

# Woollahra Community Safety Plan





# Woollahra Community Safety Plan

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.1</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.2</b>	<b>PURPOSE.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1.3</b>	<b>WHAT CAN WOOLLAHRA COUNCIL DO TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY SAFETY? .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>1.4</b>	<b>AIMS OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>BACKGROUND TO COMMUNITY SAFETY PLANNING.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<b>UNDERSTANDING CRIME PREVENTION PRINCIPLES .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2.2</b>	<b>UNDERSTANDING CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED).....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>2.3</b>	<b>HISTORY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES IN WOOLLAHRA .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>CRIME ANALYSIS .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>ANALYSIS OF SAFETY RISKS IN WOOLLAHRA.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>ACCIDENT AND SAFETY ANALYSIS .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>3.3</b>	<b>ROAD ACCIDENTS.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>3.4</b>	<b>ROAD SAFETY.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>CRIME PROFILE.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>CRIME PROFILE OF WOOLLAHRA.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>DRIVING OFFENCES .....</b>	<b>42</b>

4.3	PROPERTY AND PERSONAL CRIMES .....	43
5.	COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN.....	49
5.1	PUBLIC SAFETY.....	49
5.2	PERSONAL SAFETY FOR OLDER PEOPLE.....	55
5.3	PERSONAL SAFETY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.....	63
5.4	PERSONAL SAFETY FOR WOMEN .....	68
5.5	PERSONAL SAFETY FOR CHILDREN.....	70
5.6	PROPERTY CRIME.....	74
5.7	PROPERTY CRIMES – MOTOR VEHICLES.....	77
5.8	PROPERTY CRIME – MALICIOUS DAMAGE - GRAFFITI.....	78
5.9	BROADER SAFETY ISSUES .....	83
7.	ANNEXURES .....	86

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Executive Summary

---

Woollahra's Community Safety Plan is designed to guide the efforts of Woollahra Council in implementing projects to improve Community Safety in the Local Government Area. The Plan incorporates issues arising in recent consultation processes and action plans developed by the various taskforces attached to the Woollahra Community Safety Council (now called the Community Safety Committee). The Plan analyses the crime, injury and road accident statistics of Woollahra and identifies various crime prevention strategies that Council may be able to implement. Although Police have the primary responsibility for crime prevention, Council and the community at large can assist crime prevention efforts in variety of ways.

#### Council's role in Community Safety

1. Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED or "Design out" crime)
2. Address the underlying social causes of offending by seeking to influence the behaviour of those most likely to offend.
3. Coordinate safety strategies in partnerships with Police, other agencies and residents.
4. Promote Community Safety awareness through community education and information distribution.
5. Enforce a range of laws, regulations and standards in the areas of environmental health, public health, construction and traffic control.

#### Safety in Woollahra:

1. **Injury profile:** According to statistics from South East Health between 1997 -2001, 116 Woollahra residents were deceased due to injuries. Council's role is to ensure that accident prevention information and Health Promotion programs are accessible and available to residents.
2. **Road Accidents:** Car ownership is high and rising in Woollahra and increasing rates of car ownership contribute to increasing traffic congestion and higher rates of road accidents in Woollahra. Council is currently involved in road safety projects. Eg: Organising seminars, assisting parents teach their teenage learner drivers.
3. **Crime Profile:** Most crime in Woollahra is property related, however the recent rise in assault and ongoing violence are of concern to personal safety. During the year 2003, crime patterns for most offences have largely

remained stable or dropped. However statistics show that Woollahra has high rates of *Stealing from a Person*, *Stealing from a Motor Vehicle* and *Break and Enter Dwelling offences*.

Woollahra Community Safety Plan identifies its safety improvement strategies under a number of headings and target groups including; public safety, property crimes, personal safety for older people, young people, women and children.

In 2003, members of the Community Safety Committee were invited to prioritise the safety strategies of the first draft of Plan. The following safety issues were prioritised and community education was identified as a key strategy to address these issues.

- Community education programs targeting:
  - underage drinking.
  - school programs on drug & alcohol related issues.
  - safe behavior for young people.
  - encouraging reporting of crime.
  - safety issues of older people.
  - preventing property crimes.
- Training Council staff in CPTED.
- Preventing domestic abuse of older persons.
- Safety audits for safer streets.
- Preventing domestic violence against women.
- Increased formal surveillance of graffiti – apprehending graffiti vandals & annual graffiti audits

## **1. Public safety**

### **Public Safety in Open Spaces:**

- a) Increased surveillance: Rapid identification and response to incivility hotspots.
- b) Community Education: Drug and Alcohol Education campaigns to target underage binge drinking.
- c) Licensed Premises: Negotiate Responsible Service of Alcohol agreements with licensees (Licensing Accords) and providing shuttle buses for late night patrons.

- d) Implementing the Recommendations of NSW Alcohol Summit: Education for parents, youth, employers, etc. Council initiating partnerships with National & State Drug and Alcohol services, the Police, local clubs and schools.
- a) Safety Audits in local communities: Identify local safety problems through safety audits.
- e) Increase formal surveillance at Edgecliff Bus Interchange: Install Help Points with CCTV, Carry out consultation with community prior to installation of CCTV in the municipality

### **Public Safety in Gap:**

- a) Increase Formal Surveillance: Swift police response to calls from the public Increased surveillance. Rapid identification and response to incivility hotspots.
- b) Increase Informal Surveillance: Raise community reporting response by community education campaign in Watsons' Bay.
- c) Situational Measures: Improved lighting and fencing.
- d) Harm minimization: Training and information dissemination amongst Council staff, Police and local residents about harm minimization.

## **2. Personal safety for older people**

- a) Prevent Bag Snatching: Campaign to inform older people of practical measures they can take to "target harden themselves" to avoid bag snatching.
- b) Prevent Home Break-ins by target hardening: Community education campaign to increase home security measures & devices.
- c) Prevent Accidents at Home: Health promotion e.g. Falls prevention campaigns. Promote use of Home Maintenance and Modification Service.
- d) Prevent Domestic Violence, i.e. Abuse of Older Persons: Community education to raise awareness of abuse of older persons.
- e) Prevent misadventure due to isolation, or mental illness: Promote use of emergency response systems.
- f) Suicide Prevention: Develop strategy with GP's for early detection and management of mental health problems.
- g) Road Safety: Improve road infrastructure, pedestrian safety education and older driver education. Provide health and fitness programs to improve pedestrian ability and maintain driving skills.
- h) Financial safety: Distribute available information on consumer fraud.

## **3. Personal safety for young people**

- a) Safety from assault in public places/ on public transport: Community education to encourage safe behaviour by young people.
- b) Increasing reporting of assault and other crimes: Community education of young people to encourage reporting of crime.
- c) Promoting safer parties through Safe House Party Campaign: Promote registration of parties with Police. Distribute information with checklist of safety tips to senior school students and their parents
- d) Safety from theft of personal property: Education in school and on youth websites re internet fraud.
- e) Safety from relationship violence, date rape and safety from violence at home: Community Education to increase awareness of family and relationship violence.
- f) Support Victims of Crime: Publicise availability of victims of crime support services.
- g) Prevention of drug and alcohol abuse: Provide information session to high school students and their parents.
- h) Encourage reporting of crime: Encourage use of PAL Police Assistance Line for reporting Crime : 131 444

#### **4. Personal safety for women**

- a) Safer streets and environments through CPTED (Crime Prevention by Environmental Design). Safety audits of areas considered unsafe by community. Community education programs for "Target Hardening" : self defence classes for young women; minimizing alcohol related violence against women in licensed premises.
- b) Prevent Domestic Violence (DV): Distribute DV information through libraries and community centres. Ensure adequate provision of follow up services such as social support groups, counseling, legal, health, and accommodation for women and children.
- c) Prevent violence against women: Promote healthy relationships amongst young people through educational programs. Joint community education initiatives with local domestic violence services.

#### **5. Personal safety for children**

- a) Safety at Home: Domestic Violence: Co-ordinate strategy for DV support groups; Community education programs to prevent poisoning, burn injuries, drowning and safety from pet animals.
- a) Road Safety: Distribute driveway safety information to schools and preschools.
- b) Pedestrian Safety: Implement the Walking Bus project.
- c) School Safety: Safe schools projects.
- d) Public Transport Safety: Improve safety at bus interchange and ensure that there is adequate SRA security at railway platforms.

## **6. Property crime**

### **Private Property**

- a) Crime Prevention through environmental design (CPTED): Council staff trained in CPTED. Information on CPTED to be distributed to DA applicants.
- b) Increase formal surveillance: Maintain a high level of proactive Police Patrols High Visibility Policing and general patrols of Hot Spots.
- c) Increase natural surveillance: Encourage active watching by Neighbourhood Watch groups. Encourage community members to use Crime Stoppers Hotline (1800 333 000) or Police Assistance Line (PAL 131 444).
- d) Target Hardening: Community education encouraging home security measures such as documenting of valuables, securing and engraving of possessions; installation of security alarms, door & window locks, sensor lighting.
- e) Prevent repeat home burglary victimisation: Establish a pilot project on repeat victimisation.

### **Business Property:**

- a) Community Education to increase formal surveillance, natural surveillance and target hardening in commercial areas and business premises. Implement BIZ SAFE campaign with Chambers of Commerce in Double Bay, Rose Bay, Edgecliff, Queen St, Paddington.

### **Motor Vehicle Theft:**

- a) Formal surveillance: Police specialist operations investigating car rebirthing.
- b) Natural surveillance: Adhere to CPTED design of car parks and public parking areas. Carry out safety audits of public spaces, car parks as required.
- c) Target hardening: Erect signs asking car owners to secure their valuables at car parks, shopping centres, other places where this crime occurs

### **Malicious Damage – Graffiti**

- a) Formal surveillance: Identify and apprehend graffiti vandals and map graffiti hotspots. Increase allocation of LAC resources to graffiti offender apprehension as appropriate.

- b) Natural Surveillance: Distribute Graffiti Directory/ brochures to inform community members of appropriate action & encourage local surveillance of neighbourhoods. Promote Council's Customer Service phone number for reporting Graffiti.
- c) Target Hardening: Remove inducements to re-offend by rapid, repeated graffiti removal by residents and all property owners. Using non-sacrificial anti-graffiti coatings for Council signs, other Authorities.
- d) Involve young offenders (CSO) teams: Rapid removal of graffiti, especially bus stops, heritage bus shelters, and other infrastructure as agreed from time to time.
- e) Alternative outlets - workshops/ walls for young people: Develop deterrents/ alternative activities/ youth programs and investigate legal site, walls, pillars, green boxes, etc. Seek funding annually. Explore digital graffiti projects for young taggers. Explore joint projects with schools.
- f) Control access: Limit access to spray cans at Hardware stores.
- g) Raise awareness: Encourage community participation in clean up activities. Participate in Clean Up Graffiti Day. Promote good media stories about Council or community "clean up" efforts. Work with business community, re graffiti strategies ie removal, legal walls.
- h) Graffiti Policy for Council: Develop integrated Council policy re removal and other actions.

## **7. Broader Safety Issues:**

- a) Fire Safety: Consult appropriate services. Eg: NSW Fire Brigade, Council risk management, etc. Provide information on fire safety tips through library, Council website and newsletters.
  - b) Safety from internet fraud: Community Education through libraries and Woollahra Council website.
  - c) Victim Support: Community education on victim services (targeted at schools, women and older people) as a part of domestic violence prevention campaign. Distribute information through libraries.
  - d) Missing Persons: Educating Woollahra residents to take precautions and report to Police. Provide information on support service (Eg: Red Cross, Salvation Army) through Council website.
- Gay & lesbian community: Consult local gay & lesbian residents and regional services. Eg: ACON. Provide education on safety tips and reporting crimes.

## 1.2 Purpose

---

Woollahra's Community Safety Plan is designed to guide the efforts of Woollahra Council in implementing projects to improve Community Safety in this Local Government Area.

The plan builds on the efforts of many local residents, Councillors, Council staff, local business and community groups and Police who have worked together since the first Police Community Consultative Committee was established in 1988 to identify and respond to community concerns about crime and safety. It incorporates issues arising in recent consultation processes and action plans developed by the various taskforces of the recent Community Safety Council. The newly established Community Safety Committee will consider this Plan, discuss priorities for projects to be undertaken and provide advice to Council on implementation.

Whilst Police have the primary role in preventing and responding to crime, the wider community has long expressed its interest in identifying safety issues and finding ways to prevent or reduce opportunities for crime, to make public places safer and to protect the most vulnerable members of our community.

This Community Safety Plan aims to be a guide to a range of projects that would improve the safety of the community at large, encourage community members to take action to protect their own safety and to implement projects to safeguard Woollahra's most vulnerable groups. In preparing the Community Safety Plan, Woollahra Council has adopted a comprehensive approach to identifying crime and safety issues by looking at the broad range of safety risks faced by all age groups in the community. The Plan examines crime statistics showing which crimes are most prevalent, road safety statistics, and other accident and injury data. It includes issues raised by community members such as fear of crime and less obvious, under reported or hidden crimes such as domestic violence. It gives priority to improving the personal safety of population groups worst affected by crime and safety risks and to more vulnerable groups such as children and socially isolated older people.

Finally, community safety and crime prevention strategies should be based on sound research and the projects that we undertake should be evaluated to see if they have had the intended effect in reducing risk and improving community safety. This plan includes ideas about ways of evaluating the effectiveness of projects undertaken, looking at measurable outputs and intended outcomes. This is a working document to be further refined by the Woollahra Council and subject to annual review by its Community Safety Committee and wider public consultation at a Woollahra Community Safety Forum. **Once the Community Safety Plan is adopted by Council, we will be able to apply for Safer Community Compact funding from the NSW Attorney- General's Department to implement the top priority projects.**

### **1.3 What can Woollahra Council do to improve Community Safety?**

---

***Although Police have the primary responsibility for crime prevention, Woollahra Council has five important roles in crime prevention and community safety:***

#### ***1. "Design out" Crime***

Council can assist significantly with situational crime prevention measures by "designing out" crime

- from public spaces by ensuring that surveillance, lighting and security devices are effective,
- from private spaces by encouraging residents and commercial property owners to adopt safe design measures for their private property.

In partnership with others, Council can encourage management of public spaces to ensure that they are well cared for and encourage a sense of ownership by residents. When trained in Crime Prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles, Council's planning staff can carry out safety audits of existing or planned facilities to increase public safety and reduce risks to residents.

#### ***2. Address social causes of offending***

Council can have a role in addressing the underlying social causes of offending by seeking to influence the behaviour of those most likely to offend. This can be done by strengthening social infrastructure, putting in place social support services to reduce risk factors associated with offending, eg parenting programs, youth services, community drug action programs. Council can undertake or support others in developing programs to address social issues.

#### ***3. Coordinate safety strategies in partnership with others***

Council has a major administrative role in coordinating implementation of crime prevention strategies and safety projects. Council convenes and services regular meetings of the Community Safety Committee to co-ordinate community efforts. Council can also work in partnership with Police e.g. to encourage residents to report crime. It may negotiate with local service providers or state government agencies to ensure that victims of crime receive information and referral support. Council may work directly with local residents and community groups to participate in local safety audits, and local safety campaigns and activities.

The role of Council's Community Safety Officer includes:

- liaison with Police, residents, business and community groups, other authorities and levels of government to gain cooperation, secure resources and conduct safety projects.
- undertaking community education campaigns and the distribution of available information on safety issues and support services.
- consulting with stakeholders in the community through the Community Safety Committee and annual Community Safety Forums, developing priority safety projects.
- research and evaluation of problem areas, advocacy for the strategies and monitoring of initiatives.
- preparing reports on safety issues and projects to Council for adoption and implementation.

#### **4. Promote Community Safety Awareness**

Council has a wider role in promoting community safety beyond its role in crime prevention. This includes

- promoting road safety,
- disseminating a range of safety information, and
- ensuring availability of information and programs to prevent accidents and injury at home.

Local Councils can assist to maximize community awareness of safety issues through making safety information more easily available. Options to be considered include:

- Providing information about Community Safety on Council's website. There is a great deal of home safety information already available on the web. This site could collate existing materials and provide links to other sites of safety information.
- Safety booklets and brochures can be distributed through pamphlet racks in the Library and its branches, and at Customer Services areas at Council Chambers.
- Crime Prevention and Community Safety information can be the subject of news items in the Wentworth Courier, and brochures can be inserted within the paper for distribution.
- Some Councils distribute a Community Safety Newsletter, Council wide once a year.

Council can also ensure that health related accident and injury prevention programs are available within the municipality or accessible to residents. This would include programs addressing major causes of accident and injury such as falls prevention for the elderly, suicide prevention programs for young people and adults, drowning prevention programs for infants and toddlers.

## ***5. Enforcing a range of Safety Laws, Regulations and Standards***

### **Environmental Health and Safety**

Council plays an important role in maintaining environmental health and safety standards throughout the municipality. Council provides immunization programs for infants. Council's Environmental Health Officers enforce regulations in regard to air, land, noise and water pollution, carry out routine inspections of food premises, hair dressers, skin penetration premises and the like, to ensure compliance with environmental and health laws and standards. Similarly, Council's Building and Compliance Officers and Fire Safety Officer enforce laws and standards in regard to fire regulations and the structural safety of buildings.

### **Road Safety**

Council Regulatory services staff enforce parking regulations and a range of other local traffic laws on local roads, such as light traffic limits which restrict the size of trucks on local roads.

Council has a major role in improving road safety through the workings of its Traffic Committee and staff, mainly in improving road infrastructure. Additionally, across NSW, there are Council Road Safety Officers, funded by the RTA, who undertake awareness raising and behaviour changing programs with at risk groups such as elderly pedestrians. These Road Safety Officers can assist with the implementation of a range of road safety campaigns designed and promoted by State government on the basis of research into major accident causes.

### ***The Police Role in Crime Prevention & Community Safety***

Traditionally, the role of Police was reactive rather than preventative. In their reactive role Police respond to actual incidents of crime, attend the scene, collect evidence and pursue investigations to apprehend and prosecute offenders. However, in the last twenty years there has been a growing emphasis on Police having a pro-active role in crime prevention.

Police now use a *problem oriented policing* approach to crime using several strategies. The main strategy used is called *directed patrols*. Police gather intelligence, analyse crime patterns regularly (using COPS data base), target known criminals and direct police patrols to trouble spots.

Police now allocate most mobile patrols (cars) and high visibility police (foot patrols) to hot spots using monthly crime figures. Using *pro-active* arrest strategies Police focus on high risk offenders, times and places where offences occur. This strategy aimed at apprehending offenders is a very effective crime prevention strategy. The

arrest of one major or high risk offender (HRO), such as a home burglar committing many local break-ins, makes more difference to the amount of such crime committed locally than other less direct crime prevention methods. The pro-active approach has proven very successful with a range of crimes, particularly with drink driving offences.

The community expects that Police will respond quickly when crime or disorder occurs. Through 000 phone lines Police have in place *rapid response* protocols to deal with major disasters, domestic disputes, assaults, suicides at the Gap, and alarms about people on premises. Police make *reactive arrests* when they observe or catch offenders for shoplifting, assault, disorderly behaviour, pub brawls, etc.

Through *community policing* initiatives Police carry out community safety information programs, undertake social prevention activities (such as PCYC activities) and engage in partnerships with residents and business groups through Community Safety Committees, PACT and programs such as Neighbourhood Watch and Safety Houses. Neighbourhood Watch groups have a primary role in improving local intelligence gathering through increased local surveillance. By fostering close links with residents, Police are more aware of local issues, such as anti-social behaviour that may lead to crime. They can then undertake proactive crime prevention activities tailored to local needs, such as distribution of appropriate crime prevention information and by increasing police patrols of problem places at appropriate times.

P.A.C.T. - Police Accountability Community Team is the most recent state wide Police initiative aimed at finding local solutions to crime, improving service delivery and accountability and allowing community input into the deployment of police resources. Rose Bay LAC holds PACT Executive and public meetings.

Paradoxically, improved Police effectiveness in proactive policing can lead to higher crime figures, rather than lower statistics. For example, rises in the incidence of street offences, drug detections, receiving stolen goods can indicate that Police are detecting more crime. A successful community campaign to encourage reporting of crime would also result in an apparent increase in crime statistics.

### ***Community Role***

The community at large can assist crime prevention efforts, by providing information about crime to police, by working in partnership with Police through initiatives such as Volunteers in Policing, Neighbourhood Watch, and Community Safety Committees.

### **Reporting Crime**

- An accurate statistical record of the level of crime in a community depends upon crimes being reported to Police. If crimes are not reported they cannot be resolved or prevented. However, many victims of crime do not report crime or attempted crime to the police, for a variety of reasons. Police have attempted to make it easier for the general public to report crime by setting up hotlines such as:
  - PAL (Police Assistance Line 131 444) for minor crimes (which are not in progress), do not involve traumatised victims or require urgent police attention or attendance. and
  - Crime Stoppers (1800 333 000) for reporting information about crime or criminal behaviour. Police use this information to solve crimes and to apprehend offenders.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

This program encourages individual and community participation in preventing and reducing property crime and improving personal safety. It encourages higher levels of safety and security (household, business and personal) among members and others through activities such as marking and engraving property, recording property details etc. It assists Police intelligence gathering by encouraging members to report crime and suspicious activity in their neighbourhoods. Neighbourhood Watch groups also assist Police with community awareness activities such as distributing crime prevention information in shopping centres and in letterboxes in their area.

### **Community Safety Committees**

By participating on Community Safety Committees members of the community can identify issues of local concern, and suggest strategies that are appropriate to local circumstances and most likely to be effective in their community. Committees identify priorities for crime prevention and community safety projects. Committee meetings can provide opportunities for co-operation between Police, Council and other agencies and authorities. Committee members sometimes participate in research activities such as conducting safety audits, and in evaluation or monitoring activities.

## 1.4 Aims of the Community Safety Plan

---

The Community Safety Plan aims to identify and address public and home safety issues as well as crime prevention to:

- make Woollahra a safe place in which to live, work and visit.
- identify priorities for strategic action to decrease crime, fear of crime and to reduce anti social behaviour.
- ensure that public places are safe, attractive and well cared for so that fear of crime is reduced and spaces are well used by the community.
- ensure that community services and activities which prevent or deter anti-social behaviour and/or support vulnerable groups and victims of crime are available.
- facilitate development of a community with strong social bonds, where people take a pride in their neighbourhood and public spaces.
- improve road safety through community education and advocacy to improve road infrastructure.
- ensure that preventative health and safety programs to raise awareness of home and community safety issues are promoted and available in Woollahra.
- ensure that safety programs and projects are accessible to people with a disability and provided in a manner that is linguistically and culturally appropriate.

## 2 Background to Community Safety Planning

### 2.1 Understanding Crime Prevention Principles

---

Effective crime prevention is any action that causes a reduction in the level of criminal activity and resulting harm or in the number of criminal offenders and their victims:

- the focus is on the causes of crime rather than its effects;
- the goal is to significantly reduce or eliminate the factors that can lead to crime.<sup>1</sup>

Crime prevention can be initiated and implemented on three levels - primary, secondary and tertiary crime prevention.

**Primary crime prevention** means addressing the problem before it happens. This involves reducing opportunities for crime and strengthening community and social structures. Primary prevention focuses on social and situational factors.

**Secondary crime prevention** aims to change those people who are at high risk of criminal behavior. This involves rapid and effective early interventions particularly in high-risk neighborhoods.

**Tertiary crime prevention** means apprehension and punishment of offenders through the criminal justice system.

#### ***Situational Crime Prevention***

Situational crime prevention measures aim to reduce the level of criminal activities by making crime more difficult, risky or less rewarding through:

- target hardening, target removal, target reduction, (eg installation of security locks, car immobilizers )
- natural or casual surveillance, (e.g. strategic placement of features such as windows, lighting, so that users can be seen; siting cafes or kiosks in parks so there are more people using the area)
- formal surveillance (e.g. increased police patrols, closed circuit TV, security guards)
- control of crime means ( e.g. regulating availability of guns, knives, spray cans, alcohol, drugs),
- access control, (e.g. controlling access to certain areas with physical barriers such as fences)
- deflecting offenders to legal activities (e.g. providing alcohol free venues for young teenage dances)

---

<sup>1</sup> Australian Institute of Criminology: <http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/crm/crm001t.html>

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) management and design principles provide a guide for situational crime prevention in public and private places.

### ***Social Crime Prevention***

Social measures aim to prevent crime by influencing behaviour of potential offenders and/or influencing the awareness and attitudes of potential victims. Social programs aim to reduce the risk factors associated with offending and victimisation. Early intervention programs aim to reduce juvenile delinquency by supporting positive parenting strategies.

Measures to be considered include community education, social activities, support and referral of young people, education about choices and consequences, provision of parenting education and support. PCYC's (Police Youth Citizen Clubs) traditionally work with high risk communities to target potential offenders and engage them in diversionary activities. These strategies may include long term crime prevention goals as well as having short crime reduction impacts, depending upon the age of the target group. For example, in some communities juvenile crime is found to be lower at times when youth centres are open.

### ***Fear of Crime and Perceived Risk***

As well as working to reduce actual crime it is important to take steps to change false perceptions about the type and level of crime committed locally. Fear of crime can change fearful people's lifestyles and day to day routines. Perceptions of crime are distorted by sensational media reporting of isolated incidents and lead to changes in behaviour, which ultimately increase risk to individuals. For example, a public place can become less safe when, out of fear, less people use it, because with reduced usage the level of natural surveillance is reduced. Fear of crime can detract from health and well-being, contribute to social isolation and have an impact on commerce in some areas.

Conversely, when crime figures reveal that there is an unknown or under-recognised problem, it may be necessary to change community perceptions by raising awareness of the true nature of local crime and associated risks. For example, crime studies show that it is young men who are most often the victims of crimes such as assault, yet this is not well known in the community.

Additionally, hidden crimes such as domestic violence may be under reported and strategies may be needed to raise community awareness and ensure that appropriate services are readily available when victims seek assistance. For example, recent research shows that domestic violence victimizing older people is more prevalent

than commonly recognised, but as yet no age-appropriate telephone help lines or accommodation services are established.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>. ABS Survey, Women's Safety Australia, 1996 found 1.2% of older women experienced violence in the 12 months prior to the survey. *Survival is Not Enough, Project Reports Two for professionals* Jane Mears and Margaret Sargent, Published by Older Women Speak Up, Sydney 2002 argues that this is an underestimate and that 4.6% of older people are victims of abuse, mostly by family members.

## **2.2 Understanding Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)**

In 2001, the NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning wrote to all Councils with new *Guidelines under Section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for "Designing Out Crime"* and asked that Council use these Crime Prevention principles in the assessment of Development Applications (DA's).

The following Guidelines were developed to help Councils identify crime risk and minimise opportunity for crime through appropriate assessment of development proposals. The following information draws on the guidelines and summarises the main principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). These principles are now an accepted part of good design and are reflected to some extent in the General Controls in the Woollahra Residential Development Control Plan 1999.

"Criminologists say that design can reduce crime opportunities. A typical offender assesses a potential crime, victim or location before committing a crime. If the risks or costs of committing the crime are greater than its benefits, the potential offender may think twice about committing the crime."

The "Design Out Crime" Guidelines state that:

*Council and Local Police should*

- *Identify the types of development which will require a crime risk assessment, and*
- *Prepare a consultation protocol.*

*Consultation protocols are location based. They are need specific agreements, which outline the types of development that will be jointly assessed, how consultation will occur and timeframes for consultation. Subject to Council discretion, development types not listed in consultation protocols will not require a formal crime risk assessment.*

A formal crime risk assessment is needed for any development that is likely (in Council's opinion) to create a risk of crime.

*Examples include:*

- *a new/refurbished shopping centre or transport interchange*
- *a large scale residential development (more than 20 dwellings), or*
- *development or redevelopment of a mall or other public place, including the installation of new street furniture.*

Councils are required to consider the principles in Part B of these guidelines when assessing all developments.

## **Part A - Crime Risk Assessment**

In summary, a crime risk assessment is a systematic evaluation of the potential for crime in an area, taking into account the likely magnitude of the crime and the likely crime type. These considerations will determine the choice of CPTED strategies applied.

Local crime risk assessment processes can be formalised through:

- A development control plan (formal planning instrument adopted and enacted by Council)
- A Council policy on crime risk assessment
- A formal agreement (consultation protocol) for targeted consultation with the local Police on specific development proposals, or proposals in certain areas of high risk.

The NSW Police provides training courses known as *Safer By Design* for Council planners.

## **Part B- Principles for minimising crime risk**

There are four main principles that should be used in the assessment of development applications to minimise opportunities for crime in public and private spaces:

- Surveillance
- Access control
- Territorial reinforcement
- Space management

### **Surveillance**

Good surveillance means that people can see what others are doing. People feel safe in public areas when they can easily see and interact with others. Would be offenders are deterred in areas with high levels of *natural or technical* surveillance.

From a design perspective deterrence through *natural surveillance* can be achieved by:

- Clear sightlines between public and private places
- Effective lighting of public places
- Landscaping that makes a place attractive, but does not provide offenders with a place to hide and entrap victims

*Technical surveillance* involves use of electronic features such as Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) or mechanical devices such as mirrored panels, which increase the chances of a criminal being seen and apprehended.

## ***Access control***

Physical and symbolic barriers can be used to attract, channel or restrict the movement of people. They minimise opportunities for crime and increase the effort needed to commit crime.

Making it clearer where people are permitted to go or not go, can make it more difficult for offenders to reach and victimise people and their property.

Effective access control is created by:

- Landscapes and physical; locations that channel and group pedestrians into target areas
- Public places which attract, rather than discourage people from gathering
- Restricted access to internal or high-risk areas eg. carparks. This is often achieved through physical barriers, such as bollards, fences, doorways, however these should not be tall or hostile or create a "compound" effect.
- Security devices and hardware, chains, locks and alarms or other target hardening devices also control access eg in domestic situations.

## ***Territorial reinforcement = Community ownership of public spaces***

Places that are cared for and feel "owned" allow people to feel comfortable, and are more likely to be visited. Well-used places reduce opportunities for crime and increase risk to offenders. Community ownership increases the likelihood that people who witness crime will respond by reporting it or attempting to prevent it. Design incorporates territorial reinforcement principles when it:

- encourages people to gather in public space and feel some responsibility for its use and condition
- has clear transitions and boundaries between public and private space
- provides clear design cues on who is to use space and what it is to be used for. (This is not achieved by making public spaces into private spaces through use of gates and enclosures.)

## ***Space Management***

Popular public space is usually attractive, well maintained and well used. Good space management makes sure public space is well cared for and appropriately used.

Space management strategies include:

- activity coordination,
- site cleanliness,
- rapid repair of vandalism and graffiti,

- replacement of burned out pedestrian and car park lighting,
- removal or refurbishment of decayed physical elements.

The above information on CPTED is extracted from  
*Crime Prevention and the assessment of development applications*  
*Guidelines under section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*  
Department of Urban Affairs and Planning  
*April 2001.*

## **2.3 History of Community Safety Initiatives in Woollahra**

---

In 1988, The Rose Bay Police Commander, Inspector Ray Durham established a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) as part of statewide Police initiative to provide a consultative process between the general community and Patrol Commanders in support of Community Based Policing. He invited high profile individuals to participate as "charter members" and the inaugural meeting was held at Woollahra Council Chambers in September 1988. Schools, clubs, Chambers of Commerce and citizen organisations were represented. Soon, the Commander was providing Police reports on crime levels in the area.

The emphasis was on stopping crime before it happened by pro-active community based policing rather than reactive policing measures. It aimed to achieve a decrease in criminal activity, an increase in perceptions of personal safety, better reporting of crime and increased protection for potential victims of crime. The CCC undertook a survey of community attitudes and perceptions of police. It soon decided that its priorities would be a) Welfare of teenagers, b) Personal Safety and c) Protection of property. Sub-committees were established and developed projects on these issues.

By 1990, Police were holding seminars on underage drinking for parents at several schools to raise awareness and find local solutions. The lack of venues and activities for young people was addressed by organisation of a Youth Dance at the Drill Hall at Macquarie Lighthouse. Whilst successful, the initiative was not repeated because of the exhausting demands of staging such an event on the committee members. The Police Youth Liaison Officer began going into schools to talk to student and parent groups about drug and alcohol issues, drink driving, road safety and personal safety issues.

The Personal Safety subcommittee members were active on older person's issues, organising a high profile seminar in March 1992 on personal safety, then systematically talking to local clubs and community groups to raise awareness and distributing a range of personal safety brochures. The Property Committee followed up concerns about lighting and safety at local car parks, and assisted the development of Neighbourhood Watch groups.

In 1991, the Community Consultative Committee successfully undertook fundraising to buy a mobile Police van to visit hot spots where anti-social behaviour or underage drinking was occurring, and also assist in community safety information distribution by visiting hot spots. This fundraising was so successful that the committee considered adopting a children's charity to pass on its surplus funds. In 1996, the Police bus was replaced by a new bus, using the remainder of funds raised by the CCC.

By 1992 the Committee's main aims were to:

- conduct program on alcohol education in schools to reduce under age drinking
- give instruction to the elderly in self help methods
- provision of a bus service throughout the area of operation, extending from parts of council areas in South Sydney, Woollahra, Waverley and from the suburbs of Rushcutter's Bay to Watson's Bay.

To increase ownership of underage drinking problems by young people, the CCC held a competition through schools and selected young people to produce a short video of the subject.

In 1993 Police developed an extensive Road Safety campaign for the Eastern suburbs. By 1994 a Victim Care Unit and a Court Support Centre were set up at Waverley Court, to support victims of Domestic Violence.

In 1994, the Rose Bay Patrol Commander, Colin Campbell sought the community's assistance in crime prevention. The major concerns were to:

- reduce property crime by working with local residents to further develop the Neighbourhood Watch program.
- reduce vandalism and offensive behaviour by working with the community to target problem groups and locations.
- reduce the incidence of motor vehicle theft and property stolen from motor vehicles by deploying police to problem areas.
- reduce alcohol and drug related offences by working in consultation with the community to target problem locations

In 1995 the NSW Council on Crime Prevention was established by the Premier with the participation of the Minister for Local Government. The Crime Prevention Division was set up within Attorney General's Department and local government was encouraged to participate in Crime Prevention. The NSW Police Service moved to establish regional and local "Patrol Customer Councils" to replace Community Consultative Committees, but the new name was not adopted by the Rose Bay CCC.

Concerns about Police availability and response times were allayed when the newly renovated Police Station at Rose Bay reopened and the station at Vaucluse closed. In 1997, there were concerns about slow Police response times due to a Police restructure involving changes to the level of staffing at Paddington and Rose Bay Police Stations.

In April 1998, the inaugural meeting of the Woollahra Community Safety Council was held. Taskforces were established to focus on personal safety, youth safety, and graffiti issues. Representatives from these taskforces

and delegates from Neighbourhood Watch groups met together on the Community Safety Council. Public consultation processes were held throughout 2000-01 and from these consultations Action Plans were developed for Young People, Graffiti and Personal Safety, especially for older people and women. Many initiatives were undertaken such as, a safety audit of Edgecliff Bus Interchange leading to renovation and repairs, many Operation Lighthouse information stalls, graffiti hot spot audits, etc. Many topical issues including road safety problems and safety hazards were dealt with along the way through advocacy within Council.

In 2001, The Department of Urban Affairs and Planning and NSW Police launched the *Designing Out Crime* initiative, and released new guidelines for local government under section 79C of the Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979 known as *Crime Prevention and the assessment of development applications*.

In October 2002 the first PACT - Police Accountability Community Team meeting was held. This new NSW Police initiative invited community members, Members of Parliament, representatives from Council and its staff, to meet with police at regular intervals. This forum established a formal mechanism to ensure that Police from the Local Area Command communicate directly with the community on a regular basis and are more accountable to local communities about their concerns.

**In June 2003, after a consultation process with all community members who had participated on the Community Safety Council new Terms of Reference for a Council Advisory Committee to be known as the Community Safety Committee were adopted by Woollahra Council.**

This new Community Safety Committee formalises Woollahra Council's commitment to Community Safety and the implementation of the Community Safety Plan, once adopted.

### **3 Crime Analysis**

#### **3.1 Analysis of Safety Risks in Woollahra**

---

##### ***Methodology***

###### Approach:

In designing the Community Safety Plan, it is important to first establish the facts relating to safety risks affecting Woollahra residents. The approach taken is to first examine available information relating broadly to accidents causing injury and death in Woollahra, the impact of road accidents and then to undertake the lengthier analysis of crimes committed in the area. It is also important to take into account priorities identified by local residents and other community service organisations.

The fact that crime statistics may not necessarily reflect reality was taken into consideration. It should be understood that most property crimes, especially theft, break and enter, are frequently reported by the victims for the purpose of making insurance claims. Some of the crimes against persons such as domestic violence and child abuse are under reported due to the stigma attached to such incidents.

###### Consultations:

Since 1988 Woollahra residents have been continuously consulted at various safety forums and regular committee meetings to identify and address local safety issues. Outcomes of previous community safety initiatives taken by Council, especially the coordinated activities taken by the Community Safety Council since 1998 were analysed when preparing Woollahra Community Safety Plan. Recommendations made at previous community consultations, especially at the safety task forces (Youth Safety Task Force, Graffiti Task Force and Personal Safety Task Force) and other networks were incorporated into this Plan.

In 2003, the first draft of the plan was distributed amongst the members of Woollahra Community Safety Committee, Police Local Area Command (LAC) and key staff members of Woollahra Council. Comments and suggestions received from interested parties were incorporated in the second draft of the plan. After Woollahra Council's Community and Environment Committee resolved on 15/12/2003, the Plan was publicly exhibited for 2 months, seeking further comments from interested individuals and organisations. Comprehensive comments were sought from NSW Attorney General Department, NSW Department of Community Services and Rose Bay Police Local Area Command and this Plan was redrafted accordingly.

It is hoped that this approach will provide some guidance in addressing issues in order of importance, that is, their degree of risk to residents' safety and wellbeing. The Community Safety Plan will analyse the crime profile according to the most frequently committed crimes in Woollahra. However, Personal Safety will be given priority over Property Crimes in the structure of the Community Safety Plan. The Community Safety Plan also recognises personal safety issues associated with property crimes.

Personal safety in public places and at home is of more direct concern to residents, the Community Safety Committee and Woollahra Council than crimes causing damage only to property. Although property crimes are most frequently committed in Woollahra, crimes against the person have the potential to cause greater harm to individuals and families, and the community as a whole. In the majority of cases in Woollahra, insurance compensates residents adequately for property losses, but not for the sense of invasion of privacy involved in home break-ins.

Even these offences are overshadowed by the impact of crimes against persons. The impact of a direct personal threat or of an attack on a vulnerable child, young person, woman, man or older person, is difficult to quantify. Although these events do occur less frequently than property crimes, personal safety crimes are sufficiently prevalent to justify community concern and prevention activities.

Woollahra Community Safety Plan deals with objectives for Public and Personal Safety strategies first. It was notable that priorities expressed through consultations, focussed on public and personal safety issues in Woollahra that can be addressed through community education strategies, including early intervention. These strategies can be initiated and coordinated by Council and/or local community services.

#### Our Community's Priorities:

Community safety issues identified by literature research and community consultations were prioritised at various levels. For example, Personal Safety Taskforce identified safety issues at Edgecliff Bus Interchange as a key priority. Members of the Community Safety Committee were invited to prioritise the safety strategies of the first draft of Plan. Following safety issues were prioritised and community education was identified as the key strategy to address the issues.

1. Community education programs targeting:
  - underage drinking.
  - school programs on drug & alcohol related issues.
  - safe behavior for young people.

- encouraging reporting of crime.
  - safety issues of older people.
  - preventing property crimes.
2. Training Council staff in CPTED.
  3. Preventing domestic abuse of older persons.
  4. Safety audits for safer streets.
  5. Preventing domestic violence against women.
  6. Increased formal surveillance of graffiti – apprehending graffiti vandals & annual graffiti audits.

### **3.2 Accident and Safety Analysis**

---

Statistics on deaths and hospitalizations in Woollahra LGA appear to have a very similar pattern to the national statistics collected by the Australian Institute of Health & Welfare. National statistics indicate the rate of occurrence of incidents per 100,000 people and the proportion of different types of accidents which cause injuries leading to death varies with age.

- Drowning is prominent in the early childhood years.
- Transport related deaths and suicide are high among young adults.
- Falls account for a large proportion of, or lead to the deaths among the elderly.

Injury rates were highest for old age (75 plus years), with falls, transport related accidents and suicide accounting for the largest number of deaths for persons aged 75 or more years.

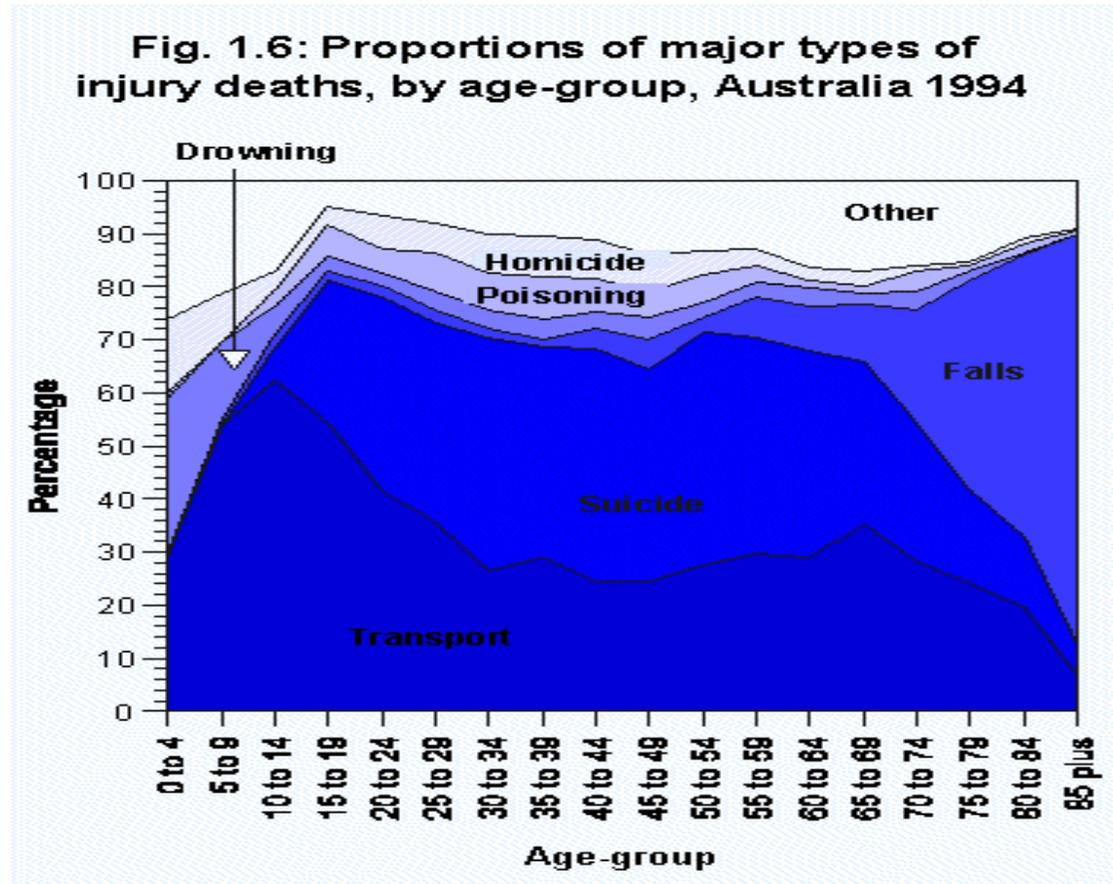
Male injury death rates were much higher than female rates for all age groups, with male rates being on average around two and a half times higher than female death rates. Males aged between 20 and 34 years were almost 4 times more likely to die as a result of an external injury than females in the same age range.

The National Injury Prevention Plan developed by the Australian Health and Welfare specifies four priority areas for 2001-2003.

1. Falls prevention amongst persons aged 65+ years.  
Falls made up 50% of all hospitalised injuries for the elderly. One third involved persons aged 85 or more. Hospitalisation rates rise exponentially as age increases.
2. Falls amongst children 0-14 years  
These accidents accounted for 38% of all injuries to children. Boys aged 5-9 had the highest rates and accounted for one third of falls in this age group.

3. Near drowning  
48% of cases were children 0-4 years, and 23% were males aged 15-34.
4. Poisoning among children 0-4  
Poisoning accounted for 15% of all injury to children aged 0-4

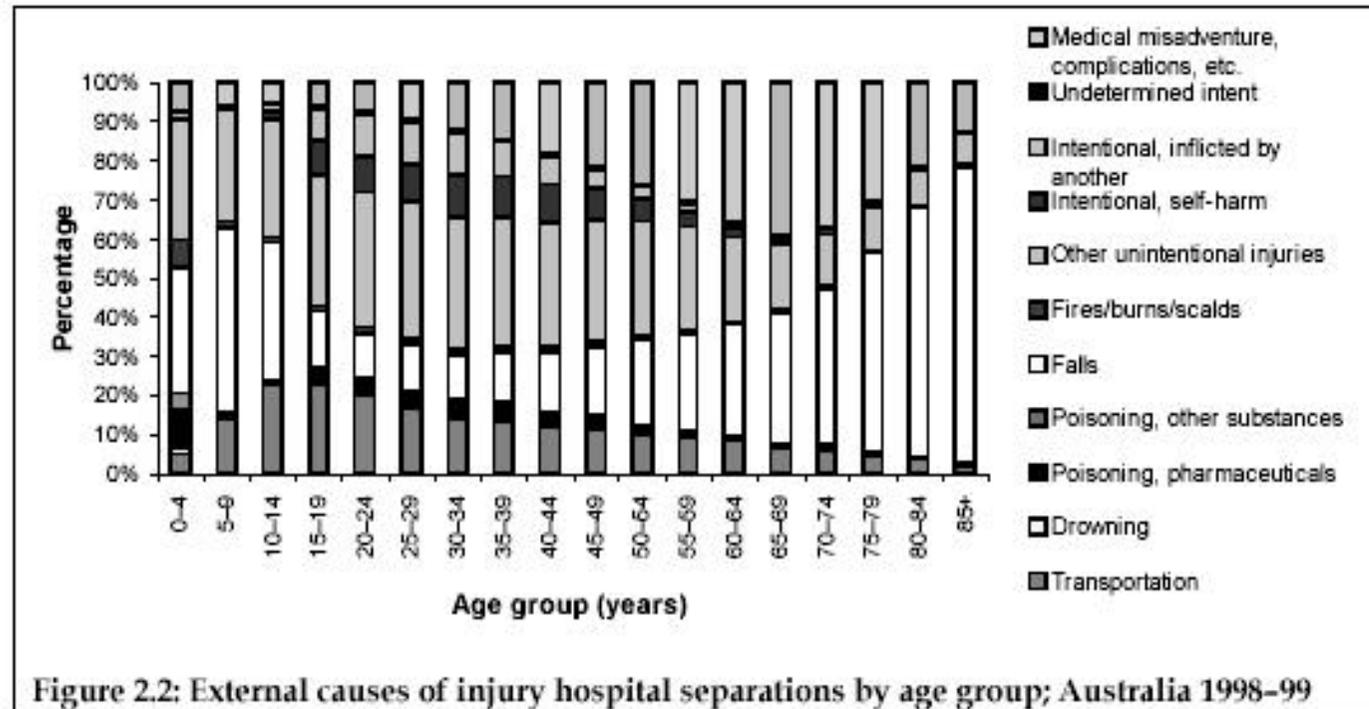
**Chart 1: Proportion of major types of injury deaths by age group , Australia 1994.**



AIHW, Australian Injury Prevention Bulletin Issue 13,1998

This stack chart shows cumulatively the various types of injury that cause death for each age group, and how the types of injury vary with age e.g. falls injuries lead to more deaths of people over 85 than transport injuries and suicides

Chart 2. External causes injuries requiring admission to hospital - by age



### **Woollahra Injury Profile**

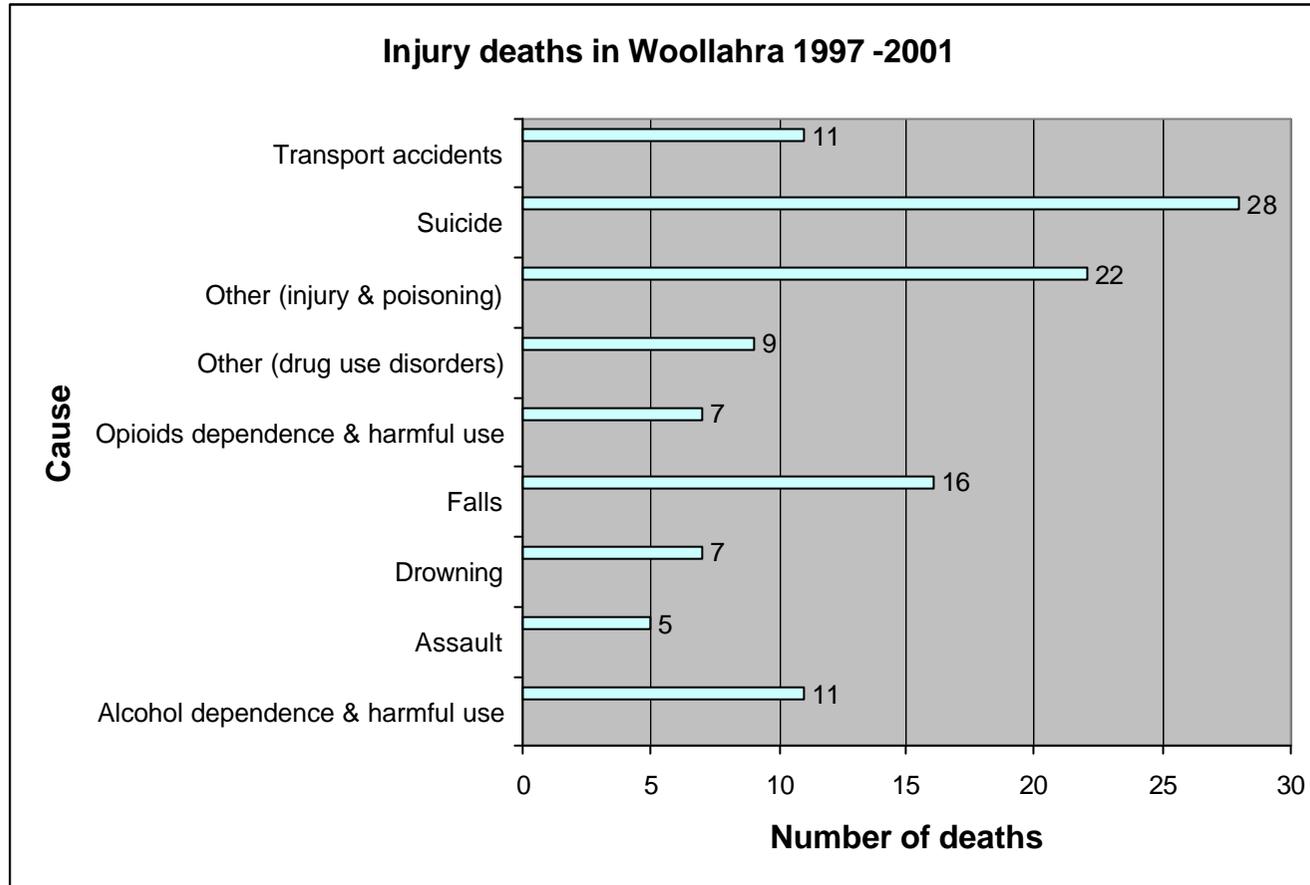
1775 deaths have been reported in Woollahra during the three year period between 1997 – 2001. According to statistics from South East Health between 1997 -2001, 116 Woollahra residents were deceased due to injuries (average 55 people per year). These injuries have been categorized under various headings and the statistical systems appear slightly different from the national sources. Woollahra statistics show a similar pattern to the national injury statistics, however transport accidents appear to be low compared to rest of the country. See graph in page 25.

**Table 1: Injury deaths in Woollahra 1997 -2001**

3.1 Cause	Number of deaths
Suicide	28
Other (injury & poisoning)	22
Falls	16
Alcohol dependence & harmful use	11
Transport accidents	11
Other (drug use disorders)	9
Drowning	7
Opioids dependence & harmful use	7
Assault	5
Total injury deaths	116

The table in page 26 shows the number of hospital ‘separation’ (occasions of requesting medical treatment at hospitals) of Woollahra residents during the one year period between 2000 – 2001. It shows that 76 residents have had ‘Transport accidents’ and 257 people have been treated for ‘falls’ related accidents. Further, it shows 36 people have been treated for assaults and 22 people were treated for attempted suicide. 160 alcohol abuse related treatments and 88 incidents of drug use related cases were reported in this period. It should be noted that these figures may be misleading. For example, actual incidents of physical assaults (especially related to domestic violence and child abuse) may be much higher than the incidents reported to Area Health Service. Some minor injuries may have been reported under a category that includes grievous injuries. Although Woollahra remains as one of the safest LGAs in NSW (according to the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics Research), some of these statistics indicate that serious issues related to falls, suicide, drug abuse and physical assaults in the Woollahra community.

Chart 3



**Table 2: Hospital separation in Woollahra 2001/2002**

3.2 Cause	Number of separations
Falls	257
3.2.1.1 Alcohol abuse	160
Assault	36
Fire/ burns/ scalds	9
Opioids use	57
Cocaine use	13
Cannabis use	46
Suicide	22
Transport accidents	76
Other (injury & poisoning)	633
Other (drug use disorders)	88
Other (not related to injuries/ accidents)	17145
Total separations	18542

### ***Council's Role***

Council's role is to ensure that accident prevention information and Health Promotion programs are accessible and available to residents. Sometimes Woollahra residents are not well represented at regional programs held in neighbouring areas. Council can actively encourage various local, regional and NSW State services to initiate injury prevention programs in Woollahra.

### 3.3 Road Accidents

The following tables detail the extent of road accidents in Woollahra reported to the Police over the five years from 1997 to 2001. It is not known how many of these accidents involved residents or visitors.

The Degree of Accidents (Table 2 and Graph 4) shows the total number of accidents, and those involving an injury or fatality.

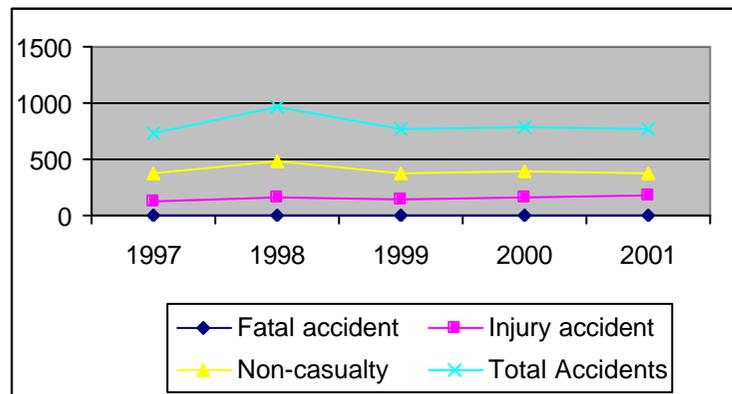
The Degree of Casualty (Table 3 and Graph 5) show the total number of people injured or killed in these accidents. These statistics show casualties occurring at the scene of the accident. The statistics do not record deaths that occurred subsequently as a result of these accidents.

**Table 3. Degree of Accidents - Woollahra LGA**

Degree of accident	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Fatal accident	1	4	1	1	1
Injury accident	128	158	136	165	177
Non-casualty	241	320	243	227	205
Total Accidents	360	482	380	393	383

Source: Compiled from RTA : Road Traffic Accidents in NSW for the years 1997, 1998,1999,2000,2001

**Chart 4. Degree of accidents**

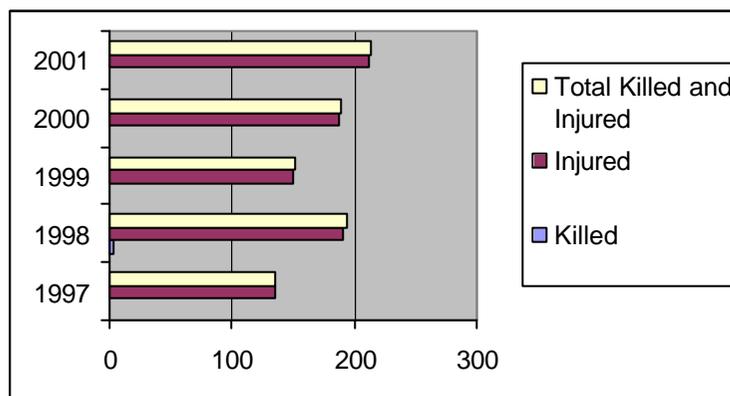


**Table 4. Degree of Casualty - Woollahra LGA**

Source: Compiled from RTA: Road Traffic Accidents in NSW for the years 1997 to 2001.

Degree of Casualty	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Killed	1	4	1	1	1
Injured	135	190	150	188	212
Total Killed and Injured	136	194	151	189	213

**Chart 5: Degree of Casualty resulting from accidents**



It is apparent from these figures that Road Accidents are a major cause of injury in Woollahra.

### **Car ownership**

Car ownership is high and rising in Woollahra. There were 25,800 motor vehicles owned or used by Woollahra residents parked at or near their home on census night 2001. On average, there were 1.3 vehicles per household, or 0.61 vehicles per adult in Woollahra. This is up from 1.20 vehicles per household and 0.59 vehicles per adult in Woollahra in 1996. In 2001, 39% of households have one vehicle, 42% of households have 2 vehicles and 21% of households have three vehicles or more. Increasing rates of car ownership may contribute to increasing traffic congestion and higher rates of road accidents in Woollahra in the future.

## **3.4 Road Safety**

---

### ***Council's Current Projects***

#### ***Learner Drivers***

Council assists parents who are teaching their teenagers to drive through evening workshops funded by the RTA (Roads and Traffic Authority) and held at Council premises. These workshops assist parents with strategies to teach young people to drive safely. It is hoped that this will lead to young people being better trained, more courteous and safer drivers.

Council assists with State and Commonwealth road safety campaigns by distribution of information throughout the community, as the opportunity arises.

#### ***Driveway Accidents***

For example, in 2003 a new Child Safety campaign developed by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATBS), in conjunction with the Motor Accidents Authority (MAA) and the RTA aims to prevent driveway accidents. These tragic accidents affect toddlers and occur in the driveway of their home, usually due to a reversing vehicle driven by a parent. Council has assisted by ordering and distributing brochures to Council libraries and to every preschool and several primary schools in Woollahra.

#### ***Road Safety Tips for Young People***

Additionally, in 2002 Council was successful in gaining funding from the Motor Accident Authority to develop a road safety campaign for young people. This project will distribute 3,000 book marks with safety tips on nine road safety issues to Year 11 and 12 students at all high schools in Woollahra in 2003.

#### ***Road Safety for Older People***

In the past, Council has developed several road safety projects, such as the "Not So Fast" campaign for older pedestrians. This project consulted with a group of older residents who were concerned that aggressive drivers were going too fast, pressuring them when crossing at pedestrian crossings etc. Bright red shopping bags with "Not So Fast" printed in large letters were produced and distributed to older people, so they could hold these bags up to get their message across to drivers.

Currently, NSW Community Health Service provides Road Safety sessions for older residents, that are designed to maintain their fitness and awareness to increase their safety as pedestrians and drivers. These sessions are provided regularly at War Memorial Hospital and are promoted in the Community pages of the Wentworth Courier.

Council's Road Safety projects and activities are further described in the Community Safety Plan. Please refer to the Road Safety sections under Personal Safety for older people, young people and children.



## 4. Crime Profile

### 4.1 Crime Profile of Woollahra

---

The Crime Profile information provides a guide to the categories of crime that require most attention for crime prevention activities in Woollahra. The profile has been compiled from statistics available from the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) website.

During the year 2003, crime patterns for most offences have largely remained stable or dropped. Table 1 below clearly shows the current crime trends in Woollahra. The table is arranged to show crimes in descending order of frequency. The most commonly occurring crimes are at the top and the least frequent at the bottom of the table. This table is represented graphically in Chart 1, on page 22 of this plan.

#### ***Longer Term Trends***

*According to BOCSAR statistics, crime has decreased in the year 2003, compared to 2002. However the long term trends still show that during the period of 5 years between 1999 and 2003, some crimes have dropped, some remain stable and some increased.*

- ***Motor vehicle theft remains stable.***
- ***Stealing from motor vehicles has dropped by 8.8%***
- ***Malicious property damage remains stable.***
- ***Assault remains stable.***
- ***Stealing from a dwelling remains stable.***
- ***Break and enter dwelling has risen by 5.6%.***
- ***Stealing from retail stores has risen by 7.7%.***
- ***The most significant increase over the past five years has been in fraud committed in Woollahra - an increase of 15.7%***

Most crime in Woollahra is property related, however the continuing rise in assault is of concern to personal safety. In 2003, there were 291 assaults out of a total population of just over 50,000. The category of assault includes domestic violence assaults and sexual assaults. Stealing from a person offences (which involve no threat on

violence) accounted for 278 offences. There were 60 robberies (without a weapon) committed in 2003. This gives some indication of the extent to which fear of crime in public places is justified.

Additionally, there were 32 sexual assault offences, lower than in 1998 when there were 54 offences. This offence category includes indecent exposure and assault. The rate of sexual assaults is considered stable, but of concern to women in the municipality.

Across Australia crime rates are declining, perhaps because of improved socio-economic conditions overall. Although there is no crime wave in Woollahra and its rate of crime can be considered to be stable overall, when compared to changes in crime patterns across NSW, Woollahra has not improved as much as other LGA's in the past twelve months. However, motor vehicle theft has significantly decreased, perhaps due to the effective education campaigns conducted by the Police.

**Per head of population, Woollahra now rates in the Top 25 Local Government Areas in NSW in four crime categories.**

**In NSW, over 2003 Woollahra LGA ranked:**

- **7<sup>th</sup> for Steal from a Person**
- **9<sup>th</sup> for Steal from a Motor Vehicle**
- **10<sup>th</sup> for Break and Enter Dwelling offences**
- **21<sup>st</sup> for Robbery**
- **24<sup>th</sup> for Motor Vehicle Theft**

Above ranking could be compared with year **2002** ranking:

- **7<sup>th</sup> for Break and Enter Dwelling offences**
- **8<sup>th</sup> for Steal from a Motor Vehicle**
- **10<sup>th</sup> for Steal from a Person**
- **11<sup>th</sup> for Motor Vehicle Theft**

**Table 5. Type of Crime by frequency in Woollahra**

<i>Type of crime</i>	<i>Annual % change 2002 -03</i>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<i>Long term trend Annual % change 99-03</i>
<b>Driving offences total**</b>	Not calculated	243	289	805	4781	4131	4247	Not calculated
<b>Break and enter dwelling</b>	down 20.1%	906	703	952	1054	1095	875	up 5.6%
<b>Steal from motor vehicle</b>	down 21.4%	1171	1211	1237	1377	1065	838	down 8.8%
<b>Malicious damage to property</b>	down 34.8%	496	526	549	715	792	<b>516</b>	<b>stable</b>
<b>Other theft*</b>	Not calculated	578	651	721	835	735	593	Not calculated
<b>Motor vehicle theft</b>	down 39.6%	672	447	523	615	578	350	stable
<b>Steal from dwelling</b>	down 16.1%	299	323	359	393	404	<b>339</b>	<b>stable</b>
<b>Other offences*</b>	Not calculated	211	171	253	362	355	298	Not calculated
<b>Assault - all offences total</b>	down 19.8%	231	257	274	328	352	<b>291</b>	<b>stable</b>
<b>Fraud</b>	down 10.4%	172	152	195	216	308	<b>283</b>	<b>Up 16.8%</b>
<b>Break and enter non dwelling*</b>	down 33%	245	251	260	302	287	195	stable
<b>Steal from person***</b>	stable	146	114	137	179	249	278	Not calculated
<b>Steal from retail store</b>	stable	152	95	106	135	141	128	Up 7.7%
<b>Robbery/ offences against person*</b>	Not calculated	130	93	114	132	105	113	Not calculated
<b>Drug offences total*</b>	Not calculated	80	44	60	84	80	65	Not calculated
<b>Against justice procedures total*</b>	Not calculated	64	61	56	63	79	80	Not calculated
<b>Weapons offences*</b>	Not calculated	38	42	25	45	39		Not calculated
<b>Sexual offences total</b>	Not calculated	54	34	26	42	32	32	Not calculated
<b>Total Offences</b>		5919	5504	6687	11618	10827	9521	

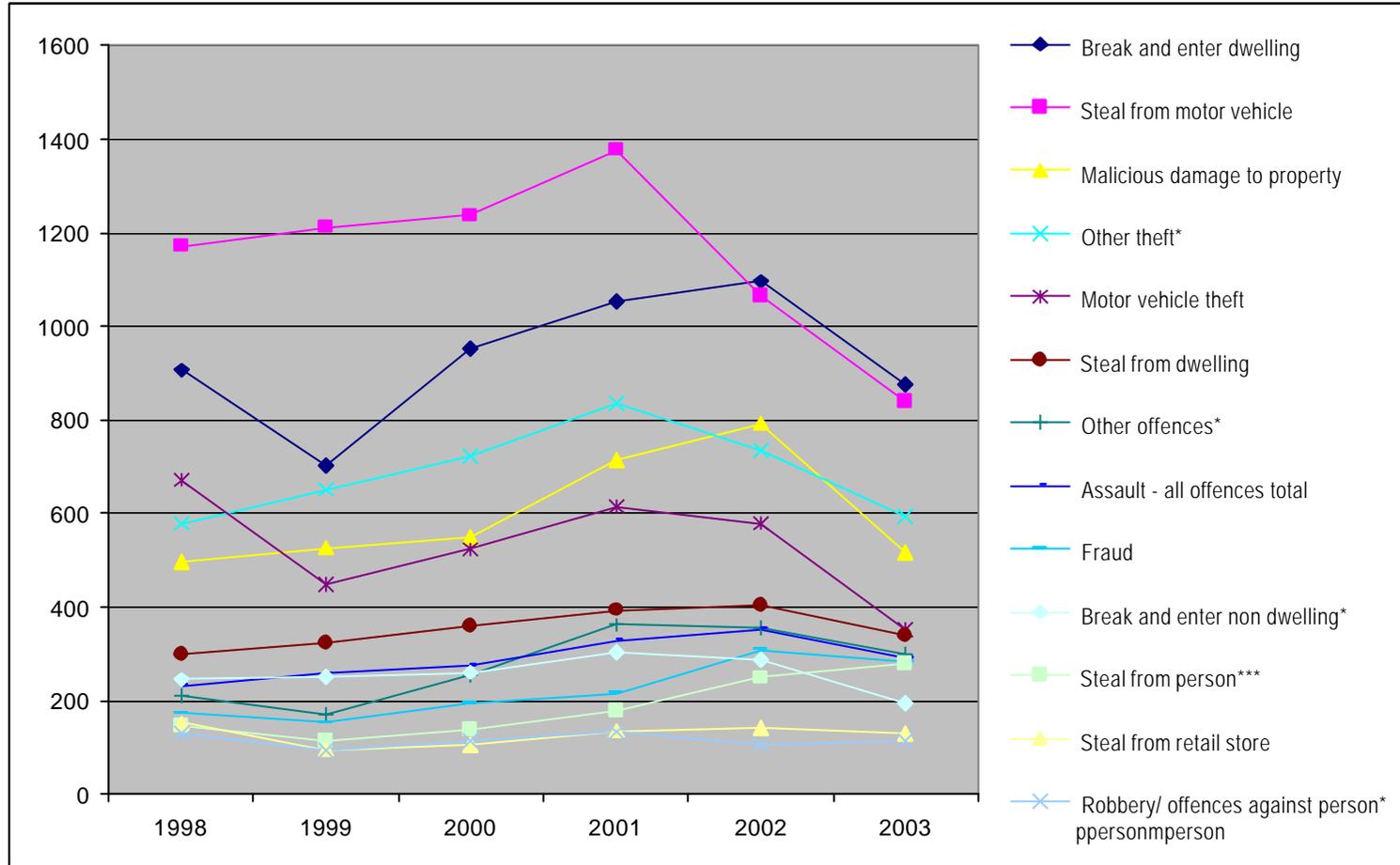
**Statistics collated from the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) website.**

\*Where no trend information is shown it is because these categories were not selected for comparison by the BOCSAR.

\*\*The dramatic rise in these figures since 2001 reflects a change in the way that the statistics are recorded.

\*\*\* Due to a discontinuity in recording, the trend covers the 17 months from Aug 2001 to Dec 2002. Where a significant trend was found the percentage change shown compared Aug 2001 to Dec 2001 with Aug 2002 to Dec 2002. A 5 year trend has not been calculated.

**Chart 6: Trends in Recorded Crime Statistics in Woollahra LGA, 1998 to 2003.**



*This chart does not include some categories, as they are not easy to read on the graph.*

## 4.2 Driving Offences

---

The Crime Profile shows that the most frequent offences committed in Woollahra are driving offences. The dramatic rise in these offences shown in Table 1 is due to a new simpler, direct method for police to record driving offences, rather than a change in driver behaviour. The high level of these offences reflects a high level of activity by mobile police patrols in pulling up drivers for these offences.

Driving offences include culpable driving /causing grievous bodily harm, driving with a Prescribed Concentration Alcohol (PCA), driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving while disqualified, speeding, negligent or menacing driving, driving without seat belts fastened, driving whilst talking on a mobile phone, etc. It does not include parking infringements.

### ***Council's Role***

- Council does not have a direct role in reducing driving offences.
- Council's Regulatory Officers enforce parking regulations throughout the municipality.
- Police are responsible for prevention and prosecution of traffic offences, and regularly conduct campaigns to target speeding, drink driving etc in Woollahra.
- Council does play an active part in promoting road safety through community education. State government has the lead role in community education to improve road safety through broad media campaigns to improve driver behaviour and prevent accidents.
- Council assists with a variety of road safety campaigns by distributing State and Commonwealth road safety and accident prevention materials, mainly through libraries.

### 4.3 Property and Personal Crimes

---

#### 1. Break and Enter Dwelling - decrease

***There were 875 Break and enter dwelling offences committed in Woollahra in 2003. Although this is a figure less than previous year, the long term trend shows a gradual rise of 5.6% over the past five years. The rate per 100,000 people is 1,624. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> highest rate in NSW. Police report that because of its wealth Woollahra is an attractive location for thieves. The top rate is 4,611.1 per 100,000 people in Bourke.***

In Woollahra, households today contain many valuable, portable and easily resold consumer goods to tempt burglars. There is some anecdotal evidence of repeat victimisation, that residents may be burgled repeatedly over a number of years.

The National Crime Prevention Program Report<sup>3</sup> says

*Recent victims of burglary are at relatively high risk of burglary re-victimisation. About one in four victim households in Australia is burgled again within a year. Such vulnerability may reflect ease of access generally, the burglar's familiarity with the premises, the victim's lifestyle or some combination of these factors.*

Neighbourhood Watch groups have been set up in several residential areas in the municipality in response to concerns about home break-ins, robberies, motor vehicle theft as well as anti-social behaviour and malicious damage to property offences. However, currently there are no Neighbourhood Watch groups in the areas that have the highest rates of Break and Enter Crimes in the municipality, except West Woollahra.

The Police crime data system (COPS) shows that the Hot Spots for *Break and Enter* crime within Woollahra Municipality is Paddington, followed by Woollahra suburb, and Bellevue Hill at about half Paddington's rate. Rose Bay, Double Bay, Vaucluse, Darling Point and Edgecliff are in the mid range at about a quarter of Paddington's rate. Watson's Bay, Point Piper, Dover Heights and Rushcutters Bay have relatively low rates of *Break and Enter* offences.

A high percentage of property crime is considered to be due to offenders with drug abuse problems. Tertiary crime prevention measures relating to reform of the Justice System, targeting offender rehabilitation and recidivism such

---

<sup>3</sup> *The National Crime Prevention Program*, Crime Prevention Branch, Commonwealth Attorney General's Department, ACT 2002.

as Drug Courts and diversion programs are being piloted to address the causes of crime. Localised programs such as the operation of CDATs - Community Drug Action Teams - may also be necessary.

## **2. Steal from motor vehicle - decrease**

There was a decline in steal from a motor vehicle in 2003, down 8.8%% from 2002. However, Woollahra still rates 9<sup>th</sup> in NSW for this offence, with a rate of 1,556 per 100,000 people. The top rate is 4,640.4.2 per 100,000 in South Sydney. Police and Council have worked together to distribute "If it can be seen, it can be stolen" materials to raise awareness and reduce the incidence of residents leaving valuable possessions in plain view in their cars.

## **3. Malicious damage to property - decrease**

***Although the long term trend shows that malicious damage to property in the past five years is stable, property damage in 2003 has declined by 34.8% compared to the previous year.*** This category includes graffiti, damage to properties such as smashed windows in businesses, residences and vehicles, and damage to public property. This offence often arises in the context of domestic disputes, drunken and disorderly behaviour, as well as during property break-in and steal offences.

Graffiti accounts for very little of the crime counted under the Malicious Damage to property category, mainly because the public rarely report graffiti to police.

## **4. Motor Vehicle theft - decrease**

***Woollahra ranks 24<sup>th</sup> in NSW for Motor Vehicle theft. Although the rate has been stable over the past five years, there has been a significant decline by 39.6% last year compared to 2002.*** It currently affects 649.9 people per 100,000. The top rate in NSW is 1,773.5 per 100,000 in Bourke. Police report that a large number of vehicles are never recovered, indicating that part of this problem is due to organised gangs carrying out car rebirthing operations, particularly on luxury cars.

Other contributing factors are theft by visitors or others, to drive home conveniently, joy riding or to use in committing other crimes. Nationally, about 75% of vehicles are stolen by youth aged 14-20, who use cars to commit a range of offences. About 15% of these young offenders will go on to re-offend. Australia has one of the highest rates of motor vehicle theft in the world.

## **5. Other theft, steal from dwelling, robbery and steal from person offences**

The crime profile shows "other theft" crimes ranking fifth in the Woollahra Crime Profile. These crimes cross over from property crime to crimes against the person, sometimes but not always involving assault or threat of violence. The categorisation of such crimes involving stealing is complex. Other similar Categories include steal from person, steal from non-dwelling, from a retail store and robbery. These crimes are generally considered stable in Woollahra.

"*Stealing from a person*" refers to crimes such as stealing mobile phones in cafes where there is no confrontation between the offender and the victim. These crimes tend to happen in the public domain, in shopping malls, on public transport, in public spaces such as the beach or park, sometimes at schools or workplaces.

"*Robbery*" refers to stealing with violence or threat of violence to the person. This may occur in the street eg as a bag snatching, or during a break and enter offence on a residence.

"*Assault*" may happen in the context of property break-ins or domestic violence. Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) may result and courts must decide whether the personal assault was intentional, whether damage was malicious etc.

Young people, especially young men, are at most personal risk of steal from person and assault in public spaces. Young people have justified fear of these crimes. Fear of crime amongst older people is generally highest in regard to robbery at home or home invasion.

These crimes against the person may occur in the public domain or at home, at parties, on public transport, even at schools and workplaces. They are considered under Public Space and Personal Safety Strategies below.

### ***Council's Role in Property Crimes and Crimes against the person***

#### **1. Safer by design**

Council's main role is in increasing the security of residential buildings occurs through its planning controls and its Development Application (DA) approvals process.

The Woollahra Residential Development Control Plan (RDGP)1999 has regard to safety in the public domain applying to residential areas. The General Controls for 5.1 Streetscapes has an objective 04 *"to ensure a safe environment by promoting crime prevention through design"*.<sup>4</sup>

However, there are no detailed provisions in the current DCP for the design of individual residences or multi-unit housing to maximise security and reduce opportunities for illegal access. Council officers who have responsibility for DA processes are not yet routinely trained in CPTED principles. Woollahra Council is now negotiating protocols with Police in regard to CPTED.

In regard to motor vehicle theft, Council has a role in ensuring that car parks are well designed and well lit to minimise opportunities for theft. Council's important role in ensuring that Public spaces are made safer by design has been set out in detail above.

## **2. Community Education**

Council can assist with community education campaigns to raise resident's awareness and change behaviour in regard to residents securing their homes, vehicles and possessions. Council can help promote similar programs such as *Biz Safe* for local business owners, in conjunction with Police and local business groups such as the Chamber of Commerce.

## **3. Graffiti reduction**

Council has a well-used Hotline strategy for dealing with graffiti. Currently Council responds to complaints of graffiti by sending information about graffiti removal with letters asking both private and public property owners to remove the graffiti from their property rapidly and repeatedly. This strategy has been shown to be effective in most situations, although it may require great persistence on the part of the property owners and can be the cause of

---

<sup>4</sup> Under 5.1.3 Performance Criteria in regard to the Pedestrian environment contain safety by design provisions such that:  
P9: Major pedestrian, cycle and vehicle thoroughfares are identified and reinforced as safe routes through:  
appropriate lighting; casual surveillance from houses; minimised opportunities for concealment; landscaping which allows long distance sight lines between buildings and the street; and avoidance of blind corners.

P10: Lighting is provided to pedestrian ways, dwelling entries, driveways and carparks to ensure a high level of safety and security at night

P11: Individual dwellings are well lit and readily identifiable by visitors and emergency vehicles through clear house numbering and visibility.

considerable expense to them. Council undertakes rapid removal of graffiti on its own property, and is prompted to do so by complaints rather than ongoing inspections. Council is currently in the process of establishing a graffiti removal service for fee. In addition to graffiti residents have identified unauthorized posters as safety related issues.

The Graffiti Taskforce of the Community Safety Council developed an extensive Action Plan for graffiti. As graffiti is categorised as a Malicious Damage to property crime, it is included below under Objective 1 in the Community Safety Plan - Property - Graffiti.

### ***Police Role***

Police have the major role in preventing and responding to property offences such as break and enter offences. The majority of offences are committed by a small number of offenders. Arrest of the high risk offenders (HRO's) has the most significant impact in preventing such crimes. Police target areas with the greatest rate of property crime with high visibility policing (foot patrols), and general car patrols.

Police can play an important role in preventing graffiti by apprehending offenders. This is a challenging task as residents rarely report graffiti vandalism taking place and Police response times are not usually sufficiently rapid to catch offenders in the act. When Police apprehend juvenile graffiti vandals, the Police Youth Liaison Officer has an important role in determining the most appropriate course of action, cautioning first offenders, referring to diversionary activities and/or proceeding with prosecutions. Police can also assist with community audits of graffiti hot spots.

The Police role in preventing crimes against the person such as assault, or sexual assault is more problematic. Police have limited success in preventing such crimes. Firstly, it is unlikely that such an attack will take place when they are present in the vicinity, as their presence will hopefully deter occurrences. Police do have an important role in follow up for victims, to ensure that they receive the support and referral that they need in a timely manner.

### ***Community Role***

Citizens can enhance their own security and assist Police by reporting crimes to the Police Assistance Line on 131 444. They can take steps to secure their premises with security locks, by measures such as engraving their possessions and being careful not to leave windows and doors open, or keys lying around in view even when they are at home.

### ***Recent Council Projects***

In recent years Council has run a community education project in conjunction with Community Safety Council volunteers Rose Bay Police called *Operation Lighthouse*. Information stalls were set up in shopping centers to distribute information about home and motor vehicle security throughout the Municipality. Police kept count of the amount of information distributed.

In 2002 Police arranged for insertion of information in the Wentworth Courier targeting *theft from motor vehicles*. The key message was "If it can be seen it can be stolen". Residents were encouraged to be more careful about leaving their possessions in cars.

## 5. Community Safety Plan

### 5.1 Public Safety

The strategies in the Community Safety Plan applying to Public Safety are guided by earlier discussion of the approaches outlined in Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles. These apply to safety for all community members using public transport and other public spaces.

In discussing Public Safety it should be noted that the Crime Profile of Woollahra LGA shows a gradual rise of 11% in the rate of assault offences in Woollahra over the last five years.

<b>Objective 1: Improve Public Safety</b>					
<b>Woollahra residents, workers, visitors</b>					
<b>1.1 Public Transport - Edgecliff Bus Interchange</b>					
<b>Item</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action /Project</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
<b>1.1.1</b>	<b>Increase formal surveillance</b>	Install Help Point with CCTV  Carry out consultation with Community prior to installation of CCTV in the municipality (in accord with NSW Guidelines for CCTV)	<b>State Rail</b> to install CCTV Help Point  <b>Council:</b> Safety Officer : Conduct community information and consultation re CCTV	2005 State Rail agree to install help Point  Conduct CCTV Consultation  Conduct Fear of Crime Survey	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Help Point with CCTV installed</li> <li>▪ Number of uses of Help Point Per month/year</li> <li>▪ Conduct survey re Fear of Crime- before and after the installation of a Help Point</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction in Fear of Crime measured by Before and After survey at Interchange,</li> <li>▪ Increased satisfaction level of users</li> </ul>

<b>1.2 Improve safety in Public Open Spaces Local Parks, streets &amp; neighbourhoods</b>					
<b>Item</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
<b>1.2.1</b>	<b>Increase surveillance</b>	Rapid identification and response to incivility hotspots	<p><b>Police:</b> Police patrols to hot spots at problem times, at night</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Watch:</b> report problems as they arise to Police/Council</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Target Hot spots eg. Guilfoyle Park, Steyne Park, Lyne Park</p>	<p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase in reporting of incivility</li> <li>▪ Reduce incidence of anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>
<b>1.2.2</b>	<b>Community Education</b>	Drug and Alcohol Education campaigns to target underage binge drinking	<p><b>Council:</b> Convene W/W Youth safety Network with WAYS, Point Zero, Police other youth services:</p> <p>D &amp; A Education;</p> <p>Point Zero Van volunteers to new hot spots as identified</p>	Ongoing	<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conduct Drug and Alcohol Education campaigns for Young People and General Public</li> <li>▪ Point Zero van to attend new trouble spots as required</li> </ul>

Item	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
1.2.3	<b>Licensee Accords</b>	Negotiate Responsible Service of Alcohol agreements with licensees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Licensing Accords</li> <li>▪ Shuttle buses for late night patrons</li> </ul>	Council, License Premises and Police	To be negotiated, as needed	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Signage and enforcement of alcohol free zones</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduced public incivility in licensed premises</li> <li>▪ Reduced disorder in nearby communities</li> </ul>
1.2.4	<b>Recommendations of NSW Alcohol Summit</b>	<b>Engaging with community:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- education &amp; information provision for parents, youth, employers, etc</li> <li>- negotiate agreements with licensees</li> </ul> <b>Partnerships with other agencies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National &amp; State D&amp;A services</li> <li>- Police</li> <li>- local clubs (sports, youth, etc)</li> <li>-schools</li> </ul> <b>Programs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- educational campaigns</li> <li>- youth peer support programs</li> </ul>	Council Police D & A Services SES Area Health Service	Ongoing	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Delivery of educational sessions on safe &amp; responsible consumption of alcohol</li> <li>▪ Partnerships initiated and operated</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduced alcohol related crimes, accidents and injuries.</li> <li>▪ Increased local community involvement in harm prevention programs.</li> </ul>

Item	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
1.2.5	<b>CPTED Safety Audits in local communities</b>	<p>Identify local safety problems</p> <p>Carry out inspections and safety audits for unsafe local areas</p>	<p>Police &amp; Neighbourhood Watch groups</p> <p>Police &amp; Council staff</p>	Ongoing	<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ assess extent of safety audits, ie. Number done, geographical coverage, staff and volunteer time</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ improvements in lighting, footpaths, reduced fear of crime, removal of posters</li> </ul>

## ***Public Safety at the Gap***

The Gap is a Sydney landmark, much visited by people from Sydney, all over NSW and tourists from all over the world. For many years it has been the site of attempted and successful suicides by people from diverse areas. Various strategies have been variously successful in the past at deterring a suicidal person. The story is often told of the fishermen's dog alerting locals to the advent of a suicidal person preparing to leap. Informal surveillance by local residents who alert Police has been helpful in the past. Similarly Council's Parks and Gardens staff are frequently nearby, and have assisted in calling emergency services when needed.

When Police are alerted to an incident, a patrol car with two officers attends and when appropriate, a counsellor is called to the scene to mediate and resolve the crisis. However there are sometimes delays of up to two hours for the attendance of a Police counsellor. There is no clear trend shown in Police statistics about the occurrence of suicide attempts, so there are no easy solutions to be found in putting in place formal surveillance, or having a counsellor on hand at certain times of day or days of the week.

Council provides signs with telephone help-line numbers (such as Lifeline), which are mounted in two locations on the path and near the main Gap area. Situational measures, such as construction of a fence along the cliff edge are considered impractical and undesirable, as it is a very long cliff to fence, and it is most likely that the problem would be displaced to the either end of any fence constructed. This type of situational deterrence is an inadequate answer to the needs of people with deeply entrenched depression or other psychological problem, triggering their suicide attempt.

Watsons' Bay residents who attend the local Neighbourhood Watch group have suggested that a new public telephone box be located proximate to the Gap, so that suicidal people can more easily access a Helpline they need by using a handy telephone. This situational approach is untested, but certainly a worthy part of an intervention strategy. It would be helpful if the line were linked to emergency services, so that Police and/or a counsellor could be alerted. Additionally, it may be possible to boost local surveillance efforts by distributing information locally to prompt action. A poster or brochure could be provided to locals and/or tourists telling simply "what to do if you spot a person who may be ready to jump" , the number to call to trigger the police response etc.

The other situational measure to be considered is the installation of Closed Circuit Television to monitor activity at the site. However introducing such a measure would require extensive local community consultation, and funding for the ongoing maintenance of such a surveillance system. This approach requires further discussion, and significant funding. Further consultation with specialist organisations such as "Suicide Australia" may be

productive, in finding an effective crisis response to this social problem. Long term trends should be monitored and statistics reported to the Community Safety Council at regular intervals.

### 1.3 Improve Public Safety at The Gap

### Target Group: Suicidal People

Item	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
1.3.1	<b>Increase Formal surveillance</b>	Swift police response to calls from the public	Police	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number of Police call outs</li> <li>▪ Number of counseling events by Police on site</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduced number of attempts, fatalities</li> <li>▪ Increased number of people deterred from jumping</li> </ul>
1.3.2	<b>Increase Informal Surveillance</b>	Raise Community reporting response by Community Education Campaign in Watsons' Bay	Local Businesses Community: Neighborhood Watch members	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> Number of community members asked/ recruited to report sightings of suicidal people to Police <b>Outcomes:</b> Increase in number of calls to Police; reduction in jumping attempts/ fatalities
1.3.3	<b>Situational Measures</b>	Improved lighting and fencing	Council: Request supply of telephone from Telstra	<b>2004 -5</b>	<b>Outcomes:</b> Lighting and fencing improved Increased number of calls to Help Lines from The Gap Increased number of potential suicidal people deterred/ referred or admitted to hospital
1.3.4	<b>Harm minimisation</b>	Training and information dissemination amongst Council staff, Police and local residents about harm minimization strategies.	Council and other agencies such as: Suicide Australia & Lifeline	<b>On going</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> Meetings and consultations held. Training and information sessions conducted. <b>Outcomes:</b> Increased awareness amongst Police, Council staff and local residents about harm minimization approach.

## 5.2 Personal Safety for Older People

---

### ***Demographics***

Over 25% of Woollahra's population are older persons, over 55. In 2001, 4,095 Woollahra residents were aged over 75 making up 8.2% of the population. There were also 8,546 people aged 55 to 74 years, comprising 17.2% of the population. Women outnumber men in both these age groups, particularly those over 75 where 63.9% (2,615) are women. In 1996, Woollahra had the highest number of people aged over 75 and living alone (41.6%) in the South East Sydney Area Health Region.

There are no local statistics on crime against older people, but a national study of 1991 crime rates<sup>5</sup> states that :

- “the incidence of crimes generally committed against the person was considerably lower for the 60 years plus group..
- females aged 60 years and over were not as likely as males to be victims of robbery, but they were many times more likely than their male counterparts to be threatened with violence..
- men over the age of 65 years in New South Wales are just as likely as women in the same age group to be victims of robbery and assault, but this is lower than for younger age groups.”
- In 1991 the rate of robbery for women and men over 60 was 2-3 per per 100,000 persons, compared to the rate for young males aged 16-19 was 80 per 100,000.
- While younger people are more likely to be victims of crimes, of the crimes older people experience financial exploitation and fraud are the most prevalent.<sup>6</sup>

Consultations in 2001 and work with older people through the Personal Safety Taskforce lead to the identification of major concerns of older people in Woollahra and the development of an Action Plan to address the issues. The major issues were **fear of crime**, particularly of **bag snatching in public places and break-ins at home**.

---

<sup>5</sup> Crime Prevention for older Australians, Appendix 1, Australian Institute of Criminology.

<sup>6</sup> National Crime Prevention Program, 2002, op cit p 29. *Crime Prevention for Seniors: A Guide to Personal and Financial Safety* (NCP78) was developed by the National Crime Prevention Program provides comprehensive safety advice for older people.

There was also significant concern about the well-being of estimated high numbers of **socially isolated older people** living alone. There was concern particularly about those with mental health problems or advancing dementia who are sometimes lost and wandering, needing care and to be returned home. More generally, there was concern that neighbours are unaware of older people living near by who maybe neglected in the event of an accident or emergency situation. Residents expressed a desire to volunteer to be better neighbours, to work towards developing a caring ethos in Woollahra. They looked to Council and the Community Safety committees to work out systems for keeping an eye on their more vulnerable, elderly neighbours, and doing this in a way which protected and supported both parties. The Community Services Department of Council is currently exploring options for increasing volunteering in Woollahra.

### **Fear of Crime**

It is often assumed that older people are more fearful of crime because of a decline in physical health, which may accompany aging and lead to declining mobility and an increased sense of vulnerability. National crime prevention research<sup>7</sup> indicates that older Australians appear to be more fearful than younger people of crime in their own homes, but are less fearful of crime in public places than young people. Older people's vulnerability and fear of crime at home includes home invasions, robbery, break-ins, burglary and even bag snatching. Fear of crime becomes unhealthy when older people become housebound through exaggerated and unjustified fear of crime.

### **Public Safety**

#### ***Public Transport***

Safe Public Transport is a very important issue to older people in Woollahra. Many feel disadvantaged by changes to Sydney Bus timetables, which mean that they have to wait longer than is convenient for local bus services that they rely on to do their shopping or visit friends. Older people tend to use public transport less at night, and may feel unable to go out because of concerns about their safety at local public transport nodes, such as the Edgecliff Bus interchange. Others say that the state of footpaths and poor lighting deter them from venturing out to use public transport. Further research is needed to determine the extent of fear of crime amongst older people in Woollahra, and locations that are particularly concerning.

Some frail older people and those with disabilities are able to access personal transport through the Woollahra Community Transport Service, based at the Holdsworth St Community Centre, which is subsidised by Council. This service assists mainly with medical and hospital related transport during the day. However, there are likely to be many older people who are unaware of the service and are not currently making use of it.

---

<sup>7</sup> National crime Prevention Program, 2002 op cit p.27

Generally, elderly people tend to drive cars less and have less access to personal transport than other adults in the community. As a consequence, older people are more likely to use public transport for trips within the municipality, especially local buses for day-to-day needs. The rate of car ownership is lowest amongst older women in Woollahra. Council recognises the importance of accessible and safe transport facilities for older people.

### ***Bag snatching***

Some older residents have fear of bag snatching on public streets, in parks, when using public transport and even when at home. There have been some recent incidents of bag snatching in the Queen St and West Woollahra area, on streets frequently used by older people from a local residential aged care facility. Rates of assault of this kind are generally considered to be very low in Woollahra. However, focused local strategies may be needed to safeguard older residents who are frequent users of this area for their weekly shopping needs. A Police patrol to the area to apprehend offenders as quickly as possible is also needed as a short term strategy, when these incidents occur.

## **Safety and Security at Home**

### ***Fear at Home***

Older people sometimes feel vulnerable at home, especially if they live alone. Many are fearful of home invasion and burglary, and benefit by the installation of home security devices. Some fear visits by unknown tradesmen, some prefer not to go out at night because of their declining ability to manage uneven footpaths and less than well lit streets or public transport nodes after dark. Older people are vulnerable to which may be perpetrated by door-to-door "salesmen", over the phone or even via the internet. Anecdotal evidence suggests that usage of home security devices by older people is generally high in Woollahra.

Woollahra Council libraries provide a comprehensive guide and information summary sheets for seniors on home safety, including safety from financial fraud. Waverley Woollahra Home Modification and Maintenance Service is available to ensure that frail older residents who may be afraid of unknown tradesmen and accountable people are able to receive a friendly, easily accessible local service. They may also be able to assist with the installation of security devices where needed.

***Domestic Violence***, also known as elder abuse, is increasingly recognized as a hidden social crime. The definition of domestic violence includes verbal or emotional abuse, physical, sexual, financial and social abuse.

Older men as well as older women are affected by abuse and violence, usually in the context of longer term abusive family relationships. Some health and welfare workers report anecdotally that they suspect abuse of older parents by their adult children who are living at home with them. This abuse may be physical, emotional or financial. However this crime affects both older women and older men. Women affected by family violence are more numerous, as there are more older women than men who survive into old age.

In the 1996 ABS Survey *Women's Safety, Australia* 1.2 % of Australian women over 55 reported experiencing physical or sexual violence (compared to 19% of 18-24 year old women). The male partner was the perpetrator of violence in only 46% of cases. 54% of perpetrators of violence against older women were their own adult children, particularly their adult daughters. Financial abuse is the most common type of abuse of the elderly by their children. In Woollahra in 2001, there were 7,222 women over 55. Using this figure (1.2%) to estimate the extent of the problem likely to occur, indicates that at least eighty-six older women in Woollahra may be experiencing this type of problem. Other estimates which put the rate between 3- 5%, so many older people, including men, may be affected.

At present there are very few services available for older people experiencing domestic violence at the local or state level. State wide support services are needed to assist older people affected by violence to leave their violent situation, find alternative accommodation, and regain financial security. Admission to residential aged care (nursing home or hostel) is not a suitable option nor appropriate solution to the accommodation needs of an older person who is experiencing violence. Regional service planning and co-ordination is needed to improve provision of counselling, accommodation, and legal/court assistance for older people experience abuse in the South East Region.

There is an active Older Women's Network group that has developed theatre skills and provides performances designed to raise awareness and prompt older women to take action to escape violence domestic arrangements. This group is based in the City of Sydney and puts on local performances for interested women's and health related groups. These events have been organised by South East Area Health Service in the past.

All local Home and Community Care (HACC) Services have signed on to an Elder Abuse Protocol requiring service agencies to take appropriate steps to protect their clients' safety, and to undertake any advocacy necessary to improve their situation.

### ***Falls prevention***

Falls are the major source of accidents causing hospital admission for older people. The rate and seriousness of consequences of falls rises exponentially with age, affecting those over 85 most severely. (See Chart 3). Falls

prevention is one of the main public health strategies carried out by NSW Health. South East Sydney Area Health Service runs local falls prevention programs.

Local services for older people periodically distribute information on making the home environment safe from falls. Frail elderly people benefit by access to the Waverley Woollahra Home Maintenance and Modification Services e.g. to fit grab rails in bathrooms, remove shower hobs, install ramps and rails at entrances. Ongoing promotion of these programs and services to older people is required. Often older people only start to look for these services when they have immediate need of them, so providing the right information in a timely way can be challenging for local services.

***Suicide*** is another under recognised problem affecting older people. Suicide rates for older men over 75 are the second highest of any age group in NSW. General Practitioners are best placed to refer patients to services. Of particular concern are older people, especially men, who are experiencing depression or manifesting suicidal behaviour. Community groups such as OMNI (Older Men: New Ideas) are interested in providing support groups within the Woollahra area, and are currently holding meeting for older men from the region in Bondi. Further promotion of the availability of this group to older men in Woollahra may be needed.

### ***Socially isolated older people***

In the past, local Police established a register of older people with mental health problems or advancing dementia, so that if they were found wandering away from home they could be recognised (by an identification bracelet) and returned home more easily. In 2002, some strategies were investigated to improve older people's access to emergency response systems or telephone contact services. Council has appointed an Aged Care Assessment and Support Worker who is attempting to better link isolated older people with health and other community support services. Mostly, socially isolated people come to attention of authorities when they experience a medical event. Improving ways of linking socially isolated people to social support systems and services will assist prevent neglect of isolated elderly people.

## **Road Safety**

### ***Pedestrian Accidents***

Several recent fatalities of older pedestrians on Woollahra's main roads have raised concerns about pedestrian safety for older people. Health based programs to raise road safety awareness and to maintain physical skills and abilities that older people need for crossing roads safely, such as turning one's head more freely to check for traffic. Such programs are available through South East Sydney Area Health Service. Effort is needed to increase

participation of older people from Woollahra by tailoring programs and increasing frequency and local availability of road safety programs.

**Infrastructure reviews**

When accidents take place or Council is alerted to trouble areas, Traffic staff can inspect the site and make recommendations to the Traffic Committee of Council. Recommendations are then made in regard to installation of pedestrian crossing, lights or other road surface improvements or alterations that may be required to address the problem. Locations of pedestrian crossings, lights and bus stops on roads near residential aged care facilities are particularly important. Residents can notify problems for attention through the Customer Services staff at Woollahra Council on 9391 7000.

**Objective 2: Improve Personal Safety**

**Target Group: Older Persons**

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
2.1  2.1.1	<b>Public Safety:</b>  <b>Prevent Bag snatching</b>	<b>Community Education:</b> Campaign to inform older people of practical measures they can take to "target harden themselves" to avoid bag snatching	Police Council Community Safety Volunteers Conduct campaign in local clubs, shopping centres, residential aged care facilities, etc	<b>2004-6</b>  Source brochures  Distribute brochures  Address local seniors groups	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community Education campaign conducted - details re number of information packages distributed; geographic coverage; talks given to Older People's Clubs, Retirement Villages, Senior Citizen's Centres, Shopping Centres: Edgecliff, Rose Bay,</li> <li>▪ Count of No. of reports to Police</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction in number of bag snatching incidents;</li> <li>▪ Increase in reporting of incidents to police</li> </ul>

Item	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
2.2  2.2.1	<b>Safety and Security at Home:</b>  <b>Prevent Home Break-ins by target hardening</b>	Community Education Campaign to increase home security measures & devices	Police Council Community Safety Committee & Volunteers:	<b>2004-6</b>  local safety audits	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Details of campaign reach- numbers; geographic spread</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> Increase in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Valuables documented, engraved and secured;</li> <li>▪ Security Alarms and devices installed;</li> <li>▪ Window and door locks installed;</li> <li>▪ Sensor lighting installed</li> </ul>
2.2	<b>Prevent Accidents at home: Falls Prevention</b>  <b>Home Maintenance and Modification Service</b>	Health Promotion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Falls Prevention campaign</li> <li>▪ Promote use of Home Maintenance and Modification Service</li> </ul>	SES Area Health Council monitor distribution of falls information by local agencies	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No. of falls prevention initiatives undertaken; information distributed</li> <li>▪ No. of referrals to Home Maintenance service</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Less hospital admissions due to falls</li> </ul>
2.2.3	<b>Prevent Domestic Violence/ Abuse of Older Persons</b>	Community Education to raise awareness of abuse of older persons	Police Council Other Services - SES Area Health Service - WDVCS - Legal Centres	<b>2004-6</b>  Community Education campaign	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community Education campaign conducted</li> <li>▪ Link to regional networking and planning processes</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase in local legal and practical solutions for older people, especially women.</li> <li>▪ Increase in numbers of older people seeking assistance from police and service providers;</li> <li>▪ Increase in number of older people being assisted to leave domestic violence situation and re-establish their independence.</li> </ul>

Item	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
2.2.4	<b>Prevent misadventure due to isolation, or mental illness</b>	Promote use of Emergency response systems	Council & SES Area Health	2004-2006	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GP's contacted re early identification of dementia</li> <li>▪ Campaign conducted to promote the use of home emergency alarm system;</li> <li>▪ No. of Referrals by Aged Assessments and Support Worker</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More older people aware of and linked to emergency response systems</li> <li>▪ More older people participating in support groups</li> </ul>
2.2.5	<b>Suicide Prevention</b>	Develop Strategy with GP's - Early detection and management of mental health problems	Council & Lifeline	2004-2006	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GP's contacted re early detection of depression</li> <li>▪ Support Older Person's Groups such as OMNI (Older Men New Ideas) and similar</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ decrease in rate of elderly suicide in Woollahra</li> <li>▪ more older people participating in suicide prevention or generalist support groups</li> </ul>
2.3	<b>Road Safety: Improve road infrastructure</b>  <b>Pedestrian Safety Education</b>  <b>Older Driver Education</b>	Improve pedestrian infrastructure as needed  Provide health and fitness programs to improve pedestrian ability and maintain driving skills	SES Area Health: Council:	2004-2006	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No of pedestrian hazards for older people identified and addressed</li> <li>▪ No. of older people attending Road Safety /Fitness training</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduced pedestrian and road accident casualties and fatalities</li> </ul>

Item	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
2.4	<b>Financial safety</b>	Distribute available information on consumer fraud	Council: Distribute information through libraries	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No of Consumer Guides for Seniors distributed</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More older people better informed on financial safety issues</li> </ul>

### **5.3 Personal Safety for Young People**

---

In 2001, there were 3,167 high school aged young people (12-17) and 4,270 young adults (18- 24) in Woollahra. Together they comprise 14.9% of the population, a smaller proportion than the average for Sydney overall (17.9%).

Young people are the age group most likely to be victims of crime, and young men are particularly vulnerable to crimes such as assault in public places. Increasingly, it is recognised that young people in Woollahra are victims of crime to a greater extent than they commit crime.

Because young people in Woollahra are relatively affluent with small, valuable portable items of personal property such as mobile phones, portable CD players etc, they make good targets for personal crime. Their ease of access to cars, and to funds to afford alcohol and other drugs puts them at higher risk for car accidents and potentially, for substance abuse problems.

#### ***Council Projects***

Woollahra Council coordinates the Woollahra/Waverley Youth Safety Network ensuring close working relationships between Police and local youth workers. This group of workers from both Councils, Waverley Action for Youth Services (WAYS), Point Zero, Bondi Outreach Project and Youth Liaison Officers (YLO's) from Waverley and Rose Bay Local Area Commands (LACS) meet monthly to respond to issues or youth problems arising, and to implement the action plan below which was adopted by the group in 2002. In 2003 during Youth Week a Youth Safety Forum was held at WAYS. Young people from many local high schools identified safety issues and worked out skits to communicate safety messages to their peers.

### ***Victims of Crime***

In 2002 the (then) Youth Safety Taskforce surveyed high schools through out Woollahra about the level and type of crime being experienced by young people. It found that crime against young people is both high and underreported. A safety project is under development for Police to take into schools to discuss personal safety issues and to encourage young people to report crime against them.

### ***Alcohol and Drugs***

Since the inception of community safety initiatives there have been concerns about incidents of social disorder involving young people, sometimes under age drinking of alcohol and being noisy in local parks. A strategy involving local police and Point Zero Youth group van visiting such sites in their van to talk with young people has been very effective in dealing with these issues. From time to time, new groups of young people gather in parks creating similar problems, but these are quickly dealt with through the well co-ordinated actions of Police Youth Liaison officers (YLO) and Point Zero.

### ***D & A Seminars***

A successful drug and alcohol information session for parents and teenagers was held at Council, facilitated by Point Zero and WAYS staff in November 2002.

### ***Safe House Party***

Currently, the Safe House Party program is being revamped, with Council, Police YLO, Point Zero and Ways working with a group of young people from Woollahra to develop a new strategy to re-launch the initiative to their peers.

### ***Road Safety***

#### ***MAA Aerosol Art Project***

In 2003 Woollahra Council received a Road Safety Grant for young people from the Motor Accident Authority (MAA ). Funds were used to run aerosol art workshops to paint panels with youth road safety messages. These panels were hung at the Edgecliff Bus Interchange, where large numbers of young people catch school buses. Bookmarks with the aerosol art images and road safety messages were distributed to youth groups and high schools in Woollahra.

#### ***RTA Parents of Learner Drivers***

Council has organised a series of classes for parents of young people who are learning to drive. These workshops assist build parents confidence, skills and knowledge for the challenging task of teaching their children to drive safely.

### **Better Relationships**

A series of Parenting Workshops were organised to assist parents bringing up teenagers in Woollahra in 2003. They covered a range of issues including step families, the crucial role of fathers within families, adolescent behaviours leading to depression and identifying safety issues such as, internet stalking, text bullying on mobiles and other problems associated with young people's use of new technology.

### **Police Projects**

Police YLO regularly visits local high schools and addresses classes of young people on a range of safety issues including road safety, protecting themselves from danger and theft, promoting safe house party registration and encouraging the reporting of crime. Police go to schools to inform young people of their responsibilities and rights in areas where they may not have a clear understanding of the law. eg Police are encouraging young people to record their IMEI (Internet Mobile Electronic Identification) number prior to their phone being stolen (so their handset can't be re-used), and to report mobile phone theft.

### **False and Altered Identification - FAID**

Police are currently working on a FAID scheme with local licensees, who are obliged to check the identity (ID's) of young people on licensed premises. Police provide information to students about the seriousness of this fraud offence and monitor (and remove) the false ID's licensees have collected.

The following plan for Youth Safety was developed after public consultations with young people held in 2001 and further refined through the Youth Safety Taskforce. The Woollahra Waverley Youth Safety Network continues to implement these projects.

## **Objective 3: Personal Safety**

## **Target group: Young People**

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Safety from assault:  In public places  On public transport  Increase reporting of</b>	Community education to encourage safe behaviour by young people  Community education of young people to encourage	Police: Schools Education Program Quick response to call outs, proactive policing of trouble spots  Council: Proactive youth work, facility and program	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Increase in police patrols of danger spots at key times eg. Bondi Junction Mall, Edgecliff Centre, Beaches, Parks, Fox Studios, as required</li><li>▪ Police Schools based Program</li></ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Decrease in rate of assault, robbery of young people especially young</li></ul>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	<b>assault and other crimes</b>	reporting of crime	provision to engage young people in social activities. Community Groups: Point Zero van to hotspots as required.		<p>males</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase in reporting of crime by young people</li> <li>▪ Increased follow up of crimes affecting young people</li> </ul>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Safe parties</b>	<p>Safe House Party Campaign: Promote registration of parties with Police</p> <p>Distribute information with checklist of safety tips to senior school students and their parents</p>	<p>Police: YLO Register parties</p> <p>Council: WW Youth Safety Network: Assist with campaign and brochure</p> <p>Community: Development work with young people by Point Zero/WAYS</p>	<b>ongoing</b>	<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number of fridge magnets or alternate distributed</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase in number of parties registered with Police</li> <li>▪ Decrease in incidences at parties - gate crashing, damage to property, anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>
<b>3.4</b>	<p><b>Safety from relationship violence, date rape</b></p> <p><b>Safety from violence at home</b></p>	<p>Community Education to increase Awareness of family and relationship violence, and prevention of household violence</p>	<p>Council and Police</p> <p>NSW Health:</p> <p>Community Groups: WAYS, Family Support services</p>	Establish new program by 2005	<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number of young people educated about family violence, date rape, relationship crime</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase in reporting of abuse by young people</li> <li>▪ Decline in crimes such as date rape</li> </ul>
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Support Victims of Crime</b>	Publicise availability of victims of crime support services	Police Council Community Youth Groups	<b>Ongoing</b>	<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Put information and links on Youth website</li> </ul>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
					<b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young victims of crime receive appropriate and timely support</li> </ul>
<b>3.6</b>	<b>Prevention of drug and alcohol abuse</b>	Provide information session to high school students and their parents	Police Council Community Youth Groups	<b>Annually</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. of session held, no. of participants</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate D &amp; A sessions for level of knowledge and skills for dealing with drug issues.</li> </ul>
<b>3.7</b>	<b>Encourage reporting of crime</b>	Encourage use of PAL Police Assistance Line for reporting Crime : Phone: 131 444	Police, Council Community Youth Groups	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>distribute information at Youth Issues Forum, to schools</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased reporting of crime affecting young people</li> </ul>

## 5.4 Personal Safety for Women

---

Personal safety for Women has been a high profile concern for the Woollahra Community Safety Council at various times after incidents of bag snatching or assault affecting women, usually at night on suburban streets. This has led to demands to lop trees to improve lighting, improve footpaths and to increase police patrols of some areas. These incidents are uncommon and usually opportunistic, occurring when an offender sees a target and there is little natural surveillance.

### ***Safe streets and environments***

Council has a role in creating safer environments for women through the application of CPTED Principles in public areas. Local community groups can assist in identifying areas that feel unsafe or where attacks have occurred so that a local safety audit can be undertaken. An environment, which is safe enough for women, is safe for all the community. In community consultations it has been suggested that self-defence classes would assist women to feel more confident in public space and to have better chance of escaping from a potential attacker.

### ***Safety at Home***

Domestic violence is a hidden problem and an under reported crime in Woollahra. The rate of domestic violence is difficult to estimate. Currently Rose Bay Police attend about 30 call outs per month. Council can assist with preventative strategies in regard to domestic violence such as community education, information distribution, liaison with the Police Domestic Violence Officer. Council can work with community groups to ensure that women of all ages have access to appropriate violence services such as counseling and accommodation services. Council can assist in developing partnerships to better respond to violence against women in all its forms - as victims of crime, domestic violence and sexual assault.

### ***Support Services and Initiatives***

Currently there are few women's groups established within Woollahra. Community development may be required to facilitate the establishment of self help groups, community services and other social supports such as self-defense classes. For example, groups such as socially isolated older women need access to medical emergency support services such as Telecross and Vitalcall. Young isolated women, especially with small children need opportunities for playgroups, and children's services such as occasional care, preschool, as well as access to parenting groups, counseling and sometimes volunteer support services. These services are an important part of preventing child abuse. Additional support for women who are carers is challenging for community agencies and an important part of prevention of domestic abuse of older women.

## Objective 4: Personal Safety

## Target Group: Women

	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
4.1	<b>Safer streets and environments through CPTED</b>	Safety audits of areas considered unsafe by community	Council Police	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No of safety audits requested and no. carried out</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improvement in safety of the public domain in Woollahra</li> </ul>
4.2	<b>Education programs for "Target Hardening" and Self defence</b>	Fear of crime education  Safe Chix Program - self defense, awareness and self esteem classes for young women available in Woollahra.  Minimizing alcohol related violence against women in licensed premises. Eg: Straws	Council Youth Groups  Police DVLO Regional Violence Prevention Specialist	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. of women attending</li> <li>No. of times program delivered</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young women better informed and able to protect themselves</li> </ul>
4.3	<b>Prevent Domestic violence</b>	Distribution of DV information through libraries and community centres  Ensure adequate provision of follow up services for women and children: social support groups, counseling, legal, health, accommodation,	Police: Respond to calls Community Services: Provide prevention, early intervention, crisis intervention and follow up for women and children  Council: Encourage interagency collaboration	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No of brochures distributed</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No of Police Call outs to DV</li> <li>No of AVO's</li> <li>No of women and children referred to counseling</li> <li>No. of DV clients at Family Support Services;</li> <li>No. of cases identified by NSW Health emergency/casualty/hospital admissions</li> </ul>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
4.4	<b>Preventing violence against Women</b>	<p>Promoting healthy relationships amongst young people through educational programs.</p> <p>Joint community education initiatives with local domestic Violence services E.g.: Celebrating 'Stop DV Day'</p>	<p>Council Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Scheme. Police DVLO Regional Violence Prevention Specialist</p>	<b>On going</b>	<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number of education sessions</li> <li>▪ Number of participants</li> <li>▪ Number of calls to the Police</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Young people engaging in healthy relationships</li> <li>▪ Number of violence amongst young people reduced.</li> </ul>

## **5.5 Personal Safety for Children**

---

The safety of children is generally regarded as the responsibility of their parents and this area has not been the focus of past efforts in Community Safety.

Council has a clear role in ensuring the safety of children using its facilities, such as playgrounds. Council is implementing a playground improvement program, guided by safety requirements.

### **Safety at Home**

Commonwealth and State authorities develop campaigns on safety issues affecting young children. Through its libraries Council distributes a range of home safety information for parents of young children.

### **Child Abuse Prevention**

Prevention of child abuse is the major concern regarding young children. Child Abuse usually occurs within the home and is one type of domestic violence. Council assists in the provision of preventative services aimed at parents such as playgroups, children's services and family support services within Woollahra. Children who repeatedly witness abuse of their mother / parent can also be badly affected by domestic violence and may need timely intervention through support groups. These groups are run by non-government agencies such as Family Support Services, and assist a child to learn protective behaviour skills to keep themselves safe within their own family and community networks.

### ***Drowning***

Drowning is a major cause of injury and death in young children. The introduction of pool fencing, regulated by Council, has had a major effect in reducing the rate of drowning of young children.

### ***Poisoning***

Young children can be seriously injured by ingestion of chemicals around the home. Parents are advised to store chemicals and medicines safely and to install child proof devices on cupboards. Information is regularly available at Council libraries.

### ***Falls***

Council can assist with distribution of information about falls, and ensure that children's playground areas are safe.

### **Road Safety**

#### ***Driveway Safety Project***

In 2002, Council has supported the campaign by distributing information to all preschools and primary school in Woollahra. This campaign aims to reduce the severe accidents involving toddlers run over by their own family members.

#### ***Walking Bus Scheme***

A pilot project is currently being established with the Junior Schools at Ascham and Sydney Grammar, to ease traffic congestion at the schools at am and pm peak times, by reducing the number of local vehicles driving to and from school. Parents are recruited as volunteers to pick up and accompany about 15 children in a walking caterpillar. Police assist with working out the safest convenient route, and school assists with the administration of the scheme. Its benefits include healthier lifestyles for the children and parents who walk to school, and social benefits in building informal community networks in local neighbourhoods around the schools.

### **Schools Safety**

Children are relatively safe at schools, however some children experience stealing at school and there are occasional incidents of danger from unknown persons around school playgrounds and premises. Liaison between Council, schools and Police should be maintained so that necessary actions are streamlined if incidents occur.

## Public Transport Safety

Many primary school age children use public transport extensively to access private schools in Woollahra area. Ensuring that public transport nodes, bus interchanges and railway platforms are safe is fundamental to ensuring safety for young children. These issues addressed under wider Public Safety strategies.

## Objective 5: Personal Safety

## Target Group: Children

	Strategy	Action / Project	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
5.1	<b>Safety at Home:</b>	<p>Domestic Violence: Co-ordinate strategy for DV support groups, if necessary Link to HSCC Family Support Program</p> <p>Poisoning: Community information project Drowning: Community information project Pet animals: safety related information will be distributed</p> <p>Community Education Ensure distribution of existing information on home safety issues e.g. Drowning, Poisons, Falls, Avoiding burns, etc</p>	<p>Council: Monitor DOCS child abuse / DV figures</p> <p>Community: Local services for children experiencing or witnessing DV</p> <p>Council: Monitor information availability and distribute a wide range of Home Safety Information through Libraries and Children's Libraries</p>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<p><b>Outputs:</b> monitoring occurs annually</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> reduced rate of family violence affecting young people</p> <p><b>Outputs:</b> No. of relevant Community information materials distributed</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Reduction in number and severity of accidents had by children at home</p>
5.2.1	<b>Road Safety</b>	<p>Driveway Safety Project: Distribute driveway safety information to schools and preschools</p>	<p>Council: Distribute relevant safety information to preschools &amp; Schools</p>	<b>Ongoing:</b> Driveway safety campaign	<p><b>Outputs:</b> Brochures distributed to preschools and primary schools</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> More parents using safe practices in driveways</p>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action / Project</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
5.2.2	<b>Pedestrian Safety</b>	Walking Bus Pilot Project	Council: Assist two Schools to establish Walking Bus Scheme, as a Pilot project	<b>2004:</b> Pilot project to be established	<b>Outputs:</b> Safe routes to and from school within 2kms walk of these schools in Paddington, Edgecliff and Woollahra suburb developed in consultation with parents, school and police  <b>Outcomes:</b> Walking bus established; children using the walking bus regularly; reduction in traffic congestion around schools
5.3	<b>School Safety</b>	Safety at School strategy	Council: Liaise with preschools and primary schools re safety issues  Police: Primary school visits re road safety and other issues as required	<b>Commence 2004</b>	<b>Outcomes:</b> Relevant safety programs delivered with assistance from schools
5.4	<b>Public Transport Safety</b>	Improve safety at bus interchange and ensure that there is adequate SRA security at railway platforms	Council: Edgecliff Bus Interchange project (see above)	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outcomes:</b> Improved safety for primary school students at major interchanges

## 5.6 Property Crime

Please refer to sections above in the Crime Profile and Analysis beginning on Page 20. The following section focuses on the most frequently committed property crimes in Woollahra, grouping projects by objectives that relate to residential dwellings (6) and to motor vehicles (7). Graffiti vandalism of property, classified by Police as a malicious damage to property is dealt with as a separate objective, because of the multiple strategies required to address this problem (8).

### Objective 6: Prevent Property Crime Target Group:

### Residential dwellings in Woollahra

	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
6.1	<b>Crime Prevention through environmental design (CPTED)</b>	<p>Council Staff to be trained in CPTED</p> <p>CPTED protocols agreed between Council and Police</p> <p>Assessments of DA's by Council Planners</p> <p>Information on CPTED to be distributed to DA Applicants</p>	<p>Council &amp; Police: Comment on CPTED in assessment of DA's for large developments</p> <p>Community: Education campaigns eg Operation Lighthouse CPTED Community Education Sessions</p> <p>Community: Adopt CPTED principles in renovations</p>	Ongoing	<p><b>Outputs:</b> CPTED DA Brochure developed Number of CPTED brochures distributed to DA applicants Number of property developments assessed by CPTED principles Annual count/monitoring of DA's applying CPTED principles</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Increased number of new and existing dwellings made safer by design.</p>
6.2	<b>Increase formal surveillance</b>	Maintain a high level of proactive Police Patrols High Visibility Policing and general patrols of Hot Spots	<p>Police: Increase patrols and police visibility in hot -spots as needed in response to changing needs: - in order Paddington, Woollahra, Bellevue Hill, Rose Bay, Double Bay, Darling Point, Edgecliff</p>	Monthly review of Rose Bay Police LAC Crime Statistics for Break and Enter	<p><b>Outputs:</b> Number of police patrols, number of burglaries reported, attended, criminals apprehended</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Reduced Home Burglary Rate Reduced % change in crime stats for Break and Enter in police monthly figures</p>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
6.3	<b>Increase natural surveillance</b>	Encourage Active watching by Neighbourhood Watch (NW) groups  Encourage Community members to use Crime Stoppers Hotline or Police Assistance Line (PAL)	Police: Support Neighbourhood Watch groups; Promote Crime Stoppers and PAL phone numbers  Community: Neighbourhood Watch Groups  Council: Community Safety Committee to receive regular updates on Neighbourhood Watch	Regular report on NW activities	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number of people active in NW activities</li> <li>▪ Time spent watching</li> <li>▪ Compiled reports on NW activities/successes</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduced Home Burglary Rates</li> <li>▪ Increase in number of reports made to Police;</li> <li>▪ Increase in number of arrests as result of NW reports</li> <li>▪ Increase in local use of Crime Stoppers and PAL</li> </ul>
6.4	<b>Target Hardening</b>	Community Education encouraging home security measures such as documenting of valuables, securing and engraving of possessions; installation of security alarms, door & window locks, sensor lighting	Police: provide safety audit and information on target hardening when visiting home burglary sites  Community & Council: Volunteers to distribute information through opportunities such as Operation Lighthouse stalls	Regular ongoing program of community education stalls, talks and presentations to variety of target groups	<b>Outputs:</b> Audience reached by community education; brochures distributed; geographical coverage/ hotspot focus  <b>Outcomes:</b> Increased numbers of Woollahra households with security installed, possessions engraved; sensor lighting Reduced Home Burglary Rate
6.5	<b>Prevent repeat home burglary victimisation</b>	Establish a pilot project on repeat victimisation	Police & Council	To be negotiated	Evaluate the effectiveness of pilot project

## Objective 6: Prevent Property Crime

## Target Group: Woollahra Businesses

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
6.6	<b>Community Education</b> to increase Formal surveillance Natural surveillance Target Hardening in commercial areas and business premises	Implement BIZ SAFE campaign with Chambers of Commerce in Double Bay, Rose Bay, Edgecliff, Queen St, Paddington	<b>Police &amp; Council</b> Support Biz Safe and similar initiatives, as required	Ongoing	<b>Outputs:</b> No of businesses participating in Biz Safe initiatives; No of businesses with good security measures installed; Track reported crimes in commercial areas  <b>Outcomes:</b> Reduced business property crime rate

## 5.7 Property Crimes – Motor Vehicles

### Objective 7: Reduce Motor Vehicle Theft & Theft From Motor Vehicles Target Group: Woollahra Residents & Commercial centres

	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
7.1	<b>Formal surveillance</b>	Directed patrols to hotspots  Police Specialist Operations investigating car rebirthing	Police	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> Allocation of police resources  <b>Outcomes:</b> Decline in motor vehicle theft rate
7.2	<b>Natural Surveillance</b>	Adhere to CPTED design of car parks and public parking areas  Carry out safety audits of public spaces, car parks as required	Council	<b>As required</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> No of safety audits conducted, changes made to improve lighting, design etc  <b>Outcomes:</b> decline in motor vehicle theft rate
7.3	<b>Target Hardening</b>	Erect signs asking car owners to secure their valuables at car parks, shopping centres, other places where this crime occurs	Regularly	<b>Regularly</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> Number of locations/signs erected  <b>Outcomes:</b> - reduction in steal from Motor vehicle offences

## 5.8 Property Crime – Malicious Damage - Graffiti

This section on malicious damage to property focuses on graffiti. Most malicious damage to property, such as broken windows or doors is associated with alcohol abuse, domestic violence or home break-ins and these are dealt with through other strategies (listed above). Graffiti is not usually reported to Police as it happens or at all, and it is underrepresented in the crime statistics on malicious damage in Woollahra.

However, many local residents are extremely annoyed by the occurrence of graffiti on their property, in their local shopping village and in public places throughout Woollahra. Residents do complain and report graffiti to Council's Customer Services staff. Council staff writes letters to property owners asking them to remove graffiti as rapidly and often as is necessary to deter the problem. These services are provided through contracted removal services. Residents who live on aged pension will be able to access the service for a less fee. Sometimes extra assistance can be organised to assist residents, by asking the Juvenile Justice Community Service Order team, (young people organised through the Attorney-General's Department) to help clean up difficult graffiti problems.

Council publishes information such as the Graffiti Directory to inform residents of removal processes, permanent surface protection and non-toxic products. Regular removal of graffiti from Council property imposes significant annual costs on Woollahra Council. Council engages contractors and its own technical services staff to deal with graffiti incidents. Council's Technical Services staff conduct an annual audit of graffiti in Woollahra, including that on Council's own property.

### Objective 8: Property Crime - Malicious damage - Graffiti

#### Target Group: Woollahra Residential & Business & Council Property

	Strategy	Action	Agent	Time frame	Evaluation:
8.1	<b>Formal surveillance</b>	Identify and Apprehend graffiti vandals  Map graffiti hotspots  Increase allocation of LAC resources to graffiti offender	Police: Increase Police patrols of youth zones/ badly hit sites  Council: Undertake graffiti hot spot audit with police, annually	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No. of "tags" collected and identified;</li> <li>▪ No. of graffiti vandals apprehended;</li> <li>▪ No. of graffiti reports responded to by Police;</li> <li>▪ No. of malicious damage reports related to graffiti</li> </ul>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
		apprehension as appropriate	Undertake audit of graffiti on its property, on a regular basis  Follow up audits on effectiveness of removal requests		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No. of graffiti audits undertaken annually</li> <li>▪ No. of successful removal requests: private, commercial, Public utilities, council properties.</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Increase in apprehension rates of serious graffiti offenders in local area</p>
8.2	<b>Natural surveillance</b>	Distribute Graffiti Directory/ Brochures inform community members of appropriate action & encourage local surveillance of neighbourhoods  Promote Council's Customer Service phone number for reporting Graffiti	Council: Oversee graffiti brochure production  Community, business, residents: Graffiti Volunteers group to distribute brochures to residents and commercial owners with affected properties when doing audits.	<b>Ongoing 2004:</b> Publication and distribution of Graffiti Brochure  <b>Ongoing promotion</b> of graffiti hotline (on updated customer services phone waiting message)	<p><b>Outputs:</b> No of calls to Graffiti Hotline at Council and Police re graffiti incidence No. of calls to Woollahra Council requesting information or brochures No. of brochures distributed No of property owners affected by graffiti on their property who are contacted and given information</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Reduction in incidence of graffiti within the municipality</p>
8.4	<b>Target Hardening</b>	Remove inducements to reoffend by Rapid, repeated graffiti removal by residents and all property owners  Non-sacrificial anti-	Community: Residents, businesses,  Council: protect own heritage sites from graffiti with regular removal program plus, anti-graffiti treatments	<b>Ongoing</b>	<p><b>Outputs:</b> No. of reports made to utilities No. of graffiti removals by private property owners from their property Time taken for graffiti to be removed from reported sites No. of sites graffiti proofed, eg green EA boxes, phone boxes, bus stops, signs.</p>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
		graffiti coatings for Council signs, other Authorities -	Request prompt removal from property owned by other authorities		Amount of time taken for graffiti removal; no. of repeat occurrences of graffiti in one location before problem fixed  <b>Outcomes:</b> Reduction in graffiti
8.5	<b>Involve young offenders (CSO) teams</b>	Rapid removal of graffiti, Especially bus stops, heritage bus shelters, and other infrastructure as agreed from time to time.	Council: Council to maintain liaison with the Juvenile Justice Community Service Order (CSO) teams to ensure clean /paint over specified bus stops  Community: Expand "Adopt a heritage bus stop" scheme	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> No of bus stops being cleaned regularly: by CSO team; by other community group Monitor speed of removal/ quality of work  <b>Outcomes:</b> Difficult graffiti issues resolved by voluntary assistance from CSO team or other community group
8.6	<b>Alternative outlets - workshops/ walls for young people</b>	Develop Deterrents/ alternative activities/ Youth programs  Investigate legal site, walls, pillars, green boxes, etc Seek funding annually  Explore digital graffiti projects for	Council: Create projects to provide diversionary opportunities for young people with aerosol art skills  Develop partnerships with schools, businesses,	<b>Ongoing:</b> Application to be made to A-G's Beat Graffiti Grants program, annually.  Create at least one legal mural/ wall/panels or	<b>Outputs:</b> No. of young people engaged in alternative aerosol art projects or workshops per annum; No. of legal sites identified and arranged No. of completed sites eg pillars No. of partnerships established No. of sponsorships secured  <b>Outcomes:</b> Reduce incidence of graffiti by

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
		young taggers  Explore joint projects with schools	Pursue sponsorship opportunities	similar project per annum.	individuals involved in diversionary activities
8.7	<b>Control access</b>	Limit access to spray cans at Hardware stores.	NSW Government legislation has been introduced to ban sale of spray cans to under 18's		<b>Output:</b> Monitor impact of ban on spray cans e.g. no of graffiti reports made to Council
8.8	<b>Raise awareness</b>  <b>Encourage community participation in clean up activities</b>	Participate in Clean Up Graffiti Day  Promote good media stories about Council or Community Clean up efforts  Work with business community, re graffiti strategies ie removal, legal walls	Council: Co-operate with other initiatives eg MP's Clean Up Graffiti day etc  Community: Graffiti clean up groups "flying squads" e.g. Darling Point, or precinct co-ordinators who regularly report graffiti, eg Paddington project	<b>Ongoing:</b>  Clean up days as initiated by others, local MP etc.  Regular graffiti removal activities by local "flying squad" groups  Regular reporting of local graffiti problems to Council by community/ residents	<b>Outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No. of volunteers /residents participating in local graffiti clean up squads</li> <li>▪ No. of articles in local paper about community graffiti removal efforts</li> <li>▪ Extent of community participation in Graffiti Clean Day</li> </ul> <b>Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Significant improvement in graffiti removal on the day</li> </ul>
8.9	<b>Graffiti Policy for Council</b>	Develop integrated Council policy re removal and other	Council: in consultation with Community	Fee for Service introduced for	<b>Output:</b> Policy adopted and enforced

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
		actions		removal of Graffiti in 2004	<b>Outcome:</b> Rapid removal response

## 5.9 Broader Safety Issues

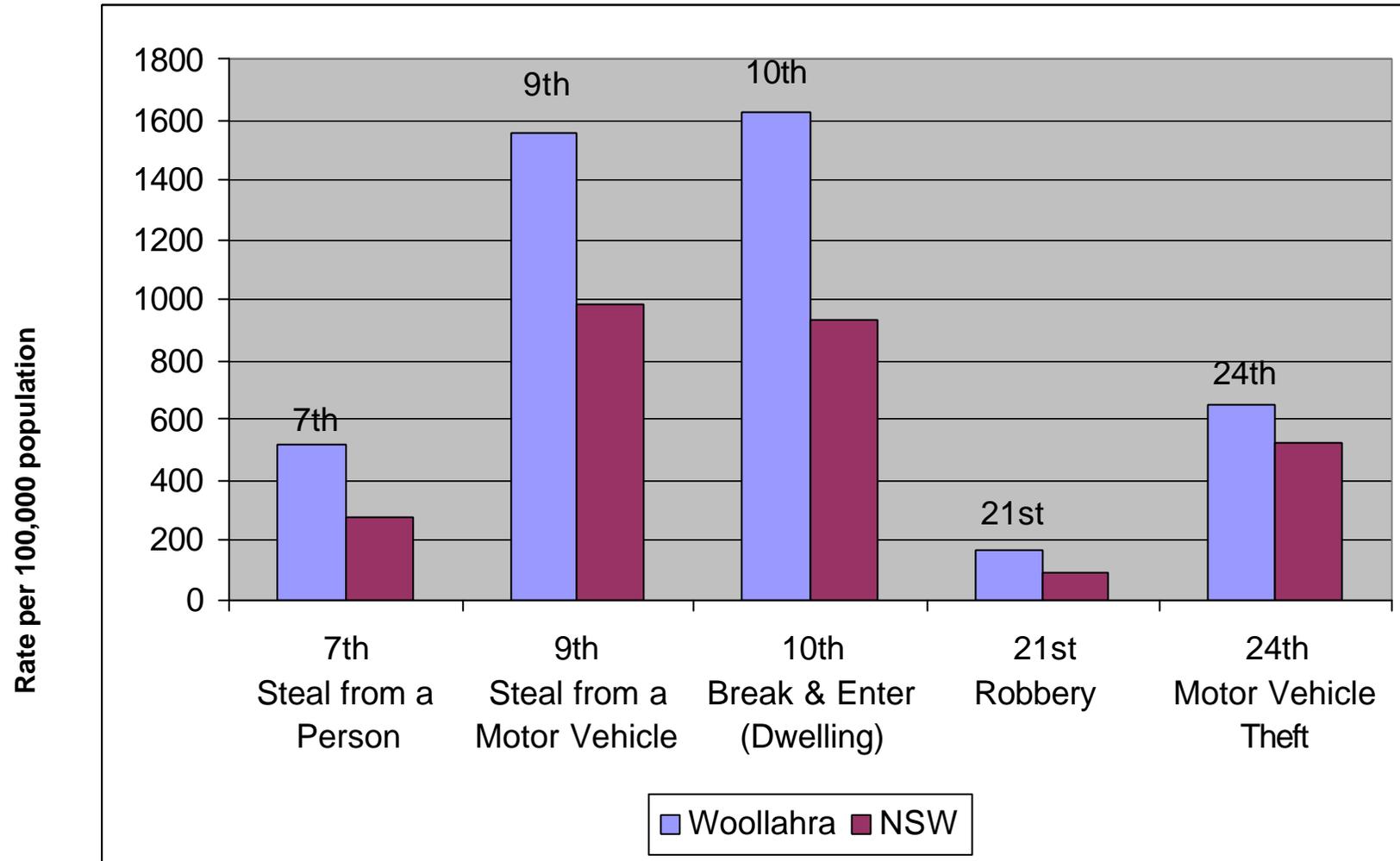
Objective 9: Broader safety issues

Target: Woollahra residents

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
9.1	<b>Fire Safety</b>	Consulting appropriate services <i>Eg: NSW Fire Brigade, Council risk management, etc.</i> Distribution fire safety tips and information through library, Council website and newsletters.	Council  NSW Fire brigade	<b>2005</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> Information materials prepared and distributed.  <b>Outcomes:</b> Residents aware about the fire safety tips. Increased number of fire alarm usage
9.2	<b>Safety from internet fraud</b>	Community education through libraries and Woollahra Council website.	Police  Council	<b>2005</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> Information materials prepared and distributed.  <b>Outcomes:</b> Residents aware about safety tips Reduced internet frauds in Woollahra
9.3	<b>Victim Support</b>	Community education on Victim's services (targeted at schools, women and older people) as a part of domestic violence prevention campaign. Information distributed through libraries	Council Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Scheme. Police DVLO Regional Violence Prevention Specialist	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Outputs:</b> Number of community education sessions delivered Information materials distributed  <b>Outcomes:</b> Residents aware about Victims support services Number of Woollahra residents supported by the services

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Evaluation:</b>
<b>9.4</b>	<b>Missing Persons</b>	Educating Woollahra residents to take precautions and report to Police. Providing information on support service (Eg: Red Cross, Salvation Army) through Council website	Council & Police	<b>Ongoing</b>	<p><b>Outputs:</b> Information links provided in the Council website</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Increased number of reporting to Police Increased number of locating missing people</p>
<b>9.5</b>	<b>Gay &amp; lesbian community</b>	Consulting local gay & lesbian residents and regional services  E.g.: ACON Providing education on violence prevention and reporting crimes. Safe relationships to combat homophobia in schools.	3.2.1.2 Council Gay & Lesbian Liaison Officer of Police Gay & Lesbian Policy Officer AG's Department ACON	<b>2005 -06</b>	<p><b>Outputs:</b> Education materials distributed Education sessions conducted</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Increased awareness amongst Gay &amp; Lesbian residents on safety issues and reporting crimes Increased number of reporting crimes</p>

## Top Crime 2003: Woollahra Vs NSW



## 7. Annexures

### Woollahra LGA Trends in Recorded Crime Statistics, 1999 to 2003

Offence category	Annual percentage change 2002 to 2003	Average annual percentage change 1999 to 2003
Murder*	N.A.	N.A.
Assault	Down by 19.8%	Stable
Sexual assault	N.A.	N.A.
Indecent assault, act of indecency and other sexual offences	N.A.	N.A.
Robbery without a weapon	Stable	Stable
Robbery with a firearm	N.A.	N.A.
Robbery with a weapon not a firearm	Stable	N.A.
Break and enter - dwelling	Down by 20.1%	Up by 5.6%
Break and enter - non-dwelling	Down by 33.0%	Stable
Motor vehicle theft	Down by 39.6%	Stable
Steal from motor vehicle	Down by 21.4%	Down by 8.8%
Steal from retail store	Stable	Up by 7.7%
Steal from dwelling	Down by 16.1%	Stable
Steal from person**	Stable	Not calculated
Fraud	Down by 10.4%	Up by 16.8%
Malicious damage to property	Down by 34.8%	Stable

This table shows the results of statistical tests for a significant upward or downward monthly trend in the number of criminal incidents \* recorded over 2 years and 5 years respectively, for selected offence categories. Where the trend is significant, the annual percentage change in the number of incidents is shown.

"N.A." indicates that the number of incidents recorded was too small for a reliable trend test to be performed.

\* For *murder*, the trend test is applied to the monthly number of recorded victims.

\*\* Due to a discontinuity in recording, the 5-year trend in the incidence of steal from person has not been calculated