



HUME CITY COUNCIL
**INTERNATIONAL
SAFE COMMUNITY**

**REPORTING ON FIVE YEARS
OF PROGRESS: 2007-2011**

**RE-DESIGNATION
REPORT FEBRUARY 2012**

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INTRODUCTION

Hume City was proud to be designated as an International Safe Community in February 1996. Hume City is the fourth longest serving member of the Network of Safe Communities, and the longest serving member outside of Sweden where the network was founded in 1989.

As part of the accreditation process that occurred in 2006, an agreement was signed by representatives of Hume City Council, the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion and Monash University Accident Research Centre. The agreement was to:

‘Implement an ongoing program of injury control. This initiative will cover the whole community including people in all age groups, all environments and all situations, the parties agree to document and evaluate their efforts and to actively spread their experiences nationally and internationally’.

PURPOSE

This report provides a snapshot of the community safety activities that have taken place in Hume City in the five years since reaccreditation in 2006. The report provides evidence of Hume City Council's commitment to community safety for:

- The World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Health Promotion (Australian Safe Communities Foundation) to assist them to assess Hume City's application for re-designation as an International Safe Community;
- The Hume City Council and the Social Justice and Safe City Taskforce; and
- Hume City community, for whom Council has instigated a broad range of projects and activities that aim to increase and enhance community safety.

A framed copy of the Accreditation has been on display at Hume City Council's head office in Broadmeadows. Since February 1996, Hume City Council has developed and facilitated many proactive programs that enable the community and Council to pursue safer city outcomes:

- Council developed and implemented an Integrated Health, Safety and Crime Prevention Framework, for which Council was thrilled to receive the Gold Award for Excellence and Innovation at the Victorian Community Safety and Crime Prevention Awards in 2000.
- Along with key community stakeholders, Council established the Safe City Taskforce in 1991 (now the Hume Social Justice and Safe City Taskforce). The Taskforce has been instrumental in ensuring a comprehensive approach to addressing the impacts of disadvantage on vulnerable groups and the subsequent effect on community safety outcomes.
- In 2001 Council developed the award-winning Hume Global Learning Village, an innovative partnership that links learning providers from across Hume City. To bring about a cohesive approach to lifelong learning for the community, Council constructed the Hume Global Learning Centre and the first library for Broadmeadows, The Age Library, as well as the Visy Cares Learning Centre in one of the more vulnerable communities of Hume City.
- Responding to crucial issues of safety for children, Council developed a health promotion resource for Victoria, a Guide to Baby Safety, which comprehensively addresses the rates of injury in the early years. The quality and effectiveness of this product was recognised at a national level in 2005, with the National Local Government Awards Health Services Category.
- Council demonstrated its strong commitment to human rights by developing the Hume Social Justice Charter in 2001, followed by the development in 2005 of the first ever Bill of Rights to be adopted by any Australian Government body. The Social Justice Charter and Citizens' Bill of Rights embed Council's approach to equality, dignity and social inclusion and guide the development of community safety activities.

- In 2006, ten years after it was first accredited, Council received reaccreditation as an International Safe Community.
- As a further demonstration of commitment to safety, Council developed Hume City Council Community Safety Strategy 2009-2013, which complements the work of other agencies and sectors of the community involved in enhancing community safety.
- Council's Let's Connect Program received the 2007 Child Friendly Community Award from the National Association for the Prevention of Child Violence.
- Two innovative early years projects that respond to issues and concerns faced by vulnerable families received Early Years Awards Highly Commended Awards. Babies in Hume won in 2008 and Boorais in Hume (for Indigenous families) won in 2011.
- Council's Project Mobile GIS Application on CD ROM/DVD for Emergency Management at Hume City Council was a finalist in the 2008 Victorian Spatial Excellence Award in the People and Community category.
- The Road Safety Education provided by Council staff at Dawson Street Preschool received the Starting Out Safety Award 2011 from VicRoads.
- Hume City Council facilitates and supports a range of activities during Community Safety Month, which give residents the opportunity to enhance their knowledge around safety and participate in activities designed to increase understanding of their role in community safety.
- Council and more than ten community and state emergency services in the Craigieburn Community Renewal area facilitated the inaugural Community Safety Expo, which introduced residents to a range of information and support aimed at increasing perception of safety in their community.
- Council played an integral role in the 2011 Northern Region Collaboration Project, which brought together high level emergency management staff from seven councils in the northern metropolitan region. Activities included signing of an MOU to indicate shared responsibilities in the event of a significant emergency in the northern region, as well as joint training across all seven councils in the shared management of Emergency Relief Centres.
- Council developed a range of projects and plans, based on relevant research and community consultation, across areas such as public health, road safety, childhood injury, drug and alcohol and social justice.

HUME CITY: A Profile

Hume City is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of the centre of Melbourne. Hume City's population is continuing to experience significant growth. In the ten years from 2000 to 2010, Hume City experienced an average annual growth rate of 2.7 percent making it one of the fastest and largest growth municipalities in Melbourne⁸. With a population of 175,002⁹ in 2011, growth continues to occur rapidly around the population centres of Sunbury and Craigieburn. In comparison to metropolitan Melbourne, Hume City residents are relatively young in age and the City has a higher proportion of 'family households' than the Melbourne metropolitan average¹⁰.

Land use within the municipality is diverse and includes established and recently developed residential areas, industry, vast rural areas, and areas committed for future urban growth.

With 29.3 percent of Hume City residents born overseas, the City has an extensive range of experiences and cultures to draw upon. Turkey, Iraq, United Kingdom, Italy, Lebanon, New Zealand, Philippines, Sri Lanka, India and Malta make up the top ten countries of over 145 countries of birth and 36.2 percent residents speak a language other than English at home¹¹.

Hume is the fourth most disadvantaged Local Government Authority in Metropolitan Melbourne according to the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)¹². With many low income families and a high proportion of residents who either are untrained or work in unskilled occupations, Hume City's demographic profile shapes Council's approach to social justice. Since 2001 Council has actively demonstrated its commitment to social justice with a view to advancing a fair and just society, promoting respect for every citizen, encouraging community participation, strengthening community wellbeing and reducing causes of disadvantage.

8 Australian Bureau of Statistics *Regional Population Growth, Australia, Cat No. 3218.0*

9 *id* Consultants, *Hume Population Forecasts*

10 ABS, *2006 Census of Population and Housing*

11 *ibid*

12 ABS, *2006 Census of Population and Housing Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas*

Community Indicators Victoria (CIV) demonstrates Hume City is below the Victorian average for perceptions of safety. In 2007, 93.1 percent of Hume residents felt safe during the day and 58.4 percent at night time, compared to 96 percent and 66.5 percent respectively in the broader Victorian community¹³ .

Hume is slightly below average for reported offences against the person across Victoria (3 percent). In Hume there were 798 reported offences per 100,000 people in 2006-07, compared with 822 per 100,000 for the whole of Victoria. Property crime in Hume is slightly above the state average, with 5,762 offences per 100,000, compared with 5,482 per 100,000 in Victoria¹⁴.

There is an apparent inconsistency between the community's perception of safety and the recorded statistics; this negative perception has an impact on rates of community participation, inclusion, health and wellbeing. Through a range of initiatives Council, along with its partners, aims to address poor perceptions of safety, increase community understanding of what causes some people to feel unsafe, and address and mitigate against the socio-environmental factors that lead to criminal, antisocial or destructive behaviours.

¹³ *Community Indicators Victoria (2009) Hume Wellbeing Report, Jade Press Academic Content Management, http://www.communityindicators.net.au/wellbeing_reports/hume*

¹⁴ *ibid*

SAFE COMMUNITY INDICATORS

The International Safe Community Designation is achieved through the satisfactory meeting of key indicators. The following six indicators for Safe Communities were adopted by the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion in 2002. Council has embedded these six indicators in its Community Safety Strategy in order to integrate the actions required to achieve its vision of a Safe Community and respond to the obligations of International Safe Community re-designation.

The six indicators of a Safe Community are:

1. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community;
2. Long-term, sustainable programs covering both genders and all ages, environments, and situations;
3. Programs that target high-risk groups and environments, and programs that promote safety for vulnerable groups;
4. Programs that document the frequency and causes of injuries;
5. Evaluation measures to assess their programs, processes and the effects of change; and
6. Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks.

The following report demonstrates Hume City Council's commitment to the designation and seeks to apply for continued membership of the International Safe Communities Network by reporting on activities undertaken that meet the above indicators.

Indicator 1:

An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community.

Hume City Council Community Safety Strategy 2009-2013

Hume City Council's vision for a Safe Community through the Community Safety Strategy is: *'to be an active harmonious safe city where everyone who lives, works or visits participates responsibly without fear or risk of injury'*.

The Community Safety Strategy (CSS) 2009-2013 was developed to assist Council and its partners to enhance safety and perceptions of safety, reduce crime and coordinate community actions to increase actual and perceived safety in all public places as outlined in the Hume City Plan 2030.

Within the CSS, the Community Safety Framework outlines the strategic approach Council is taking toward community safety throughout the municipality. Key areas of safety that have been identified include: Child and Young People's Safety, Family Violence and Women's Safety, Crime Prevention and Urban Design, Safety of Priority Groups and Transport Safety. These five areas of safety are modelled on, and informed by, prominent community safety issues, and social determinants of health, and are evidence-based and aligned with current state and national health and safety priorities.

The CSS is underpinned by Hume City Council's Social Justice Charter (2007) which aims to create equal rights, reduce economic and social inequality and lead to improved health and wellbeing. It complements a number of municipal strategies such as the *Family and Children's Plan for Hume City 2008-2013*, the *Road Safety Action Plan 2009-2012*, *Hume Youth Strategy 2011-2014*, *Graffiti Management Strategy 2008-2011*, *Craigieburn Community Renewal Local Action Plan*, *Walking and Cycling Strategy 2010-2015* and the *Gambling and Alcohol Policies* (currently under development). The *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2009-2013* also considers and responds to social determinants of health and has similar strategic objectives as the CSS to improve the wellbeing and the health of residents.

Hume Social Justice and Safe City Taskforce

The Hume Safe City Taskforce was established by Hume City Council in 1999 as a high level inter-agency group to strategically identify, develop and implement initiatives under the Integrated Health, Safety and Crime Prevention Framework. After broadening its focus to incorporate social justice issues, the Taskforce changed its name to the Hume Social Justice and Safe City Taskforce in 2001 to reflect the increase in scope.

The Taskforce continues to be a key driver of major social justice and safety initiatives in Hume City and has a very significant record of achievement. The Taskforce developed the Charter and Statement of Priorities to demonstrate the Taskforce members' commitment to reviewing its actions and priorities to enable Hume City to be a safe and socially just community.

The Taskforce meets up to five times a year to exchange information and provide strategic advice and direction on justice, safety and crime prevention. At each meeting, the commitment by the members is evident. The membership includes high level representation from a range of Local and State Government departments, key health services, local businesses and the community. The Taskforce regularly reviews membership to ensure that the community and its needs are adequately represented in the Taskforce.

Current membership includes:

- Portfolio Councillors
- Chief Executive Officer, Hume City Council
- Director City Communities, Hume City Council
- Victorian Department of Human Services
- Victorian Department of Education and Training
- Victoria Police
- Centrelink
- Correctional Services
- Kangan Institute
- Hume Whittlesea Local Learning and Employment Network
- Sunbury Community Health
- Dianella Community Health
- Broadmeadows Health Service
- Community Languages Australia
- Broadmeadows Magistrates Court

- Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Ford Australia
- Mental Health Service
- Brite Industries
- Broadmeadows Disability Service
- Broadmeadows Town Centre

During 2009 the Taskforce set out six priority areas for the next four years, which are aligned with the CSS to ensure greater cohesion across the municipality. The six priority areas were identified as critical to the future wellbeing of the residents and visitors in Hume City. They are:

- Family violence and women's safety
- Social inclusion
- Skills and local employment
- Services for young people
- Services in growth areas
- Road safety

Key Achievements of the Taskforce

Since its inception nearly thirteen years ago, the Taskforce has played a major role in the development and implementation of many projects around the municipality. The list of achievements continues to grow, including:

- Establishing the Hume Global Learning Village Advisory Board and the Hume Global Learning Village;
- Developing and implementing the Hume Road Safety Strategic Plan;
- Creating the Hume Whittlesea Learning and Employment Network;
- Developing the Hume Youth Assistance and Referral Team, a youth diversionary program for young people at risk;
- Promoting Hume City's approach and commitment to social inclusion to attract funding for programs and facilities such as a new Hume Global Learning Centre –Craigieburn; and
- Developing the *Hume City Council Community Safety Strategy 2009 – 2013*.

Multi-disciplinary Teams

Taking a holistic approach to community safety through addressing the social determinants of health, Council has developed a range of multi-disciplinary teams that meet on a range of themes. Some of these teams have met for a defined period of time to assist with a particular project, others are ongoing and meet regularly to monitor and support actions in their area, and a small number of teams which originated under the Taskforce have now developed to the extent that they report to Council through channels other than the Taskforce.

Table 1 outlines a range of different teams, projects and initiatives that have been established and delivered during the past five years across Hume City. There is great diversity in the range of safety themes and models of delivery.

Table 1 Community Safety Teams and Projects

Key Area of Safety	Committees and Stakeholder Groups	Examples of strategies, projects and events	Details
Children and Young People's Safety	Maternal and Child Health	Babies in Hume	The Babies in Hume Program is a fun, interactive support and education program for all residents with new babies
	Council and Youth Services	Street Art	As outlined in Council's Graffiti Management Strategy, the Street Art program offers young people the opportunity to participate in a 12 – 15 week program that outlines the issues in relation to illegal graffiti, the law and the consequences associated with it.
	Youth Services	Project HAVEY	Project HAVEY is a mentoring program for young people aged 12 - 17 who live in Hume City. It aims to build resilience and promotes inclusive and safe communities for young people.
	Marketing and Communications	Larry and Lola	This innovative, fun booklet gives primary school children a new way of thinking about responsible pet ownership and provides a range of learning opportunities for how to look after their pets. It is filled with activities that encourage learning through fun and creative interaction. Once children have completed all the activities within the booklet they can apply to become a Hume Junior City Laws Ranger and receive a certificate from Hume City Council.
Family Violence and Women's Safety	Maternal and Child Health	Boorais in Hume	The Boorais in Hume Program is a fun, supportive and culturally-safe education program for Indigenous families in Hume. It provides a safe space for new parents and their children to link up with and learn from Council early years staff and with local Indigenous community elders.
		Hume White Ribbon Action Team	In 2010, a team of 21 male Council Officers and 10 female Council Officers was established to promote the White Ribbon campaign in Hume, with the aim of raising awareness and reducing the incidence of family violence in the municipality.
	White Ribbon	Hume White Ribbon Action Team Strategy	The Strategy identifies four clear aims to promote the White Ribbon message and assist in reducing the incidence of domestic and family violence through raising awareness of the issue.
		White Ribbon Day Events	The White Ribbon Action Team coordinates a White Ribbon event on the 25th November each year to promote the message. Each year, the events have encouraged greater community participation through the innovative and engaging activities, including a group yell of the word 'NO', which broke a Guinness World Record, and the forming of a huge human white ribbon in a central location in Hume City.
Family Violence and Women's Safety	Northern Region Preventing Violence Against Women Working Group	Northern Metro Region White Ribbon Leaders Lunch	Council has actively supported this event, which rotates between seven northern metro region Councils to promote the White Ribbon message to Council executives and staff.
		Hume Family and Domestic Violence Network	Facilitated by the Broadmeadows Community Legal Service, this group meets monthly to discuss the delivery of prevention programs across Hume.
	Family and Domestic Violence Networks	Sunbury Family and Domestic Violence Network	Facilitated by the Sunbury Community Health Service, the group meetings monthly to discuss the delivery of prevention programs in Sunbury.

Table 1 Community Safety Teams and Projects (cont'd)

Key Area of Safety	Committees and Stakeholder Groups	Examples of strategies, projects and events	Details
Crime Prevention and Urban Design	Banksia Gardens Community Connections	Steering Committee	Meeting monthly, the Steering Committee meets to discuss both positive and negative issues that are affecting the Banksia Garden Estate and generate possible solutions, especially in relation to personal and community safety. Other stakeholders include State Government, local health and community services.
	Sunbury Liquor Accord	Quarterly meeting with traders and Victoria Police	Coordinated by Victoria Police, local traders, Council and Liquor Licensing Victoria, this group meets regularly to discuss strategies for addressing alcohol-related issues in Sunbury.
	Hume Transport Links	Steering Committee Craigieburn Community Transport Service	The committee meets regularly to discuss the delivery of the Hume Transport Links Action Plan. The Craigieburn Community Transport Service is available for residents of Craigieburn who experience transport difficulties.
	Hume Interfaith Network	'One Community, Many Faiths' and 'One Community, Many Cultures' conferences	These conferences provide a forum for respectful inter-cultural dialogue and reflection on common issues, including religion, international conflicts and natural disasters.
Muslim Community Liaison Meeting	Regular stakeholder meetings	This network of Muslim Leaders, Victoria Police and Council Officers meets to discuss issues affecting the local Muslim community and develop approaches to address these community concerns.	
Disability Issues Group (previously Disability Action Team)	Disability Action Plan	This local advisory and advocacy group includes local residents with disabilities and other key disability advocacy agencies, and meets regularly to identify issues faced by people with disabilities in the Hume community. The group is instrumental in developing Council's Disability Action Plan (currently under development), which provides a comprehensive guide for Council activities that seek to reduce disadvantage.	

Table 1 Community Safety Teams and Projects (cont'd)

Key Area of Safety	Committees and Stakeholder Groups	Examples of strategies, projects and events	Details
Transport Safety	Road Safety multi-agency team	Development of the Hume Road Safety Action Plan 2009 - 2012	The Action Plan sets out a comprehensive, integrated approach to road safety, in partnership with key agencies including VicRoads, Victoria Police and North West 4 (formally Road Safe North West).
		Walking School Bus	Funded by VicHealth, children walk to school in groups and are supervised by local volunteers. Council's aim is to support the program in a range of ways including recruiting schools and families to participate in the program. The program offers healthy exercise for children, safe routes to school, and reduces traffic hazards and congestion around schools.
		50 kph promotion	Council supports the implementation in Hume City of the state-wide 50 kph speed limit in local streets, through the use of speed tailers, wheelie bin stickers and pavement markings.
		Road Safety Partnership Program (formally the Road Safety Grants Program)	Partnerships with local secondary and specialist schools deliver a range of road safety initiatives including the Fit to Drive program and Keys Please, aimed at young people who will soon be drivers.
		Participation in North West 4	This newly established partnership was developed in 2011 to drive and implement a range of road safety actions. The partnership covers the municipalities of Hume, Moonee Valley, Moreland and Darebin. Council staff previously participated in Road Safe North West until the partnership ended.
		L2P Program	This is a VicRoads funding program that Council has supported for a number of years. Disadvantaged learner drivers are partnered with fully licenced volunteer mentor drivers to gain the required 120 hour of driving experience on the road.
		Operation Bounce Back	This is a joint partnership program between Council, Victoria Police and the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council, which provides 100 free immobiliser and installation vouchers to residents who own vehicles built in 1993 or older.
Community Car Education Program	This is a joint partnership with Council, Victorian Department of Justice, Consumer Affairs, Broadmeadows Community Legal Centre, local Sheriff, Broadmeadows Magistrates Court, Victoria Police, Financial Ombudsman and VicRoads. Each agency presents a session to 20 Iraqi community members, with the assistance of an interpreter, on topics related to purchasing, owning and driving a vehicle on Victorian Roads and how to do it safely.		
Multicultural Seminar – information on How to Get Your Learners	These interactive sessions with interpreters were provided to newly arrived residents to provide them with information on gaining a Victorian Drivers Licence.		
Hoon Driver Program	Council supports and promotes this program, whereby residents are encouraged to report dangerous/hoon drivers to the Hoon Hotline set up by the Victorian Government.		
Communication	Council consistently communicates a range of road safety messages to the Hume community through a planned coordinated communications plan, including articles in the local newspapers, Council publications, websites and through displays at community events.		

Indicator 2:

Long-term, sustainable programs covering both genders and all ages, environments and situations.

The current human resources for community safety in Hume City include:

Community Safety Officer	Full time
Road Safety Officer/Traffic Engineer	Full time

The Community Safety Officer reports to the Coordinator Community Development who in turn reports to the Manager Social Development. The Road Safety Officer reports to the Team Leader Traffic and performs the road safety role in conjunction with a role as a traffic engineer. However, community safety is embedded across Council departments, with a broad range of initiatives and programs successfully implemented beyond the work of the dedicated Community Safety and Road Safety Officers.

Examples of these roles and programs across Council include:

- Maternal and Child Health Nurses work closely with the Children’s Safety Promotion Officer to educate new parents about children’s safety;
- Preschool and childcare staff include community safety in their practices and in their education programs;
- School Crossing Supervisors provide direct support to assist school children to cross the road safely and provide an educational role for the children;
- Communications staff assist with publicising and promoting community safety messages through Council publications, website and local media;
- Outdoor staff carry out a wide range of inspections and actions directed at protecting the safety of people in public places, especially footpaths playgrounds, leisure facilities and Council owned public buildings and open spaces;
- Environmental Health Officers carry out a wide range of public health and safety roles including food safety checks and anti-smoking programs;
- Immunisation staff assist with the health and safety of young children; and
- Staff across the organisation provide support for the multi-agency teams and for the Taskforce.

Long term vision and strategic planning for community safety in Hume City

In 2004 Hume City Council embarked on a whole of community long term planning exercise for the next 26 years, culminating in the Hume City Plan 2030. Of the nine key themes in the plan, two provide a strong focus on community safety. The two headings are:

- Community Wellbeing
- Health and Safety

Under the key theme **Health and Safety:**

The vision is:

'Hume's many communities will work together to improve the health and safety of those who live, work and play in Hume City.'

The goal is:

'We will have a safe city whose community is active and healthy through:

- Enhanced health services for all the community
- Enhanced safety and personal security.'

The outcomes are:

- An active healthy community
- A safe community

Please refer to the full version of the Hume City 2030 and the Hume City 2030 - 2009 Update documents attached for indicators of how this vision will be achieved. Table 2 outlines the actions in Hume City 2030 plan to be achieved by 2008 include:

Table 2: Creating a Safe City

Theme	Actions	Update
Theme 4 - Lifelong Learning	Undertake a range of programs to promote and encourage safety being a fundamental consideration in the daily lives of all Hume residents	The development of the CSS 2009-2013 identifies five priority areas to focus on when undertaking a range of programs to promote and encourage safety in the municipality. The five priority areas are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Children and Young People’s Safety ■ Family Violence and Women’s Safety ■ Crime Prevention and Safe Urban Design ■ Priority Population ■ Transport Safety
	Ensure that the planning for all new public space areas, including roads, pathways, schools, parks and open spaces, shopping centres and transport hubs are designed, constructed and operated to deliver high standards of safety and personal security	Participation by the Community Safety Officer in a range of community consultations and workshops in relation to the development of strategies, community frameworks and master plans, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Craigieburn Gardens Master Plan ■ Banksia Gardens Community Framework ■ Hume Integrated Land Use and Transport Strategy
Theme 2 - Health and Safety	Complete a major road safety review for the City and implement targeted actions, including education, promotion and awareness programs, traffic safety works and enforcement of traffic laws	Ongoing participation in the Road Safe North Western Community Road Safety Council and more recently North West 4 has seen a range of road safety education, promotion and awareness programs delivered across the municipality.
	Encourage local community initiatives to enhance neighbourhood support safety, crime prevention and security	Hume City Council hosts and supports a range of activities especially organised during Community Safety Month. These events give residents the opportunity to enhance their knowledge around safety and participate in activities they may not have before.
	Conduct safety audits of major community and transport hubs and implement high priority actions	Disability Audit conducted by the Metro Access Officer to identify Council facilities that are not accessible to people with disabilities, leading to a program of planned upgrades over a number of years.
	Establish and implement strategies for dealing with, reducing levels of, and providing support to victims in relations to abuse, domestic violence and crimes against women, children and other vulnerable people	In 2010 the White Ribbon Action Team was established to promote the White Ribbon message and increase knowledge about the incidence of domestic and family violence in Hume. Since its establishment a White Ribbon Action Team Strategy has been adopted by Council and a range of events have been held across the municipality.
	Undertake targeted programs to substantially improve safety and security in the home for the elderly and people with disabilities	The Hume Community Register and the Sunbury Community Register were established since 2009. Local Hume residents who are elderly or have a disability are able to sign up with the Community Register to receive weekly phone calls. If a phone call goes unanswered, Victoria Police will conduct a welfare check to ensure the resident is safe and well.

Actions outlined in the Hume City 2030 Plan to be achieved by 2016 include:

- Enhance and broaden the range of health, wellbeing and community services provided in the principle population areas of Sunbury, Craigieburn and Broadmeadows
- In partnership, undertake safety reviews in principle population areas of Sunbury, Craigieburn and Broadmeadows and implement appropriate actions to enhance safety and perceptions of safety
- Review crime statistics and undertake coordinated community actions to reduce crime
- Facilitate and promote partnerships with health and community services to enhance the support provided to families and children⁸.

Long-term, sustainable programs

Hume City Council Community Safety Strategy 2009-2013

The Community Safety Strategy (CSS) 2009-2013 was developed to assist the community to enhance safety and perceptions of safety, to reduce crime and coordinate community actions to reduce crime, and to enhance safety in all public places as outlined in the Hume City Plan 2030–2009 Update. Another key purpose for the strategy was to meet the requirements of Hume’s International Safe Community Designation. During the development it was decided that the key components of the Strategy would focus on building ongoing capacity and relationship with residents, businesses, the Social Justice and Safe City Taskforce, multi-agency teams and other partners.

Consultation for the development of the CSS included:

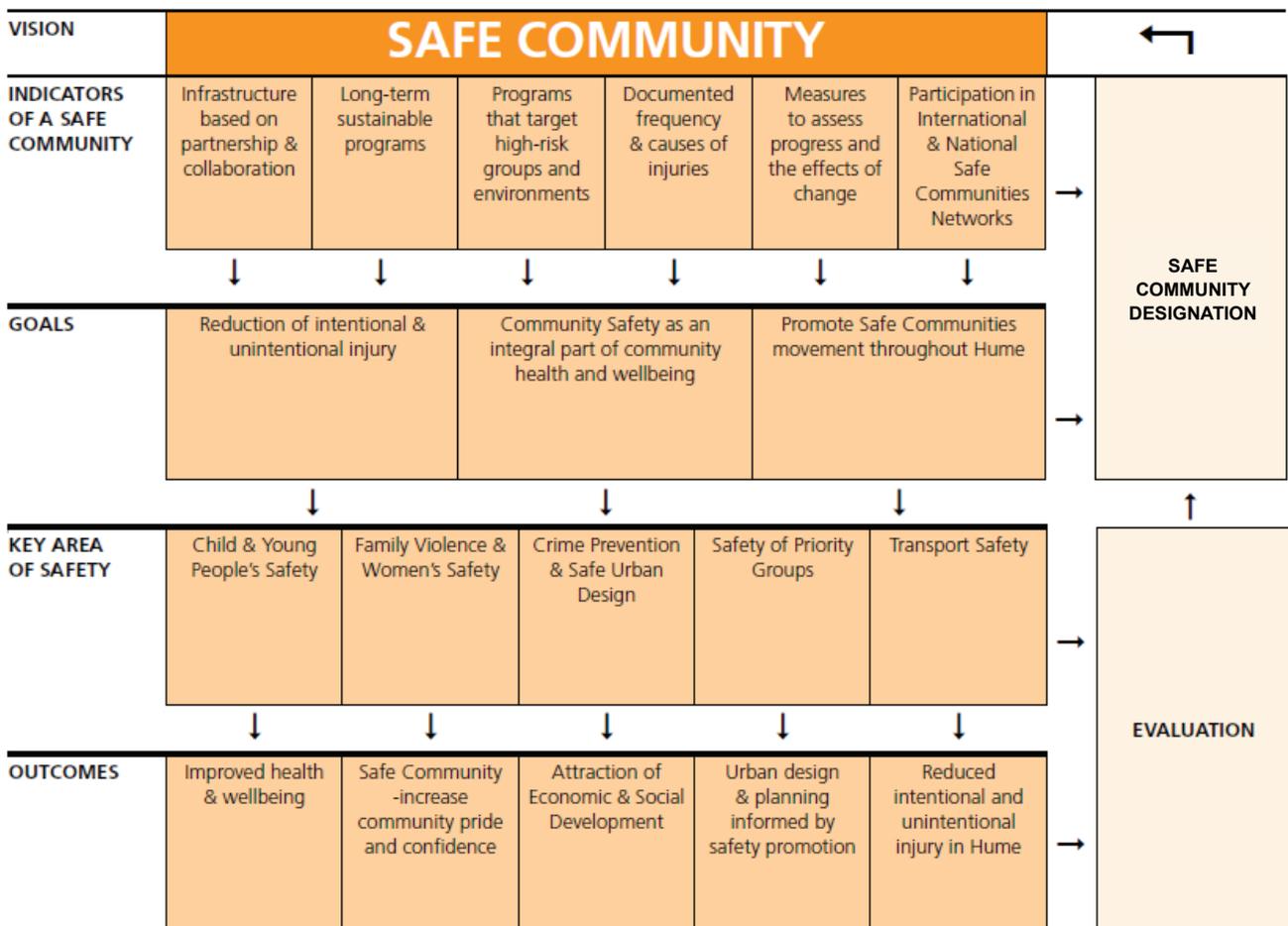
- A community safety survey of Hume residents in 2008, where the community were given an opportunity to convey their views about community safety;
- A series of facilitated community safety forums conducted in Broadmeadows, Craigieburn and Sunbury;
- Consultation with the Social Justice and Safe City Taskforce;
- Consultation with Hume’s Safe Communities accrediting body;
- Engagement of community safety specialist Michael Bourne to assist with the development to ensure best practice was employed; and
- Discussions with key external and internal stakeholders through a series of meetings and workshops.

The consultation highlighted a number of gaps in community participation and a need for Council to continue to seek the community’s input in achieving the goal of a Safe Community.

⁸ Hume City Plan 2030 – 2009 Update

The CSS was developed using the Community Safety Framework to strategically increase community safety through the municipality. This framework integrates strategies required to achieve the vision of a Safe Community and fulfil the obligations of designation as an International Safe Community, with local programs and initiatives being implemented to meet three broad goals:

- Reduction of intentional and unintentional injury;
- Community safety is understood as an integral part of community health and wellbeing; and
- To promote the Safe Communities Movement throughout Hume.



Community Safety Strategy Framework

The Strategy was extensively distributed to the Hume community including businesses, key internal and external partners and stakeholders and all levels of Government, including other Local Governments. Hume City Council has encouraged community groups, agencies and all levels of Government to identify potential partnerships and linkages.

In 2010 the Community Safety Strategy Snapshot was developed. This abridged version of the strategy was developed to allow for better accessibility and ease of communication to the community. The strategy was condensed to include the key areas of safety and related actions. An annual Implementation Report on the CSS is presented to Council each year to update the Council and the community of the progress of the actions.

Hume Road Safety Partnership Grants and Fit to Drive Program

The Fit to Drive program was established in 2001 on the Mornington Peninsula following a number of road traumas involving the loss of several young lives in 1999. The program was a response by the community to find ways to improve the safety of young drivers and their passengers⁹.

A half day workshop program based on facilitated group discussions and peer education principles is delivered to Year 11 students by a Fit to Drive facilitator, Victoria Police, Metropolitan Fire Brigade and a number of second and third year tertiary students who are undertaking youth work, social work or education courses to lead the facilitated group discussions.

Involving a whole school curriculum approach the program aims to:

- Raise awareness in young people of the risks and factors that contribute to road crashes in their age groups
- Reduce high risk behaviours among young drivers and passengers using peer education strategies
- Encourage young people to change cultural attitudes and supports and to take ownership and responsibility of their actions
- Reinforce the need for young drivers to obtain 120 hours of supervised on-road proactive in all types of driving conditions

Since its development back in 2001, the Fit to Drive program has continued to evolve and emerge to become a coordinated, local community road safety strategy using best practice principles to deliver road safety message to the senior years of secondary school students.

In November 2004 Hume City Council approved the provision of funding to all secondary schools in Hume under the Hume Road Safety Grants Program. 2012 will mark the eighth year funding will be made available to enable the Fit to Drive program to be delivered to all Year 11 students in the municipality. Between 2007 and 2011, approximately 12,220 Year 11 students across Hume City have participated in the Fit to Drive Program.

⁹ *Fit to Drive - www.f2d.com.au/*

The Fit to Drive program is part of a sequential road safety program reaching all Hume students, which includes the Keys Please Program delivered by VicRoads to Year 10 students and the presentation and screening of the TAC DVD 'Muck-up' by Victoria Police to Year 12 students.

Babies in Hume and Boorais in Hume

The Babies in Hume and Boorais in Hume programs are Maternal and Child Health parent education programs which aim to support early parenting and provide children with the best start in life¹⁰. The programs are customised to the needs of the local community and have a strong focus on health promotion, prevention and early intervention. Boorais in Hume is specifically for vulnerable Indigenous families in Hume and is culturally safe through the inclusion of an Indigenous worker and local Indigenous elders.

The Babies in Hume/Boorais in Hume model, through increased parenting sessions, responsive home visiting and collaborative community partnership, addresses the following priority outcomes:

- Improved parenting capacity;
- In-home parenting support for all families, including CALD;
- In-home nutrition specific support (breastfeeding);
- Responsive professional development;
- Introduction of a group assessment model for toddler groups (18 months, 2 years and 3.5 years);
- Enhanced protective factors and minimised risk factors for vulnerable families; and
- Mental health support provided to new mothers.

Two pilot studies were conducted over six months from October 2007. During October to December 2007, 124 families attended one of twelve sites across the municipality for up to twelve sessions. During the second group from January to April 2008, 130 families attended one of ten sites for up to twelve sessions. In 2008 the Babies in Hume program was awarded by the Victorian State Government an Early Years Award – Highly Commended in the category of 'Improvements in parenting capacity, confidence and enjoyment of family life'. The program has evolved (through parenting and staff evaluation process) from the original twelve-week program to become an eight-week parenting education and information group for first-time parents. The number of participating families has continued to increase since the first pilot from 374 in 2008, to 449 in 2011.

10 *Babies in Hume, My Baby, My Self, My Family, Helen Broderick, 2007*

Following the success of the Babies in Hume program, new programs have been established including:

- A Taste of Playgroup – commence in 2010 as an introduction to playgroup for first time mothers and socially isolated families;
- Spanish Playgroup – established in 2011 responding to a need in the Broadmeadows area;
- Mother Goose – established in 2011 for vulnerable clients identified through the Babies in Hume program;
- Funky Families - commenced in 2011, a young parents group offering support in parenting and life skills;
- Boorais in Hume – established in 2010 for Indigenous families.

Indicator 3:

Programs that target high-risk groups and environments, and programs that promote safety for vulnerable groups.

Neighbourhood and Community Renewal Programs:

Broadmeadows Community Neighbourhood Renewal

The Broadmeadows Community Neighbourhood Renewal (BCNR) was an eight year funded initiative by the Victorian Government's Department of Human Services (DHS) established in 2003 and concluded in June 2011. The initiative was aimed to bring together the resources and ideas of residents, governments, local businesses, community groups and the wider community partnership to tackle disadvantage and narrow the gap between disadvantaged communities and the rest of the State and to build more inclusive communities¹¹. DHS set six practical objectives that each Community Neighbourhood Renewal initiative was to use to develop and implement local actions plans. The six objectives were:

- Increased community pride and participation;
- Enhanced housing and the physical environment;
- Improved employment, learning and local economic activity;
- Decreased levels of crime and improved personal safety;
- Better health and wellbeing;
- Increased access to services and improved government responsiveness.

The Broadmeadows Community Neighbourhood Renewal Area Social Profile 2006 identifies that the area comprises a diversity of people and has challenges concerning levels of educational attainment and income compared to many other areas around Australia¹². Through the initiative many successful projects were both developed and implemented that aim to address and improve social determinants. Some examples of projects established during the funding period include:

¹¹ *The Journey – past, present, future, The Year Eight report on the BCNR project 2003-2011*

¹² *2006 Social Profile – Broadmeadows Community Neighbourhood Renewal, Hume City Council internal publication*

- Community Register established to support older residents who live on their own. Volunteers make one phone call a week to registered residents to ensure they are well and also to deliver important information like Heat Wave. If the resident is not contactable, Police will attend their house to conduct a welfare check. The register has been expanded since its establishment to include residents with disabilities, as well as older residents.
- Community Safety Expo held in 2011 by the Broadmeadows Residents Advisory Team, the event aimed to promote safety particularly crime and fire safety. The event was very well attended by local school children and residents.
- Olsen Place Furniture Upgrade – during 2010/11 residents were consulted by Council to identify potential changes to the shopping strip that would help to increase perceptions of safety. New street furniture and lighting was installed in an effort to create a safer environment for local shoppers.

The BCNR initiative has been a successful approach to tackling disadvantage and creating stronger communities, working across government, local community stakeholders/agencies and business establishing innovative and collaborative partnership approaches¹³.

Craigieburn Community Renewal

Established in 2007 Community Renewal was a three year initiative (since extended for an additional three years until 2013) funded by the Victorian Government's Department of Community Development and Planning and aimed at providing target support to disadvantaged communities¹⁴. This place-based approach to community strengthening targets approximately 8,000 people from 2,562 households¹⁵. The objectives of this initiative closely align with those of the Hume City Plan 2030, particularly Council's commitment to social justice, community empowerment, lifelong learning, integrated communities and an environmentally aware and sustainable community¹⁶.

Similarly to Neighbourhood Renewal, the Community Renewal brings different parts of government, community organisations, and local residents together to set priorities and take action to revitalise, improve and change the places where they live, work, learn and play. Through consultations with these groups, a Local Action Plan was developed to outline the priority improvements and proposed actions broken down in to five themes. Table 3 outlines five actions that have either been completed or are in the process of being completed in relation to each of the themes:

¹³ Council Report - Broadmeadows Community Neighbourhood Renewal 'Planning for the Future', Feb 2010

¹⁴ <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-business-and-community/community-involvement/in-your-neighbourhood/community-renewal>

¹⁵ Craigieburn Community Renewal - Phase Two - Partnership Development, Prioritisation and Local Action Plan, Mazzotta, Sept 2008

¹⁶ Craigieburn Community Renewal Local Action Plan, September 2008

Table 3: Local Action Plan Craigieburn Community Renewal

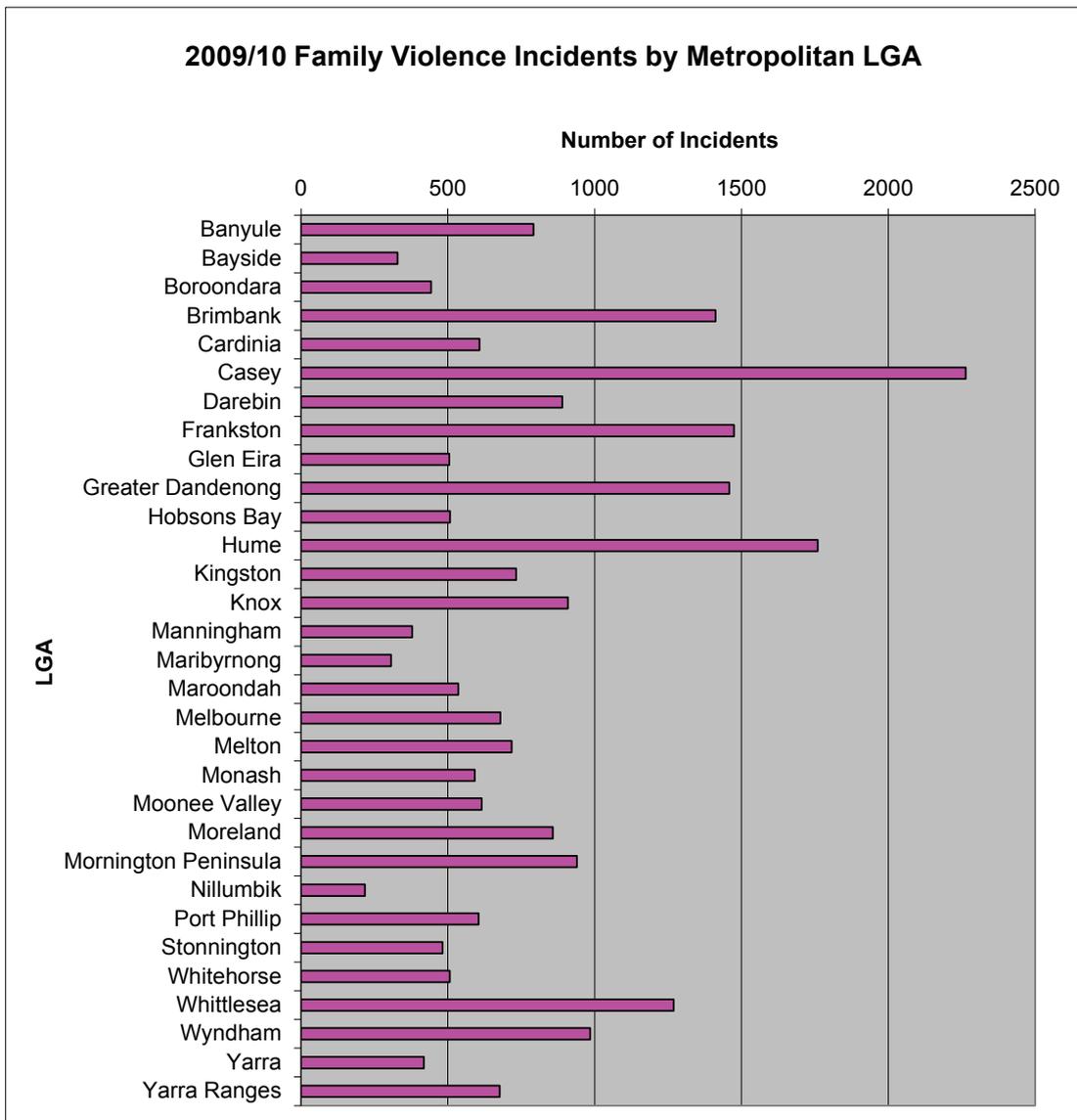
Theme	Action/Project	Description
Community infrastructure	Craigieburn Community Transport Service	17 month pilot program established in September 2010 to meet the transport needs of Craigieburn residents who experience transport difficulties. Utilising underutilised local mini buses the services provided transport to over 800 residents for a gold coin donation. The top three locations travelled to was medical appointment, social/recreation activities and shopping.
Access and mobility	Hanson Road Bicycle Lanes	As a response to the safety concerns advocated by the residents, Council's Traffic Management Unit recently coordinated the instatement of bicycle lanes in Hanson Road and the installation of an additional five bus shelters. These measures improve safety for local residents, particularly cyclists and those using an alternative mode of transport to and from the Craigieburn Railway Station.
Community wellbeing	Community Safety Expo	Approximately 30 local, state and national agencies whose core business is safety participated in the Community Safety Expo 2010 to mark Community Safety Month. The aim of the Expo was to increase knowledge of safety in a range of areas including in the water, in the home, at the workplace, around water and animals, on the internets and first aid and fire awareness. Residents could participate in interactive displays, watch demonstrations and take home free resources.

Hume White Ribbon Action Team

The CSS 2009 – 2013 identifies a particular focus on Family Violence and Women's Safety. The prevention of Family Violence also features in Council's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and respectful and equitable relationships form a key part of Council's Social Justice Charter. As a determinant of mental health and wellbeing, violence against women is a violation of human rights.

All women and men have the right to live in a safe community free from fear of violence and crime. Council plays a pivotal role in role-modelling safe and equitable treatment of women and the rejection of assault and family violence. Hume City has the second highest incidence of family violence in Victoria, representing over ten percent of the total state incidence. By far the overwhelming majority of victims of family violence are women and girls which necessitates men and boys to challenge behaviours and acknowledge that male socialisation is a significant determinant of violence towards women. During the 2010/11 year there were 2015 reported cases of family violence recorded. This is an increase of approximately 13 percent from the previous year.

Graph 1: Recorded incidence of Family Violence by Victorian Local Government Area



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In 2010 the Hume White Ribbon Action Team was formed. The team is led by Director City Infrastructure and comprises predominantly male Council Officers (21 males and 9 females) who feel a responsibility to urge men to speak out against male violence against women. The vision of the White Ribbon Action Team is: *Our community, free of all forms of violence against women.*

The team was responsible for the organisation of the 2010 White Ribbon Day Event where Council staff stood together to make a giant “NO”. The event increased the profile of family violence in Hume and led to an increased participation rate from staff in the White Ribbon Action Team. The team aims to:

17 Victoria Police Crime Statistics 2011

- Provide strategic direction to Hume City Council;
- Promote the vision and principles of the White Ribbon Campaign; and
- Lead the White Ribbon Campaign for Hume City.

In 2011 the Hume White Ribbon Action Team Strategy was developed and adopted by Council. This Strategy promotes the importance of respectful and equal relationships in all settings with actions themed into three broad areas:

- To strengthen Hume City Council's leadership in the prevention of violence against women;
- To raise awareness, develop partnerships and strengthen the community's capacity to prevent violence against women; and
- To encourage corporate social responsibility of Hume businesses to prevent violence against women.

During 2011, the White Ribbon Action Team participated in family violence training facilitated by Berry Street. The training aimed to give team members skills to deal with potential disclosures or questions around service available to individuals who are currently suffering from family or domestic violence.

The team then went on to successfully hold two events during 2011. The first event in October saw Council partner with local business Ferguson Plarre Bakehouse. White Ribbon cupcakes were sold for a gold coin donation at five sites across the municipality. The event received local media attention, with all funds being raised going directly to the White Ribbon Foundation.

The second event held on White Ribbon Day saw Council staff and the local community come together to form a giant 'White Ribbon'. Presentations were also delivered by White Ribbon Ambassadors, the Police and a survivor advocate.

Indicator 4:

Programs that document the frequency and cause of injury.

Hume City Council obtains data and evidence of need from a range of different sources, which is used to write Council plans and strategies, compile funding applications and identify and guide the development and delivery of community safety programs. In addition to external sources, Council's Research Department undertakes a number of surveys to ascertain community views on an array of themes and topics.

One of the three overarching goals of the CSS is the reduction of intentional and unintentional injury. The CSS acknowledges, through the five Key Areas of Safety, that a comprehensive safety strategy requires a life course approach. The Key Areas of Safety are informed by the social determinants of health and specific population groups at risk, prominent community safety issues throughout Hume. The five areas were also aligned with national and state health priorities¹⁸ and the objectives of A Fairer Victoria¹⁹.

Across all five Key Areas of Safety, Council consults with and collects data from a range of different sources, particularly Community Indicators Victoria, the National Public Health Promotion Partnership, Victorian Police Crime Statistics Department, the Monash University Accident Research Centre and the Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit.

This table identifies the five Key Areas of Safety, and gives some examples of where evidence was gathered in relation to frequency and cause of injury:

¹⁸ National Public Health Partnership (2004) *The National Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Plan: 2004-2014*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra

¹⁹ State of Victoria, Department of Human Services (2005) *Planning for effective health promotion evaluation*, May 2005 (reprinted, March 2008), School of Health and Social Development, Deakin University, Victoria

Table 3: Key Areas of Safety

Key Areas of Safety	Frequency and cause of injury – source of information	CSS Action
Children and Young People’s Safety	Data was collected from the National Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Plan: 2004-2014 produced by the National Public Health Partnership that showed that in 2007 80,000 Victorian children were treated in hospital as a result of injury . Identified as one of many preventable injuries were driveway-run-over deaths.	As part of Children’s Week in 2011, two Driveway Safety presentations were delivered in partnership with KidSafe Victoria to provide interactive child safety sessions to parents and guardians.
Family Violence and Women’s Safety	Statistics received from the Victorian Police Crime Statistics department showed that the incidence of family and domestic violence in Hume was 2015 in 2010/11, the second highest recorded incidents in Victoria.	Council developed the Hume White Ribbon Action Team in 2010 aim to continue to build awareness of the causes and far-reaching impacts of violence on the community’s social cohesion and pride.
Crime Prevention and Urban Design	Hume residents consistently report poor perceptions of safety compared to metropolitan Melbourne, and report feeling less safe at night and during the day comparatively.	Creating safer places in Hume requires a multifaceted approach to planning; this includes the physical environment in combination with community development and a participatory approach to the use of public spaces. Recent examples include the use of Public Art to improve areas where perception is low such as train station underpasses including Sunbury and Broadmeadows.
Safety of Priority Groups	The Bureau of Statistic 2006 Census identified that there were 18,089 residents in Hume aged over 60 years old. .id Consultants have estimated that this number will grow from 11.7 percent of the population in 2006 to 14.6 percent in 2012.	The Hume Community Register, aimed at enhancing feelings of safety and wellbeing to socially isolated residents over the age of 50, is a joint initiative between Council, Victoria Police, Dianella Community Health, Dallas Neighbourhood House and Broadmeadows Community Neighbourhood Renewal.
Transport Safety	VicRoads CrashStats provide a wide range of information on every road crash involving a registered vehicle. This database identified 73 collisions resulted in an injury in 2010, involving young drivers aged between 16 and 21 in Hume City.	The Road Safety Partnership Grants fund the Fit to Drive program to be delivered to every Year 11 students in Hume. In 2011 2580 students participated in the program promoting young driver safety.

Indicator 5:

Evaluation measures to assess their programs, processes and the effects of change.

Achieving a Safe Community

The Community Safety Strategy aims to achieve specific and measurable outcomes: improved health and wellbeing, increased community pride and confidence, attraction of social and economic development, safe urban design and planning and an overall reduction of intentional and unintentional injury. During the development of the Strategy four evaluation themes were identified to assess the effects of the actions through the programs delivered, the processes and the effects of change after four years. The four themes are:

Improved Health and Wellbeing

Community safety is an important indicator of overall health and wellbeing. The measurement of this outcome is modelled on data from Community Indicators Victorian (CIV), which enable measurements of community progress and wellbeing.

Increase in community pride and confidence through a Safe Community

Community pride and confidence has also been measured through CIV, with specific focus on community connectedness and perceptions of safety.

Attraction of social and economic development

A community which is based on cooperation, partnership and is socially inclusive, is free from discrimination and violence, and is a community in which people choose to live and work. This has a positive impact on business opportunities, local employment and the economy. Employment creation is positively associated with reduced crime and violence .

Urban design and planning informed by safety promotion

Creating safe places in Hume requires a multi-faceted approach to planning and the creation of genuinely shared public spaces. Community safety tools or Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CEPTED) Guidelines will enable reportable consideration of safety promotion and injury prevention.

Council's Annual Report

Each year Council reports to Government and the community on the programs aimed towards creating a Safe Community. The report highlights a range of safety achievements within the municipality, promotes positive partnerships that have been established and/or are ongoing, and identifies actions for the next year of implementation. The report is also a chance to report any major changes in relation to perceived and actual safety levels in the community and highlight opportunities for upcoming projects.

Data collection

The data sources outlined in the previous section of this report are used to monitor progress with programs and where possible to provide an outcome evaluation, particularly statistics provided by the Victorian Police Crime Statistics department and from Community Indicators Victoria, which allows Hume results to be compared to other Local Government Authorities.

In addition, Council has a dedicated Research Department which regularly distributes community surveys to evaluate the delivery and effectiveness of the range of Council services and programs delivered. Residents provide information to Council through specifically developed surveys and questionnaires and participate in face-to-face consultation which correlates directly with the delivery of a project. In 2011 a Community Engagement Framework was developed to guide Council officers through the community consultations process. Council also undertakes an annual community satisfaction survey, which provides details on the extent of community satisfaction with factors such as community safety, footpaths and traffic management.

Indicator 6:

Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks.

Hume as a participant in national and international networks

Hume City Council has played a national and international leadership role in community safety since February 1996, when it co-hosted, on behalf of the WHO, the Fifth International Conference on Safe Communities (SafeComm5).

In 2007 a Councillor attended the International City, Town Centres and Communities conference in Auckland called 'Cities on the Edge'. A report was presented about the conference and valuable information was shared in relation to cities, towns and communities moving forward as environmentally, socially and economically sustainable as possible.

In previous years Council has sent Council Staff to International Conferences on Safe Communities across the world. In more recent times funding constraints and local safety priority demands have meant that attendance at conferences has not occurred. As noted in the 2006 Reaccreditation Report, Council sought innovative means of communicating electronically with international and national networks and is regularly in touch with a range of national and international networks through these media.

Victorian Safe Communities Network

Council continues to have an active partnership with the Victorian Safe Communities Network, mostly electronically, as a source of gathering and sharing information amongst community safety professionals, as a conduit between state-wide organisations and local community safety workers, and as an advocacy platform for community safety issues.

Community Safety Month

Hume City Council and community continue to be active participants in Community Safety Month each October, with a diverse range of activities occurring covering different areas of safety. Council both hosts and supports activities organised by local community groups and agencies during this month. Community Safety Month:

- Has increased the community's perceptions of safety following an event or activity;
- Promotes and encourages inter-agency partnerships in planning and implementation of local community safety activities; and

- Serves as a call to action for local volunteers to support and participate in local initiatives.

A successful partnership between Council, Craigieburn Secondary College and 21 external safety agencies and organisations led to development of a large scale Community Safety Expo in 2010. Safety themes on the day included cyber safety, falls prevention, work safety, animal safety, crime prevention, fire safety and first aid. Organisation of the event was coordinated by Council and had high levels of participation from local residents in organising agency participation, site plans and event management on the day.

A Community Safety Month Calendar of Events and Activities was developed in 2011 to promote the large range of activities being run during October. Activities included:

- White Ribbon Cupcake event – partnership with Ferguson Plarre Bakehouse promoting the White Ribbon message;
- Preschool Storytime – People that Help : State Emergency Services;
- Broadmeadows Safe Expo – organised by the Broadmeadows Residents Advisory Team in partnership with Council and Department of Human Services; and
- Keeping Children Safe in and around Vehicles presentation – partnership between Council and KidSafe Victoria

Leadership roles

Council participates in a large number of local networks and forums, actively participating in and presenting at times. Some examples of networks and conferences where Council Officers have participated in leadership roles are below.

North West 4

Council played an active role in Road Safe North Western for approximately 11 years, in partnership with Brimbank City Council and Melton City Council as part of RoadSafe Victoria (a state-wide community road safety organisation) and then later VicRoads. In 2011 following a review of the RoadSafe Groups, Road Safe North Western was wound up, with Hume City Council now in partnership with Darebin City Council, Moonee Valley City Council and Moreland City Council. Entering its first year of operation, the partnership will focus on youth.

Cross-Municipal Alcohol Harm Minimisation Workshop

Council's Community Planning Officer presented on the development of a statutory and strategic planning process, including the development of liquor policy and set of guiding procedures, which will assist Council in preventing and managing harm associated with alcohol consumption within the community, while supporting the role that licensed premises plan in activity centres. A presentation was delivered to Local Government Authorities.

CONCLUSION

Hume City Council's International Safe Community Re-Designation five year progress report 2007-2011 has been an opportunity to highlight a range of projects and initiatives that have been delivered to increase the health, wellbeing and safety of Hume residents. Many more projects and initiatives have been delivered, are being delivered and will continue to be delivered in the future to ensure actual rates of safety decrease and perceived rates of safety continue to increase.

Local partnerships have played an important role in the development and implementation of a range of programs and initiatives. All these partnerships are highly valued by Council, with the expectation that this will continue for many more years. Council is proud of the role played by its staff, the community and partners in achieving a comprehensive range of activities in response to community safety needs. Hume City Council takes seriously its role as a leader, driver and facilitator of community safety activities, as well as its role as an advocate alongside the community.

While community safety issues – both actual and perceived – continue to pose significant challenges for Council, staff across the organisation are deeply committed to contributing resources and planning to address the needs of the community. Hume City Council remains committed to its obligations under its agreement with the International Safe Communities Network, signed in February 1996, and looks forward to the opportunity of contributing as a member of the International Network of Safe Communities for many years into the future.