <li>a) Provide alcohol-free public spaces in suitable locations to minimise alcohol-related offences and antisocial behaviour.</li> <li>b) Manage existing Alcohol Free Zones (AFZs) and Alcohol Prohibited Areas (APAs) across the city, in accordance with NSW Government guidelines.</li> <li>c) Manage requests for new alcohol-free public spaces.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of Alcohol Free Public Spaces</li> <li>% change in alcohol-related offences</li> <li>% change in alcohol-related litter</li> <li>Police/resident reporting of alcohol related issues</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2018-21</li> <li>Existing AFZs &amp; APAs expire in October 2021.</li> </ul>	• Community Safety staff time & budget	<ul> <li>Monitoring of existing signage</li> <li>Management of new Requests for AFZs and APAs</li> <li>Council reporting</li> <li>Ongoing police/stakeholder liaison regarding issues in AFZs/APAs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>Local businesses</li> <li>Local residents</li> <li>Licensed premises</li> </ul>
4	Community Safety Audits	<ul> <li>a) Undertake Community Safety Audits in response to identified crime and safety concerns in public spaces, including parks, local shopping strips, car parks and other outdoor public spaces.</li> <li>b) Implement physical improvements (eg lighting, landscaping treatments) to provide safer environments and reduce opportunities for crime to occur.</li> <li>c) Work with Council's Neighbourhood Renewal Team to coordinate safety audits in priority areas.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Two (2) audits conducted per year</li> <li>Level of community participation</li> <li>% of recommendations made and progressed</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	• Community Safety staff time & budget	<ul> <li>Audit locations identified</li> <li>Audit conducted with participation from relevant community stakeholders</li> <li>Key findings prioritised</li> <li>Recommenda- tions implement- ed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>Local residents</li> <li>Local businesses</li> <li>Transport authorities</li> <li>Other identified community stakeholders</li> </ul>
5	Citywide Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Strategy	a) Develop a Citywide CCTV Strategy to support the effective use of Council- managed CCTV systems in public spaces.	• Strategy developed & adopted	• 2018	• Community Safety budget	<ul> <li>Research/input from relevant stakeholders</li> <li>Draft strategy developed</li> <li>Final strategy adopted</li> </ul>	• Nepean Police

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
6	City Centre Engagement & Space Activation	<ul> <li>a) Support city renewal and economic initiatives, projects and events that increase community participation and connectedness in the Penrith, St Marys and Kingswood City Centres.</li> <li>b) Provide opportunities for local business input on safety issues and concerns, and development of coordinated strategies in response.</li> <li>c) Support projects to revitalise and encourage safe activation of the city centres. This includes promotion of night-time activities in line with Penrith's Night Time Economy Strategy.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Levels of participation and community/ business engagement</li> <li>Positive changes in safety and perceptions of safety in the city centres</li> <li>Levels of activation of public spaces in local city centres</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	Community     Safety staff     time & budget	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>Penrith CBD Corporation</li> <li>St Marys Town Centre Management</li> <li>Kingswood Quarter</li> <li>Nepean Police</li> </ul>
7	Citywide Graffiti Minimisation Strategy	<ul> <li>a) Continue to deliver the Citywide Graffiti Minimisation Strategy to support a steady decline in levels of graffiti across the city. This includes: <ol> <li>Education programs that provide an early intervention approach to reducing vandalism</li> <li>Crime Prevention through Environmental Design treatments (ie 'green screens', lighting, anti-graffiti coatings), and</li> <li>Promotion of Council's graffiti removal service, supported by the operation of the free-call graffiti hotline and online reporting.</li> </ol> </li></ul>	<ul> <li>% change in levels of reported graffiti</li> <li>No. of prevention measures implemented</li> <li>No. of education programs delivered/ participant feedback</li> <li>% change in levels of graffiti removal</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	Community Safety & City Presentation budgets	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>Local schools</li> <li>Local businesses</li> <li>Local residents</li> <li>Transport authorities</li> </ul>

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS		PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
8	Public Space Youth Engagement	a) Provide public spaces maintained and inclus people.		<ul> <li>No. of youth programs delivered</li> </ul>	programs delivered Levels of youth engagement	Grant funding	<ul> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Youth and Community Services</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>b) Work with local youth servactivities in public spaces addressing antisocial behandless and shared ownership of public spaces, en intergenerational communicand shared ownership of public spaces, en intergenerational communicand shared ownership of public spaces, en intergenerational communicand shared ownership of public spaces, en intergenerational communities and shared ownership of public spaces, en intergenerational communities in programs.</li> <li>d) Support programs with a pleadership focus, allowing to play a lead role in programs.</li> <li>e) Work with local disadvant communities to encourage access to youth recreation programs.</li> </ul>	activities in public spa	ces to assist in	<ul><li>Levels of youth engagement</li><li>Community</li></ul>				<ul><li>Penrith Youth Interagency</li><li>Local schools</li></ul>
		, encourage nmunity connections	perceptions of safety  • % change in reports				2 Edeal schools	
		wing young people	of antisocial behaviour					
		ırage greater						
9	Homelessness in Public Spaces	a) Support local initiative assist in addressing he public spaces.		Feedback from stakeholders	• 2018-22	Council staff	Ongoing	Homelessness Interagency
		b) Participate in the Penr	rith Homelessness					Nepean Police     Nepean Police
		Interagency to collabo local agencies and org	orate with other					<ul><li>Housing NSW</li><li>Community</li></ul>
	C	c) Demonstrate a comm Protocol for Service D Experiencing Homele:	elivery for People					organisations

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
10	Car Park Safety	<ul> <li>a) Continue to promote messages to assist in preventing steal from motor vehicle offences (eg lock your car, remove your valuables).</li> <li>b) Install signage and pavement marking with key vehicle safety messages in city centre car parks.</li> <li>c) Participate in grant-funded campaigns (eg Operation Bounce Back) to promote vehicle safety and security.</li> <li>d) Provide targeted campaigns in locations with identified crime issues in conjunction with local police.</li> <li>e) Provide advice on car park design and infrastructure to promote user safety (eg lighting, security).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Signage displayed</li> <li>Information available</li> <li>% change in motor vehicle theft</li> <li>% change in steal from motor vehicle offences</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul> <li>Community Safety budget</li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council</li> <li>NSW Government</li> </ul>

# Priority Area 2: Domestic and Family Violence

#### **RATIONALE**

Recent data from NSW Police indicates that the Nepean Police Area Command ranks among the highest in NSW for domestic violence incident reports. Despite these statistics, advice from local community services and police indicates that domestic and family violence continues to be under-reported, indicating a need for greater community awareness, leadership and advocacy.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To demonstrate leadership, increase community awareness and reporting of domestic and family violence incidents, and support a coordinated community service sector.

#### LEAD AGENCY AND PARTNERS

Penrith City Council, Nepean Police Area Command, Nepean Domestic Violence Network.

#### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

Our community is more aware of domestic and family violence and its impacts, and is equipped with the information to respond to and report incidents. Local community services are supported to take a coordinated approach to assisting people experiencing domestic and family violence, and their families.

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
1	White Ribbon Day	<ul> <li>a) Host annual White Ribbon Day events to raise awareness about violence against women and its impacts.</li> <li>b) Encourage greater male-led involvement in the events and lead-up campaigns.</li> <li>c) Expand promotion of events to broaden community participation and awareness (including participation from local businesses, community organisations, schools and health services).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of events held</li> <li>Levels of community participation</li> <li>Community feedback</li> <li>Levels of media coverage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2018-22 (one event per year)</li> <li>White Ribbon Day is held annually on 25 November</li> </ul>	Community     Safety staff     time and     budget	Ongoing –     annual events	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>Nepean         Domestic         Violence         Network     </li> <li>Community         groups     </li> <li>Schools</li> <li>Local         businesses     </li> </ul>
2	Actively support the Nepean Domestic Violence Network (NDVN) to better enhance a coordinated DV service sector	<ul> <li>a) Support NDVN advocacy efforts for positive change for domestic violence victims and their children (eg safe and affordable housing).</li> <li>b) Assist with the coordination of suitable training programs to build a strong and supported service sector.</li> <li>c) Provide assistance with applications for grant funding for DV specific projects.</li> <li>d) Continue to provide administrative support to the NDVN including: monthly meeting support and information share; development of an annual events calendar to host regular events, campaigns and projects; coordination of annual NDVN planning days.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Support provided to NDVN meetings</li> <li>Attendance at monthly meetings</li> <li>No. of projects implemented per year</li> <li>No. of project participants</li> <li>% change in DV reports</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul> <li>Community         Safety staff         time and         budget     </li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Regular meetings held</li> <li>Projects implemented</li> </ul>	<ul><li>NDVN</li><li>Nepean Police</li><li>NSW Government</li></ul>

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
3	Domestic and Family Violence Information and Resources	<ul> <li>a) Provide easy and discreet access to information and resources on domestic and family violence services and support.</li> <li>b) Provide links to Council's 'DV Information and Referral Guide' in an online format that is accessible, simple to navigate and easy to update.</li> <li>c) Actively promote local domestic violence initiatives and messages via Council's website and social media.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of DV resources available</li> <li>Website updated &amp; accessible</li> <li>No. of DV messages/ campaigns via Council social media</li> <li>Referral guide updated and accessible</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul><li>Community Safety budget</li><li>Grant funding</li></ul>	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>NDVN</li> <li>NSW Government</li> <li>Nepean Police</li> </ul>
4	Domestic & Family Violence Forums and Campaigns	<ul> <li>a) Host local forums aimed at community education and awareness around domestic and family violence and supporting the community sector to assist in responding to DV.</li> <li>b) Provide information and training to support non-DV specific community services to help identify, support and make referrals for people experiencing domestic and family violence (eg child care workers, youth workers, aged-care workers, disability support staff and carers).</li> <li>c) Deliver campaigns aimed at raising DV awareness in the wider community (eg 'toilet door' poster campaigns, coasters in local pubs/clubs, bookmarks available at local libraries).</li> <li>d) Seek opportunities to participate in State and Federal domestic and family violence campaigns.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of forums/ campaigns</li> <li>Attendance at forums</li> <li>Participant feedback</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul> <li>Community Safety budget</li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>NDVN</li> <li>NSW Government</li> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>Community organisations</li> <li>Local businesses</li> </ul>

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
5	Leadership & Advocacy	<ul> <li>a) Council shows leadership through Council policies that support staff and their families experiencing domestic violence.</li> <li>b) Council staff have easy and discreet access to counselling, information and support services.</li> <li>c) Support and advocate for local businesses to implement policies to assist staff experiencing domestic and family violence.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Policies implemented</li> <li>Information accessible to staff</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	• Community Safety budget	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>Council's         Workforce and         Workplace         Department</li> </ul>

# Priority Area 3: Community Cohesion and Resilience

#### **RATIONALE**

Community connectedness and strong ties to the community increase actual safety and perceptions of safety. During community consultations, our community expressed that feeling safe is linked to a sense of community belonging and inclusion. There is a desire for more local programs and strategies that foster community cohesion – neighbourhoods that are supportive, inclusive and well-connected.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To increase community connectedness and cohesion in the Penrith LGA. To embed community safety as an indicator of social inclusion and overall community wellbeing. To reduce isolation and encourage resilient communities who are informed to play an active role in reducing crime and contributing to community safety.

#### LEAD AGENCY AND PARTNERS

Penrith City Council, Local Community Service Providers, Nepean Police Area Command.

#### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

Our community is well-connected and inclusive. Local residents 'know their neighbours' and have the knowledge and skills to help prevent crime and contribute to safe and vibrant communities.

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
1	Good Neighbour Project	<ul> <li>a) Promote resident-led coordination of annual Neighbour Day events. Neighbour Day is held on the last Sunday in March and encourages people to connect with their neighbourhood (ie via street parties, picnics in local parks). The initiative aims to break down community barriers, support vulnerable and isolated members of the community, and promote mutual respect and understanding.</li> <li>b) Support local residents to coordinate and host their own neighbourhood events.  This includes practical tools such as invitation templates, posters, assistance with road closures (if required), event checklists, assistance with hiring facilities etc.</li> <li>c) Assist with community transport options to assist people with restricted mobility to participate in Neighbour Day events.</li> <li>d) Support neighbourhood connections between residents in newer areas with growing populations. (eg Thornton, Jordan Springs)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of events registered/held</li> <li>Levels of attendance</li> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Annual Events</li><li>2018-22</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Community Safety budget</li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Event planning commenced</li> <li>Online register developed and promoted</li> <li>Events held and evaluated</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Resident groups</li> <li>Community organisations</li> <li>Relationships Australia (Neighbour Day founder)</li> </ul>

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
2	Support for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) and Emerging Communities	<ul> <li>a) Work with police and other stakeholders to provide information, support and advice to newly arrived migrants and emerging communities regarding personal safety.</li> <li>b) Participate in local forums and events aimed at assisting emerging communities to feel safe, informed and supported.</li> <li>c) Translate relevant resources in community languages to ensure equitable access to safety information (eg emergency magnets, assistance with reporting crime, domestic violence information and support services).</li> <li>d) Work with police to provide personal safety and crime prevention information and support for International Students at Western Sydney University and local TAFE.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of resources translated/ developed</li> <li>No. of events/ forums held</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul> <li>Community Safety budget</li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Resources translated &amp; developed</li> <li>Events/forums held</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>Multicultural Liaison Officers</li> <li>Community organisations</li> <li>Cultural groups</li> </ul>
3	Community Safety Information & Resources	<ul> <li>a) Provide community safety information that is accessible, culturally appropriate and up-to-date via Council facilities, website and social media platforms.</li> <li>b) Provide information on local safety issues and support services via the Community Safety Information Stand in Westfield Penrith.</li> <li>c) Participate in joint campaigns with local police and other community stakeholders targeting specific crime or safety issues/locations. (ie via community forums, information stalls, media campaigns).</li> <li>d) Promote 'good news' stories that help to reduce negative perceptions of safety and fear of crime.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Levels of information available</li> <li>No. of campaigns delivered</li> <li>No. of 'good news' stories promoted</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	Community Safety budget	• Ongoing	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>NSW         Department of             Justice     </li> </ul>

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS
4	Community Events	<ul> <li>a) Participate in community and residentled events and activities in public space locations to provide information and advice regarding local crime and safety issues.</li> <li>b) Support and assist local events that foster greater community connection and social inclusion.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of events/ activities attended</li> <li>Levels of engagement with local community</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	• Community Safety staff time & budget	Community events held	<ul> <li>Council's         Neighbour-         hood Renewal         team</li> <li>Resident         groups</li> <li>Community         organisations</li> <li>Nepean Police</li> </ul>
5	Drug and Alcohol Awareness	<ul> <li>a) Work with local health services to provide community information regarding drug and alcohol issues and support services.</li> <li>b) Provide local businesses with information, training and support to respond to concerns for safety associated with suspected drug and/or alcohol use.</li> <li>c) Provide community information to assist with the reporting and safe disposal of community sharps.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of programs delivered</li> <li>Participant feedback</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul><li>Community Safety budget</li><li>Grant funding</li></ul>	Programs delivered	<ul><li>NSW Health</li><li>Nepean Police</li><li>Local businesses</li></ul>
6	Fraud Prevention	<ul> <li>a) Deliver campaigns that raise awareness and assist in the prevention of fraud (eg social media campaigns, information to community groups, information stalls at local events).</li> <li>b) Work with local community services to reduce the risk of vulnerable and isolated members of the community (eg frail aged, CALD communities and people with disabilities) from being victims of fraud.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No. of campaigns delivered</li> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul> <li>Community Safety budget</li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>	Campaigns delivered	<ul> <li>Nepean Police</li> <li>NSW         Department of Justice     </li> <li>Community         Groups &amp; Organisations     </li> <li>Australian         Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)     </li> </ul>

#	PROJECT	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING/ RESOURCES	MILESTONES	PARTNERS	
7	Cyber Safety and Online Bullying	<ul> <li>a) Provide community information and advice on the prevention of cyber-crime and online bullying (eg links via Council's website, social media campaigns in conjunction with local police).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Levels of information, links and advice available via Council resources</li> </ul>	• 2018-22	<ul><li>Community Safety budget</li><li>Grant funding</li></ul>	Information available via Council resources	<ul><li>Nepean Police</li><li>Community Organisations</li><li>Office of</li></ul>	
		b) Participate in and promote cyber-safety initiatives and campaigns (eg Safer	<ul> <li>No. of campaigns supported</li> </ul>				the e-Safety Commissioner	
		Internet Day, Cyber Safety Week).					• Stay Smart Online (Federal Government Initiative)	
8	Report It, Don't Ignore It Initiative	initiative to ensure content is up to	No. of kits distributed	• 2018-22	• Community Safety budget	Kit is up to date and accessible	Nepean Police	
			% change in levels of community reporting for					
		b) Distribute Report It, Don't Ignore It kits at local events and community facilities, as well as targeted distribution in response to identified crime and safety concerns in specific locations.	identified crime issues					
		c) Seek practical online applications for the campaign.						

## **APPENDICES**

# Appendix 1: Demographic Highlights

The following information is based on the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census Data from 2016. It provides a brief snapshot of key demographic data for the City of Penrith as a whole. It is important to note that statistics vary from suburb to suburb, reflecting the diversity and individual characteristics of our suburbs.

KEY DEMOGRAPHIC DATA	PENRITH	GREATER SYDNEY	NSW	AUSTRALIA
Median age	34	36	38	38
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population	4%	1.5%	2.9%	2.8%
Couples with children	37%	35%	32%	30%
Older couples without children	7%	8%	10%	10%
Lone person household	18%	20%	22%	23%
Medium and high density housing	19%	44%	33%	27%
Median weekly household income	\$1,655	\$1,745	\$1,481	\$1,431
Median weekly mortgage repayment	\$466	\$495	\$456	\$409
Median weekly rent	\$374	\$447	\$384	\$339
Households renting	29%	33%	30%	29%
Households with a mortgage	39%	32%	30%	32%
Overseas born	22%	37%	28%	26%
Language at home other than English	17%	36%	25%	21%
University qualification	13%	28%	23%	22%
Trade qualification (certificate)	23%	15%	18%	19%
Unemployment	5.7%	6.0%	6.3%	6.9%
SEIFA Index of Disadvantage 2011	996.3	1011.3	995.8	1002.0

Other key demographic highlights:

#### AGE STRUCTURE

Penrith City has a higher proportion of young people (0 to 17 years) and a lower proportion of older people (60+ years). In 2016, 25.0% of the population was aged between 0 and 17, and 16.9% were aged 60 years and over, compared with 22.2% and 19.0% respectively for Greater Sydney.

#### **ANCESTRY**

Ancestry defines the cultural association and ethnic background of an individual going back three generations. Ancestry is a good measure of the total size of cultural groups in Penrith City regardless of where they were born or what language they speak. The five largest ancestries in Penrith City in 2016 were: Australian (70,044 people or 35.7%); English (65,251 people or 33.3%); Irish (19,279 people or 9.8%); Scottish (14,546 people or 7.4%) and Maltese (7,583 people or 3.9%).

#### **BIRTHPLACE**

Analysis of the country of birth of the population in Penrith City in 2016 compared to Greater Sydney shows that there was a smaller proportion of people born overseas, as well as a smaller proportion of people from a non-English speaking background. Overall, 21.6% of the population was born overseas, and 14.7% were from a non-English speaking background, compared with 36.7% and 29.3% respectively for Greater Sydney. The top 5 overseas birthplaces for Penrith City in 2016 were the United Kingdom (3.9%), New Zealand (2.0%), Philippines (1.9%), India (1.9%) and Malta (0.6%).

#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

The dominant language spoken at home in Penrith City, other than English, was Filipino/ Tagalog, with 1.6% of the population (3,167 people) speaking this language at home. This was followed by Arabic (1.6%), Hindi (0.9%), Punjabi (0.9%) and Maltese (0.7%).

#### DISADVANTAGE

The SEIFA Index of Disadvantage measures the relative level of socioeconomic disadvantage based on a range of Census characteristics such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment and jobs in unskilled occupations. A higher score on the index means a lower level of disadvantage. A lower score on the index means a higher level of disadvantage.

In 2016, Penrith scored 999.0 on the Index, indicating that as a whole it is more disadvantaged than the national average of 1001.9 and Greater Sydney average of 1018.0.

Although a significant number of our suburbs are above the national average, several are below: Berkshire Park (996.8), Jamisontown (986.4), Cambridge Park (965.9), Kingswood (940.7), Colyton (939.0), Oxley Park (930.0), Penrith (925.8), Werrington (921.3), St Marys (895.5) and North St Marys (833.0).

## Appendix 2: Crime Data

TABLE 1: RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS PENRITH LGA 2012-16

	JAN-I	DEC 2012	JAN-I	DEC 2014	JAN-D	EC 2016	2015-	2012-
OFFENCE TYPE	Recorded incidents	Rate per 100,000 pop.	Recorded incidents	Rate per 100,000 pop.	Recorded incidents	Rate per 100,000 pop.	16 2 year trend**	16 5 year trend**
Assault – domestic violence related	878	469.3	1,068	550.5	1,051	531.0	Stable	4.6%
Assault – non-domestic violence related	992	530.2	918	473.2	921	456.3	Stable	Stable
Sexual assault	162	86.6	159	82.0	158	79.8	Stable	Stable
Indecent assault, act of indecency and other sexual offences	169	90.3	226	116.5	218	110.1	Stable	6.6%
Robbery without a weapon	100	53.4	84	43.3	59	29.8	Stable	-12.4%
Robbery with a weapon not a firearm	59	31.5	48	24.7	33	16.7	Stable	-13.5%
Break and enter dwelling	957	511.5	1,050	541.2	739	373.4	-24.7%	-6.3%
Break and enter non- dwelling	274	146.4	289	149.0	283	143.0	Stable	Stable
Motor vehicle theft	567	303.0	558	287.6	515	260.2	Stable	Stable
Steal from motor vehicle	1,216	649.9	1,389	715.9	993	501.7	-17.2%	-4.9%
Steal from retail store	460	245.9	603	310.8	806	407.2	Stable	15.1%
Steal from dwelling	557	297.7	537	276.8	580	293.0	Stable	Stable
Steal from person	201	107.4	147	75.8	154	77.8	Stable	-6.4%
Fraud	1,167	623.7	1,299	669.5	1,637	827.1	Stable	8.8%
Malicious damage to property	2,384	1,274.2	2,204	1,136.0	1,946	983.2	Stable	-4.9%
Assault Police	65	34.7	58	29.9	100	50.5	Stable	Stable
Harassment, threatening behaviour and private nuisance	1,075	574.5	1,115	574.7	1,094	552.7	Stable	Stable
Receiving or handling stolen goods	153	81.8	209	107.7	357	180.4	Stable	23.6%
Breach Apprehended Violence Order	386	206.3	420	216.5	474	239.5	Stable	Stable

For the 24-month trend the annual percentage change is provided if the trend was significant.

For the 60-month trend the average annual percentage change is provided if the trend was significant.

<sup>\*</sup> Ranks are only calculated for Local Government Areas (LGAs) with populations greater than 3000 people (n=141).

Rates are only calculated for the major offences. Ranks are not calculated for murder due to the low number of recorded victims per

The robbery and sex offence categories are combined because the numbers are too small within the individual categories to calculate reliable rate estimates.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Trend information is not calculated (nc) if at least one 12-month period in the selected timeframe had less than 20 incidents. Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

The following table shows the ranking of Penrith LGA by offence type compared to the 140 other LGAs in NSW with populations over 3000.

TABLE 2: LGA RANK BY OFFENCE TYPE, PENRITH LGA, 2013-16\*

OFFENCE TYPE	2013	2014	2015	2016
Assault – domestic violence related	38	36	41	39
Assault – non-domestic violence related	56	53	41	46
Sexual assault	66	58	72	59
Robbery	14	12	10	11
Break and enter dwelling	53	42	45	71
Break and enter non-dwelling	95	89	103	85
Motor vehicle theft	19	20	33	18
Steal from motor vehicle	35	31	41	58
Steal from retail store	24	29	26	22
Steal from dwelling	84	85	61	72
Steal from person	16	23	17	15
Fraud	23	23	21	11
Malicious damage to property	41	48	52	59
Harassment, threatening behaviour and private nuisance	41	34	49	43
Breach AVO	66	56	73	64

<sup>\*</sup>Ranks are only calculated for Local Government Areas (LGAs) with populations greater than 3,000 people (n=141). Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research