

# Safe and Secure Action Plan

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2018 to 2021

An action plan of the City of Kingston's Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021

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## Aboriginal Acknowledgement

The City of Kingston acknowledges the Kulin Nation as the custodians of the land on which the municipality is a part and pays its respect to their Elders past and present. Council is a member of the Inter Council Aboriginal Consultative Committee.

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# Introduction

Everyone has a right to feel safe and a responsibility to contribute toward a safer community. It is an essential factor of people’s health and wellbeing and their participation in community life. Kingston Council’s Safe and Secure Action Plan 2018-2021 outlines the strategic activities that Council will undertake to improve safety and security for the community.

Particular population groups are more at risk of poorer safety outcomes because of factors such as age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, isolation, disability, addiction, illness or a history of prior criminal offences. They may experience safety concerns that others in the community don’t, or be impacted more by safety concerns that affect all of us.

While Kingston is a relatively safe community ongoing work is required to maintain and improve local safety and perceptions of safety. Council is well placed to take a leading role in addressing safety and security due to its strong partnerships and collaborative approach in working with the community, community organisations and the State Government. Many activities implemented across Council have a positive impact on safety and security, these include: developing capacity of community groups; advocating on behalf of the community; building safe public spaces; enforcing safety regulations; and preparing Emergency Management Plans.

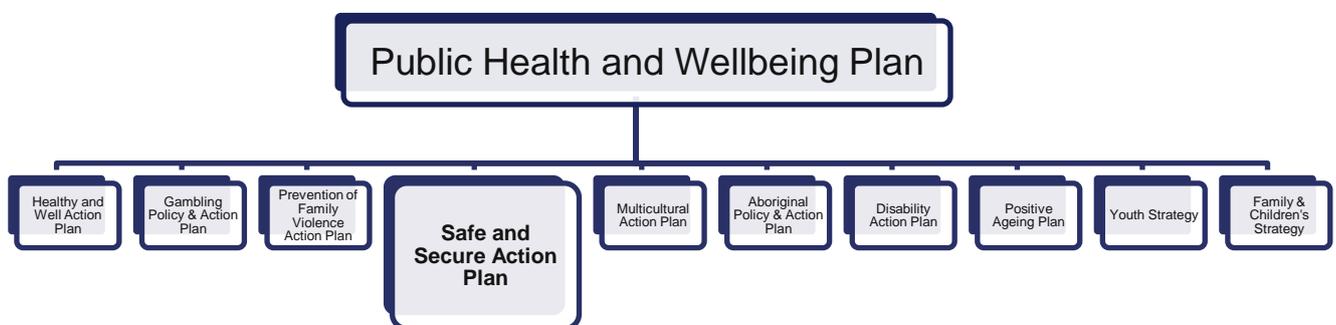
## Safe and Secure

GUIDED BY COUNCIL’S PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2017-2021

The Safe and Secure Action Plan will deliver the second priority of Kingston’s Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 (PHWP): A Safe and Secure Community. By doing so, it aims to improve safety and security, and perceptions of safety, and reduce the prevalence of family violence within Kingston. The combined outcomes of the actions will improve the health and wellbeing of the Kingston community.

The PHWP is an overarching strategic plan for addressing key health and wellbeing issues in Kingston. There is a range of action plans / strategies across Kingston Council that deliver the priorities of the PHWP 2017-2021, as shown below.

Figure 1: Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and its associated action plans / strategies



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## PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2017-2021: PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The PWHP 2017-2021 identifies priorities, objectives and performance measures as a strategic overarching direction for Council. These encompass a range of factors in our community and Council work that can impact on people's health and wellbeing. The priorities and objectives are outlined below.

### Priority 1: A healthy and well community

- Objective 1.1. Increase participation in physical activity
- Objective 1.2. Increase healthy eating habits
- Objective 1.3. Improve mental wellbeing
- Objective 1.4. Reduce harm from consumption of alcohol and other drugs, smoking and gambling
- Objective 1.5. Increase immunisation rates

### Priority 2: A safe and secure community

Relates to this Action Plan

- Objective 2.1. Improve community safety
- Objective 2.2. Improve perceptions of safety
- Objective 2.3. Reduce the prevalence of family violence

### Priority 3: A connected community that participates

- Objective 3.1. Increase participation in community activities and volunteering; and reduce social isolation
- Objective 3.2. Improve social cohesion
- Objective 3.3. Ensure facilities, services and open spaces are accessible to everyone, and equitably developed and provided

### Priority 4: A liveable community

- Objective 4.1. Improve environmental resilience and sustainability
- Objective 4.2. Increase the availability of affordable housing
- Objective 4.3. Increase participation in the workforce and local economy
- Objective 4.4. Increase participation in learning and education

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# Actions

## Priority 2. A safe and secure community

Each objective notes the current Council initiatives that contribute towards creating a safe and secure community and lists new initiatives to be implemented as part of this action plan.

### Objective 2.1. Improve community safety

A safe community is resilient and is organised to respond to and prevent safety concerns. Council plays a coordination role in assisting Police and emergency services, sending key safety messages to the Kingston community, enforcing local laws, preparing for the management and recovery from emergencies, and working with the community to design and maintain safe public spaces.

#### Current Council Initiatives

- Partner with Victoria Police to:
  - plan for safer environments and conduct safety audits in Kingston
  - educate the Kingston community about personal, home, vehicle and business safety
  - respond to safety concerns in Kingston
- Adhere to all Emergency Management legislative requirements
- Facilitate municipal planning to respond and recover from emergencies
- Maintain and promote foreshore Emergency Markers throughout Kingston
- Educate the Kingston community about compliance with local laws
- Develop and implement road safety education strategies and plans in partnership
- Assist the Country Fire Authority and Municipal Fire Brigade to promote the checking of smoke alarms at the end of each fire season (April)
- Comply with Children's Safety Standards
- Promote Community Safety Month in Kingston
- Facilitate an advisory group to inform and plan for a Safe and Secure Kingston

## New Council Initiatives

We will	Council role	Lead Council Team	Timeframe
2.1.1 Support Emergency Services in the delivery of safe community initiatives and events in Kingston.	Partnership	Social Development	Year 1
2.1.2 Develop a yearly promotional calendar to communicate safety related messages to the Kingston community.	Promotion	Social Development	Year 1

## Objective 2.2. Improve perceptions of safety

Perceived levels of safety (how people feel about their safety) can have a real impact on actual safety. For example, if an area is avoided due to poor perceptions of safety, the area may become a haven for anti-social and criminal activity. Perceptions of safety can also limit people's participation in activities that would make the community safer and build their personal resilience. Council works to design and maintain public spaces that feel safe and inviting.

## Current Council Initiatives

- Promote reporting of graffiti in Kingston to assist Police identification of offenders
- Incorporate safer design principles into the design of public spaces in Kingston
- Consult relevant stakeholders and the Kingston community in the design of public spaces
- Enforce local laws on illegal dumping in Kingston

## New Council Initiatives

We will	Council role	Lead Council Team	Timeframe
2.2.1 Develop a data profile of local areas to identify areas of greater concern and vulnerability; and develop plans to respond to identified areas.	Research and Planning	Social Development	2018-2018/2019
2.2.2 Improve recording mechanisms for graffiti.	Data Collection	Community Buildings	2018
2.2.3 Develop and implement Council's graffiti management procedures.	Planning and Implementation	Community Buildings	2018

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## Background information

### Legislative and policy context

The Safe and Secure Action Plan was developed with regard to the national and state plans, strategies, frameworks and guidelines listed below:

#### NATIONAL

- [National Crime Prevention Framework](#)

#### STATE

- [Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015-2019](#) - Priority Area 5: Preventing violence and injury
- [Community Crime Prevention Framework](#)
- [Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria](#)
- [Absolutely everyone: State disability plan 2017 to 2020](#) and the Victorian disability abuse prevention strategy (in development)

### Data and demographic profile

Collation and analysis of data and demographics from a variety of sources such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics, VicHealth and the Crime Statistics Agency Victoria informs the development of the PHWP and Safe and Secure Action Plan.

This is presented in the City of Kingston Health and Wellbeing Profile and is available on Kingston Council's website: [www.kingston.vic.gov.au](http://www.kingston.vic.gov.au)

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## How we developed this action plan

The actions and partnerships detailed in this action plan were identified within the development process for the PHWP 2017-2021. Data and information was gathered during this process to inform the development of the PHWP and its action plans. The process involved an analysis of relevant data and demographic information, policy and legislative contexts and stakeholder and community consultation.

### DATA AND LITERATURE

- Evaluation of Council's previous Community Safety Strategies
- Review and analysis of state and federal policies and literature
- Collation and analysis of health and demographic data from a variety of government sources such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics, VicHealth and the Crime Statistics Agency Victoria

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Kingston Council's 2016 Health and Wellbeing Survey, which provided a representative sample of Kingston's residents and their views on health, wellbeing and safety in Kingston
- Discussions with internal Council staff to identify opportunities to improve health and safety through Council's services
- Consultation with key stakeholders and the community to gather local health and safety knowledge.

### REPORTS

The following reports are available on Council's website ([www.kingston.vic.gov.au](http://www.kingston.vic.gov.au)):

- Health and Wellbeing Profile, City of Kingston Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021
- 2016 Health and Wellbeing Survey, September 2016
- Community Engagement Report, City of Kingston Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021

### FEEDBACK

Feedback on the draft Safe and Secure Action Plan was sought between 20 November - 15th December 2017.

### ADOPTION

The Safe and Secure Action Plan delivers the objectives of Council's Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021, which was adopted by Council on Monday 25 September 2017.

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## How we will implement this action plan

This action plan outlines details about what Council commits to doing to improve safety outcomes for the community. Each action lists what will be done, which team in Council will lead the initiative, and the timeline for its implementation.

The Social Development Team will oversee the development and coordination of this action plan and support and guide other teams with their actions. Working collaboratively within Council and with external organisations and with the community is an important aspect of implementing the identified actions.

## How we will monitor this action plan

Yearly tracking and reporting of the outcomes of this action plan will be undertaken. This will provide short term feedback about the successes and challenges of this action plan, shaping the next year's action plan and tracking how Council is progressing in achieving its safe and secure objectives of the PHWP.

Council will develop a new system for collating the short term outcomes related to the action plans as a part of the PHWP 2017-2021. This will provide a standard process for all teams across Council working in the health and wellbeing space and a central location for the collation of health and wellbeing outcomes data. Council will then have a comprehensive overview of how we are helping our community to be healthy and well in the short and long term.

Outcome reports will be presented to Council and posted on the Kingston website:

- Yearly – reviewing the outcomes of this action plan and their impact on the short term measures
- Four yearly – reviewing the outcomes of all health and wellbeing work across Council and its impact on the long term measures of the PHWP objectives



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