STRATHFIELD COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

2016-2020
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Community Safety Strategy was developed and written by the following members of the Community Services Team at Strathfield Council:

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Aine Howard, Genevieve Carey and Alyssa Muscat.

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INTRODUCTION:

Strathfield Council has over the course of several Crime Prevention Plans, prioritised the safety and wellbeing of its residents. Community concerns about local crime, whether actual or perceived, have been consistently highlighted as priority issues by the Strathfield community and Council’s role in addressing these is seen as one of advocacy, education and planning to reduce the occurrence of offences across a number of offence categories.

In the development of its Community Strategic Plan 2025, community safety priorities identified through community consultation and engagement are listed under “Community Wellbeing Goals and Strategies” and generally mandate that:

2.1 Strathfield is a safe, healthy and clean place
   2.1.1. Collaborate with Police and relevant parties to plan and support initiatives to address community safety and crime prevention.
   2.1.2. Protect the health and safety of the Strathfield community.
   2.1.3. Ensure Strathfield maintains a safe, clean and attractive local environment.


Strathfield Council’s approach towards crime prevention is based on strong partnerships that draw on relationships with community stakeholders, NSW Government agencies, such as NSW Police and Transport NSW, and other local government organisations.

Council acknowledges that a key contributor to some of its crime statistics is the nature of the LGA, such as the co-location of both major rail and road transport hubs in the area.

When offences such as Steal from Person are analysed, hotspots are noted around the Strathfield Town Square and Transport interchange, the DFO shopping complex and the Flemington Markets precinct.

Local conditions such as these create particular challenges for Council and necessitate very particular partnerships in order to work effectively against offence trends.

As part of its research in developing its strategy, Strathfield Council has consulted with a number of its partners to understand characteristics of crime in the LGA. Arrest records indicate that being a transport hub is an enabler of offence and that many of the offenders arrested for offence locally commute to the LGA in order to offend. Public transport is a key enabler for this group and in many instances provides ease of escape without detection. In terms of priority for NSW Police Transport Command, Strathfield is highly ranked and Council liaises with this unit regularly to ensure that a very visible presence in the transport network is maintained.

In the course of developing this strategy, it was noted that data regarding liquor offences jumped by 155%. Council liaised with NSW Police Flemington Local Area Command to establish that this increase was largely attributable to licensing issues regarding compliance. It should however be noted that there has been a substantial increase in the number of licensed premises over the past twelve months.

As noted later in this strategy, Strathfield Council is moving towards the implementation of CCTV as a Crime Prevention measure in heavily trafficked town centre areas. Currently, a grant application is lodged for the rollout of this technology in Strathfield Town Centre and Homebush retail area, through to the Main Library located in Rochester Street.

It is anticipated that the area adjacent to Flemington Railway Station will receive coverage to the interchange area as a result of the station upgrade, due for completion in 2017. This area will need to be re-assessed for future CCTV camera upgrades once this work is complete and data is available.

In order for this strategy to be adopted by Council for public exhibition, it was referred to the NSW Police, Flemington Local Area Command for comment and any recommended changes, before it was referred back to Council for final adoption and implementation.

Community comment and feedback were also considered and were appropriate, included in this final copy adopted by Strathfield Council.
DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGY

The Community Safety Strategy has been developed through extensive consultation with Council’s community partners and local residents generally.

In order to ensure an unbiased result, Council engaged Dr Judy Lambert of Community Solutions to conduct comprehensive and inclusive community consultations. The groups consulted included, but were not limited to:

- Culturally & Linguistically Diverse groups
- General residents
- Carers group
- Seniors group
- Playgroup parents
- Strathfield Girls High School group
- Mothers & Babies walking group
- Conversation club

From these consultations, Council received 68 formal responses to its surveys and aside from participants identifying a number of crime hotspots, participants were asked to identify those strategies that they believed to be the most useful in improving actual offence rates and the perceptions of safety for local residents:

Community workshops report: Strathfield community safety & crime prevention

### TABLE 4: WHAT COUNCIL CAN DO TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY SAFETY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME</th>
<th>NO. OF TIMES IDENTIFIED IN EACH GROUP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CALD (N=3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing surveillance personnel (a)</td>
<td>1 2 3 0 2 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing community awareness/information about crime &amp; safety</td>
<td>3 0 1 4 1 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved lighting</td>
<td>1 6 2 1 2 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased use of surveillance cameras</td>
<td>1 0 0 1 0 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road safety measures</td>
<td>0 1 1 0 1 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installing emergency phones</td>
<td>0 0 0 0 0 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor awareness</td>
<td>0 0 0 0 0 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1 2 1 1 0 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 7 11 8 9 6 51 22 18 132

*N= the number of participants in each focus group.
Numbers in bold are the most often identified action within each group.

(a) Although identified as an action for Council, these responses often referred to increased police presence.

Aside from reference to the above consultation data and BOCSAR statistical evidence, Council has consulted closely with NSW Police to develop responses to specific concerns raised by NSW Police, Flemington LAC.

One such instance of this approach being used would be concerns raised regarding offence spikes for Break and Enter offences in the Courallie / Mandemar Avenues area.

### Once aware of the issues, Council has:

1. Responded with changes to some of the DA requirements for multi storey dwellings, thus target hardening new developments as these come on line.
2. Visited the area with educational material and engaged with the community, in partnership with NSW Police to identify offenders trends and collect intelligence that supports the development of this strategy. Some of the feedback collected in such visits also informed strategy development.

Anecdotal reports coming to Council have also been considered in Strategy development, once validated with the appropriate authority for accuracy.

### Other avenues used by Council in the development of this strategy include:

1. NSW Police – through Community Safety audits, attendance at Community Safety Precinct meetings and regular liaison with the Flemington Local Area Command
2. Participation in the Flemington Local Area Command Stop Domestic Violence Action group.
3. Participation in the Local Government Crime Prevention Network and advocacy through this group.

In summary, Council has utilised as many sources as possible to ensure that the strategy developed is inclusive of both evidenced data and community perception when developing its plan and focus for the next four years.
COMMUNITY PROFILE

Who are we?

Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA) Profile

The Strathfield LGA is centrally located in the Inner-Western Suburbs of Sydney. It sits between the cities of Sydney and Parramatta, approximately 14 Kilometers from Sydney CBD and it shares a border with Sydney Olympic Park.

Strathfield is well known for its transport, schools, attractive streetscapes, parks and buildings and has a strong history of heritage preservation. The Strathfield Council area is predominantly a residential area with some industrial and commercial land use. It is an important location for business with the highest amount of developed and undeveloped employment land in the Inner-West. The land area of Strathfield is 14KM² with a population density of 27.61 persons/ per hectare. The Strathfield LGA includes the suburbs of Belfield (part), Greenacre (part), Homebush, Homebush West, Strathfield and Strathfield South.

The main features of the Strathfield Council area include; Strathfield Town Centre, Sydney’s Paddy Markets, Australian Catholic University, Airey Park, Mason Park, Strathfield Park, Hudson Park Public Golf Course and Strathfield Golf Club.

Population:

- As of June 2011 the population of Strathfield was 35,188.
- From 2000-2010 Strathfield experienced an annual average of 2.5% population growth, one of the highest in Sydney’s Inner West.
- From 2006-2011, Strathfield’s population grew by 3,210 people (10.04%).
- By 2026 the population is estimated to be at 45,885.
- In Strathfield 52% of dwellings were medium or high density buildings, compared to 40% in Greater Sydney.

(Australian Bureau of statistics, 2011)

Where we come from:

- 28% of the Strathfield population are not Australian citizens; this is significantly higher than the rate of non-Australian citizens in Greater Sydney (17.5%). Strathfield has an Indigenous population of 0.3%.

Country of Birth:

- In 2011 a total of 18,511 residents indicated that they were born overseas; accounting for 52.6% of Strathfield’s population.
- 49.6% of Strathfield’s population comes from non-English speaking countries, China (9.3%) and India (8.0%) being most dominant. This is clearly higher than the proportion of Greater Sydney (34.2%).
- Strathfield has increasing amounts of overseas arrivals, 26.1% of overseas residents have arrived since 2006. Whereas in Greater Sydney 20.1% have arrived since 2006.

Emerging Groups:

In conjunction with Ancestry data from 2011 census it is evident that residents from Anglo-Saxon backgrounds are decreasing in numbers. In contrast the following groups are increasing:

- The Chinese population has increased by 1,275 from 2006-2011.
- The Indian population has increased by 1,187 from 2006-2011.
- The Tamil population has increased by 549 from 2006-2011.

Language:

- In the Strathfield LGA 61% of residents spoke a language other than English at home.
- The predominant languages are Korean (8.9%) and Cantonese (8.0%); significantly higher than Greater Sydney’s most prominent language Arabic at (4.1%), Cantonese (3.0%) and Mandarin (3.0%).
- 32.1% of the population of Strathfield have English as their only language.
HOW ARE WE DIFFERENT?

**Education:**

Strathfield is known as the educational center of the Inner West. It is home to well-regarded public and private schools, the schools cater to students of all levels: tertiary, primary and secondary as well as to populations from different religious backgrounds. There are 15 schools in total, 1 university and 1 Pre-Uni New college.

- 12,192 people in Strathfield identified as having tertiary qualifications in 2011.
- The rate of individuals without a qualification was 36.7% which is minimally lower than Greater Sydney (40.5%).
- Individuals completing high school education increased from 16,023 (61.1%) in 2006 to 19,761 (67.1%) in 2011.

Australian Catholic University Mt Saint Mary campus is located in the center of the LGA, attracting domestic and international students (189 AEI research).

In addition both Meriden and Strathfield Girls High Schools provide education for students from overseas and students with English as a second language.

In Homebush Boys High School it is estimated that in 2014 out of 1,245 students, 52% of them came from non-local addresses therefore the majority of these students used public transport to reach school.

**Age Structure:**

- The median age of Strathfield LGA is 33; this is 5 years younger than NSW median age.
- The largest age group in Strathfield in 2011 was 25-29 year olds with just under 12% in this age category; this is significantly higher than greater Sydney with 7.8% in the same age category.
- Strathfield has a larger youth population than the Greater Sydney area with 19.7% of the population in the 12-25 year old age category compared with 16.9% in the Greater Sydney area.

**Transport / Travel**

Strathfield is known as a major transport hub. The LGA features three railway stations: Strathfield, Homebush and Flemington. Strathfield Train Station links a number of lines including the Western, Inner West, Northern, South, Blue Mountains, Southern Highlands, Newcastle and Central Coast train lines.

- Strathfield station has 13-16 trains arriving and departing per hour each way, with additional trains during weekday peak hours. This results in a minimum of 234 trains between 6am and midnight.
- 28.8% of the working population of Strathfield uses the train to get to and from work, 2.1% use the bus and 2.8% walk.
- 89.7% of individuals who work in Strathfield live outside the LGA, many of whom use public transport to get to work (10,000) (Household Travel Survey, 2011).

Port Enfield, formerly Enfield marshalling yards, was developed to reduce traffic congestion between Port Botany and rail road networks (Hutchison Ports, 2012). Port Enfield provides rail freight transport via the pre-existing Intermodal Logistic Centre.

The development is 60 hectares and is located on the border of Strathfield South and Greenacre (Strathfield Council, 2013). The port has been designed to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and has the capability of moving 300,000 containers a year (Hutchison Ports 2012). It is estimated that, 1000 semi-trailers and b-doubles will use the route within a 24 hour cycle along with thousands of smaller trucks on residential streets (Strathfield Scene, 2013).

The site has intra-state rail connections allowing easy access to NSW for importers and exporters. Additionally the port is located centrally and is serviced by the Hume Highway, Roberts Road as well as being close to the M4 and Parramatta Road. This large industrial site creates a larger transient population. Transient populations are more likely to be victims and perpetrators of crime (Greenberg et al. 1983, p.834).

**Employment:**

- Of the 16,489 people employed in Strathfield, 60.5% work full time and 30.7% work part-time.
- The unemployment rate in 2011 was 6.4%, which is higher than the greater Sydney average of 5.7%.

**SEIFA Index of Disadvantage**

- Strathfield Council area scored 1022.1 on the SEIFA Index of disadvantage suggesting the area is relatively prosperous, however, there are locations within the Strathfield LGA that are gravely disadvantaged and have scored significantly lower than the Australian, New South Wales and the Greater Sydney area with scores of 847.4 in Greenacre, 936.4 in Belfield and 984.4 in Homebush West.
HOW ARE WE DIFFERENT?

Index of relative socio-economic disadvantage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strathfield Council area’s small areas and benchmark areas</th>
<th>2011 index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield</td>
<td>1,053.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney - Inner West SA4</td>
<td>1,042.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield South</td>
<td>1,027.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield Council area</td>
<td>1,022.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homebush</td>
<td>1,020.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Sydney</td>
<td>1,011.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1,002.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New South Wales</td>
<td>995.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homebush West</td>
<td>984.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belfield</td>
<td>936.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Councils</td>
<td>925.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenacre</td>
<td>847.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011)

· Observing the area with which are clearly more disadvantaged (Greenacre, Belfield and Homebush West) there is a significant correlation between the SIEFA Index and low levels of education.

· In Greenacre 54% of residents have no qualifications, 43.3% only completed below year 11 schooling and 13.2% have a university qualification. In Belfield 49.8% of residents have no qualification, 39.6% only completed below year 11 schooling and 15.5% achieved a university qualification. In Homebush West 33.7% of residents have no qualification whilst 17.5% of residents completed below year 11 schooling.

In a study conducted by Machin et al (2010) they concluded from looking at different data sources across Britain, crime was significantly related to education and this was particularly evident with regard to property crimes. They also suggest that there is substantial social and economic benefits to encouraging an extra year of schooling in order to obtain a qualification.

“Policies that subsidise schooling and human capital investment have significant potential to reduce crime in the longer run by increasing skill levels hence; improving education amongst offenders and potential offenders should be viewed as a key policy lever that could be used in the drive to combat crime”.

CRIME PROFILE

To facilitate the development of the Community Safety Strategy, Strathfield Council has undertaken extensive research and analysis of local crime trends, in order to create a comprehensive crime profile, that

1. Sets local crime priorities
2. Analyses current situational data
3. Brings to account environmental and structural factors influencing offences
4. Considers stakeholder and community views.

Data has been sourced from Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) crime reports. It is important to note that these statistics are drawn from reports to NSW Police or offences that NSW Police may have acted on independently of report, resulting in limitations as to the data recorded.

The accuracy of crime statistics can be adversely affected by many social factors, such as an understanding what constitutes crime, fear of authority figures and organisations, suspicion of government or quite simply, a lack of motivation to report.

Property losses are more likely to be reported, as in many cases, there is the possibility of recovery of loss through insurance; Crimes against persons are less likely to be reported and in some offences, such as assault, under reporting may be as high as 30% under the real rate.

For the Strathfield LGA, whilst data obtained through BOCSAR is the most reliable information available, it is noted that demographic shifts towards a more dominant CALD origin of residents would have had some impacts on crime being reported and if anything, reported data will be under the true offence rates.

It is acknowledged that the Strathfield LGA is undergoing rapid and significant change and as a result this strategy will need to be reviewed annually to ensure that it responds to local needs.
CENSUS

In the period between the census of 2006 and 2011, a significant shift occurred in Strathfield LGA demographics:

Birthplace - Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRATHFIELD COUNCIL AREA - TOTAL PERSONS (USUAL RESIDENCE)</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birthplace</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Greater Sydney %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Overseas Born</td>
<td>18,511</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>34.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-English speaking backgrounds</td>
<td>17,453</td>
<td>49.6</td>
<td>26.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main English speaking countries</td>
<td>1,058</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>14,015</td>
<td>39.8</td>
<td>59.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not stated</td>
<td>2,662</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>35,188</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011

Data available from BOCSAR is provided in a number of formats:

- Actual offence numbers
- As a rate per 100,000 of population, either within the LGA or within other relative measures
- As a ranking for the LGA across the state of NSW.

Each of these tools is a useful benchmark of comparison.

To establish the environment in which Council is currently operating, the following data compares the “starting point” for the last Community Safety Strategy prepared by Council and the current position in relation to the same offence types.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENCE</th>
<th>TOTAL RECORDED OFFENCES FOR JANUARY-DECEMBER 2010</th>
<th>TOTAL RECORDED OFFENCES FOR JANUARY-DECEMBER 2015 + TREND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assault – domestic violence related</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>102 Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault – non domestic Violence related</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>137 Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery without a weapon</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>11 trend not calculated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery with a firearm</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0 trend not calculated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery with a weapon not a firearm</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7 trend not calculated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break and enter dwelling</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>209 Down by 8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break and enter – non-dwelling</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>47 Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicle theft</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>95 down 10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steal from motor vehicle</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>248 down 5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steal from person</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>86 stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>419 stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malicious damage to property</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>262 stable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BOCSAR DATA
In terms of improvement, there are several areas where this can be noted:

- Numerically, there have been significant improvements over the five year period for all categories of Robbery and whilst trends have not been calculated, there has been a reduction of 81% for robbery without a weapon in five years, 100% reduction for Robbery with a firearm and a 66.6% reduction for Robbery with a weapon not a firearm in that same 5 year period.
- Break and Enter dwelling has reduced by 37% over the five year period and has trended down by 8.7% for the twelve month period ended December 2015.
- Motor vehicle theft has reduced by 42% on 2010 results and is trending down by 10.1% in the most recent 12 months.
- Steal from motor vehicle is 24% lower than results for 2010 and has trended down in the most recent year by 5.3%.

On the basis of this data, it can be held that there have been significant improvements within the LGA in regard to a number of offences, some of which (i.e Robbery) were previously identified local priorities. (Strathfield Council Crime Prevention Strategy 2011-2014).

This is not the case with Steal From person, a priority in that same plan. The incidence of this offence has increased.

Also, when viewed in the context of surrounding LGAs and the NSW state wide performance, the results for the Strathfield LGA in the three identified priority offences indicate the imperative for further improvements.

Through the use of these three measures in combination, three offences are indicated as priority:

- Offence rates in 2010 stood at 438 with a ranking of 2
- In 2015, rates had improved very marginally to 419 with a ranking of 6
- Per 100,000 of population, the incidence had shifted from 1183.7 per 100,000 population to 1061.3 per 100,000 population.
- Relatively speaking, Strathfield LGA exceeds the NSW and Canada Bay rates, but is exceeded by the Burwood numbers.
STRATHFIELD COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

STEAL FROM PERSON

- Offence rates in 2010 stood at 63 with an LGA ranking of 10.
- By 2015 the offence rates were 86 with a ranking of 1
- Per 100,000 of population, the offences had grown from 170.3 per 100,000 to 217.8 per 100,000
- Relative to surrounding LGAs and NSW overall, Strathfield LGA had the highest offence incidence

STEAL FROM PERSON

- Peak times for offence between 12pm and 6pm on Saturday and Sunday
- Most likely victim females aged 40+
- Most likely to occur in retail spaces
- Most likely offenders are female aged 40+

BREAK AND ENTER DWELLING

- Offence rates have reduced over 5 years from 330 reports to 209 offences. Rankings have improved from 24th to 41st, a significant change.
- However, relative to NSW and surrounding LGAs, Strathfield is not performing well.
- Incidence per 100,000 of population has improved from 891.8 per 100,000 of population in 2010 to 529.4 per 100,000 of population in 2015.

BREAK AND ENTER

- Peak times for offence Thursday between 12pm and 6pm
- Most likely offenders males between 30-39 years
OTHER OFFENCES:

By identifying these offences as priority, Council does not dismiss the impacts of other offence types.

However, those prioritised are offences where, despite repeated projects and programs to drive down the rates, relative to neighbours and NSW, the LGA is being outperformed. These are also offences that have a very personal impact on victims and increase community perceptions of threat to the individual.

In creating priorities, Council will continue to address those offences not prioritised and details of strategies to do so are included within this strategy.

A further key element for this plan is the scheduled bi-annual review of data for those offences not prioritised to monitor and respond in a timely manner to any emerging trends or shifts in the data, the objective being responsive interventions that prevent crime growth.

The strategies detailed here will clearly outline how Council will proceed for the next four years and mark, in some areas, a departure from past policy.

Council has applied for significant funding to rollout a CCTV camera network for the Strathfield Town Centre and pedestrian access route and the Homebush retail strip from the Crescent to the Main Library in Rochester Street. The system to be implemented will record digitally footage of these precincts for a period of two weeks and a permanent record will be downloaded from cameras and kept as a Council record.

Should external funding not be available, it is proposed that allowance for the implementation of this technology in future budgets is essential.

The overall objective of this program is the implementation of strategies that either reduce or eliminate crime, either as a primary or secondary intervention.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Government Area</th>
<th>Crime</th>
<th>Total number of reported offences</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 population</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield</td>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assault - Domestic Violence</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>289.2</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assault - Non Domestic Violence</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>394.6</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Assault / Sexual Offences</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indecent Assault</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robbery without a weapon</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>154.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robbery with a Firearm</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robbery with a weapon not a firearm</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>56.8</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break and Enter Dwelling</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>891.8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break and Enter Non Dwelling</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>156.7</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>440.5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Motor Vehicle</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>878.3</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Retail Store</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>194.6</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Dwelling</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>197.3</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Person</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>170.3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>1,183.7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Malicious Damage to Property</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>883.7</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Major Crimes in Strathfield Local Government Area 2014 - 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Government Area</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>Total number of reported offences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield</td>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assault - Domestic Violence</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assault - Non Domestic Violence</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Assault / Sexual Offences</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indecent Assault</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robbery without a weapon</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robbery with a Firearm</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robbery with a weapon not a firearm</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break and Enter Dwelling</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break and Enter Non Dwelling</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Motor Vehicle</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Retail Store</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Dwelling</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steal from Person</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Malicious Damage to Property</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Major Crimes in Selected Local Government Areas

**January 2015 - December 2015**

- **Fraud**
- **Steal from Person**
- **Break and Enter (dwelling)**
- **Assault (non domestic assault)**
- **Robbery (without a weapon)**
- **Steal from Motor Vehicle**
- **Assault (domestic assault)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>STRATHFIELD</th>
<th>NSW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>2250</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steal from Person</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>2250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break and Enter (dwelling)</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault (non domestic assault)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery (without a weapon)</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steal from Motor Vehicle</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault (domestic assault)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
aim of strategy:
To reduce the levels of mailbox fraud, internet fraud and identity theft in the LGA.

objectives:
• To work with developers, bodies corporate and planners to develop target hardening methods against mailbox theft
• To heighten community awareness of this crime and the current data and encourage incident reporting, particularly in the areas of eCommerce
• To educate the community on risk minimisation strategies
• To advocate with responsible authorities to adopt more secure methods of delivery of sensitive documents and media
### ACTION AREA 1 - FRAUD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
<th>MILESTONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Include letterbox location and design in Strathfield Council DCP. Work with Council Planning Division to consider DA’s. Review current.</td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>Community Services Planning</td>
<td>Council Planning, NSW Police</td>
<td>Changes to DCP.</td>
<td>Agree with planning department changes in the DCP. Buildings constructed within DCP guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage placement of Letterboxes, particularly in multi-dwelling complexes, in locations that increase difficulty and risk for intending offenders. Encourage the use in developments of more sophisticated letterbox construction that increases risk of detection for offender.</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>NSW Police Council Planning</td>
<td>Improved mail box design incorporated into plans for new units. Increased number of tamper proof mailboxes being used in developments.</td>
<td>Identity effective designs. Include design in DCP for unit blocks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased community awareness - Rollout of 2 localised campaigns each year of strategy.</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Service</td>
<td>NSW Police</td>
<td>8 awareness programs delivered. Increased level of collection of cards by local residents.</td>
<td>Inform residents through community awareness exhibitions. Develop and publish pamphlet with section to write in expiry dates of cards. Distribute publication.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ACTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
<th>MILESTONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Media Stories. Increase media stories on the risks and outcomes of mailbox theft.</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Increased awareness about identity theft.</td>
<td>Design promotional materials and distribute with no junk mail signs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare mail box theft fact sheet. Make available through hard copy distribution, on internet, through social media, eye watch and email.</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>Communications, NSW Police</td>
<td>Increased awareness about identity theft.</td>
<td>Increased media stories about mailbox theft. Increased awareness about MBT and how to prevent being targeted. Encourage reporting of Fraud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Safety programs. Educate about risk of identity theft. CYBER smart resources developed and distributed. Work with community groups, schools and universities to promote internet safety.</td>
<td>Quarterly 2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Increased awareness about online scams. Increased awareness about protecting identity online. The number of cases of identity theft in the LGA will decrease.</td>
<td>Utilise Council’s website to promote internet safety. Internet safety and preventing identity theft. Develop internet safety programs in connection with IT experts. Link in with community groups and IT education programs to implement programs. Promote Internet security mechanisms and identity protection within schools, universities and community groups.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACTION AREA 2 - STEAL FROM PERSON

RATES OF OFFENCE

INCIDENTS OF THEFT (STEAL FROM PERSON) IN SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS FROM JAN 2015 TO DEC 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Government Area</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burwood</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Bay</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield</td>
<td>2928</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INCIDENTS OF THEFT (STEAL FROM PERSON) FROM JANUARY 2015 TO DECEMBER 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenacre</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homebush</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homebush West</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CURRENT HOTSPOTS

INCIDENTS OF THEFT (STEAL FROM PERSON) FROM JAN 2015 TO DEC 2015

- **HIGH**
- **MEDIUM**
- **LOW**
AIM OF STRATEGY:

To improve the safety of residents and visitors in the public domain and to improve the Strathfield LGA’s statistical ranking so that it no longer sits in the Top 10 for NSW.

OBJECTIVES:

- To increase community awareness of how to avoid victimisation, particularly around personal behaviours that contribute to risk.
- To identify risk factors in hot spot areas and implement plans to address risk minimisation.
- To activate space around hot spots to increase informal surveillance and encourage guardianship of space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
<th>MILESTONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety Audits</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>NSW Police Council Operations areas</td>
<td>Recommendations for improvements in environmental design to reduce ‘Steal from Person’</td>
<td>Safety audits conducted in identified hot spot areas. Mechanisms identified to reduce ‘Steal from Person’ offences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPTED</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>NSW Police Strathfield Youth Engagement Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Increased vision of public spaces Decreased nooks and crannies for criminals to utilise Assist natural surveillance</td>
<td>Assessment of hot spot areas Report written up Recommendations implemented CPTED principles applied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light up Strathfield</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>Strathfield Council Operations areas Ausgrid</td>
<td>Increase community perception of safety Reduced opportunity for ‘Steal from Person’ offences in lit up areas</td>
<td>Identify where lighting is needed Lighting improvements program developed Develop a maintenance plan Implement maintenance plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ACTION AREA 2 - STEAL FROM PERSON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
<th>MILESTONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk wise - get active get safe: - Running clubs - Exercise classes - Sports clubs - Extends guardianship - make use of paths in existence (bikes rivers) - provide walking tracks for walking groups - mums and bubs - aged - families - activate parks for group exercise - encourage walking groups to travel by hotspot areas at hotspot times - create natural surveillance and guardianship</td>
<td>2016–2020 Ongoing weekly</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>Heart Foundation Walking Groups Running clubs Fitness professionals Local Service providers Council’s Recreation Planners</td>
<td>Increased surveillance of hotspots Increased perceived community safety Decreased public space offences Space activation and ownership Increase safety for students and workers commuting Extended guardianship Recruitment of Volunteers Formation of new walking groups Public exercise classes taking place in public parks Recreational sports taking place in public Parks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community awareness and educational programs - Gone in a flash - Who else likes your stuff - Get home safe - Walk wise - Engage community</td>
<td>2016–2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>Local Secondary Schools Australian Catholic University Transport NSW Flemington Markets Authority DFO Chambers of Commerce</td>
<td>Increased community awareness about ‘Steal from Person’ crimes Decrease incidents of international students being increased perceived community safety when commuting on public transport Engagement with Schools and University Interactive awareness program developed Programs implemented within community groups, Schools, commuter hot spots and ACU Promotion material displayed in hotspot areas i.e. Train Stations, Shopping Centre’s and Markets. Promotional materials given out to public, community groups, commuters and International Students.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### ACTIONS

- Safety expo (annually) Run in Strathfield Town Square with representatives from Flemington LAC, Transit police, Sydney Trains, international students, commuters, retail managers and residents. Include staging of mock offence Provide information on how to prevent crime. How to avoid being a victim. Discuss areas of concern. Highlight the importance of reporting all crimes to relevant authorities.
- Increase perceived community safety Increase social cohesion and inclusion Decrease rates of ‘Steal from Person’ offences Increase trust in authorities and encourage victims to report crime Increased reporting of instances of ‘Steal from Person’ crimes
- Strengthen formal surveillance - Advocate to Flemington LAC for heightened visibility of officers in hotspot areas Man police station at set times/create opening hours
- Increase perceived safety Deter offenders Decrease rates of ‘Steal from Person’ offences.
- Advocate to Flemington LAC Develop merchant groups and promote benefits of reporting suspicious behaviours
- Communication - better engagement - Volunteers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
<th>MILESTONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety expo (annually) Run in Strathfield Town Square with representatives from Flemington LAC, Transit police, Sydney Trains, international students, commuters, retail managers and residents. Include staging of mock offence Provide information on how to prevent crime. How to avoid being a victim. Discuss areas of concern. Highlight the importance of reporting all crimes to relevant authorities.</td>
<td>2016-2020 annual</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>NSW Police - Flemington Local Area Command and Transport Command Transport NSW Other service providers and stakeholders</td>
<td>Increase perceived community safety Increase social cohesion and inclusion Decrease rates of ‘Steal from Person’ offences Increase trust in authorities and encourage victims to report crime Increased reporting of instances of ‘Steal from Person’ crimes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>strengthened formal surveillance - Advocate to Flemington LAC for heightened visibility of officers in hotspot areas Man police station at set times/create opening hours</td>
<td>2016–2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>NSW Police - Flemington Local Area Command</td>
<td>Increase perceived safety Deter offenders Decrease rates of ‘Steal from Person’ offences.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space activation - Evening markets, entertainment, busking in Strathfield square, SRQOS Create guardianship and natural surveillance of hot spot areas Engage community with crime prevention</td>
<td>2016–2020 Monthly</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>Local musicians, artists, entertainers</td>
<td>Increase ownership of Strathfield square Increased natural surveillance Increased responsibility for residents to be active bystanders Decreased ‘Steal from Person’ offences in Strathfield square</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication - better engagement - Volunteers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ACTION AREA 2 - STEAL FROM PERSON**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
<th>MILESTONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target Hardening Advocate for restaurants to install Chelsea clips on table to prevent theft of hand bags</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>NSW Police - Flemington Local Area Command and Transport Command Transport NSW Other service providers and stakeholders</td>
<td>Increase perceived community safety Increase social cohesion and inclusion Decrease rates of ‘Steal from Person’ offences Increase trust in authorities and encourage victims to report crime Increased reporting of instances of ‘Steal from Person’ crimes</td>
<td>Expo organised Exhibitors contacted Information presented Decrease in rates of ‘Steal from Person’ offences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage residents to use devices such as micro dots, tracking apps on phones, blacklisting of phones and Karrsafe, Karrfront Screamer bag.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AMENDMENT**
Surveillance and deterrence
A costed plan is developed for the rollout of CCTV cameras surveillance to three main Town Centres within the Strathfield LGA

By June 2017 | Community Services and Infrastructure Planning | NSW Police | Future focussed capital planning is implemented | Preliminary planning document developed and presented to Council

**AMENDMENT**
Surveillance and deterrence
Over Strategy life, Town Centre rollout of CCTV is implemented

By 2020 | Community Services and Infrastructure Planning | NSW Police | Increased capacity to detect illicit or anti-social behaviour in Town Centre areas. Deterrence of criminal activity | Rollout of planned implementation is at least 80% achieved.

---

**ACTION AREA 3 - BREAK AND ENTER**

**RATES OF OFFENCE**

**INCIDENTS OF THEFT (BREAK & ENTER DWELLING) IN SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS FROM JAN 2015 TO DEC 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUBURN</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURWOOD</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANADA BAY</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRATHFIELD</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INCIDENTS OF THEFT (BREAK & ENTER DWELLING) IN SELECTED SUBURBS FROM JANUARY 2015 TO DECEMBER 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELFIELD</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREENACRE</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMEBUSH</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMEBUSH WEST</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRATHFIELD SOUTH</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACTION AREA 3 - BREAK AND ENTER

CURRENT HOTSPOTS

INCIDENTS OF THEFT (STEAL FROM PERSON) FROM JAN 2015 TO DEC 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
<th>MILESTONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review and revise DCP provisions for future DAAs to provide stronger CPTED guidance and possible inclusion of recommendations in relation to access control and storage facilities</td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>NSW Police</td>
<td>Changes to DCP to decrease potential and opportunity for intending offenders</td>
<td>Agree with planning department changes in the DCP. Buildings constructed within DCP guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heighten community awareness in hotspot areas through community BBQs and on site information days</td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>NSW Police</td>
<td>Improved community awareness and watchfulness should lead to increased ownership of space and decreases offence rates</td>
<td>BBQ calendar developed and subsequent offence rates monitored.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued delivery of Break and Enter kits throughout the LGA</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>NSW Police</td>
<td>Kits to be provided to all new residents in their community language</td>
<td>That kits are provided to all new properties on occupation through Strata management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Council proposes to continue active participation in Flemington Local Area Command Stop Domestic Violence Action Group and to work with this group to address domestic violence in LGA.
- Council will continue with its current program of education within local secondary schools for White Ribbon Day.

ASSAULT - non domestic violence related

- With the increase in licensed premises within the LGA, Council will monitor changes to trend for this offence and will recommend programs to address any changes as the need arises.

MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

- Council has approved the posting of a reward of $5000 for information leading to the successful conviction of offenders. A program is currently under development to promote and publicise this incentive.
- In terms of graffiti offences, Council is undertaking a number of Community Art projects in areas of regular offence.

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT AND THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE

- Council will be developing risk awareness education programs for delivery to the community.

ACRONYMS

Acronyms are abbreviations that are used for terms which appear regularly in text. Common acronyms used in this document are below:

ABS: Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACU: Australian Catholic University
AIC: Australian Institute of Criminology
BOCSAR: Bureau of Crime Statistic and Research
CALD: Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
CBD: Central Business District
CCTV: Closed Circuit Television
CPTED: Crime Prevention through Environmental Design
DA: Development Application
DCP: Development Control Point
DV: Domestic Violence
LAC: Local Area Command
LGA: Local Government Area
LGHA: Local Government Housing Act
MVT: Motor Vehicle Theft
NDV: Non Domestic Violence
NSW: New South Wales
SEIFA: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
REFERENCE LIST:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006, ‘Census of Population and Housing’ (id, the population experts).
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- Hutchinson Ports 2012, Enfield; Sydney’s New Intermodal Terminal, Hutchinson Ports Australia, viewed 13 January 2015.
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- Transport for New South Wales 2012, Household Travel Survey 2011/12, HTS.