

# Community Safety Plan

2021 - 2025

DRAFT





## OUR PLAN

The Shire of Broome aspires for the District to be a safe and enjoyable place for everyone to live, work and visit.

This Plan guides the Shire to provide the foundation for a safe and thriving community; and inform the action undertaken by the Shire in partnership with agencies and the community to reduce the risk of crime and anti-social behaviour and improve community perceptions of safety.

In response to resident and business and visitor concerns, the *Community Safety Plan 2016 – 2019* was developed to stimulate action, however safety and security continue to remain a key concern for the community.

The relaxed pace of life and laid-back attitude of Broome are appealing – yet continue to be impacted by key issues including excessive drug and alcohol consumption and related harm; anti-social behaviour in public places; and rates of youth offending and recidivism.

The *Community Safety Plan 2021 – 2025* continues the work of the first plan - ensuring issues impacting the community are addressed and the Shire contributes to a shared community safety solution.

This plan was developed based on consultation with the community and key stakeholders including WA Police, service providers and community groups.

The actions respond to key themes and areas of need identified through this process – and acknowledge the fact not one group is solely responsible for addressing community safety concerns and crime prevention throughout the Shire.

# SNAPSHOT – COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME IN BROOME

The Shire commenced a consultation and review process in 2019 to develop the Community Safety Plan 2021 - 2025.

This process included several methods to gain an understanding of the prevailing perceptions, concerns and priorities of the community in relation to community safety and crime prevention.

## Review

Officers conducted a review of all actions contained within the Community Safety Plan 2016 – 2019 with those which remained relevant being considered as ongoing actions.

## Community Surveying

The Shire of Broome conducted a Community Perceptions Survey in June 2020, which was completed by 1,046 respondents. The survey results identified that **Safety and Security** was a top community priority, and provided a significant amount of comments and feedback on this theme.

## Informal Engagement

Twelve community picnics were held across various neighbourhoods in Broome in 2019.

These picnics were aimed at providing an opportunity for community engagement; whilst building capacity and resilience for community members to increase safety and security awareness.

These picnics were supported by WA Police who attended to provide advice to community members on community safety concerns.

## Stakeholder workshop

Key stakeholders, including members from the previous Community Safety Working Group, were invited to attend the workshop as part of targeted community consultation.

The main objectives of the stakeholder workshop included testing priorities and formulating key actions for inclusion in the draft plan.

A variety of stakeholders participated including:

- Shire of Broome (officers and elected members)
- WA Police
- Department of Justice
- Department of Communities
- Kimberley Population Health Unit
- Kullarri Patrol
- Broome Youth and Families Hub
- Broome Visitor Centre
- Paspaley Properties
- Agunya Ltd
- Milliya Rumurra

## Data analysis

The crime statistics analysed and included below were obtained from the WA Police Force website.

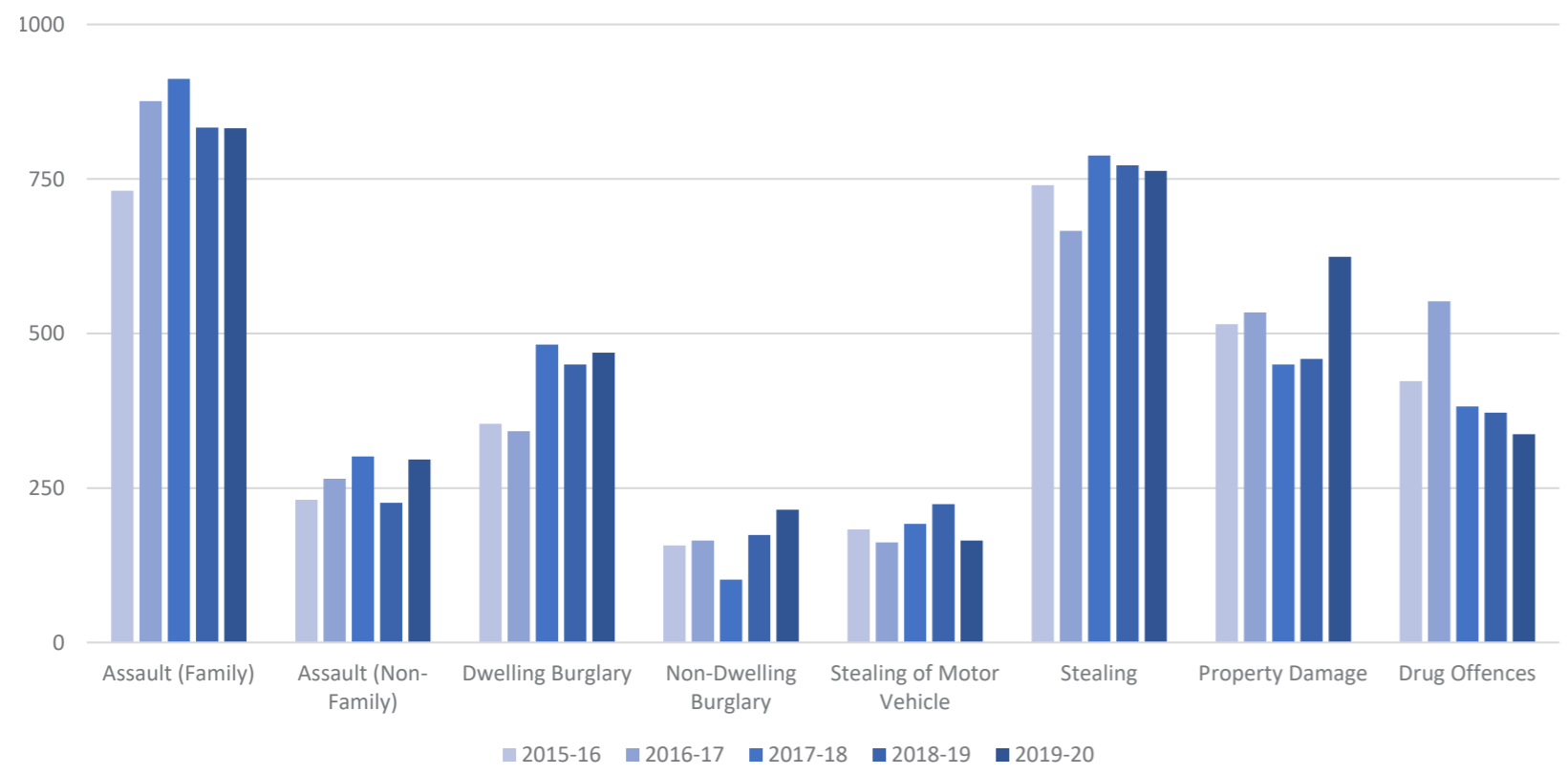
The Shire acknowledges crime statistics are only one measure of community safety and may be influenced by a wide range of factors including, although not limited to:

- Population size
- Infrastructure (such as shopping centres and entertainment precincts)
- Seasonal trends
- The extent to which crime is reported to, and detected by, police
- Changes to offence recording and reporting categories
- Other social, economic, proactive policing or inter-agency strategies

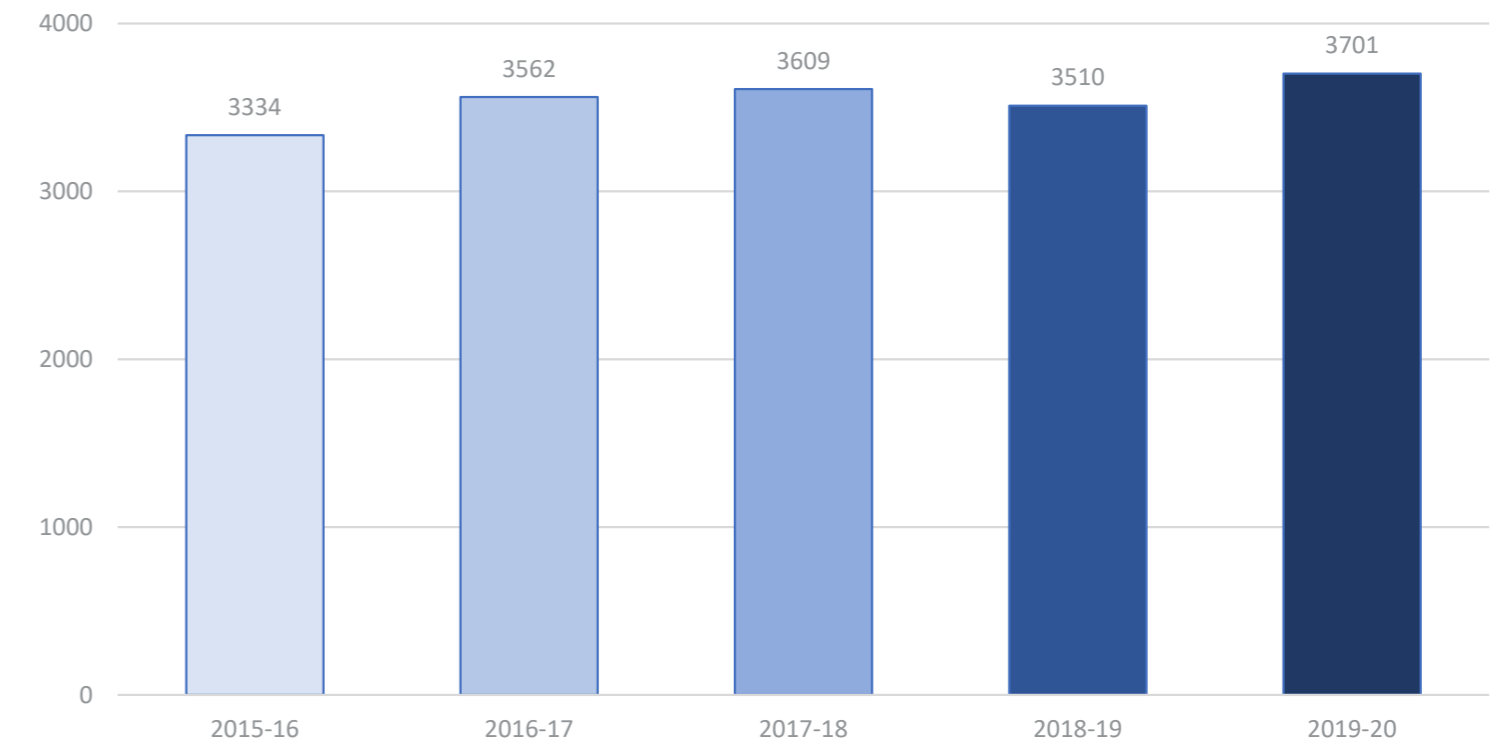
Consideration should be given to these factors when interpreting statistics.



Shire of Broome - Five year crime trends (by crime category)



Shire of Broome - Total number of yearly offences  
(Population: 16,222\* 2016 Census)



\* 1.09% Population growth since 2011

## OUR PURPOSE

The Shire of Broome exists to deliver affordable and quality Local Government services, for everyone.

We fulfil the following roles and responsibilities to meet local needs:

- Advocate** We are a voice for the local community, promoting local interest in relation to health and safety, climate change, responsible development and more.
- Facilitate** We help to make it possible or easier to meet community needs.
- Fund** We help to fund organisations to deliver essential community services including Broome Visitor Centre, Surf Lifesaving, festivals, events and more.
- Partner** We form strategic alliances with other interest of the community.
- Provide** We directly provide community infrastructure and services.
- Regulate** We ensure compliance with local laws.

## OUR ACTIONS

The *Community Safety Plan 2016 – 2019* was informed by the Broome 2040 community consultation and the 2015 Community Perceptions Survey, which identified several issues relating to community safety in the Broome town-site.

Building upon this work, further consultation through 2019 and 2020 has consolidated a list of key priority themes to focus the Shire's efforts in the Community Safety space over the life of this plan.

These are:

- Alcohol consumption and other drugs
- Anti-social behaviour in public places
- Itinerancy and rough camping
- Youth crime and diversionary initiatives
- Burglary / theft / stealing
- Family and domestic violence
- Civic leadership



## ACTION // Alcohol consumption and other drugs

The excessive intake of alcohol continues in public places throughout Broome, and there is also community angst regarding drug use. Laws are in place to guide the responsible service of alcohol in licensed premises, however there are currently no restrictions in Broome regarding the sale of take-away alcohol.

DELIVERABLES	TIMEFRAME			
	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
<b>Advocate</b> for the implementation of measures to reduce the impact of excessive alcohol consumption.	●	●	●	●
<b>Advocate</b> for services addressing alcohol and other drug related harm occurring within the Shire.	●	●	●	●
<b>Provide</b> administration support to the Broome Liquor Accord.	●	●	●	●
<b>Facilitate</b> an ongoing dialogue with the Kimberley Regional Group regarding a regional approach to alcohol and other drug related matters.	●	●	●	●

## ACTION // Anti-social behaviour in public places

Ongoing anti-social behaviour continues to impact community and businesses. There is concern about the reputational damage posed by the highly visible nature of this behaviour. In the Broome context anti-social behaviour can include abusing people, shouting and swearing, fighting, littering, being drunk and disorderly, loitering, defecating, sleeping in public areas, disrupting events, holding noisy parties and hassling (humbugging) people.

DELIVERABLES	TIMEFRAME			
	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
<b>Provide</b> a program of events to activate public open spaces; and strengthen neighbourhood pride and connections.	●	●	●	●
<b>Facilitate</b> a strategic review of the laneway and drainage network.		●		
<b>Advocate</b> for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles to be applied to major infrastructure projects outside of the control of the Shire.	●	●	●	●
<b>Partner</b> with WA Police to provide ongoing monitoring of anti-social behaviour in public places.	●	●	●	●
<b>Provide</b> an annual lighting upgrade program.	●	●	●	●
<b>Advocate</b> for external funding for CCTV and lighting programs.	●	●	●	●
<b>Advocate</b> for additional CCTV in recreational areas.	●	●	●	●

## ACTION // Itinerancy and rough camping

The township of Broome experiences periodic influxes of transient visitors from surrounding communities and the Northern Territory. Reasons for visits include treatment for medical conditions, family gatherings, sporting events, bereavement and funerals, visiting people in residential aged care, on dialysis or in prison and the need to get away from pressures at home.

DELIVERABLES	TIMEFRAME			
	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
<b>Facilitate</b> information sharing between service providers to improve collaborative outcomes to address itinerancy.	●	●	●	●
<b>Partner</b> with State Government agencies and service providers to monitor and address itinerancy occurring within the Shire.	●	●	●	●

## ACTION // Youth crime and diversionary initiatives

Youth crime is a key concern for the Broome community and accounts for the majority of contacts made by community members to the Shire about young people. Young people themselves have expressed concern that the actions of a few young offenders has created a bad image for Broome youth as a whole. Indeed, groups of young people gathered in a public space is perceived by some survey respondents as being negative or threatening

DELIVERABLES	TIMEFRAME			
	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
<b>Fund</b> and partner with agencies to deliver youth diversionary activities.	●	●	●	●
<b>Advocate</b> for external funding to ensure the ongoing delivery of diversionary activities and facilities to keep youth on country.	●	●	●	●
<b>Advocate</b> for the provision of crisis accommodation for young people.	●	●	●	●

## ACTION // Burglary / theft / stealing

Theft and burglary are a major concern for Broome residents with reported cases of stealing and property damage statistics on the rise in the last reporting period. The use of social media to highlight the issue is leading to increased community angst.

DELIVERABLES	TIMEFRAME			
	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
<b>Advocate</b> for external funding for a home security subsidy scheme.	●	●	●	●
<b>Provide</b> a community awareness campaign to promote safety and crime prevention.	●	●	●	●

## ACTION // Family and domestic violence

Family and domestic violence is a major health and welfare issue in Australia - occurring across all demographics. The impacts of family and domestic violence can be serious and long - lasting. Crime statistics in Broome indicate over 800 reported assaults in 2019-20.

DELIVERABLES	TIMEFRAME			
	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
<b>Advocate</b> for the delivery of ongoing strategies by the State Government to reduce family and domestic violence.	●	●	●	●
<b>Advocate</b> for services addressing domestic violence occurring within the Shire.	●	●	●	●

## ACTION // Civic leadership

The Shire has an opportunity to continue to demonstrate civic leadership in advocating for State or Federal Government support where appropriate. Further opportunities exist in leveraging the collective strength of the four Kimberley local governments through the Kimberley Zone – which has proven effective previously when dealing with matters impacting the region.

DELIVERABLES	TIMEFRAME			
	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
<b>Advocate</b> for the State Government to review the effectiveness of community safety service provision within the Kimberley region to evaluate and improve social outcomes for Broome and the region.	●	●		
<b>Advocate</b> for the funding and delivery of an urban renewal project across major precincts in Broome.	●	●		
<b>Fund</b> programs addressing community safety and crime prevention through the Community Sponsorship Program.	●	●	●	●
<b>Advocate</b> on new and emerging community safety and crime prevention issues.	●	●	●	●





