



WAITAKERE CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGY

Adopted by the Waitakere City Council,
5 August 2004

WAITAKERE CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGY

Index

Waitakere Crime Prevention Strategy 2004-2007	3
Background and Context	3
Council Review of Crime Prevention Strategies and Relationships	3
Crime Prevention Unit	3
NZ Police	4
Crime and Safety in Waitakere City	4
Crime Prevention Projects Leader	5
Key Accountabilities:	5
Crime Prevention Reference Group	6
Terms of Reference	6
Membership	6
Council/Police City Safety Liaison Group	7
Purpose	7
Membership	7
Output 1: Identification of Crime Issues and Trends	8
Output 2: The Council's Strategic Policies and Planning, Operations and Services	8
Output 3: Collaboration with Government and Not-For-Profit Sectors	9
Output 4: Community Consultation/Participation	9
Output 5: Development of Effective Strategies and Interventions	10
Appendix I	11



Waitakere Crime Prevention Strategy 2004-2007

Background and Context

The Council Review of Crime Prevention Strategies and Relationships

During 2003, the Council undertook a review of its crime prevention strategies and relationships. At the August meeting of the City Development Committee, the following recommendations were approved:

1. That the Council notifies the Waitakere Safer Community Council Trust that it does not intend renewing the contract for services after 31 October 2003.
2. That the Council creates a new position within the *Safe Waitakere* 'family', using funding from Council and Crime Prevention Unit.
3. That the Council invites key partners to set up a Crime Reduction Reference Group to provide information and support to the new position. This group could include Council, Police, Maori and Pacific Island representation, and specific community agencies with a crime reduction focus.
4. That from 1 November 2003 - 30 June 2004, the new position will:
 - Undertake a strategic planning exercise to develop a Crime Reduction Business Plan to submit to the Crime Prevention Unit for funding for 2004/05
 - Coordinate the setting up of the Crime Reduction Reference Group
 - Coordinate the implementation of the Council/Police Memorandum of Understanding
 - Represent the Council on the local, district and regional planning groups
 - Contribute policy advice and specialist expertise to the Council
 - Participate in *Safe Waitakere*, Wellbeing Network and Collaboration Project
 - Maintain and support community networks and projects in accordance with the 2002/03 Business Plan, and in particular with Maori, Pacific Island and youth.
5. That Council staff support the process of disestablishing the funding contract with Waitakere Safer Community Council Trust as at 31 October 2003, including:
 - Identifying and addressing issues concerning the management of assets and liabilities, funds, documents and records
 - Managing the transition of support and funding to on-going community projects.

This comprehensive set of recommendations sets out a new structure for the planning and implementing of crime reduction strategies in the city.

Crime Prevention Unit

In 2003, at the same time as the Waitakere City Council was undertaking its own internal review, the Crime Prevention Unit undertook a major review of the Safer Community Council Network – *Review of the Safer Community Council Network: Future Directions*. The outcomes signal significant changes in the way Crime Prevention Unit will function, and sets out criteria for the on-going relationships between the Unit and the Territorial Local Authorities.

Key elements in the new Crime Prevention Unit policy are:

- Crime Prevention Unit will invest greater financial resources in metropolitan crime prevention activities



- On-going partnership arrangements will be contingent on local government taking responsibility for the management, coordination and governance (by Council Committee) of local crime prevention efforts
- Funding arrangements will be:
 - negotiated directly with individual metropolitan Local Authorities in accordance with jointly agreed crime reduction outcomes
 - provided on a longer-term (three year) basis under more flexible terms and conditions.

NZ Police

The relationship between the Waitakere City Council and the Police has been formalised through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding that outlines the areas of shared interest concerning crime and community safety, and sets out protocols for communication, information sharing and joint planning.

The North Shore/Waitakere/Rodney Police Business Plan 2003/04 states “the strong interaction with...Waitakere City Council...will flourish this year, such that Police will become engaged in joint crime and crash reduction initiatives on a scale not experienced before in this District”.

Crime and Safety in Waitakere City

There has been considerable media attention given to the issues and perceptions around crime and safety in Waitakere and in particular to the emerging problems associated with methamphetamine.

This section will contain the most up to date Police crime statistics, and any other research or data that contributes to the analysis of crime and perceptions of safety in Waitakere City.



Crime Prevention Projects Leader

A key component in the development and implementation of the Waitakere Crime Reduction Strategy is the appointment by the Waitakere City Council of the Crime Prevention Projects Leader, located within the *Safe Waitakere* team, Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy Group, Strategy and Development Unit.

Key Accountabilities:

Strategic Planning and Advice

- Undertake strategic planning – including the development implementation and monitoring of the Crime Prevention/Reduction Business Plan
- Represent the Council on the local, district and regional Crime Prevention/Reduction planning groups
- Provide strategic advice and specialist expertise to the Council as required.

Relationship Management and Community Engagement

- Coordinate the implementation of the Council/Police Memorandum of Understanding
- Coordinate the Crime Reduction Reference Group and the Police Liaison Group
- Participate in *Safe Waitakere*, Wellbeing Network and Collaboration Project
- Maintain and support community networks and projects in accordance with the WCRS Business Plan.

Project Management

- Oversee the progress/implementation of the Safety and Access by Design Project
- Manage the design and implementation of projects arising from the Business Plan.



Crime Prevention Reference Group

This group focuses on the development, implementation and monitoring of the Crime Prevention Strategy.

Terms of Reference

To assist Council to set the Strategic Direction

- Determine the strategic direction, priorities and projects/activities
- Oversee the planning and implementation processes for the programme
- Monitor the achievements of projects/activities against performance indicators

Advice – provision of

- Professional and operational expertise
- Data, analysis of information/data
- Guidance on methods and processes
- Problem-solving

Partnership

- Facilitate the development of partnerships with statutory and community agencies and groups
- Explore and enable access to additional funding and resources

Discretionary Funding

- Oversee the allocation of discretionary funds to crime prevention projects in accordance with the funding policy

Membership

The Reference Group is comprised of representatives of key government and community agencies that have a crime prevention/reduction focus, together with members representing particular populations within the community – Maori, Pacific peoples, children and youth.

Waitakere City Council

- Councillor representative
- Council officers

Government agencies

- Ministry of Justice
- NZ Police
- Corrections
- Child Youth and Family
- Courts

Community Agencies

- West Auckland Neighbourhood Support
- Victim Support
- WAVES

Community Populations

- Maori – Te Taumata Runanga
- Pacific Peoples – Pacific Island Advisory Board
- Children and youth



Council/Police City Safety Liaison Group

Purpose

The City Safety Liaison Group operates as an immediate point of reference for crime and community safety issues as and when they arise in Waitakere. The group assesses, informs and makes recommendations on particular strategies and actions.

Membership

Membership of the group fluctuates according to the issues being addressed, with additional staff from both organisations being involved as required. The group comprises the following members (or their nominated replacements) from the Council and the NZ Police:

Waitakere City Council

- Michael Mills – Crime Prevention Projects Leader
- Shannon Hanrahan – Safe Waitakere Alcohol Project
- Tina Meharry – CAYAD project coordinator
- Warren Cornor – Council Security Manager
- District Licensing Inspector
- Leisure Services
- Parks Assets Management
- Public Affairs

Community Boards

- Representative(s) from each Community Board

NZ Police

- Brian Loudon, Community Relations
- Bryony Brown, Intel Analyst
- Jason Loye, Liquor Licensing
- John Allen, Youth Services

Functions

The group convenes to discuss matters that are of particular concern between the Police and the Council. These matters may arise from any of the parties, including staff from units other than those in the core group. Matters ordinarily dealt with may include:

- Emerging “hot spots” e.g. Titirangi vandalism and drunken behaviour
- On-going problems e.g. tagging
- Particular sites/localities e.g. car parks, internet cafes
- Planning for events
- Opportunities for proactive policing e.g. NHS, CCTV
- Input into and evaluation of plans and proposals e.g. Glen Eden youth pool club.

Process

The group usually meets monthly and any person can place items on the agenda through one of the core group. The Crime Prevention Projects Leader is convener of the group. A short statement or report about the issue(s) is furnished to the convener for distribution prior to the group meeting. Ideally the author should attend the group meeting to speak to the matter and to engage in the discussion.



Matters before the Group will be considered and the outcomes communicated to the originator and all participants. Where appropriate, an Action Plan will be developed indicating tasks, timeframes, resources and the person(s) responsible. Outcomes may include: securing the involvement of other persons/parties; establishing project team(s); preparing reports/recommendations; seeking further information/research; authorising specific actions.

Crime Prevention Strategy

Refer Appendix I

Output 1: Identification of Crime Issues and Trends

This section contains mechanisms for the information-gathering and analysis of crime patterns/trends. The information will enable the development of evidence-based strategies and interventions, and provide the basis/rationale for resourcing of community-based crime prevention initiatives.

Outcomes:

- Identification of crime patterns and trends
- Early indication of new/emerging crime issues
- Prioritisation of crime activity in accordance with the National Crime Reduction Strategy; local (and regional) priorities as set out in business plans/strategies; political and community perspectives

Mechanisms:

- Joint Strategic Planning with Police (as per MOU); and
- Other agencies (Crime Reduction Reference Group); and
- Information-sharing, research and analysis; and
- Community consultation (locality, 'interest', populations etc)

Output 2: The Council's Strategic Policies and Planning, Operations and Services

The Council's systems and procedures reflect a consistent and clearly articulated commitment to crime prevention and community safety.

These objectives are also set out as *Safe City*, one of the *Five Priorities* in the Long Term Council Community Plan.

Areas of social policy eg prostitution law reform, gambling and sale of alcohol, have significant crime/safety implications.

As custodian of the public realm, the Council acknowledges its crime prevention and community safety role in planning, developing and managing the streets, parks, town centres and community facilities in the city.

Planning for population growth management – urban intensification, transportation, and infrastructure requires careful attention to crime prevention and in particular to people's perceptions of personal and community safety.

The Council's regulatory and compliance services have a direct impact on the quality of life and amenity values in the city.

Outcomes:

- That the Council's policies and plans incorporate crime prevention and community safety principles and outcomes



- That the Council utilises expert input and analysis in its planning and development processes
- That the Council leads by example in the provision of safe and accessible public buildings, facilities and localities

Mechanisms:

- That the Council reviews and audits its systems and procedures to ensure a consistent approach to crime prevention and community safety
- That the Council engages with people and organisations that have skills and expertise in the application of crime prevention and community safety principles and practice
- That the Council monitors its performance in reducing crime and improving perceptions of community safety

Output 3: Collaboration with Government and Not-For-Profit Sectors

The Council accepts that it has a leadership and facilitation role with respect to crime prevention and community safety, but acknowledges that no single agency can achieve significant outcomes in isolation. This section identifies the primary and ancillary agencies that have a crime prevention/reduction focus, and defines the nature of the Council's relationships with these agencies. This will inform decisions concerning the formation of partnerships, funding agreements and other forms of collaboration.

Outcomes:

- The Government and community-based agencies work together efficiently and effectively to achieve crime reduction outcomes

Mechanisms:

- Formal agreements such as contracts, Memorandum of Understanding, partnerships, Reference Group
- Project teams, focus groups, Council/Police City Safety Liaison Group
- Collaborative mechanisms for networking, and sharing of relevant information
- Regional TLA/Police strategic project

Output 4: Community Consultation/Participation

Crime happens in geographic locations, and more frequently amongst certain populations than others. This section identifies mechanisms for engaging communities – in particular, those communities (localities, 'interest', populations etc) that are most likely to be the victims and/or the perpetrators of crime.

The project also has an obligation to the wider community to inform and consult on crime and safety matters. By utilising a variety of mechanisms, the general public can become more aware of, and responsive to crime prevention opportunities.

Outcomes:

- The communities that are most adversely affected by crime (victims and perpetrators) participate in the development and implementation of crime reduction strategies
- The general public is more aware of and responsive to crime and community safety matters



Mechanisms:

- Formal consultative frameworks
- Informal networks
- Specific targeted research/consultation/participation
- Use of media
- Dissemination of information through existing community networks – such as Neighbourhood Support
- Public Forums
- Participation in other community meetings

Output 5: Development of Effective Strategies and Interventions

This section elaborates on how the input of information and the participation of partners and community are managed and monitored to generate innovative and effective crime reduction strategies.

Outcomes:

- Crime prevention/reduction strategies, funding decisions and project implementation will be in accordance with agreed priorities and policies
- Strategies and projects are effective in achieving crime reduction outcomes

Mechanisms:

- The Crime Prevention Strategy – Business Plan reviewed annually
- Strategies and projects monitored and evaluated to ensure they are achieving the planned outcomes
- 'Best Practice' approach, drawing on research, implementation factors, changing considerations, unforeseen occurrences
- Positive feedback from partners, agencies and communities



Appendix I

Output 1 Identification of Crime Issues and Trends

Outcomes	Activities	Timeframes	Parties internal/external	Skills/Resources
<p>Identification of crime patterns and trends</p> <p>Early indication of new/emerging crime issues</p> <p>Prioritisation of crime activity in accordance with the National Crime Reduction Strategy; local (and regional) priorities as set out in business plans/strategies; political and community perspectives</p>	<p>Joint Strategic Planning with Police (as per MOU);</p> <p>and other agencies (Crime Prevention Reference Group);</p> <p>Information-sharing, research and analysis;</p> <p>Community consultation (locality, 'interest', populations etc)</p>	<p>Annual</p> <p>Quarterly</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going, and in relation to specific issues/projects</p>	<p>Regional local authorities Police – regional, District and Waitakere Area</p> <p>Police, Corrections, CYF, Courts, WANS, VS, WAVES, Maori, Pacific peoples, children and youth</p> <p>Identified communities</p>	<p>Statistics, other forms of data from internal and external sources</p> <p>Access to Council services eg GIS, Admin support, financial management services</p> <p>Specialist analysis</p> <p>Community development</p>

Output 2
Council's Strategic Policies and Planning, Operations and Services

Outcomes	Activities	Timeframes	Parties internal/external	Skills/Resources
<p>Council policies and plans incorporate crime prevention and community safety principles and outcomes</p> <p>Council utilises expert input and analysis in its planning and development processes</p> <p>Council leads by example in the provision of safe and accessible public buildings, facilities and localities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council reviews and audits its systems and procedures to ensure a consistent approach to crime prevention and community safety 	On-going, and in Annual and LTCCP Reporting	Departmental managers	Audit/review budget and skills within programmed work
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council engages with people and organisations that have skills and expertise in the application of crime prevention and community safety principles and practice 	On-going	Internal and external partners	Provision made in project budgets for consultation and specialist input
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council monitors its performance in reducing crime and improving perceptions of community safety 	Annual	Departmental managers, special projects leaders	City Safety indicators, specialist monitoring

Output 3
Collaboration with Government and Not-For-Profit Sectors

Outcomes	Activities	Timeframes	Parties internal/external	Skills/Resources
Government and community-based agencies work together efficiently and effectively to achieve crime reduction outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal agreements such as contracts, Memorandum of Understanding, Reference Group, partnerships ▪ Project teams, focus groups – including Police/Council Liaison group ▪ Collaborative mechanisms for networking, and sharing of relevant information 	<p>CPU – three year contract</p> <p>Police MOU – reviewed annually</p> <p>Reference Group – meet minimum four times a year</p> <p>Project teams according to implementation plans</p> <p>Liaison group monthly</p> <p>Utilising existing networks and forums</p>	<p>Crime Prevention Unit</p> <p>NZ Police – District/Area</p> <p>Other local authorities</p> <p>Corrections, Courts, Child Youth and Family</p> <p>West Auckland Neighbourhood Support, Victim Support, WAVES</p> <p>Collaboration and Community Wellbeing networks and forums</p>	<p>Contract management</p> <p>Relationship management</p> <p>Meeting facilitation, project support</p>

**Output 4
Community Consultation/Participation**

Outcomes	Activities	Timeframes	Parties internal/external	Skills/Resources
<p>The communities that are most adversely affected by crime (victims and perpetrators) participate in the development and implementation of crime reduction strategies</p> <p>Raise and improve community awareness and responsiveness to crime and safety matters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal consultative frameworks ▪ Formal and Informal community networks ▪ Specific targeted research/consultation/participation ▪ Use of media ▪ Dissemination of information through existing networks ▪ Public Forums ▪ Other community meetings 	<p>According to plans and timetables eg Annual Plan, LTCCP consultation</p> <p>According to meeting schedules</p> <p>On a needs basis</p> <p>In response to emerging issues and needs</p>	<p>Te Taumata Runanga, Pacific Island Advisory Board, Youth Council</p> <p>Advocacy/special interest groups</p> <p>WADCOSS, Collaboration and Wellbeing networks</p> <p>Council and external researchers/analysts</p> <p>Media, partner-organisations, community networks</p>	<p>Relationship management</p> <p>Community development</p> <p>Research and analysis</p>

Output 5
Development of Effective Strategies and Interventions

Outcomes	Activities	Timeframes	Parties internal/external	Skills/Resources
<p>Crime prevention/reduction strategies, funding decisions and project implementation will be in accordance with agreed priorities and policies</p> <p>Strategies and projects are effective in achieving crime reduction outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Crime Prevention Strategy – Business Plan reviewed annually ▪ Strategies and projects monitored and evaluated to ensure they are achieving the planned outcomes ▪ ‘Best Practice’ approach, drawing on research, implementation factors, changing considerations, unforeseen occurrences ▪ Accountability to Council, funders, key stakeholders and the wider community 	<p>Business objectives reviewed annually</p> <p>On-going in accordance with project plans</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>Reviewed annually and utilising Council and other community surveys</p>	<p>Crime Prevention Unit</p> <p>City Development Committee</p> <p>Reference Group</p> <p>Internal monitoring, project teams</p> <p>External evaluators eg SHORE</p>	<p>Strategic planning</p> <p>Relationship management</p> <p>Leadership and facilitation</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation</p>