

# Newcastle City Council

## **Safe City Plan**

### **2017-2020**







Newcastle City Council acknowledges the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, and that they are the proud survivors of more than two hundred years of dispossession.

Council reiterates its commitment to addressing disadvantages and attaining justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this community.





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# OUR SAFE CITY

Newcastle is becoming an increasingly diverse community, with changes in patterns of immigration, age and education levels. Council's Safe City Plan includes actions that account for this increasing diversity and contribute to a safer more inclusive community with increased opportunity and capacity for growth. These trends are indicative of an increasingly globalised and diverse population within the Newcastle LGA.

**161,225** people (ABS ERP 2015)  
Newcastle LGA population

An additional  
**32,000**  
people are expected by **2036**

**37** years old  
The **median** age in Newcastle

**\$1,165**  
median household income

**94.3%** of the labour force  
in Newcastle was employed (2011)

**46.6%** of the population  
aged **over 15** held educational qualifications

**8.3%** of young people  
aged **15 to 24** were not earning or learning

**69.1%**  
of people are religious

**214** km<sup>2</sup> in area



## We are ageing:

From 2006 - 2011:

- The empty nesters and retirees age group **(60-69) grew by 2,069** people
- Young workforce **(25 to 34) grew by 1,971** people
- Older workers and pre-retirees **(50 to 59) grew by 1,316** people

We are diverse:

- 2.6%** Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander
- 12.4%** of people born overseas
- 7.8%** of people come from a non-English speaking country
- 8.3%** of the population speak a language other than English

**The most common languages spoken other than English include:**

Macedonian, Italian, Mandarin and Greek

**but emerging languages include:**

Mandarin, Arabic, Korean and Filipino/Tagalog





Community safety is a complex issue and no one agency is able to tackle this issue alone. Council collaborates with a wide range of stakeholders to implement strategies for improving safety in our city and community. NSW Police have a leading role in crime prevention, detection and perceptions of safety within the community. Council works closely with NSW Police to align strategic priorities in this area to assist in the delivery of safer outcomes for the community.

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Council acts as a leader, advocate, facilitator, capacity builder, partner and promoter in addressing identified community safety challenges.

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Governments, communities and businesses at all levels need to be collaborative and actively engaged to create safe communities. Council utilises both situational and social crime prevention approaches to address community safety issues in the LGA. Council is responsible for a range of services related to community safety, including managing public space and building design, providing a range of community services and engaging in social planning and developing policies that assist local businesses and the wider community. Council is involved in developing and implementing a range of community safety initiatives and works closely with other stakeholders including NSW Police and other organisations and agencies to achieve safer outcomes for the community.



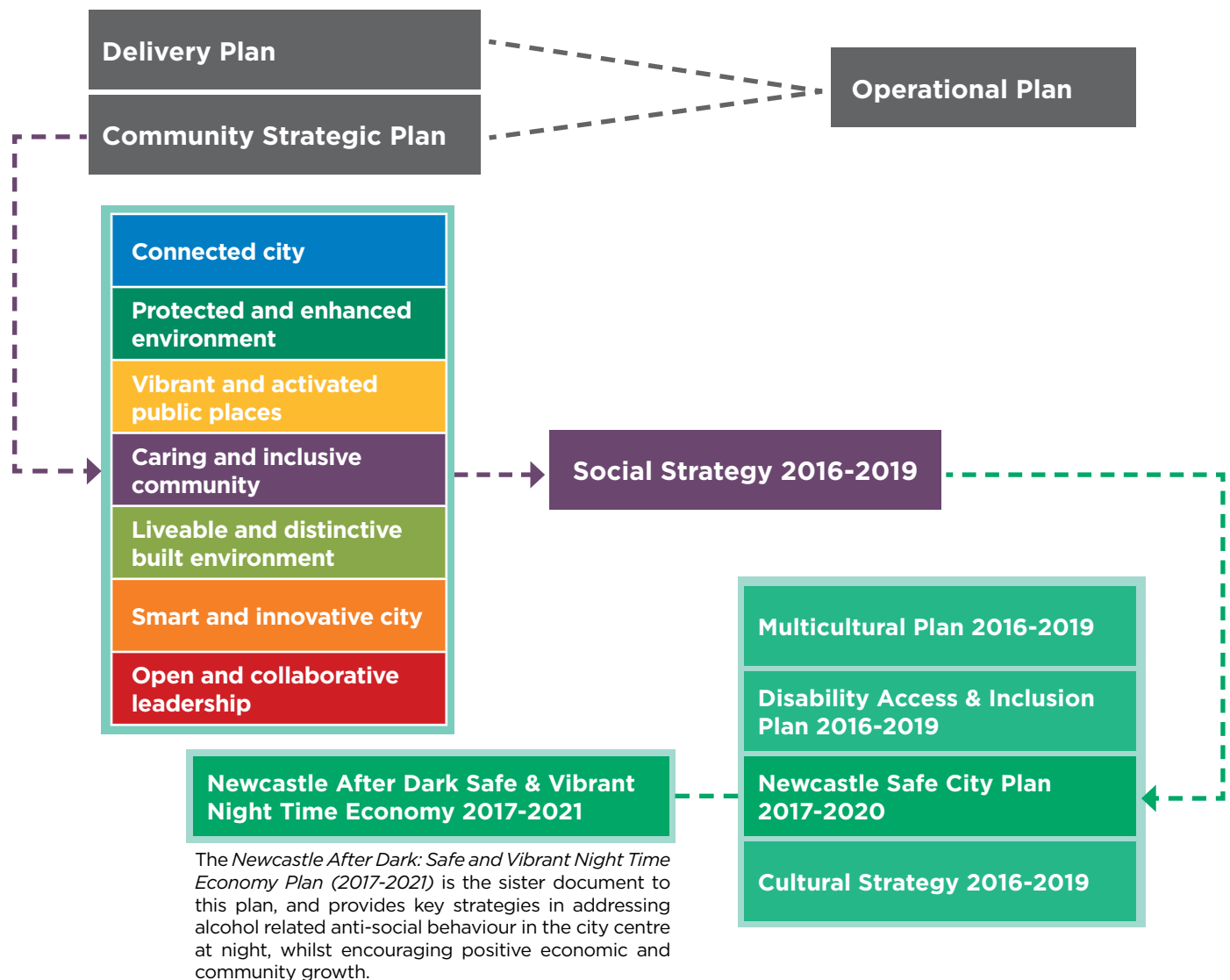
# OUR ROLE IN COMMUNITY SAFETY

*The Children (Protection and Parental Responsibility) Act 1997 ("the Act")* provides for the Attorney General to support Councils leading crime prevention activity in NSW. Under Part 4 of the Act, Local Government is identified as the lead agency for identifying and implementing local crime prevention strategies in NSW. These guidelines support the development of an evidence-based strategy designed to reduce crime, as per the provisions of section 32 of the Act. Pursuant to Part 4, Division 3 of the Act, the Division has processes to support the endorsement of a crime prevention strategy by the NSW Attorney General as a safer community compact. Councils whose endorsed safer community compact targets a priority crime are eligible to apply for a grant to implement the crime prevention strategy's action plan.





# ABOUT THE SAFE CITY PLAN



The Newcastle Safe City Plan supports Council's Newcastle 2030 Community Strategic Plan (CSP) for *Safe and Vibrant Public Spaces* and a *Caring and Inclusive Community*.

The Newcastle Safe City Plan (2017 - 2020) is a four year plan outlining the key relevant community safety issues occurring in the Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA) both during the day and at night. This Plan has been developed as an action arising from *Newcastle City Council's Social Strategy (2016 - 2019)*. The key challenges outlined in this plan have been determined through evidence based research, data analysis and consultation with the community and key stakeholders including NSW Police.

Strategies and actions outlined in the Safe City Plan are designed to decrease the prevalence of identified community safety issues within the Newcastle LGA and increase perceptions of safety amongst residents and visitors of Newcastle.

Council would like to thank the community groups, agencies and individuals that helped to shape the actions outlined in this strategy.

# WHAT IS COUNCIL ALREADY DOING?



**78,240** businesses  
in the Newcastle LGA



We have diverse venues with at least  
**264** licensed premises in the whole LGA  
amongst **1133** registered food premises.



We plan, design and manage public spaces



We provide safe and activated public spaces



Our Council Rangers and Outdoor Staff act  
as capable guardians of our public spaces



We partner with local organisations to  
deliver community events and place  
making initiatives



We facilitate public space  
lighting programs



We remove graffiti and repair  
damage to public property



In 2015, Council removed  
**3345m<sup>2</sup>** of graffiti within the  
Newcastle LGA



We assess Development  
Applications with consideration  
given to Crime Prevention  
Through Environmental Design  
(CPTED)



We manage the Alcohol Free  
Zones and Alcohol Prohibited  
Areas in the LGA



## STRATEGIC ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT

Council has a history of supporting the management of alcohol consumption with a focus on changing consumption patterns and the service of alcohol. Following a peak in community concerns around alcohol-related violence in Newcastle in 2007 and 2008 a range of State government agencies developed a suite of strategies - collectively called the 'Newcastle Intervention' focusing on restricting the supply of alcohol across late trading licensed premises in the Newcastle CBD. These interventions were then introduced in Hamilton in 2010 and were led by NSW Police and the then NSW Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing (OLGR).

Council adopted a central role in strategic alcohol management at this time, a relatively new phenomenon, however logical considering Local Government's status as a regulatory body and owner and manager of public spaces and assets. Council developed *The Safe Newcastle: Alcohol Management Strategy 2010-2013* to reduce alcohol-related harms and anti-social activities proposing 35 initiatives using a collaborative and holistic approach. This strategy was awarded some funding and a Certificate of Merit from the *Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards in 2012*. This Strategy had a notable impact on alcohol-related violence in Newcastle.

Council convenes the Licensed Premises Reference Group, a formal working group comprised of key stakeholders including Liquor and Gaming NSW (formerly OLGR), NSW Police, Hunter New England Health and representatives from Council. Together, all applications involving liquor licensing within the LGA are reviewed, and all development applications involving premises with liquor licenses are reviewed in relation to delivering integrated community safety outcomes.

## WALK SMART

Council works closely with a range of stakeholders to deliver a number of programs with the aim of enhancing safety and perceptions of safety in the Newcastle Area. The Walk Smart Program which commenced in April 2011, delivered in partnership with NSW Police, has contributed to a total decrease of 62.1% in street offences (a cluster including assault, malicious damage, robbery, sexual offences and steal from persons) from 2011 to 2015, compared to the Newcastle Local Area Command as a whole which experienced a 44.9% drop, and the NSW state average experienced a 33.9% drop, according to NSW Police data. The Walk Smart Program was delivered within the Newcastle city centre on dedicated streets that had been evaluated using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and had additional monitoring by NSW Police.

## STREET SAFE

Council works in partnership with the Salvation Army and the NSW Police to deliver the Salvation Army Streetsafe Pilot Program in 2015 / 16. Teams of Salvation Army volunteers engaged and assisted intoxicated young people in the city centre on Saturday nights, providing outreach including lollipops, water, thongs, first aid, a safe space to recover and referral to other services where necessary. This program had a positive impact on minimising drug and alcohol related harm in the Newcastle City Centre and will be continued in 2017.

## EDUCATION

Council Libraries facilitate a number of programs designed to improve awareness of community safety issues and to build capacity within the community. For example 'Bots in the Books', aimed at engaging young people and cyber-safety education for seniors. Libraries provide a range of educational and awareness resources, including but not limited to Domestic Violence information resources, and are registered *Safe Places* with ACON (Aids Council of NSW) as part of the *Safe Spaces Program*.

## HOMELESSNESS

Council facilitates the Homelessness Working Group, attended by Newcastle service providers who are experts in this area, to develop coordinated strategies to address homelessness in Newcastle LGA. Our Libraries engage with Hunter Homeless Connect to link homeless people and people at risk of homelessness to vital services such as accommodation and housing, health and wellbeing, legal and financial assistance, employment, study, and other support services.

## SAFETY IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

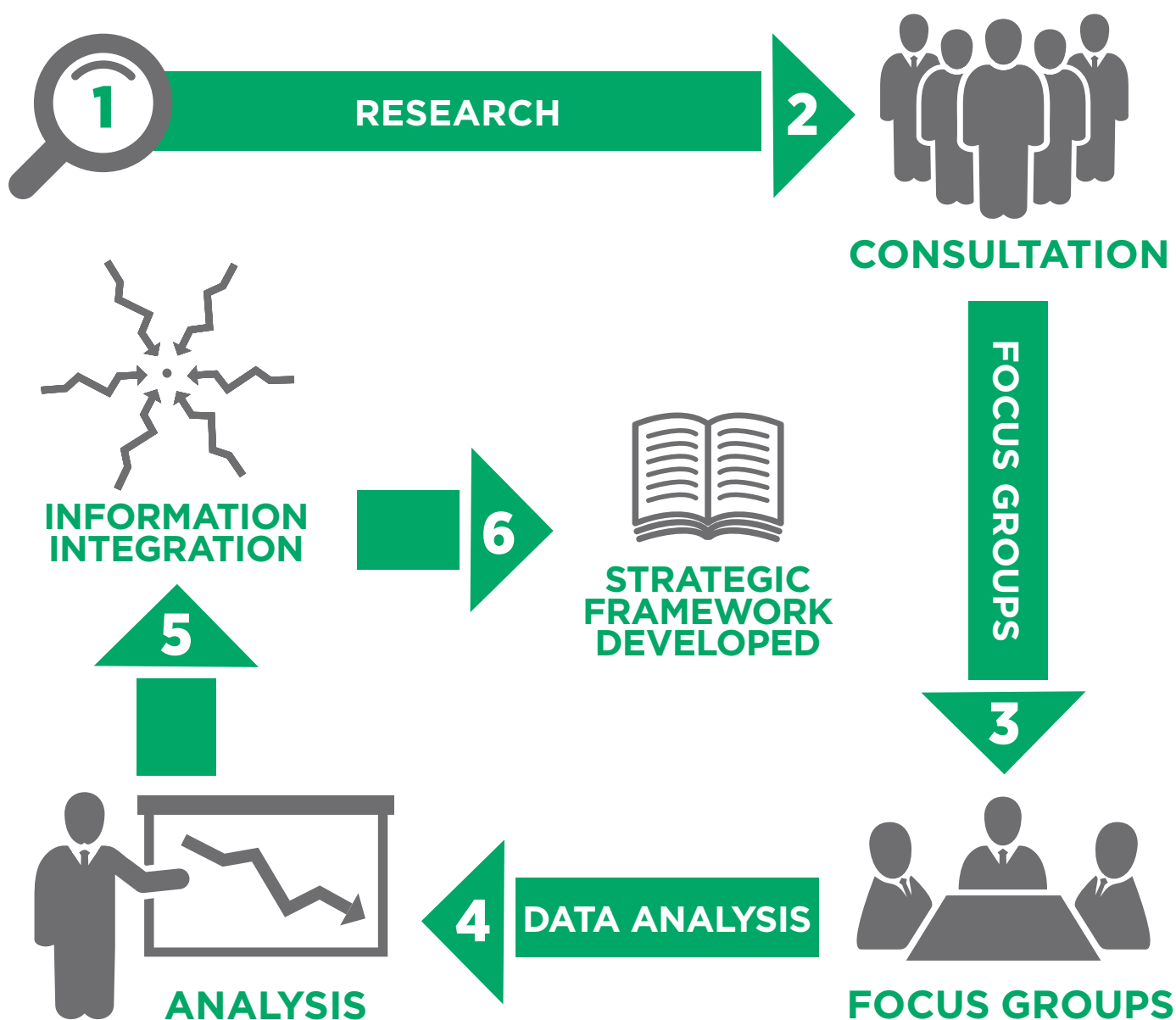
Council facilitates urban design through the use of Master Plans, Public Domain Plans and Plans of Management and incorporates Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) throughout the planning stages. In the Newcastle 2030 Survey (2012), 82% of respondents indicated that public places that provide for diverse activity and strengthen our social connections are extremely or very important.

Council assesses development applications for all developments within the Newcastle LGA. Through this process, relevant applications are referred to the Newcastle Local Area Command (LAC) for a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessment. Relevant Council staff members are qualified in CPTED and take this into consideration with all applications, along with a range of other factors.

# SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION

In preparing this plan consultations were undertaken from December 2015 - July 2016 with external community stakeholders and agencies and Council staff. A broad cross section of the community and stakeholders were consulted in the development of the plan.

Consultation involved semi structured interviews with targeted focus groups of community stakeholders, internal Council staff, a Safe City Community Survey distributed online and through Newcastle Voice, and the Public Exhibition of the Draft Document.



A summary of the key findings from the Safe City Survey is featured in Appendix A.

**The full Safe City Survey report can be viewed on Council's website.**





## PEOPLE WE SPOKE TO

**Representatives from the following organisations were consulted during this plan;**

St Vincents de Paul (Ability Links)  
Multicultural Neighbourhood Centre  
Partners in Recovery  
Samaritans  
Police Citizens Youth Club  
Newcastle Youth Council  
Jenny's Place  
Hunter Women's Centre  
Aids Council of NSW (ACON)  
University of Newcastle Postgrad Student Association  
Headspace  
NSW Police (Newcastle LAC)  
Australian Drug Foundation (ADF)  
Newcastle Community Drug Action Team (CDAT)  
Laing Street Seniors Centre

# KEY MESSAGES IDENTIFIED IN CONSULTATION

## DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED CRIME

Drug and Alcohol related issues occurring in public spaces were identified as a significant issue. Alcohol was an identified contributor to a number of other challenges including assaults, robberies, people consuming alcohol in public spaces both during the day and at night and alcohol addiction.

Concerns were raised regarding the presence of drugs within the community; including people supplying drugs in public spaces, the prevalence of addiction and the impact that drug addiction has on both mental health outcomes and crime rates including but not limited to assault and theft.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence was raised as an issue across a broad range of stakeholders. A number of domestic violence issues were identified, including a lack of availability of services such as crisis and support accommodation, a lack of safety for victims in public spaces and the increase in vulnerability of women in becoming homeless due to leaving abusive home environments.

Additionally, domestic violence was identified as an issue among newly arrived families within the multicultural community. Particularly problematic is the lack of understanding around reporting issues of domestic violence to the police and what to expect during the criminal justice processes in Australia.

## DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination based on race, gender and sexuality were identified as issues within the community of Newcastle. Stakeholders from the multicultural sector stated that race-based discrimination is problematic within Newcastle, and raised concerns regarding a rise in Islamophobia. This was particularly an issue for newly-arrived people to Australia, and those that wear traditional cultural dress in public. These issues are addressed further in the *Newcastle Multicultural Plan (2016-2019)*.

Stakeholders from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) community identified discrimination based on sexuality as a problem that was both overt and hidden within the community. This included the occurrence of verbal and physical abuse aimed at homosexual and transsexual people, and online harassment. Additionally, stakeholders identified the occurrence of exclusion from services and workspaces as a growing issue amongst the LGBTI community. Bullying in schools was an issue identified by stakeholders in relation to discrimination and a lack of LGBTI acceptance.

## MALICIOUS DAMAGE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Stakeholders stated that a significant factor contributing to fear of crime related to the built environment. These included the presence of graffiti, unrepaired damage to property, syringes in public spaces and a lack of adequate lighting at night.

## HOMELESSNESS

Homeless people were also identified as a particular group of the community at heightened risk of victimisation, including; violence, abuse and other types of crime<sup>1</sup>. Due to the complex nature of this issue, homelessness has been identified for further research and consultation, as an action in this plan. A 2005 UK study found that, compared with the public, homeless people were 13 times more likely to have experienced violence and 47 times more likely to have been victims of theft.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, homelessness is considered to be a factor which influences perceptions of safety in public spaces, along with many other aspects such as lighting and the presence of anti-social behaviour.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 (ABS) at the census count in NSW in 2011, 7% of homeless people are sleeping rough on the streets. This is the most visible level of homelessness.<sup>3</sup> Local specialist homelessness providers have anecdotally reported a increase in demand for services in 2016.

## ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Community stakeholders identified a range of activities which have been categorised as 'anti-social' for the purposes of this plan. These included verbal abuse, loitering, harassment and threatening behaviour, and public urination.

## OTHER ISSUES

Other issues identified during focus group consultations included property theft (both steal from person and steal from motor vehicle), break and enter into commercial premises, cyber bullying, corruption within the Government, white collar crime, disengaged youth and under-reporting of crime.

1 Newburn T & Rock P 2005. Living in fear: violence and victimisation in the lives of single homeless people. Crisis: London.

2 Op. Cit.

3 Homelessness NSW, 'Some Facts About Homelessness', Accessed 19/07/2016. <http://www.homelessnessnsw.org.au/resources/about-homelessness/facts-about-homelessness>





## KEY COMMUNITY SAFETY CHALLENGES

The issues identified in this section are challenges that the community of Newcastle currently face. These were identified through consultation. These challenges have a significant impact on crime and perceptions of safety within the Newcastle LGA.

### These include;

- The presence of drugs and alcohol within the community
- Disengaged youth
- Discrimination and a lack of community inclusiveness
- Fear of crime
- Anti-social behaviour
- The homeless community are identified as being at heightened risk of becoming victims of crime and are therefore included in this list



# NEWCASTLE LGA'S CRIME PROFILE

**During the development of this plan, consideration was given to a range of areas to determine the key crime challenges for the community. These considerations included:**

- The crime issues ranked in the top 10 within the Newcastle LGA compared to 129 LGAs in NSW according to Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR);
- The crime trends over the last 2 and 5 year periods in Newcastle LGA according to BOCSAR;
- The levels of crime in Newcastle as compared with New South Wales according to BOCSAR;
- Consultation with NSW Police (Newcastle Local Area Command);
- Consultations with key stakeholders within the Newcastle LGA;
- Consultation with residents and visitors of Newcastle LGA;
- The under-reporting of certain crimes according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Australian Institute of Criminology and the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research<sup>4</sup>
- The Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 2014-15, Crime Victimization Survey<sup>5</sup>

**Strategic actions developed in this plan took into consideration:**

- Social and demographic trends within the Newcastle LGA according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics;
- Global social and demographic trends as they are likely to impact on the future of Newcastle;
- Key crime and safety challenges in Newcastle;
- Evidence based research as to appropriate responses to crime and anti-social behaviour;
- Consultation with the community and key community stakeholders;
- *Newcastle 2030 Community Strategic Plan* (revised 2013);
- The scope of Council's role in this area.
- Key Crime Challenges derived from these considerations can be found on page 13.

4 Australian Bureau of Statistics (2016) Reporting of Crime to the Police, <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/4530.0-2014-15-Main%20Features-Reporting%20of%20crime%20to%20police-10005> and NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) 2016. NSW Statistical Areas and Local Government Areas. New South Wales Recorded Crime Statistics Quarterly Update March 2016. [http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Documents/RCS-Quarterly/NSW\\_Recorded\\_Crime\\_March\\_2016.pdf](http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Documents/RCS-Quarterly/NSW_Recorded_Crime_March_2016.pdf), and NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 2012. The Progress of Sexual Offences through the NSW Criminal Justice System 2006-10, <http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Documents/CJB/cjb92.pdf>

5 Australian Bureau of Statistics (2016) Reporting of Crime to the Police, <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/4530.0-2014-15-Main%20Features-Reporting%20of%20crime%20to%20police-10005> and NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) 2016. NSW Statistical Areas and Local Government Areas. New South Wales Recorded Crime Statistics Quarterly Update March 2016. [http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Documents/RCS-Quarterly/NSW\\_Recorded\\_Crime\\_March\\_2016.pdf](http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Documents/RCS-Quarterly/NSW_Recorded_Crime_March_2016.pdf)



**TABLE 1:<sup>6</sup> SIGNIFICANT LOCAL CRIME CATEGORIES AND TRENDS 2016 (NSW BOCSAR)**

| CRIME CATEGORY   | INCIDENTS YEAR TO JUNE 2016 | 2 YEAR TREND | 5 YEAR TREND | HOW WE COMPARE TO NSW (PER 100,000 POPULATION) | OUR LGA RANKING OUT OF 139 LGAs | WHERE WOLLONGONG RANKS OUT OF 139 LGAs | WHERE PARRAMATTA RANKS OUT OF 139 LGAs |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Assault (Domestic Violence-Related)                    | 712                         | stable       | stable       | +  | 58                              | 80                                     | 68                                     |
| Assault (Non-Domestic Violence-Related)                | 1103                        | stable       | -4.6%        | +  | 17                              | 68                                     | 52                                     |
| Break and Enter (Dwelling)                             | 800                         | stable       | -8.1%        | +  | 41                              | 49                                     | 47                                     |
| Break and Enter (Non-Dwelling)                         | 342                         | - 32.4%      | -16.6%       | +  | 49                              | 65                                     | 93                                     |
| Fraud  | 1320                        | stable       | +9.4%        | +  | 12                              | 60                                     | 7                                      |
| Harassment, threatening behaviour and private nuisance | 738                         | stable       | stable       | +  | 62                              | 82                                     | 70                                     |
| Sexual Assault   | 127                         | stable       | stable       | +  | -                               | -                                      | -                                      |
| Malicious damage to property                           | 1938                        | stable       | -10.6%       | +  | 38                              | 67                                     | 79                                     |
| Motor vehicle theft                                    | 405                         | stable       | -13%         | +  | 31                              | 50                                     | 70                                     |
| Drug Offences  | 1075                        | stable       | +12%         | -  | -                               | -                                      | -                                      |
| Robbery  | 94                          | stable       | -17.4%       | +  | 10                              | 33                                     | 5                                      |
| Prohibited and regulated weapons offences              | 299                         | stable       | +14.1%       | +  | 75                              | 83                                     | 85                                     |
| Steal from Motor Vehicle                               | 1529                        | +21.6%       | stable       | +  | 6                               | 38                                     | 32                                     |
| Steal from retail                                      | 622                         | stable       | stable       | +  | 19                              | 38                                     | 24                                     |
| Steal from dwelling                                    | 698                         | stable       | stable       | +  | 34                              | 52                                     | 72                                     |
| Other theft  | 1094                        | stable       | stable       | +  | 13                              | 48                                     | 50                                     |
| Receiving / Handling stolen goods                      | 251                         | stable       | +9.4%        | +  | 13                              | 20                                     | 8                                      |

## SUMMARY OF CRIME DATA

Most major crime categories are trending **downwards** or are **stable** over the 5 year period between July 2011 and June 2016 with the exception of fraud, drug offences, prohibited and regulated weapons offences and receiving and handling of stolen goods. With the exception of 'Drug Offences', in every offence category in Table 1, Newcastle experienced a higher rate of offending than that of NSW in 2015.

Offence categories of concern due to the upward trend over the 5 year period (2011 - 2016) and the 2 year period (2014 - 2016) include:

- *Fraud*
- *Drug Offences*
- *Prohibited and Regulated Weapons Offences*<sup>7</sup>
- *Steal from Motor Vehicle*

It should be noted that categories including assault and sexual assault are commonly under reported.

<sup>6</sup> Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

<sup>7</sup> This is likely to have been influenced by NSW Police operations including Operation Talon, focusing on gun crime.

# KEY CRIME CHALLENGES

In identifying the 4 key crime challenges, a method of weighting the respective data sources was employed.

Consideration first and foremost was given to official and current crime trends and data and the scope of Council's role in this area. Information provided during focus group consultations, where Newcastle is placed compared to other LGAs of similar size and demographic and NSW more broadly in relation to crime, perceptions of safety and crime victimisation data from the Safe City Survey consultation, and crime research identifying under-reporting of certain crime types was also used to determine the crime and safety challenges within the Newcastle LGA.

Council identifies 4 key crime challenges, including:

1. Theft (Steal from Motor-Vehicle and Break and Enter Dwelling)
2. Malicious Damage
3. Domestic Violence
4. Non-Domestic Violence related Assault

More about these challenges can be found in Appendix B.





# COUNCIL'S PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2017-20

Based on detailed analysis of the community consultations, community safety challenges and local crime data, Council can deliver on a range of actions that will improve community safety. These actions are clustered under four key objectives which aim to deliver a whole of Council approach to Community Safety. These actions will be monitored and evaluated over the life of the plan.

**The four priority areas were developed through ongoing engagement with partner agencies; themes identified in the Newcastle Safe City Survey 2016 and are aligned with Council's strategic vision outlined in *Newcastle 2030 Community Strategic Plan (CSP)*.**

**Objective 1:** Safety through public domain design and the built environment

**Objective 2:** Developing and facilitating proactive partnerships and collaborations

**Objective 3:** Facilitating community inclusion, empowerment and capacity building

**Objective 4:** Integrated, innovative and evidence-based solutions

## OBJECTIVE 1:

# SAFETY THROUGH PUBLIC DOMAIN DESIGN AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a crime prevention philosophy based on the use of proper design and effective use of the built environment leading to a reduction in the incidence and fear of crime, which leads to an improvement in quality of life. CPTED principles are a set of situational crime prevention tools.

| Strategy   | Actions  | Timeline                                | Target Issue  | Lead    | Partners |
|--|--|---|---|---------|----------|
| 1.1. Continuously Improve internal policies and protocols around Crime Prevention through Environmental Design | a) Incorporate lighting into public domain plans and technical manuals prepared by Council   | 2                                       | Fear of Crime, Assault, Malicious Damage, Anti-social behaviour, Strategic Alcohol Management | Council |          |
|  | b) Update Council's Development Control Plan Guidelines Section 4.04 on Safety and Security and associated guidelines  | 1                                       |   |         |          |
|  | c) Develop an internal policy, service level agreement, systems and protocols around graffiti management and vandalism.  | 1                                       |   |         |          |
|  | d) Explore the capacity for outdoor staff to report on graffiti and malicious damage in the field into the central register as per 1.1.c.  | 1                                       |   |         |          |
|  | e) Develop a partnership between Council's Regulatory Services and Police to investigate alleged breaches of development consent conditions of licensed premises.                    | 2                                       |   |         |          |
|  | f) Ensure all Public Domain Plans are reviewed and assessed using CPTED Principles.  | Ongoing                                 |   |         |          |
| 1.2. Increase natural surveillance and perceptions of safety within the Newcastle Community                    | a) Develop and deliver a series of inclusive annual public space activations within our community  | Planned and reviewed on an annual basis | Fear of Crime, Discrimination, Assault, Malicious Damage, Anti-social Behaviour               | Council |          |
|  | b) Expand, enhance and promote the Walk Smart Network through seven city centre precincts with creative lighting and activation installations  | 1 - 4                                   |   |         |          |
|  | c) Facilitate opportunities for partnerships which provide place managers to increase perceptions of safety in public spaces, i.e. The Salvation Army Streetsafe Program or similar. | Planned and reviewed on an annual basis |   |         |          |



| Strategy  | Actions  | Timeline   | Target Issue   | Lead                           | Partners   |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------|--|
| 1.3. Implementation of target-hardening measures in car parks in hot-spot areas to reduce theft from motor vehicles | a) Ensure that all car park development proposals are assessed using CPTED principles mandatorily<br>b) Investigate opportunities for increased lighting in Council owned carparks in hot-spot areas.<br>c) Participate in Hunter-wide partnership to produce a Steal from Motor Vehicle prevention campaign<br>d) Implementation of park-smart signage at hotspot Steal from Motor Vehicle locations  | 1-2<br><br>1-4<br><br>1-2<br><br>1-2                 | Steal from Motor Vehicles, Malicious Damage            | Council<br><br>Hunter Councils | NSW Police<br><br>NSW Department of Justice<br><br>Surf Life Saving Australia  |
| 1.4 Continue to manage public spaces and assets for community safety  | a) Manage public spaces and assets through regular condition inspections of public assets to discourage opportunity for crime<br>b) Ensure that CPTED Principles are applied for all new and replacement infrastructure.<br>c) Continue to provide and manage syringe disposal units in identified public restroom facilities.<br>d) Regularly review event licenses for outreach services to ensure that their placement in the public domain enhances public safety. | Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing | Fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, malicious damage | Council                        | ACON<br><br>Newcastle Community Health Centre<br><br>NSW Needle Clean Up Hotline<br><br>Diabetes NSW Resource Centre<br><br>NSW Health |



## OBJECTIVE 2:

# DEVELOPING AND FACILITATING PROACTIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Productive partnerships play a key role in delivering tangible social benefits programs to the community. These partnerships can facilitate social cohesion, raise awareness of community issues, encourage information sharing between services and provide direct service delivery to the community.

| Strategy   | Actions  | Timeline | Target Issue  | Lead    | Partners              |
|--|--|----------|---|---------|-----------------------|
| 2.1. Facilitate strategic and coordinated collaboration between Council and key local service providers to address issues of Homelessness in Newcastle | a) Continue to work with State Government agencies to address matters of homelessness and domestic violence within the Newcastle LGA.                | Ongoing  | Homelessness, Domestic Violence   | Council |                       |
|  | b) Provide training and awareness to key Council staff on how to assist homeless people and people sleeping rough.                                   | 1        | Homelessness Sector   |         |                       |
|  | c) Assist in data collection to improve in coordinated service delivery to homeless people and people sleeping rough in Newcastle LGA                | Ongoing  |   |         |                       |
|  | d) Continue to provide programming and development practices that are inclusive for those experiencing homelessness.                                 | Ongoing  |   |         |                       |
| 2.2. Continue to work closely with NSW Police  | a) Continue to information share in order to appropriately task resources of both organisations to address issues of crime and anti-social behaviour | Ongoing  | Anti-social behaviour, alcohol related violence, discrimination and lack of community inclusion | Council | Council<br>NSW Police |
|  | b) Continue to work with NSW Police on matters relating to Licensed premises and strategic alcohol management  | Ongoing  |   |         |                       |
|  | c) Promote NSW Police's multilingual information resources regarding relevant crime and safety issues within the Newcastle Community                 | 2        |   |         |                       |

| Strategy  | Actions   | Timeline   | Target Issue   | Lead  | Partners   |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| 2.3. Collaborate with local groups and services to address current crime and safety issues within the Newcastle LGA | a) Participate in Newcastle's Community Drug Action Team (CDAT) to support the delivery of information / educational resources to the community<br>b) Collaborate with local Business Improvement Associations to address current issues of anti-social behaviour<br>c) Continue to facilitate the Licensed Premises Reference Group to share information and align programs between relevant agencies including the local police and Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing (OLGR) (Social Strategy 2.5)<br>d) Continue to partner with Liquor Accords to deliver education programs to promote responsible behaviour in our key entertainment areas (Social Strategy 2.4) | Ongoing<br><br><br>Ongoing<br><br><br>Ongoing<br><br><br>Ongoing | Alcohol management, drugs and alcohol, anti-social behaviour | Newcastle CDAT<br><br>LPRG, OLGR, NSW Police<br><br>Newcastle Liquor Accords<br><br>The Salvation Army<br><br>NSW Department of Justice | Council  |
| 2.4. Work with NSW Department of Justice to re-engage offending youth   | a) Engage Department of Justice Juveniles in Council's Graffiti Removal Program through the Department of Justice<br>b) Advocate for authorised street art programs in partnership with Department of Juvenile Justice in line with Council's Cultural Strategy (8.1).  | Ongoing<br><br>1-4   | Disengaged youth, malicious damage, anti-social behaviour    | Department of Justice NSW   | Council<br><br>PCYC<br><br>Local Business Improvement Associations |





### OBJECTIVE 3:

## FACILITATING COMMUNITY INCLUSION, EMPOWERMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Empowering the local community, groups and agencies to build capacity to meet demands is important to achieving safer outcomes for the community. Council will mentor and / or assist community groups to obtain the necessary resources to effectively deliver safety related services to the community.

| Strategy  | Actions   | Timeline   | Target Issue   | Lead                                | Partner                       |
|---|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3.1. Provide Council facilities that are safe, welcoming and inclusive                            | a) Continue to Implement the Safe Space Program across Council facilities as part of participating in the Aids Council Of NSW (ACON) Safe Space Program and adopting the Safe Space Charter (Social Strategy 3.6)<br><br>b) Facilitate the coordinated provision of information sharing and engagement with Newcastle's multicultural, seniors and disability communities on relevant community safety issues   | Planned and reviewed on an annual basis<br><br>1 | Discrimination, fear of crime<br><br>All crime types<br><br>Disengaged / at-risk youth |                                     | ACON<br><br>Multicultural NSW |
| 3.2 Provide open space community assets that facilitate positive social interaction and wellbeing | a) Continue to provide and maintain appropriate recreational assets for community use.  | Ongoing  | Discrimination, fear of crime, disengaged young people                                 | Council                             |                               |
| 3.3. Improve perceptions of safety within the Newcastle LGA                                       | a) Promote progress in safety outcomes in the Newcastle LGA using current evidence and supporting data.<br><br>b) Develop and implement processes and tools for supporting residents to report and solve safety related issues in the LGA. For example, utilising resident-led workshops to analyse and problem-solve crime and safety-related issues, training of residents in CPTED, neighbourhood watch programs and available small grants.<br><br>c) Build awareness of using Council's Make Your Place small grant program and Community Assistance Grants Program to achieve community safety outcomes | 2 -3<br><br>1-4<br><br>Ongoing                   | Fear of Crime  | CDAT BIA<br><br>Newcastle Community | NCC                           |

| Strategy   | Actions   | Timeline  | Target Issue                    | Lead  | Partner                     |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 3.4. Contribute to a reduction in malicious damage including vandalism, graffiti and illegal bill posters in the Newcastle LGA | a) Continue to partner with local Business Improvement Associations to rapidly remove graffiti and malicious damage in the Newcastle LGA<br>b) Explore the feasibility of the introduction of a graffiti education program in schools in the Newcastle LGA<br>c) Incorporate consideration of public noticeboards in the local and neighbourhood centre Public Domain Plan Process.<br>d) Work with local Business Improvement Associations to establish ownership and ongoing management of public noticeboards. | Ongoing<br><br>3<br><br>As specified by Council's Operational Plan<br>Ongoing | Malicious Damage, Fear of Crime | BIA Council   | Department of Education NSW |
| 3.5. Support local domestic and family violence organisations to build capacity within the sector                              | a) Support the planning, proposal and submission of sector-based grants to funding bodies including Council grant and sponsorship programs.<br>b) Provide in-kind advice and opportunities for domestic violence awareness campaigns or events<br>c) Provide in-kind advice to domestic violence agencies within Newcastle where requested  | Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing   | Domestic Violence               | Department of Premier and Cabinet working with Department of Health (Women) NSW<br>Department of Family and Community Services<br>NSW Police<br>Department of Justice NSW | Council                     |



**OBJECTIVE 4:****INTEGRATED, INNOVATIVE AND EVIDENCE-BASED SOLUTIONS**

Technological advancements have impacted on the nature of crime and crime prevention in the modern world. It is important to utilising new and innovative opportunities to improve safety outcomes within the Newcastle community as the world becomes globalised and modernised. Integrating this approach with evidence-based solutions and establishing evaluation frameworks for modern technologies will assist in future crime prevention planning.

| Strategy   | Actions  | Timeline                  | Target Issue   | Lead  | Partners                                  |
|--|--|---------------------------|--|---|---|
| 4.1. Utilise emerging technologies to engage, plan and encourage information sharing with all key stakeholders (Social strategy 3.2 and 4) | a) Implement smart analytic software to provide safety and resourcing solutions for the community<br>b) Pilot uses of smart technology for crime prevention in Newcastle i.e. Smart Crime Prevention Platform using cameras, sound sensors, motions sensors and analytic software<br>c) Use smart technology platforms to assist people in finding their way including help points<br>d) Implement smart parking and lighting applications for high density areas within the Newcastle LGA | 1-2<br><br>1-2<br><br>1-4 | Anti-social behaviour, Assault, Malicious Damage, Theft, Steal from Motor Vehicles | Council   | Business Improvement Associations         |
| 4.2 Utilise emerging technologies to improve perceptions of safety and lighting  | a) Implement innovative lighting including art lighting and smart lighting in identified locations within the city centre<br>b) Explore the feasibility of expanding art lighting and smart lighting to other urban centres within the LGA pending successful Pilot<br>c) Evaluate the benefits of existing smart toilets in Newcastle and explore the feasibility of expanding this program and operating within late night trading hours   | Ongoing<br><br>2-4        | Fear of Crime, Anti-social behaviour, Malicious Damage                             | Council   |   |
| 4.3. Improve engagement with disengaged or at-risk young people through innovative technology based projects                               | a) Support the development of a program of workshops / events for disengaged young people in locations identified by demographic data of disengaged youth in the Newcastle LGA (Social Strategy 3.5)<br>b) Employ a youth specialist Library team leader to engage disengaged youth  | 1<br><br>1                | Disengaged youth, anti-social behaviour  | Newcastle City Youth Council, Business Improvement Associations, PCYC and relevant local service providers and businesses | Council                                   |
| 4.4. Use evidence-based methods to measure and forecast the social and environmental value of targeted community projects                  | a) Investigate the Social Return On Investment (SROI) Framework as a measure of impact on safety and other community programs<br>b) Investigate the development of proxies to measure Social Return on Investment (SROI) in partnership with a research institute in Newcastle   | 1-2<br><br>1-4            | All identified issues  | Council   | Suitably qualified research organisations |

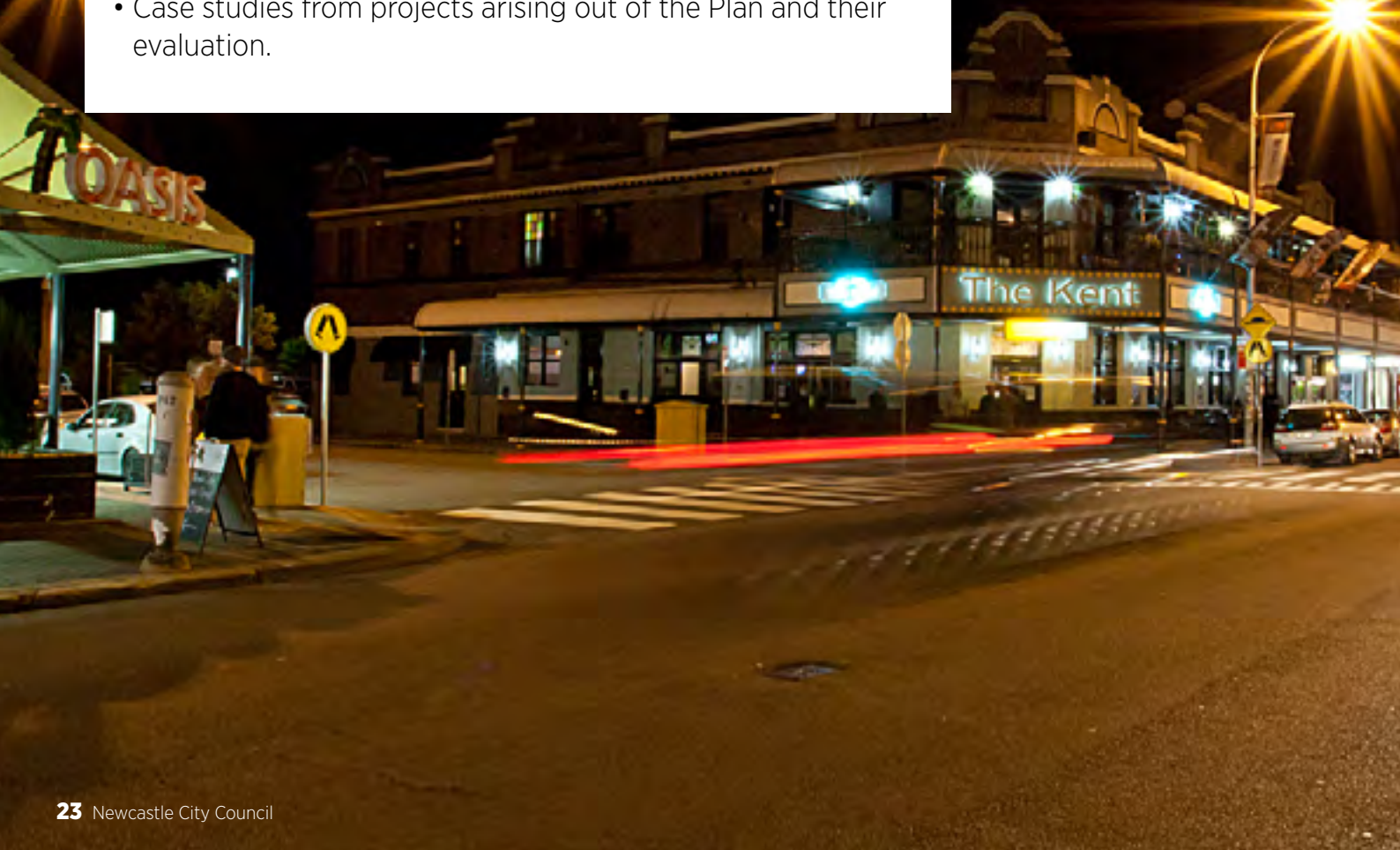


| Strategy   | Actions   | Timeline   | Target Issue  | Lead    | Partners  |
|--|---|--|---|---------|---|
| 4.5. Encourage responsible use of alcohol within the Newcastle community | <p>a) Develop a map of all licensed premises in the Newcastle LGA including data on capacity, crime data, operating hours and DA requirements to assist with planning</p> <p>b) Encourage licensed premises to collect and aggregate data of sales, and share this data with relevant agencies to assist with research, planning and evidence-based policy approaches to alcohol harm minimisation</p> <p>c) Continue to assist in the management of the appropriate type, location and number of licenced premises within the Newcastle LGA</p> <p>d) Explore the feasibility of engaging research institutions to undertake research to improve understanding of the impacts of access to alcohol within the Newcastle community</p> <p>e) Continue to prepare submissions as appropriate to respond to new key liquor license applications to assist with planning</p> | <p>1-2</p> <p>2-4</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>2-4</p> <p>Ongoing</p> | Alcohol related violence, drugs and alcohol within the community  | Council | <p>Liquor Accords</p> <p>NSW Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing</p> <p>NSW Police</p> <p>University of Newcastle</p> <p>National Local Government Drug and Alcohol Advisory Committee (NLGDAAC)</p> |
| 4.6. Facilitate inclusive education campaigns about community safety     | <p>a) Facilitate the delivery of community-based, accessible, inclusive and interactive presentations on issues including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic Violence</li> <li>• Homelessness</li> <li>• Break and Enter - How to protect your home or business</li> <li>• Drug and Alcohol</li> <li>• Cyber Safety Talks</li> <li>• Anti-theft (focusing on break and enter and steal from motor-vehicle)</li> <li>• General community safety talks; assessed on a needs basis</li> </ul>  | 1-4  | Domestic Violence, Homelessness, Break and Enter, Drug and Alcohol, Steal from Motor Vehicle, Fear of Crime | Council | NSW Police  |

# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: AN EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

**As we learn more, each action in this plan will be evaluated appropriately and contribute to the overall evaluation of the Newcastle Safe City Plan. Council will also measure our progress towards a safer Newcastle through the following key empirical and outcomes-based indicators:**

- Perceptions of safety in public spaces (NCC annual omnibus Survey)
- Crime rates (NSW BOCSAR data)
- Number of external partnerships engaged in across Council with the aim of improving community safety
- Number of programs delivered across Council with the aim of improving social cohesion and community safety
- Number of educational programs delivered with the aim of improving safety and perceptions of safety
- Number of Development Assessments assessed using CPTED principles per annum
- Number of licensed premises development applications referred through the Licensed Premises Reference Group per annum
- Case studies from projects arising out of the Plan and their evaluation.







# APPENDICES

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# APPENDIX A

## Key Findings from the Safe City Survey

The Safe City Survey was distributed to participants using online platforms including Newcastle Voice, Council's website, Council's Facebook and Twitter Pages and Council's E-news site. Hard copies were distributed to Newcastle Voice members.

When asked whether or not people felt safe in the Newcastle LGA, overall:

**63%** strongly agreed and agreed



Total of  
**841**  
participants  
completed  
the survey

**53%**  
female

**45%**  
male

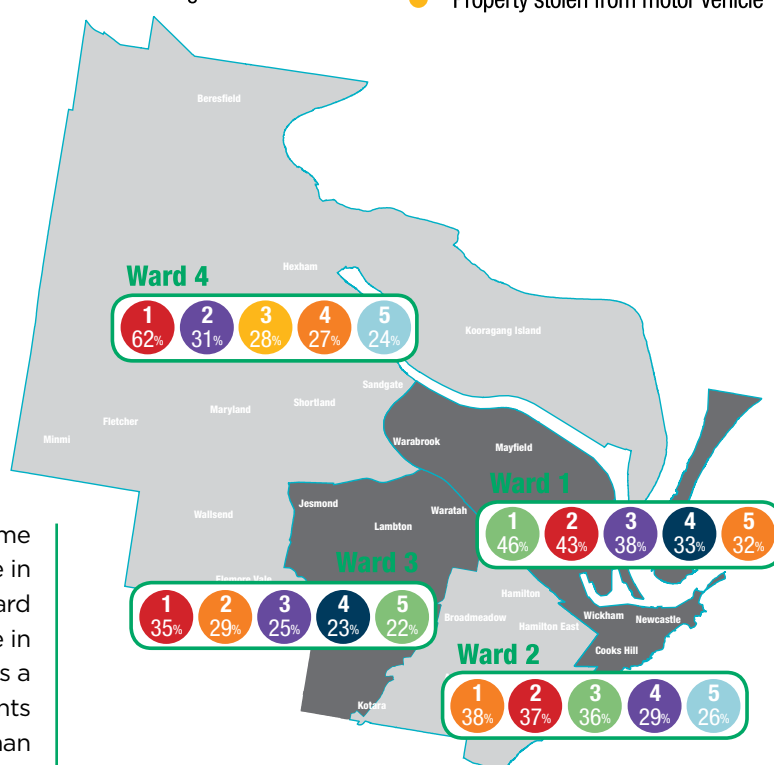
**Top 4 community safety issues in Newcastle as perceived by residents include;**

1. Domestic Violence **47%**
2. Break and enter, burglary or theft from homes **35%**
3. Sale of illegal drugs **33%**
4. Anti-social behaviours (including begging, loitering, public nuisance, drinking in public spaces, threatening behaviour) **33%**

Participants living in Ward 1 felt safer at home by themselves during the day than those in Wards 2, 3 and 4, however respondents in Ward 1 were significantly more likely than those in Ward 3 to agree that public nuisance was a problem in their area. Interestingly, respondents in Ward 1 felt significantly safer overall than those in Ward 4.

### TOP ISSUES BY WARD

- Dangerous or noisy driving
- Breaking and entering, burglary or theft from homes
- Vandalism or graffiti
- Anti-Social behaviours
- Malicious damage to property
- Sale of illegal drugs
- Property stolen from motor vehicle





### In the past 12 months:

**36%** of people said that they had not been affected by crime or known anyone affected by crime

**28%** of people were affected by dangerous or noisy driving

**28%** of people were affected by anti-social behaviours (including begging, loitering, public nuisance, drinking in public spaces, threatening behaviour)

**16%** of people were affected by break and enter, burglary or theft from homes

**Older people (aged 70+)** were less commonly affected by crime in the **past 12 months** than those **aged 18-39** who were most commonly affected

**25%** of respondents felt that in the last 12 months crime had increased in the Newcastle LGA. Given that most crime types are trending down in Newcastle, this indicates that perceptions of safety or fear of crime is an issue within Newcastle

People were more likely to feel safe walking in their neighbourhood during the day **(87%)** rather than at night **(37%)**

People were more likely to feel safe being at home alone during the day **(91%)** than at night **(78%)**

Males rated higher levels of feelings of safety when walking in their local area at night than females

### TABLE 4: TOP 5 ISSUES BY WARD<sup>8</sup>

**40%** of participants indicated that they had changed their routine or behaviour to accommodate for concerns for their safety. These changes included:

**61%** increased security measures at home

**35%** restricted their night time activities

**22%** increased security measures including carrying pepper spray, not having valuables on their person, being more aware of potential dangers, car security and other measures outside of the home.

Fear of crime has a tangible impact on people's quality of life and sense of wellbeing



Anti-social behaviour, a lack of police presence and a lack of lighting were cited as being factors which influenced a change in routine / behaviours.

**\*\* Dangerous or noisy driving was identified across all wards as a top 5 neighbourhood issue. Although this issue is not within the scope of this Plan, feedback has been passed on to the Police.**

<sup>8</sup> When asked what the perceived issues in their neighbourhood were participant's responses as indicated in Table 1.

# APPENDIX B

## Council's Key Crime Challenges – A Snapshot

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

#### WHAT IS IT?

Whether an assault is classified as domestic violence related is determined by the relationship between the offender and the victim. Domestic violence refers to acts of violence that occur within intimate relationships and take place in domestic settings.<sup>9</sup> This includes physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse. Family violence is a broader term that refers to violence between family members, partners, ex-partners and those who live in the same residence.<sup>10</sup> There is a significant social, emotional and economic cost to victims of domestic violence, their families and the broader community.<sup>11</sup> Additionally, domestic violence is the most common factor contributing to homelessness among women and their children.<sup>12</sup>

#### WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

BOCSAR identifies a number of trends in relation to domestic violence-related assault in the Newcastle LGA from July 2015 to June 2016:

**66.5%** of recorded domestic violence-related assaults do not involve alcohol

---

**53.3%** occur during the day

---

**59%** occur during weekdays as opposed to weekends

---

#### WHERE DOES IT OCCUR?

The home is the most common location for domestic violence to occur, followed by road / street / footpath (85.9% and 5.7% in 2015 respectively) in Newcastle.

9 Morgan A & Chadwick H 2009. Key Issues in Domestic Violence, Australian Institute of Criminology, <http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/rip/1-10/07.html>

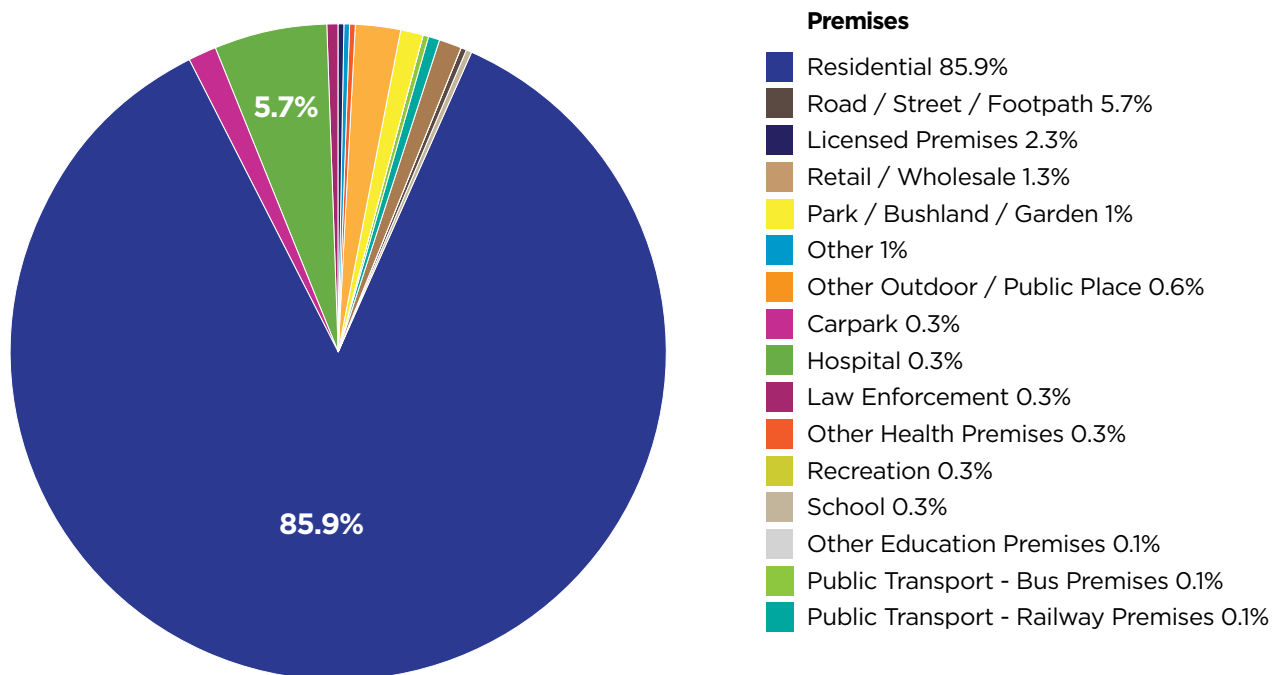
10 Op. Cit and; Morgan A, Boxall H, Lindeman K and Anderson J 2012. 'Effective Crime Prevention Interventions for Implementation by Local Government', Australian Institute of Criminology Report Research and Policy Series 120, [http://www.aic.gov.au/media\\_library/publications/rpp/120/rpp120.pdf](http://www.aic.gov.au/media_library/publications/rpp/120/rpp120.pdf)

11 Access Economics Pty Ltd, The Cost of Domestic Violence to the Australian Economy: Part I, Australian Government's Office of the Status of Women, 2002, [https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/05\\_2012/cost\\_of\\_dv\\_to\\_australian\\_economy\\_i\\_1.pdf](https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/05_2012/cost_of_dv_to_australian_economy_i_1.pdf)

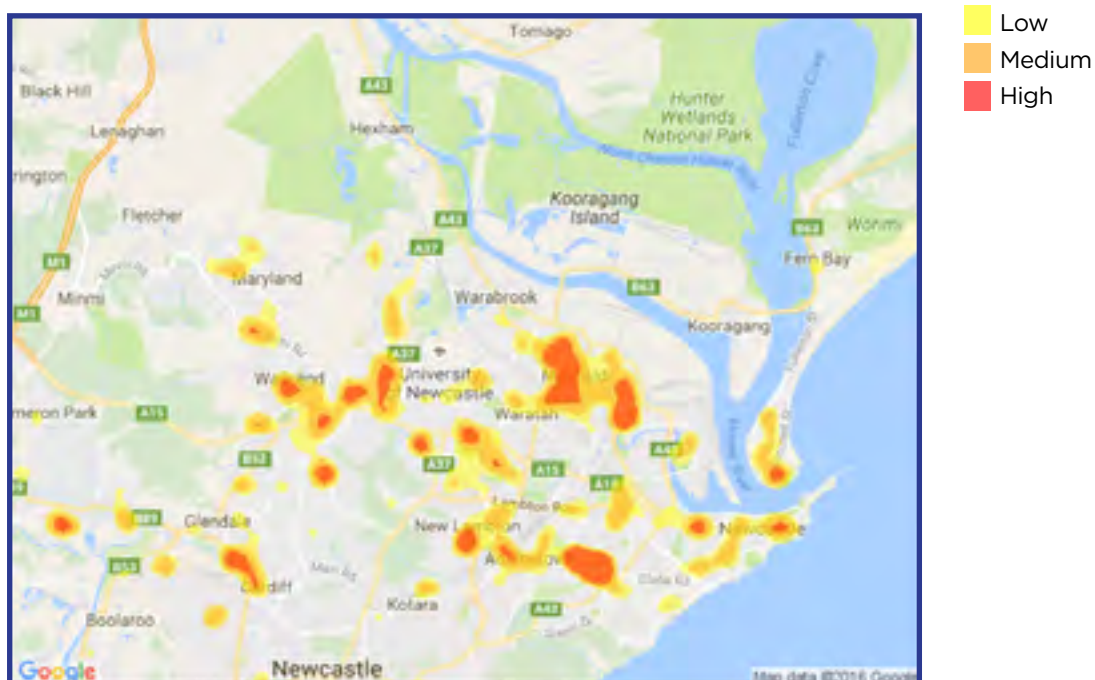
12 Morgan A & Chadwick H 2009. Ibid



## DOMESTIC ASSAULT INCIDENTS BY PREMISES IN NEWCASTLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016



NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 2016.



Incidents of Assault (Domestic Assault) from July 2015 to June 2016

# THEFT

## STEAL FROM MOTOR VEHICLE

### WHAT IS IT?

Stealing from motor-vehicles involves theft of items from cars, theft of interior car parts and theft of external car parts.

### WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

BOCSAR identifies a number of trends in relation to steal from motor vehicle in the Newcastle LGA from July 2015 to June 2016:

**57%** of theft from motor vehicles occurs at night

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**62.5%** occur on a weekday

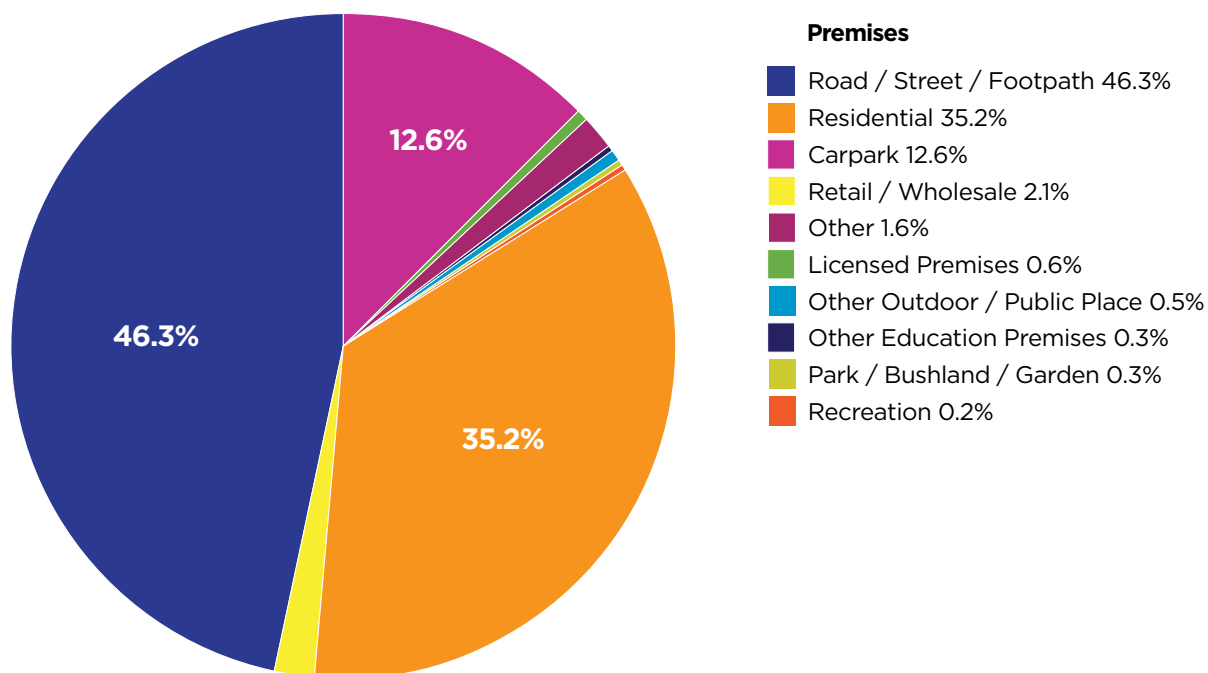
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### WHERE DOES IT OCCUR?

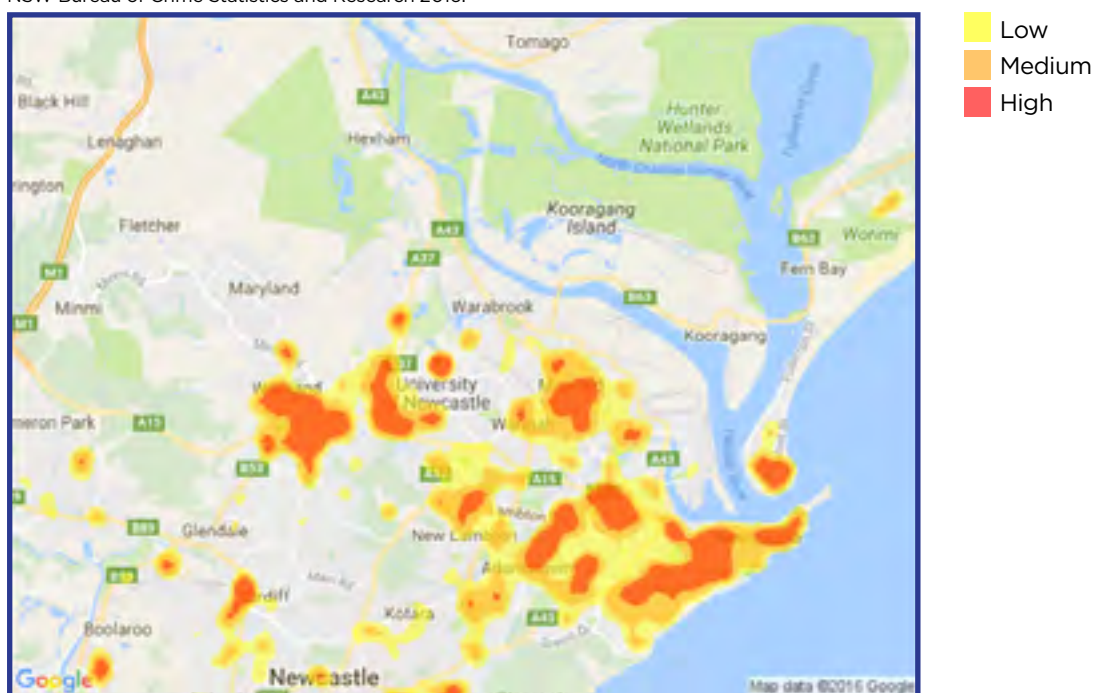
According to BOCSAR, in the year from July 2015 to June 2016, the road / street / footpath is the most common location for theft from motor vehicles to take place (46.3%), followed by residential premises (35.2%), and then in carparks (12.6%).



## STEAL FROM MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENTS BY PREMISES IN NEWCASTLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016 BY PREMISES



NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 2016.



Incidents of Theft (Steal from motor vehicle) from July 2015 to June 2016



## BREAK AND ENTER DWELLING

### WHAT IS IT?

Break and Enter Dwelling is defined as unlawful entry into residential premises such as houses, home units or villas for the purpose of committing a felony. The occurrence of break and enter into residential premises is commonly attributed to its opportunistic nature.

### WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

BOCSAR identifies a number of trends in relation to break and enter dwelling in the Newcastle LGA from July 2015 to June 2016:

**54.2%** occurs during the day when people are often not at home

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**63.4%** occur on a weekday

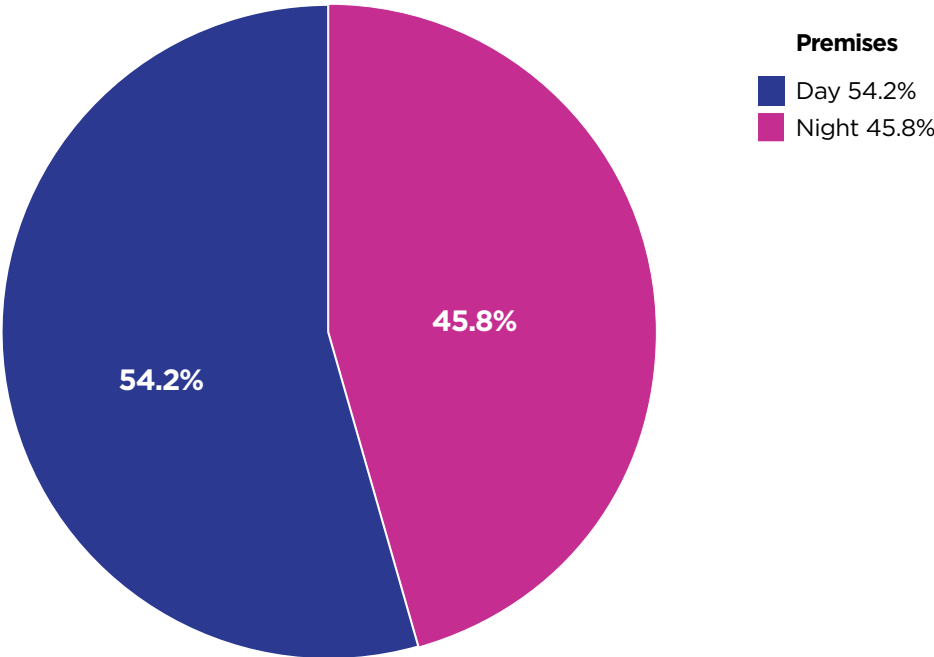
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### WHERE DOES IT OCCUR?

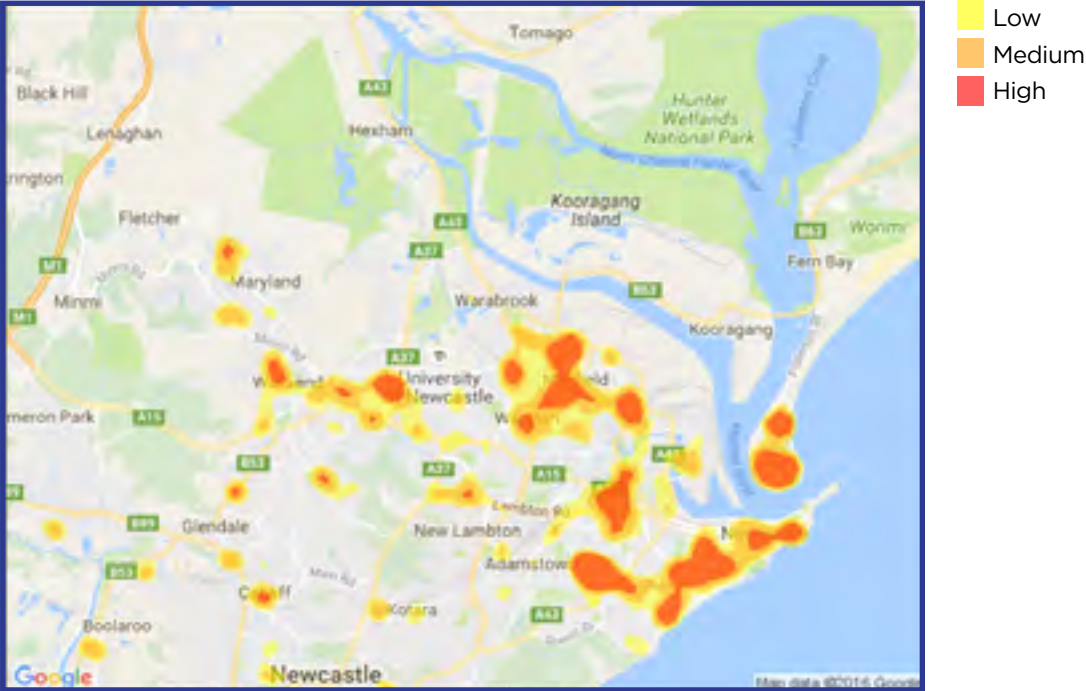
As an opportunistic crime, break and enter (dwelling) usually occurs where there are elevated situational risk factors such as the presence of suitable cover for offenders i.e. overgrown shrubbery around the dwelling, unlocked doors or windows, dwellings within close proximity to pawn shops or public transport and dwellings that are unoccupied for significant periods of time i.e. during the day when people are at work.



**BREAK & ENTER DWELLING THEFT BY PREMISES IN NEWCASTLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016**



NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 2016.



Incidents of Theft (Break and enter dwelling) from July 2015 to June 2016

# MALICIOUS DAMAGE

## WHAT IS IT?

Malicious Damage is defined as the intentional 'destruction or defacement of public, commercial and private property'.<sup>13</sup> This commonly manifests as vandalism, i.e. breaking windows, knocking over letterboxes and bins, and graffiti. Most malicious damage offences go unreported to police. Apart from the associated monetary costs of repairing damaged property, malicious damage can contribute significantly to the community's perceptions of safety, reducing the quality of life for residents.<sup>14</sup>

Although Malicious Damage is trending down in Newcastle and NSW as a whole, the rate of malicious damage in Newcastle is still significantly above the NSW state average.

Further research suggests that alcohol is an important contributing factor to many malicious damage offences, with most offences occurring between 3pm and midnight with a spike in offences occurring between 6pm and 9pm.<sup>15</sup>

## WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

It is difficult to ascertain accurate temporal trends for Malicious Damage, due to under-reporting and a lack of witnesses to these acts. However, BOCSAR identifies a number of trends in relation to Malicious Damage in the Newcastle LGA from July 2015 to June 2016:

**51.3%** of malicious damage events occur at night time

---

**58.9%** occur on a weekday

---

## WHERE DOES IT OCCUR?

Importantly, 43.9% of malicious damage incidents occur at residential premises followed by 22.6% on the road, street or footpath in the period between July 2015 and June 2016. Research suggests that the presence of a high school and / or shopping centre was a significant predictor of high malicious damage offending rates.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Howard M 2006. Malicious Damage to Property Offences in New South Wales. Crime and Justice Bulletins 100 <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/NSWCrimJustB/2006/11.html>

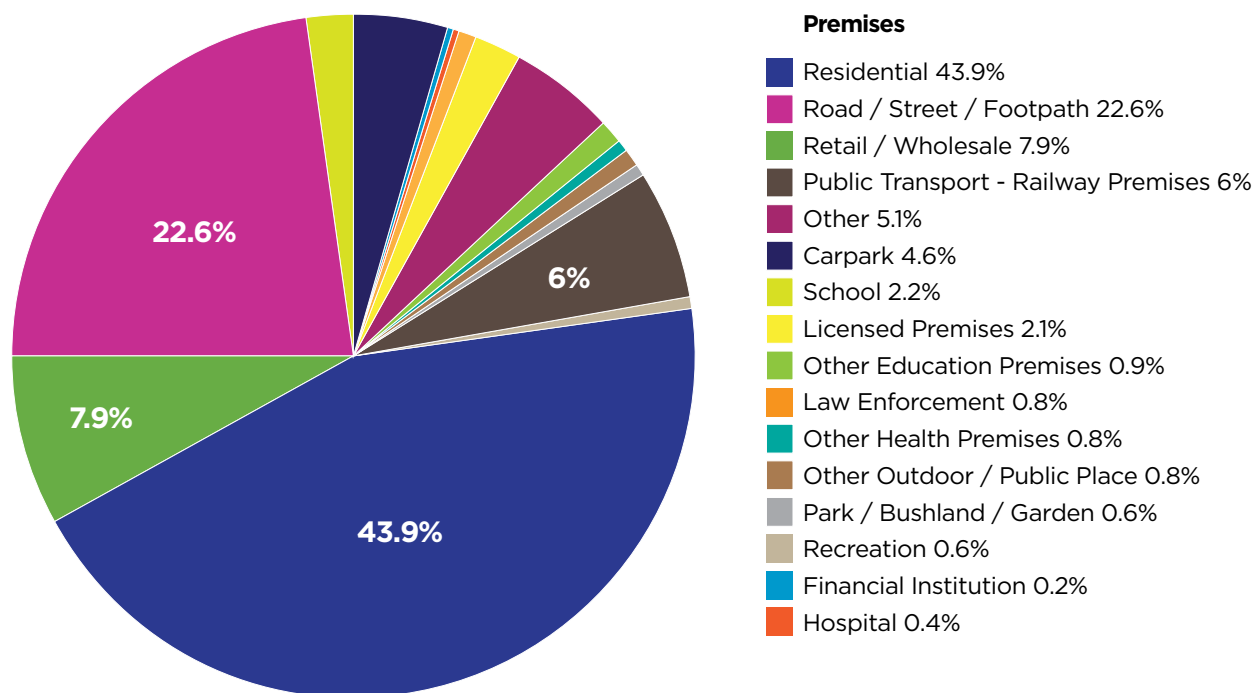
<sup>14</sup> Department of Transport 2003. Graffiti and vandalism on and around public transport: Briefing paper. <http://tna.europarchive.or/2010041315441/crimereduction.homeofficer.gov.uk/antisocialbehaviour/antisocialbehaviour23.htm>

<sup>15</sup> Op. Cit and; Morgan A, Boxall H, Lindeman K and Anderson J 2012. Effective Crime Prevention Interventions for Implementation by Local Government', Australian Institute of Criminology Report Research and Policy Series 120, pp. 92. [http://www.aic.gov.au/media\\_library/publications/rpp/120/rpp120.pdf](http://www.aic.gov.au/media_library/publications/rpp/120/rpp120.pdf)

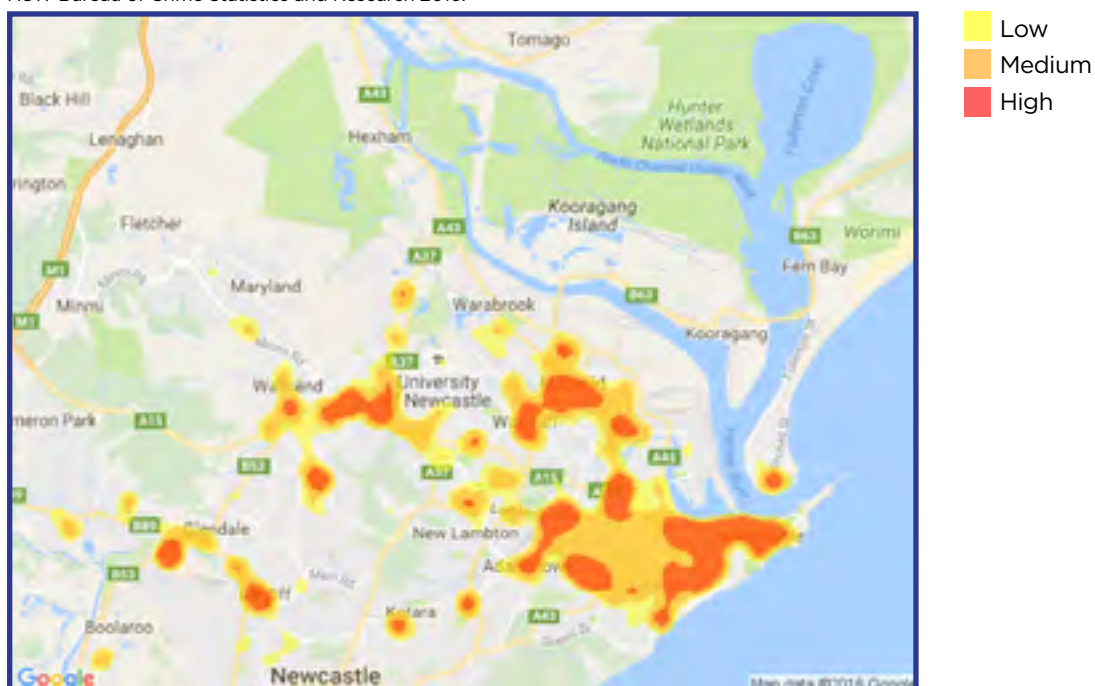
<sup>16</sup> La Grange TC 1999. The impact of neighbourhoods, schools, and malls on the spatial distribution of property damage. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 36: 393-422



## MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY INCIDENTS BY PREMISES IN NEWCASTLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016



NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 2016.



Incidents of Malicious damage to property from July 2015 to June 2016

# NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED ASSAULT

## WHAT IS IT?

Assault is broadly defined as the direct and immediate/ confrontational infliction of force, injury or violence upon a person or persons or the direct immediate/ confrontational threat of force, injury or violence, where there is an apprehension that the threat could be enacted.

## WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

BOCSAR identifies a number of common trends in relation to non-domestic assault, including:

**52.5%** Non-domestic assaults commonly occur at night time

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**47.5%** however a significant amount also occurs during the day

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**38.6%** A significant proportion assaults (non-domestic) are alcohol related

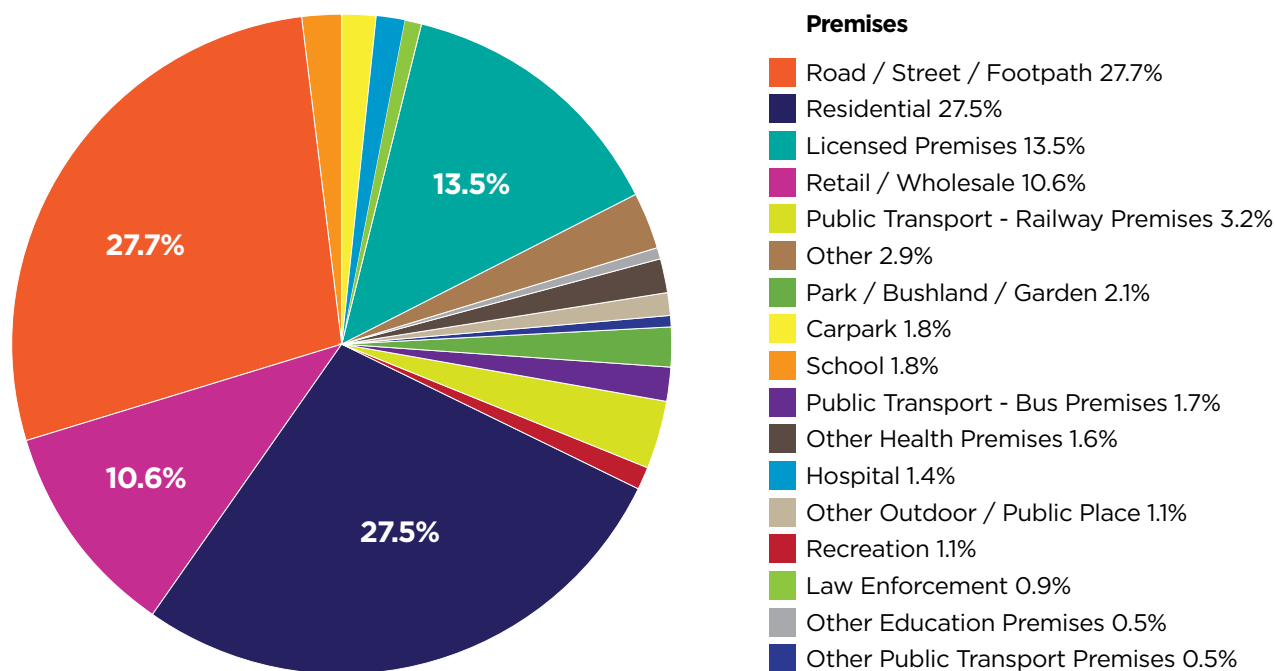
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## WHERE DOES IT OCCUR?

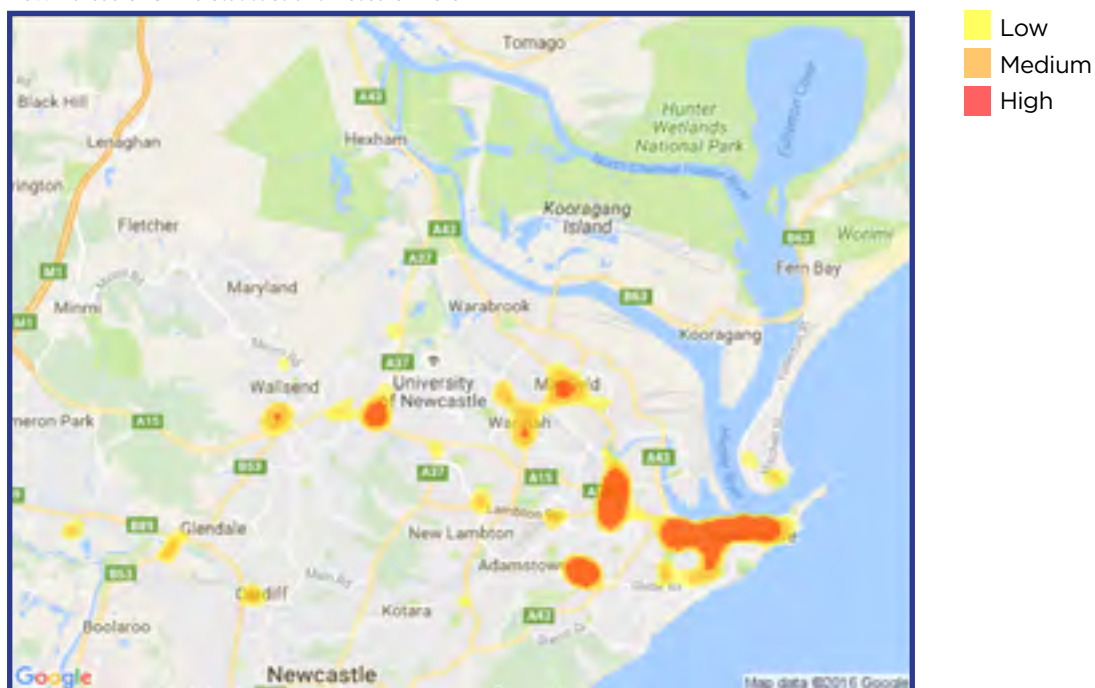
BOCSAR suggests that a high number of non-domestic violence-related assaults occur in outdoor / public spaces (32.4%) and residential areas (27.4%) in 2015.



## INCIDENTS OF ASSAULT (NON-DOMESTIC ASSAULT) IN NEWCASTLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016 BY PREMISES



NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research 2016.



Incidents of Assault (Non-domestic assault) from July 2015 to June 2016

