Dear Sir/Madam

I write to you on behalf of the **Collingwood Safety Working Group**.

This Safety working group on the Collingwood Public Housing Estate was established over 10 years ago through the introduction of a Neighborhood Watch program and then becoming a part of the Neighborhood Renewal initiative.

The **Collingwood Safety Working Group** is made up of representatives from the Collingwood Local Housing Office, Department of Human Services, Yarra City Council, Collingwood Neighborhood Justice Centre, Collingwood Police, Wilson Security and residents living on the housing estate.

The aim of this group is to identify safety and security concerns, to share information and develop responses to improve the overall safety, security and wellbeing for residents living on the Collingwood public housing estate.

We encourage residents and tenants to attend the monthly meetings so that emerging concerns come to light and that residents can play part of the problem solving process.

In brief the success of this group comes down to 2 important factors.

1) The networking of the Police, Security, Office of Housing, local service providers and residents
2) A forum for residents to raise safety and security issues.

Many successes can be attributed to the work of this group but to list just a few.

1) Increased lighting and camera surveillance across the estate.
2) Securing of the rear yards and walkways between the low rise properties
3) Introduction of the Community Contact Officers (CCO’s) in the security booths of the High Rise Buildings.
4) CSWG Monthly Newsletter.
5) Making residents feeling safe to report crime to the appropriate service.

There are many more items I could site directly to this group but needless to say I and the residents of the Collingwood Public Housing Estate are grateful of this work and look forward to supporting it into the future.

I can make available the agenda’s and minutes of the last two year’s meetings for you viewing if needed.

Sincerely Yours
Alby Clark
Resident and Chairman CSWG