Parliamentary Inquiry re locally based approaches to Community Safety & Crime Prevention

Questions for VLGA member local governments

1) To what extent are you involved with local crime prevention and community safety programmes?

The City of Casey is committed to ‘community safety’ through the development of the Community Safety Department and evidenced in Council strategies and plans (for example the Council Plan; Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan; and Community Safety Strategy). This commitment is extended locally, as the Convenor Local Government Professionals (LGPro) Community Safety Special Interest Group, nationally through previous honours for the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention National Awards, and internationally with accreditation as a World Health Organisation (WHO) Safe Community (Application attached to provide further context to the extent with which the City of Casey is engaged in local community safety programs).

The Community Safety department incorporates a community education focus and includes the key portfolios of Local Laws, Environmental Health, Health Promotion, Fire Prevention and Community Safety. These functions include:

**Community Safety:** The Community Safety Team is engaged in a number of community safety, road safety and school crossing activities; these include but are not limited to such things as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments; addressing resident and business trader safety concerns relating to anti-social behaviour through Neighborhood Watch, and the operation of the Graffiti Management program (Education, Eradication and Enforcement); addressing resident road safety concerns and delivering Road Safety Awareness programs, including the management and operation of the Casey Safety Village, the City of Casey Hoon Hotline and the L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program; and administration and operation of one of Victoria’s largest school crossing programs.

**Health Promotion:** The Health Promotion Team is responsible for supporting Council to achieve positive health and wellbeing outcomes for the Casey community through increasing the community’s skills, knowledge and expertise in the areas of health promotion, and through leading public health planning. Priorities related to safety include alcohol and drug harm minimisation, childhood injury prevention, family violence prevention, and mental health promotion.

**Fire Prevention:** In consultation with key partners, Council is involved in planning and implementing measures necessary to minimise the occurrence of unplanned fires and hazardous materials incidents, and mitigate their effect on Casey communities.

**Environmental Health:** Local government plays a significant role in the delivery of a wide range of environmental health services. These include a number of statutory services including monitoring food safety, rooming house safety, the safety of health related prescribed premises, and investigating and responding to public nuisance and public health risks, along with disease prevention through the delivery of immunisation services.

**Local Laws:** The City of Casey Community Local Law 2/2010 deals with important community safety, amenity and public order issues such as noise, fire hazards, animal control/public safety, traffic hazards, public alcohol control, and building safety. This extends to the application of State legislation pertaining to such matters as public health, animal control and environment protection.
The Community Safety Department consults extensively with internal departments to address key community safety concerns, and has a strong working relationship with key service providers and organisations involved in various crime prevention and community safety activities. The departmental efforts in community safety are extended to community services provided by Council and the various building, design and planning frameworks that apply Crime Prevention through Environmental Design theory to open space development.

To this end, City of Casey has significant influence on community perceptions of safety, and engages with residents at various levels to provide the skills, knowledge and motivations for a ‘Safer Casey’.

2) What governance arrangements are in place to implement crime prevention policies/programs

The Council Plan 2009-2013 outlines the way the City of Casey will work towards achieving Council's Vision for the Future during the period 2009-2013. The Vision of the City of Casey is ‘Creating the most Caring, Safe, Innovative and Sustainable City’.

This ‘Safe’ aspect of Council’s vision can be further articulated in the City of Casey Community Safety Strategy 2006-11: ‘Healthy People - Safer Community’. This strategy aims to work in partnership with the wider community to achieve an improvement in perceptions, and reduction in the incidence of crime and injury within the municipality (this strategy is currently under review and this parliamentary inquiry may provide further guidance on State direction in this area).

As per the legislative requirements of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act, 2008 the City of Casey developed the Casey Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2009-2013. Through community consultation this plan clearly articulates ‘community safety’ as one of seven key priorities. Casey’s concept of community safety is defined as a community in which ‘all residents and visitors can work, live and play in a safe and secure environment, free of risk to health and wellbeing’. Community safety relates to both the perception of risks to wellbeing, as well as the actual incidence of crime and injury in the public sphere and in the home. Council’s current priorities to enhance community safety are:

- Family violence prevention;
- Road trauma reduction;
- Fire/emergency management;
- Intentional (crime) & unintentional (accident) injury prevention;
- Disease prevention including immunisation and food safety; and
- Alcohol harm minimisation

i) Between central [state] government agencies and local government?

At a local level, the City of Casey and State Government agencies have a strong working relationship.

This can be evidenced in governance structures of:

**Safer Casey Partnership**: A local, strategic ‘whole of Government’ approach to facilitating interagency targeted community safety actions and fostering exchange of critical information. Agencies involved include City of Casey, Victoria Police (Police Service Area Inspector is a Co-Chair of the committee), Country Fire Authority (CFA), Southern Health (represented by Cardinia-Casey Community Health Service), VicRoads, Department of Education & Early Childhood Development (DEECD), Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Justice (DOJ), South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre (SERMRC) and other community representatives as required. The individual agencies that are members of Safer Casey Partnership are working to improve the wellbeing of all people in Casey by reducing the impact of intentional and unintentional injury and harm on individuals, families, schools, workplaces, business and communities.
Casey Traffic Management Committee: An operational ‘whole of government’ approach to addressing road trauma and road safety issues across the City of Casey. Agencies involved include City of Casey, Victoria Police, VicRoads and other relevant agencies engaged in road or traffic management matters.

Need for further governance structures: Although Council is addressing the individual community concerns with relevant key agencies such as those mentioned above, there has been identified across Council networks, a need for State Government direction i.e. to instigate the development of a ‘Victorian Community Safety Plan’ or similar. Having a central document, central agency or similar, will provide Local Government with clear direction from the State on Government commitments and will ensure that local actions are closely aligned.

ii) Between Victorian Police and local government/s?

At a local level, the City of Casey and Casey Police Service Area has a strong working relationship. This can be further evidenced in governance structures of:

Council & Police Liaison Committee: The Community Engagement Team from Casey Police Service Area meet with Council on a quarterly basis to identify emerging crime issues and associated crime prevention strategies; identify partnership projects to positively impact perceptions of safety and general information exchange (criminal damage, graffiti and other forms of anti-social behaviour). Where appropriate, the Group helps to inform the Safer Casey Partnership, and other local Council Committees and Police operations.

Casey Alcohol Accord: The Accord promotes collaboration and action planning between licensees, Council, Liquor Licensing Victoria, Consumer Affairs, Victoria Police, and other local businesses.

Overall: Together with the Safer Casey Partnership and Casey Traffic Management Committee, these more formal governance structures are integrated into operational relations between the staff of the two organisations in extensive partnership and liaison on locally identified community safety matters.

iii) Between and across local governments or regional groupings?

LGPRO (Local Government Professionals) Community Safety Special Interest Group: This committee convened by City of Casey, was formed in 2009 whereby various Council staff across Victoria attend these quarterly meetings. The aim of the Special Interest Group is to share ideas, policies and processes, discuss priorities, increase knowledge, network and establish professional development activities. Guest speakers address some of the meetings but their primary objective is to allow people working in the community safety field in the Local Government Sector to network and discuss areas of common concerns.

Informal Networking: On a more informal basis this occurs between neighbouring municipalities as the need may arise or a cross-boundary community safety issue is identified.

3) What do you consider are your roles in crime prevention for your area?

It is important to note that the City of Casey’s engagement in crime prevention activities are in support of the Casey Police Service Area and Proactive Policing programs such as those delivered by the Victoria Police Crime Prevention Officer and Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. Crime prevention in this sense relates to State based legislation and our involvement in such activity is in support of resident or business trader concerns. (This does not include our statutory obligations in the areas of animal management, food and environmental health matters where we have enforcement roles). Council’s role in such matters is best explained with an ‘Interventions framework’ presented on the next page with associated examples.
# SAFETY

## Health Promotion Interventions & Capacity Building Strategies

### Crime & Injury Prevention

- **Early Intervention – targeted services and programs**
  - Emergency relief and Recovery centres
  - Food Safety
  - Immunisation
  - School crossings
  - Graffiti removal program

- **Individual behaviour change programs**
  - Volunteers to support learner drivers to get experience
  - Pre orientation evenings – To educate new parents about their responsibilities in parking legally around schools
  - Casey Safety Village - Road & Fire Education program for primary school children
  - Graffiti education program
  - Keeping Safe and Mobile – older driver program

- **Social marketing campaigns**
  - Fire safety education campaign
  - Railway Station Safety Campaign
  - '50 in My Street' bin sticker program

- **Community strengthening & Advocacy**
  - Neighbourhood Watch
  - Industrial crime prevention
  - Code of Conduct for Parking around Schools
  - Safer Casey Partnership
  - Advocating for child safety in design of children’s playgrounds

### Safety & Wellbeing

- **Planning/building in Safety – creating sustainable environments**
  - CPTED- Reduce crime through design and research
  - Safer Casey Partnership
  - Advocating for child safety in design of children’s playgrounds

## Individual & Population

- **Safe Start Program**
- **Promoting Peace in Families Program**
The ‘Interventions Framework’ spells out our role in crime prevention and how it relates to other aspects of enforcement and community safety.

**Future Crime Prevention Programs:**

**Implementing a Holistic Crime Prevention Spectrum** – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and other situational crime prevention measures such as CCTV camera systems are commonly one element of broader crime prevention strategies. The City of Casey sees the importance in combining situational crime prevention measures with other longer-term community strengthening activities that empower the community to take action.

**Advocacy:** The City of Casey has a strong role in advocating for resident safety concerns and engaging them in activities that provide enabling tools and skills to address such issues when outside the jurisdiction of local government. To this effect, preventing crime is a part of our efforts in creating a ‘safe community’. This can be evidenced in our WHO Safe Community Application attached and the extensive program delivery mentioned in question nine.

**Misunderstanding:** There is often a misunderstanding by the community of the role of local government in community safety matters. As a result, community expectations are sometimes not aligned with Council operations. Much work is required at local government and state level, to clearly define the role of local government in crime prevention and community safety matters.

4) **How do you determine what the needs and priorities are with regard to crime prevention in your area?**

The Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan and the Community Safety Strategy set the strategic direction and framework on community safety for the City of Casey. The latter is monitored by the ‘Safer Casey Partnership’ (SCP) and its key priorities for action are identified by the SCP each year. The current key priorities include:
- Road Trauma
- Family Wellbeing (including family violence and child safety)
- Supporting CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) communities
- Youth issues

More ad-hoc crime prevention promotion and support is provided to local key agencies and community groups on a ‘needs basis’, and where resources are available.

5) **How do you reach out to or involve local community or private sector organisations in your planning and delivery of crime prevention programs?**

To ensure the City of Casey is delivering these services in line with community needs and expectations, it is vitally important that we consult with the community in order to understand their needs, concerns, ideas and aspirations relating to community safety. The Casey Community Consultation Operating Policy has been developed to provide a coordinated approach to the City of Casey’s community consultation activities. This includes the planning, collection, analysis, dissemination and storage of data, as well as ensuring a mechanism of quality control, reporting and providing feedback to the community.

This operating policy recognises that there are different levels of community consultation, ranging from simply informing people, to helping people help themselves (empowerment). It is important to recognise how each stage builds on the other and that the form of consultation is appropriate for the purpose. With these operating procedures in mind, community safety activities have a strong focus on community development principles in both the planning and delivery of projects. This involves active and regular engagement with key resident and sporting groups, education facilities and key service providers.

It is important to note that the community renewal projects and associated community plans in the suburbs of Doveton, Cranbourne and Hampton Park have all had specific community safety related
forums and activities associated to their programs. This shows Council's commitment to safety, and strong community interest in community safety and its impact on community connectedness and wellbeing.

6) What are the arrangements in place currently with regard to delivery of crime prevention programs? How are they funded? How are the priorities currently decided?

As previously advised, community safety strategic direction is guided by internal and community policy documents; Council Plan; Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan; Road Safety Strategy and Community Safety Strategy. The programs delivered are primarily funded by Council operations. Where funding opportunities are presented (in limited forms) then the associated programs are factored into Council operations. The governance structure and arrangements in place regarding community safety program delivery is best explained through the use of a table setting out Council’s policy framework.

![Diagram](http://example.com/council-structure)

| COUNCIL PLAN | MUNICIPAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN | COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY |

The limitations on Council activity in the community safety area can also be attributed to the lack of funding opportunities. This again may require a State based Community Safety Plan/ Framework/ Agency where funding opportunities were offered to local government to drive more targeted, evidence-based community safety activity.

7) What are the challenges confronting you in developing and implementing crime prevention strategies?

There are many challenges confronting the City of Casey in developing and implementing community safety strategies. These include such things as: Municipal Growth; Definitions of Community Safety, and External Funding:

**Municipal Growth:** The City of Casey is located in Melbourne's south-eastern suburbs, between 28 and 60 kilometres south-east of the Melbourne GPO and is Victoria's largest and one of the fastest growing municipalities. It is a rapidly developing residential area, with large areas of land still allocated for urban development and surrounding rural areas. The City of Casey encompasses a total land area of about 400 square kilometres. The population for the City of Casey stands at over 260,000 residents with approximately 124 new people moving into the area each week. The population is expected to
reach approximately 370,000 within the next two decades. Further growth beyond this as a result of the recent expansion of the urban growth boundary area will push the ultimate population to over 400,000. With this vast growth creates pressures on existing services and infrastructure. The immediate need to accommodate for this growth needs to be done within restricted budgets. Additional to this increase in numbers, consideration needs to be given to the changing demographics of the community i.e. increase in first home buyers and increase in youth populations, increase in CALD communities and an ageing population. These changes will also mean that further consideration will need to be given to the way in which we tailor, plan and implement community safety programs to these new communities.

**Defining Community Safety & Crime Prevention:** Defining ‘Community Safety’ has been a great concern for Council staff developing, implementing and responding to crime and community safety concerns. It is appreciated that each municipal area has its own unique demographics and environments, however, there is no clear definition of the term ‘community safety’ in Victoria. Is the term ‘Crime prevention’ deemed the same as ‘Community Safety’? As a result, there is a need for State Government to work with Local Government to clearly define roles, responsibilities and terms of reference in relation to program development and delivery in the areas of crime prevention and community safety. By taking this unified approach, policy statements, programs, activities and future directions will be closely aligned (avoiding replication or competition) and give best value outcomes to the wider community. Ultimately, this will ensure that constituents across the State have a clearer understanding of what is ‘community safety/ crime prevention’ and what it means to them. There is a real need in the industry to raise the profile of community safety both at a local government level but more importantly across the State.

**External Funding:** As the third tier of Government, some funding for ‘Community Safety’ programs is granted through external sources i.e. State & Federal Government. Council is placed in situations of having to react to external funding opportunities as they present (often in short periods of time). It is hoped that further consultation from external funding bodies will be considered. This will ensure that Councils are able to better plan for such funding options and ensure that they are appropriately considered in light of Council’s direction. Similarly, consideration is given by the funder to the ‘exit strategy’ or sustainability of the projects at the end of the funding period, as often Council becomes the bearer of programs that were previously externally funded. This adds a strain to Council operations and limits the potential to look at being dynamic and innovative with community safety planning and program delivery.

8) **What data do LGAs have access to in planning or delivering effective crime prevention programs?**

Although a good guide to project scoping, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census data are often out-dated and not specific enough to Council’s needs. As a result, much of Council’s access to data has been through networking with key agencies i.e. Victoria Police, and others represented on the Safer Casey Partnership.

A large percentage of crime prevention projects have arisen out of a spontaneous recognition that there is a crime problem, where potentially more methodical problem identification might reveal a different picture of the ‘real crime problem’ in an area. As a result, crime and fear of crime reduction measures can often be chosen on insufficient analysis of the problem and subsequently their success can be impacted. In this regard there is a real need for state-wide evidence based research, access to evaluation of programs and best practice modelling to support Councils in delivering community safety programs.

9) **What are some of the prominent current crime prevention programs being run in your area?**

City of Casey’s project management/program delivery experience in the specialised area of community safety includes, and is not limited to:

- **Community Services & Safety Expo** – Council Officers holds an annual expo in Cranbourne in partnership with Departments of Justice and Human Services (Victorian State Government), Windermere Communities for Children, Cranbourne Community Plan. The
expo celebrates Community Safety Month and provides information and advice on a wide range of services and programs available to Cranbourne residents. Other stakeholders included organisations such as Victoria Police, State Emergency Services, Country Fire Authority, Southern Health and Peninsula Legal Service.

- **Casey Railway Station Crime Prevention Promotion** – Council Officers annually attend all Casey Railway Stations to promote ‘Safety on Trains’ and ‘Keep your Car and Valuables Safe and Secure’. This project is in partnership with Victoria Police and Metro Trains.

- **Casey Neighbourhood Watch Committee (NHW)** – Council supports the new NHW Model introduced by Victoria Police in July 2010. The new concept has put more onus on the Casey NHW Committee to be more active and to target specific topical and current crime prevention initiatives by engaging and working with community groups and residents to achieve positive outcomes.


- **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)** - In partnership with Victoria Police, Community Safety team facilitates an internal CPTED training package.

- **Graffiti Management program** - Centred on ‘Eradication’ (graffiti is removed within one working day from all Council assets and qualifying privately owned residential, commercial, retail and industrial properties by Council’s graffiti removal contractor); ‘Education’ (All grade 5 and year 8 students at Casey’s schools are presented with an education program) and ‘Enforcement’ (Local Law addresses the prohibition of graffiti, possession of aerosol spray paint cans and the sale of aerosol spray paint cans; regular liaison with Casey Police Service on intelligence and graffiti tag tracking).

- **‘Graffiti Hotline’** - This service is available 24/7 by contacting 1800 VANDAL (1800 826 325) to report graffiti for prompt removal.

- **‘Hoon Hotline’** – The City of Casey ‘Hoon Hotline’ program continues to work collaboratively with the State Government funded ‘Crime Stoppers’ ‘Hoon Hotline’. The City of Casey Hoon Hotline offers residents the ability to report irresponsible and antisocial behaviour within the City of Casey.

- **Keeping Drivers Safe & Mobile** – Council assists in facilitation of road safety sessions targeted at those aged 55 and over. The programs assist our older community with the availability of public transport, vehicle safety features, impact/effect of driving skills while taking prescription drugs, and discussions regarding road rules, statistics and safety.

- **L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program** - With funding from VicRoads (State Government), the City of Casey established this three year program commencing in 2010 to assist disadvantaged young people achieve the 120 hours of driver training required to apply for their probationary licence. Using a vehicle donated by Berwick Mazda and following up to seven professional driving lessons with a local driving instructor, young learner drivers are matched to a dedicated volunteer mentor driver to undertake their supervised driving.

- **Looking After Our Mates** – Road safety program, promoting the responsible consumption of alcohol, delivered in partnership with the Mornington Peninsula National Football League to eight sporting clubs (football and netball) within the City of Casey.

- **Making Motorcycling Safer** – Is a free skills training program offered to mature aged riders returning to riding, or those who have recently upgraded. This project is partly funded by VicRoads.

- **Not So Fast** – Traffic Accident Commission (State Government) funded the purchase of a Speed Alert (SAM) trailer, to monitor speeds around school zone areas during pick up and drop off times.

- **Safe Plate Number Plate Fitting Days** – Council Officers hold a number of these events which remain popular with residents. Council works closely with stakeholders namely Victoria Police, SES, CFA and local businesses to support these events.

- **Teens Week** – Delivery of a road safety program in partnership with Country Fire Authority (CFA), Victoria Police, Department of Justice (State Government), VicRoads (State Government) and the RACV. The full day program is offered to all Year 11 students in the City of Casey.

- **‘50 In My Street’** – The ‘50 In My Street’ bin sticker program is currently supported by large number of local households to assist in the reduction of speeds in local streets.
For further information on community safety related activities delivered by the City of Casey refer to www.casey.vic.gov.au/communitysafety

Other prominent externally funded activities:

Promoting Peace in Families: was a 3 year project jointly funded by the National Community Crime Prevention Programme (Federal Attorney General's Department), an Australian Government Initiative. It is a joint project between the City of Casey, Cardinia Casey Community Health Service and the Casey Pastors Network. The project aimed to educate and strengthen the capacity of diverse communities within the City of Casey to identify, prevent and respond to family violence. Family violence has been identified as a significant issue within the municipality of Casey. The project was awarded an Australian Crime and Violence Prevention National Award. For further information on this project refer to www.caseyconnect.net.au/promotingpeace/

SafeStart: A child injury prevention project funded by the Victorian Department of Human Services in the City of Casey from 2005-2009. The aim of the project was to minimise the risk of unintentional injuries amongst children aged between 0-8 years, such as falls, poisoning, burns and road accidents. For further information refer to http://www.casey.vic.gov.au/safestart/

10) Which are successful and which are not? Why are they ‘successful’ or not?

All programs have been successful to varying degrees. Their success can be attributed to Council’s commitment to ‘Community Safety’ and the interest of residents, visitors and business traders.

11) How is success measured in these instances? What evaluation, if any, do you undertake with regard to your community safety and crime prevention programs?

Success in community safety activities has traditionally been based on methods of benchmarking and community consensus. More elaborate evaluation tools are being devised by the Community Safety Department in the development of an ‘Evaluation matrix’ made up of Process, Impact and Outcomes indicators for any future community safety activities being delivered by the Department. Perhaps further consideration may be given by the State to working more closely with local government in developing evaluation tools for community safety and crime prevention programs, and consistent indicators that could be compared across the State. There is potential scope for raising the professional profile and building the skills capacity of community safety officers across the State through more structured professional development opportunities offered by the State.

12) Do you employ a dedicated Crime Prevention Officer? If council does employ a CPO or similar – what are their roles?

Council does not employ a ‘Crime prevention officer’, however, as previously indicated we do employ a ‘Community Safety Officer’. The Community Safety Officer role is a full time position and the role and activities associated include, but are not limited to:

- Undertaking ongoing assessment to enable community safety needs to be identified and addressed.
- Developing and maintaining appropriate ongoing partnerships with community and voluntary organisations to support a safe community.
- Prioritising and implementing strategies to foster a sense of community safety and reduce the perception of the prevalence of crime.
- Overseeing the implementation of Council’s Graffiti Management Program including supervision of the Graffiti Project Officer.
- Undertaking Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) safety assessments on a range of Council’s assets.
- Working with key stakeholders and internal departments to undertake promotional activities including, developing and implementing programs of activities for relevant community safety events and to promote community responsibility in dealing with crime/injury prevention issues.
- Preparing Council reports and correspondence to other stakeholders on a range of crime prevention issues and initiatives.
As noted previously, there are a wide range of positions within Council that have a role in Community Safety promotion, crime and injury prevention.

13) Do you have a community safety committee (or similar such as a Health and Wellbeing Committee if this is where community safety and crime prevention matters sit)? How effective are these committees in establishing crime prevention initiatives.

As previously presented the ‘Safer Casey Partnership’ is the key strategic committee where community safety and crime prevention matters are considered. This committee is effective in that it brings together all key agencies across the municipality to address crime and community safety issues. Problems have been met with relevant staff changes across the different organisations and the varying representation at meetings.

The success of the network has not necessarily been in the area of project delivery or outcome focus, but rather on the concept of partnership. It provides opportunities for the various organisations to consider joint programs and service delivery. This can be evidenced in the positive working relationship developed through the Casey Safety Village. This unique Safety Village concept showcases the Casey Road Safety Education Centre (CRSEC) and Country Fire Authority Learning Centre. It delivers road and fire safety educational programs to kindergarten and primary school children. This collaborative effort between the two organisations is evidence to the success of the Safer Casey Partnership.

14) Are their specific communities for whom specialist crime prevention programs may be necessary? For example, indigenous communities, elderly people, youth? What do you believe your roles are in this regard?

As identified by the Safer Casey Partnership and previously discussed, Youth related programs, supporting CALD communities, Family wellbeing (including family violence and child safety) are deemed as key priority areas for the City of Casey.

Family Wellbeing: With one the largest 0-4 year old populations in the nation, Child safety is a priority for the municipality. Similarly, City of Casey by municipality has the highest level of Victoria Police responses to family violence in the State

CALD Communities: A quarter of Casey residents were born in non-English speaking countries with over 150 languages spoken. Council is keen to ensure that its role in the community remains effective and relevant in the provision and development of community safety programs for residents from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

Youth: The City of Casey has one of the largest youth populations of any local government area in Australia. The Casey youth population aged 10 to 25 years is currently at 59,953 making up 24% of the total Casey population. It is forecasted that Casey’s youth population will continue to grow from its current level to approximately 72,598 by 2021.

As identified these three key groups will need support and varying levels of intervention. This would range from a mix of early intervention (targeted service and programs), individual behaviour change programs, social marketing campaigns, community strengthening and capacity building.

The answers provided to this parliamentary inquiry are generic in nature and should further information be required please do not hesitate to contact Caroline Bell, Manager Community Safety