

Shire of Broome
PO Box 44, Broome WA 6725

Phone: 08 9191 3456

Fax: 08 9191 3455

MEDIA RELEASE



5 January 2016

For immediate release

Broome agencies come together to tackle crime

The Shire of Broome's Community Safety Working Group will meet again this month as it brings together key agencies to tackle issues of crime and antisocial behaviour.

The Broome community highlighted antisocial behaviour as a key concern in a Community Perceptions Survey undertaken by the Shire in 2015.

In response, Council formed the Community Safety Working Group in November 2015, with representatives from the Shire, Police, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Nyamba Buru Yawuru, Broome Liquor Accord, Kullarri Patrol, Broome Youth and Families Hub (Drop-In Centre/HYPE), taxi services and Broome Visitor Centre.

The Working Group's first meeting was held in December 2015, with the next meeting scheduled this month.

Broome Shire President, Ron Johnston, said crime and antisocial behaviour had again come to prominence over the Christmas break.

"Police have worked hard to respond and we are pleased the State Government has allocated extra officers to Broome to tackle this and other issues," Cr Johnston said.

"The main purpose of the Community Safety Working Group is to develop a Community Safety Plan for the Shire, to support funding applications for new projects and initiatives, and we will be seeking the community's input as work progresses. The Working Group will also identify key issues where short-term action can be taken.

"Recent work by the Shire includes applying for funding to install CCTV in Chinatown, Town Beach and other problem areas.

"The Shire has negotiated with the Kullarri Patrol to change its pick-up location from the Shell service station in Chinatown to the 24-hour toilets on Male Oval in response to concerns from business owners.

"We are also responding to community concerns about laneways in areas such as Cable Beach by closing them where possible, and Shire Rangers and Community Clean-Up Crew have been targeting key areas for litter.

"The Shire is also developing a new Youth Strategy, with a Youth Advisory Council to be formed early this year.

"In the longer term, the Shire is working with the WA Department of Housing on its urban renewal project in Old Broome and including 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' principles.

"We are also encouraged that the State Government is progressing a short-stay hostel for itinerant visitors, with tenders called for architectural services in late 2015."

Ends