

CCSP 18 Safer Communities Policy



April 2015

This policy was adopted by Council to set governing principles in place that align the strategic direction of the organisation with Goal 2: Welcoming and Inclusive Communities of the Community Strategic Plan 2033: The Shire of Augusta Margaret River is committed to providing a safe and welcoming place for residents and visitors.

Objectives

The purpose of this policy is to set the strategic direction and overarching framework for the Shire of Augusta Margaret River to enhance and maintain a safer community through:

- Targeted partnerships, design, engagement and intervention strategies that preserve the sense of safety already experienced by the community as well minimise opportunities for people to be harmed.
- Alignment of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River policy with relevant Federal, State, Regional and local policies and plans.

Community safety in the context of this Policy comprises the key elements of:

- Injury prevention (intentional and unintentional) and safer activities;
- Crime Prevention;
- Emergency Management.

Core attributes of the model include:

- Community infrastructure and leadership
- Community participation and engagement
- Program sustainability and administration capacity
- Program range
- Priority populations
- Program evaluation

Policy

In seeking to achieve the above objectives the Shire is committed to implementing the following strategies:

- Investing in partnerships with government, relevant organisations and community to maintain the existing sense of safety experienced by residents and visitors as well as work to address any issues that affect real or perceived community safety.
- Implementing programs that engage youth and the wider community in activities that promote good mental health
- Investigating the feasibility of engaging contractors to deliver education and awareness raising programs on reducing domestic and sexual violence
- Promoting safety in the water, particularly in relation to shark response and community awareness around coastal risks
- Facilitating community safety through community connectedness and ownership
- Implementing an Environmental Health Services Activity Plan
- Providing activities for youth and seniors that promote safe practices
- Implementing programs and education strategies around animal control, firebreak, abandoned vehicles and firebreak management to keep public places safer
- Implementing asset management and education strategies to keep roads and pathways safer
- Working with local police and other stakeholders to prevent and reduce crime through surveillance, education, engagement and environmental design
- Building strong partnerships and developing and testing procedures to ensure emergency management arrangements and responses are robust and effective
- Supporting community in developing household emergency plans
- Monitoring, evaluating and updating community safety initiatives and strategies.

Application

Responsibility for the implementation of this policy rests with the Chief Executive Officer and Directors and is to inform all strategies and plans of the Shire. The Policy is to be reviewed every three years.

Definitions	
Community	A specific geographical area, professional associations, a group with common interest, or even individuals who provide services to a specific location (Australian Safe Communities Foundation 2012).
Related Policies	Asset Management Bushfire Risk Bushfire Volunteer Services

	<p>Sub division and Development in Bushfire Prone Areas</p> <p>Strengthening Youth</p> <p>Works on Public Land</p>
Related Procedures	Rangers Procedure Manual
Related Documents	<p>Asset Management Plan</p> <p>Corporate Plan 2014-2018</p> <p>DFES / Shire MOU 2014-2017</p> <p>Emergency Contacts and resource List</p> <p>Emergency Management Arrangements</p> <p>Environmental and Health Services Activity Plan</p> <p>Evacuation Plan</p> <p>Recovery Plan</p> <p>Safer Communities Plan 2014 - 2018</p> <p>Strengthening Youth Plan 2014-2018</p> <p>Welfare Plan (Shire / Department for Child Protection and Family Support)</p>
Legislation	<p><i>Bush Fire Act 1954</i></p> <p><i>Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995</i></p> <p><i>Cat Act 2011</i></p> <p><i>Control of Vehicles (Off Road Areas) Act 1978</i></p> <p><i>Dog Act 1976</i></p> <p><i>Emergency Management Act 2005</i></p> <p><i>Health Act 1911</i></p> <p><i>Litter Act 1979</i></p> <p><i>Section 450 Local Government Act 1960</i></p> <p><i>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960</i></p> <p><i>Shire of Augusta Margaret River Local Laws</i></p>

Document and version control table

Strategic outcome	Goal 2: Welcoming and Inclusive Communities	
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1.1	08/03/2018	Update to new template