



COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION: YOUTH

New Committee Research and Proposal

REQUEST

To form a Youth Sub-Committee for the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee.

PURPOSE

- Engage with young people in the community to identify issues relating to crime and safety
- Lead City of Kalamunda staff in the direction of new youth programs relating to safety and crime prevention
- Provide feedback on actions taken by the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee

RESEARCH

What is being done surrounding Youth/Crime Prevention in other local governments?

CITY OF KWINANA - Youth Team = 9 Staff

Youth Strategy

Key Priority 1.1 Educate and inform young people and their families about the impacts of bullying, anti-social behavior and violence in the community

Incorporated into youth services programs.

CITY OF MANDURAH - Youth Team = 4 Full Time Employees, 8 Casuals and 1 Trainee

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Strategy

1.2 - Identify and address risk and protective factors for young people in Mandurah.

Youth Alcohol Strategy

Youth surveys to identify the priority risk and protective factors (3 schools, once a year)

CITY OF CANNING - 5 Full Time Employees and 6 Casuals

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan

Provides a Youth Accommodation Service

1.8.4 Explore opportunities to deliver youth drug and alcohol education

3.3 Raise awareness and increase safety of children and youth

3.3.1 Partner with the Constable Care Child Safety Foundation (CCCSF) to deliver targeted, in-school and library education programs

3.4 Improve awareness of community safety and crime prevention within sporting clubs/community groups

3.5 Utilise existing community groups and forums to deliver community safety outcomes

SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY

Community Safety Plan

Increase the number of activities for young people through providing safe play spaces and partnering with others to deliver youth programs

CITY OF COCKBURN - Youth Team = 8 Full Time Employees & 6 Casuals

Community Safety and CCTV Strategy

Provide

a. Youth Outreach Service

b. Youth Diversion Program.

c. Bliss-co - youth outreach bus.

d. Cockburn Youth Centre activities

e. Family and Financial Support Services.

In partnership with the Department of Child Protection and Family Services support prevention programs that address long term crime and safety issues in the community

CURRENT RESTRAINTS

1. Time

Youth Services are currently working at capacity with only one FTE and one part time employee. Time required to deliver this new program on a regular basis is the first identified restraint.

2. Funding

Secondly, all the budget for Youth Services has been allocated to existing programs and events. Funding would need to be obtained from other sources – whether it be internally or externally.

COMPARISON - EXISTING COMMITTEE



YOUTH ACTION KALAMUNDA
Youth Advisory Committee for Youth Services

Youth Committee Structure:
Fortnightly meetings during the school term
Deliver one event per term
Application process to become a member

The Group are responsible for identifying key issues among young people, varying from mental health to arts, sports and safety. Each term the group vote on the biggest issue and create an event to address it.

Previous events have included:

- Tee or Tie for Black Dog – charity dance raising money for the Black Dog Institute.
- Sport and Art stalls at the Jump, Climb, Create Youth Week Festival
- Youth Movie Night – Johnny English Strikes Again
- Lifelong Resilience – this term's event addressing stress and mental health for students

PROPOSAL

Based on the research and meetings with WA Police and other departments, the following structure has been identified as most likely to produce the greatest outcome. Reasoning for these choices is outlined in the rationale.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Youth aged 9 – 15 –Early Intervention

Rather than trying to engage at-risk young people, who WAPOL work with closely, we should instead target a younger audience and direct them towards positive pathways and promote program engagement for when they move into secondary school.

STRUCTURE

One Open Youth Consultation Session

- Large volume and range of ideas from young people – compared with input from a smaller sub-committee. Will attract new attendees and perspectives at each session held.
- Low commitment required, so more appealing to target audience
- Send invitation to schools as well as community
(Target age group not exclusive, open session to all interested young people (U25s))

STRUCTURE (Cont.)

- Present the group with a range of ideas eg. Midnight Basketball, Dismantle, Skate Programs and get the group to choose which would best suit the community
- Identify categories eg. arts, sports and community organisations to ensure that all interest areas have an opportunity to participate

Plus, if desired, a small sub-committee (online only)

- An online, email youth group can be contacted regarding small questions that require a fast response
- If required, the group can also be invited to attend the regular Committee Meeting to discuss and provide feedback on youth-related items when they occur
- Attendees at the brainstorming sessions will have their emails added to a database and can elect to remain on a sub-committee for projects and participate in further consultation

FREQUENCY

Twice a year, or if deemed necessary, increased to once a school term.

LINK TO MAIN COMMITTEE

1 Councillor, 1 Community Member, Committee Chairperson to attend youth sessions and report outcomes back to the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee

STRUCTURE COMPARISON

Group Consultation Session

- ✓ Larger number & variety of attendees
- ✓ Short time period, large output of ideas and direction
- ✓ Less committment - more appealing
- ✗ Isolated feedback, unless contacted after workshop

Sub-committee

- ✗ Smaller group targeted - no more than 15
- ✗ Longer commitment period
- ✗ Potential lag in results from ideas to project roll out may lead to reduced engagement
- ✓ Ongoing feedback

*The negative identified by hosting a group consultation session can be mitigated by having the small, online sub-committee.

RATIONALE

Based on initial discussions of targeting at-risk youth in a regulated, ongoing sub-committee, it was agreed that initially attracting a group and maintaining the numbers and engagement would be difficult in this format. Instead, discussions lead to the next most influenceable age or demographic and early intervention was identified. This group was identified as comprising of students in Years 5 and 6, before they transition into high school and adolescence. They are likely to be engaged, willing to provide feedback and be lead in a more positive direction.

RATIONALE (Cont.)

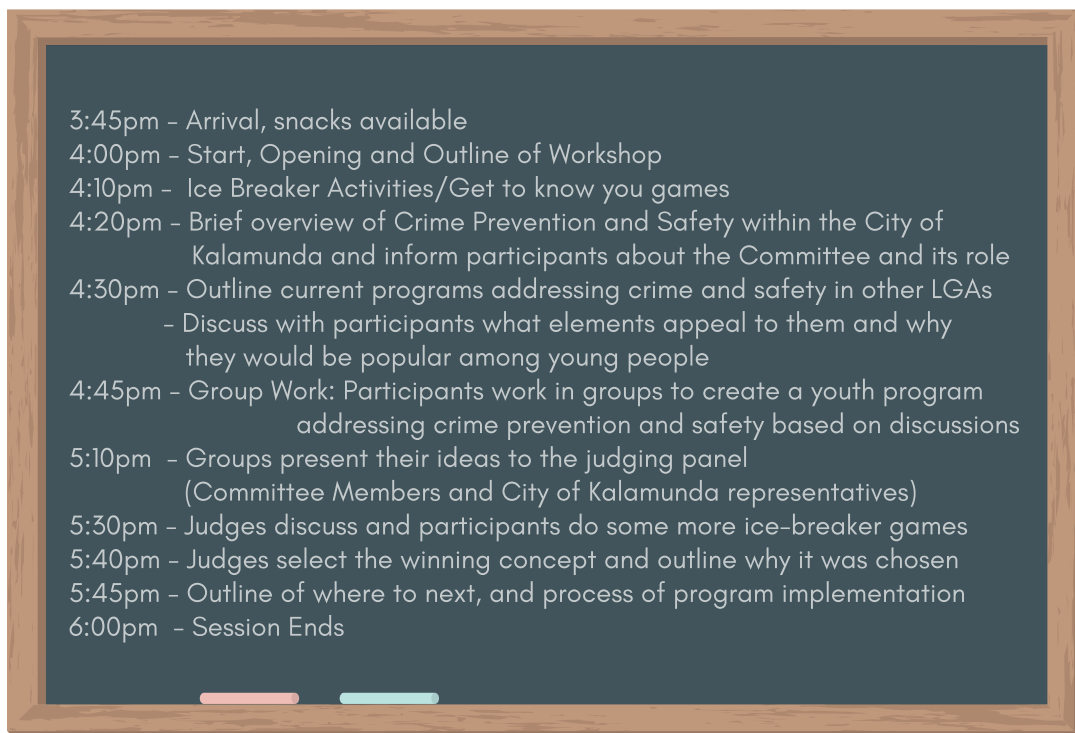
There was also focus made towards identifying new youth programs to implement that would address concerns surrounding crime prevention and safety. A group brainstorming session would suit these outcomes. This structure also works to the time restraints with Youth Services - a one-off session once a term is more achievable.

If a sub-committee is still desirable, it would be more efficient to present discussion items to the already existing youth advisory committee - YAK - to provide feedback. Alternatively, the email sub-committee group is a more effective and time-saving way to communicate with the highly engaged and interested young people about more detailed progress and/or questions.

CONSULTATION STRUCTURE AND BUDGET

WHEN

Early Term 1 (Mid February) 2020



Total Cost: \$2000

- Staffing: Coordination - 15 hours
- Preparation - 5 hours
- Delivery - 3 hours
- Speakers - 0.5 hours
- Evaluation - Conclusions Document 5 hours

Consumables, Materials and Catering:

Including afternoon tea, stationary, posters, pens/textas etc. for activities

