

Crime Prevention Plan

2009 – 2014



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1. Introduction

In 2000, the Holroyd Community Safety and Crime Prevention plan was developed . The plan provided the impetus for the Holroyd community to develop a coordinated approach to community safety and crime prevention. It was endorsed until 2004 as a community safety compact by the NSW Attorney General's (AG's) Department.

Earlier in 2008 the Council's Community Safety Committee undertook an assessment of processes, projects, tasks and activities undertaken by Council which have a direct or indirect impact on safety. As part of this assessment it was identified that Council needed a current Crime Prevention Plan.

This plan has been developed in consultation with the Community Safety Committee, the Holroyd Local Area Command (LAC) and the AG's .

In accordance with the *Children (Protection and Parental Responsibility) Act 1997*, AG's supports councils as lead agencies in partnership with Local Area Commands for identifying and implementing local crime prevention strategies in NSW. AG's have developed guidelines and a template for councils to implement crime prevention planning and this plan is based on the 2008 template.

Council is close to the community and well placed to identify issues of crime prevention and community safety. Through its role in local planning, environmental management, economic development, urban design and community service provision, Council is well positioned to play a key role.

Community safety requires an holistic approach and cooperation at all levels to ensure that incidents of crime are reduced, and the fear and perceptions of crime are altered.

What is Crime Prevention

Crime Prevention is a process by which measures are put into place to prevent, reduce or deter offending, and can take the form of situational/environmental, social or developmental Crime Prevention.

- **Situational Crime Prevention** involves actions that reduce opportunities for crime, by increasing the risk of detection and reducing the rewards of crime. This is done by addressing factors that create crime "Hot Spots".
- **Social Intervention** seeks to prevent offending, by changing social factors rather than the physical environment. It aims to strengthen community bonds and reduce social risk factors which lead to an increased level of

information, social control and deter actual and potential offenders. Examples of Social Intervention include community education and awareness programs.

- **Developmental Crime Prevention** involves the early identification of potential offenders or victims and intervenes to keep them from realising the potential for crime, or works with those who have already offended or have been victimised to prevent further offending. This can include early intervention programs aimed at preventing the development of criminal behaviours.

Source: "Contributing to a Safer Community", CHD Partners.

2. Relevant Policies

Holroyd Council 2007/2008 Management Plan

Within its *2007/2008 Management Plan* Council has identified the need to monitor community safety issues within Holroyd and where possible to initiate action to address these issues.

Council has funded a number of projects for 2007/2008 that will ensure Holroyd is a safer place. These include:

- Flashing lights in school zones
- Public car park lighting improvements
- Road safety education projects
- Installing a CCTV camera in a local park
- Upgrade lighting at Merrylands Oval
- Installing security surveillance in swimming centres

Council has a number of ongoing safety initiatives. These include:

- A road safety project
- Holroyd Liquor Accord Committee
- Holroyd Community Safety Committee
- Merrylands CBD Committee

Council is also represented on Holroyd LAC's Community Safety Precinct Committee.

Social Plan

Council's *Social Plan 2005 – 2009* includes strategies to ensure that safety issues associated with ageing are addressed.

City Health Plan

Council's *City Health Plan 2006 – 2010* has three priority areas

1. Healthy and Safe Environment
2. Disease Prevention
3. Healthy Lifestyles

The Healthy and Safe Environment area covers strategies around syringes, community safety, homelessness, water safety and domestic violence.

NSW State Plan

The State Plan: A New Direction for NSW, was released in November 2006, and sets out the priorities for Government action over the next 10 years. The key initiatives identified by the State government are as follows:

- keeping people safe through reduced rates of crime (particularly violent crime)
- reducing re-offending
- building harmonious communities through reduced rates of antisocial behaviour.

Targets have been set to reduce the incidence of property crimes against households by 15 percent and violent crimes against individuals by 10 percent, by 2016.

3. Social Profile

Holroyd City is located in Sydney's western suburbs, about 25 kilometres from the Sydney GPO. Holroyd City is bounded by Parramatta City in the north and east, Fairfield City in the south and Blacktown City in the west.

The population and its characteristics are important considerations when considering crime. Is the community transient? Is it diverse? Is the population growing? Is there unemployment? What are the socio-economic indicators?

Table 1 – Key Facts and Statistics, Holroyd Local Government Area.

	Holroyd LGA 2006	
Total Area	39.25 square kilometres	
Suburbs	Girraween, Granville (part), Greystanes, Guildford (part), Guildford West, Harris Park (part), Holroyd, Mays Hill, Merrylands (part), Merrylands West, Parramatta (part), Pemulwuy, Pendle Hill (part), Smithfield (part), South Wentworthville, Toongabbie (part), Wentworthville (part), Westmead (part) and Yennora (part).	
Total Population	89,921	
Age breakdown	0 - 4 years	6,595
	5 - 17 years	15,234
	18 - 64 years	56,638
	65 - 84 years	9,554
	85 years plus	1,192
Population growth	2.2% per annum	
Birthplace of residents	53.1% born in Australia, 39.4% overseas born	
Top three countries of overseas born	Lebanon, India and China	
Language spoken at home by residents	48.6% of the population spoke English only, and 45.3% spoke a non-English language Top three languages spoken other than English are Arabic, Tamil and Cantonese.	
Unemployment rate	6.9%	
Socio- Economic Index for Area (SEIFA index)	972.4 - ranked 9 th most disadvantaged area in Sydney - 2006.	
Family composition	Couples with children	49.6%
	Couples without children	30.4%
	One parent families	17.8%
	Lone person households	21.7%
	Other families	2.2%
Dwellings	Separate houses	60.3%
	Medium density	19.3%
	High density	14.4%
Housing tenure	Owned	30.2%
	Being purchased	27.5%
	Rented	27.7%
	Government Housing	6.4%
Migration	34.1 % of the community did not live in the same place as the 2001 Census. Of these, 9.9% moved within the LGA, 7.4% came from another country and 16.8% moved from another area within Australia.	

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006

4. Crime Profile

It is important to understand what crime is committed in the area and whether there are key crime problems. Statistics provided by Holroyd LAC were considered as well as crime data published by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOSCAR) in developing this profile.

Table 2 (on Page 8) shows crime statistics provided by the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) recorded incidents of selected offences in the Holroyd Local Government Area from April 2007 to March 2009.

Table 3 (on Page 9) shows the comparison between 2005, 2006 and 2007 crime statistics from BOSCAR data.

Table 2 - Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) recorded incidents of selected offences in the Holroyd Local Government Area
Annual totals and 24 month trend from April 2007 to March 2009

Offence	Apr 2007 to Mar 2008	Apr 2008 to Mar 2009	24 month trend	Annual percentage change
Murder	0	1	Not Calculated *	**
Assault - domestic violence related	434	412	Stable	**
Assault - non-domestic violence related	504	493	Stable	**
Sexual assault	56	62	Stable	**
Indecent assault, act of indecency and other sexual offences	66	64	Stable	**
Robbery without a weapon	102	88	Stable	**
Robbery with a firearm	22	15	Not Calculated *	**
Robbery with a weapon not a firearm	57	49	Stable	**
Break and enter - dwelling	827	891	Stable	**
Break and enter - non-dwelling	203	152	Down	-25.1%
Motor vehicle theft	600	483	Down	-19.5%
Steal from motor vehicle	991	666	Down	-32.8%
Steal from retail store	223	193	Down	-13.5%
Steal from dwelling	195	224	Stable	**
Steal from person	108	120	Stable	**
Fraud	810	751	Stable	**
Malicious damage to property	1195	1222	Stable	**

* A trend is not calculated if at least one 12 month period in the selected timeframe had less than 20 incidents.

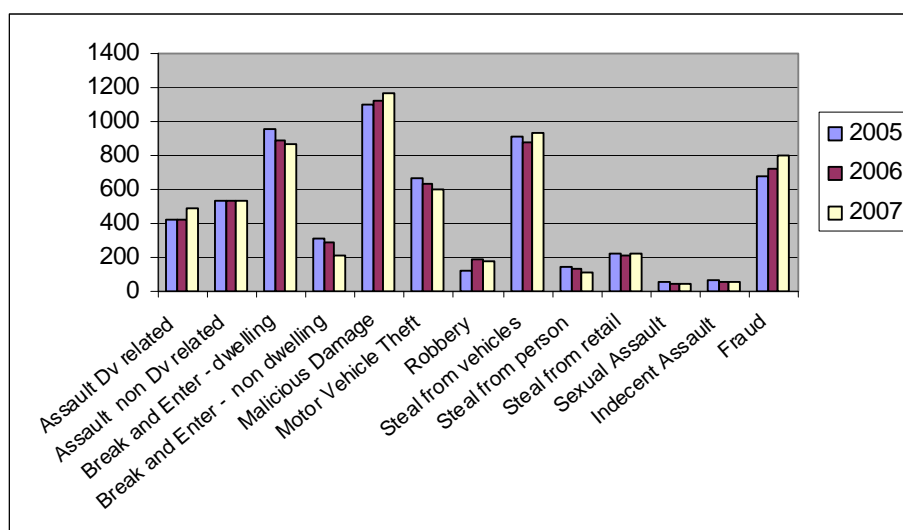
** No annual percentage change is given if the trend is stable or if a trend has not been calculated.

Table 3 – Comparison of selected crime statistics between 2005 and 2007

BOSCAR Crime Statistics	2005	2006	2007
Assault - Dv Related	426	425	488
Assault - Non Dv Related	530	531	528
Break and Enter - dwelling	961	884	870
Break and Enter - Non dwelling	307	291	216
Malicious Damage	1,105	1,127	1,171
Motor Vehicle Theft	669	633	597
Robbery	124	185	181
Steal from vehicles	907	873	938
Steal from person	141	132	108
Steal from retail	224	215	226
Murder	1	2	0
Sexual Assault	58	39	50
Indecent Assault	64	59	58
Fraud	680	727	804

Source : Number of incidents recorded in Holroyd LGA January – December of each year. BOSCAR Local Government Crime Report Series Holroyd 2007

The data in table 3 is presented in graphical form below, showing that crime has fallen from 2005 in all categories except for assault – DV related, malicious damage, steal from retail, steal from vehicles and fraud.



BOSCAR produces a crime report on each local government area based on crime statistics recorded by the Computerised Operational Policing System (COPS) and analyses the data to identify trends over 17 major offence types.

Of these categories, in the three year period June 2005 to June 2008 , offence numbers are stable for all except steal from motor vehicle, which is up, break and enter and steal from person, which are down.

Holroyd's is in the top 20 LGA's for the following crimes:

- Break and Enter – Dwelling – (20th)
- Fraud – (6th)
- Motor Vehicle theft – (10th)
- Robbery – (10th)

Table 4 - Recorded incidents of selected offences in the Holroyd Local Government Area, annual totals and 36 month trend from July 2005 to June 2008

Offence	July 2005 to June 2006	July 2006 to June 2007	July 2007 to June 2008	36 month trend	2007 LGA Crime Ranking
Murder	2	1	1	Not Calculated*	
Assault - domestic violence related	446	466	416	Stable	42
Assault - non-domestic violence related	515	537	548	Stable	83
Sexual assault	48	46	64	Stable	91
Indecent assault, act of indecency and other sexual offences	60	62	64	Stable	
Robbery without a weapon	77	102	98	Stable	10
Robbery with a weapon not a firearm	67	67	53	Stable	
Break and enter - dwelling	856	915	817	Stable	20
Break and enter - non-dwelling	297	252	188	Down	115
Motor vehicle theft	619	623	554	Stable	10
Steal from motor vehicle	765	958	987	Up	26
Steal from retail store	208	220	229	Stable	44
Steal from dwelling	216	247	194	Stable	113
Steal from person	152	121	109	Down	29
Fraud	771	746	761	Stable	6
Malicious damage to property	1138	1134	1257	Stable	98

* A trend is not calculated if at least one 12 month period in the selected timeframe had less than 20 incidents. ** No annual percentage change is given if the trend is stable or if a trend has not been calculated.

Source : BOSCAR Crime Trends Tool

Crime statistics are further broken down into months, time of day and hot spot location. Based on this it is apparent that in 2007:

- Most motor vehicle thefts occurred in Merrylands CBD and they were more likely to occur during the day.
- Robberies occurred across the twelve months, mainly between 6pm and midnight and around the railway lines at Guildford, Merrylands, Westmead, Wentworthville and Pendle Hill.
- Break and Enter from dwellings occurred across the twelve months, mainly from 6am to 12 noon with Westmead, Merrylands West and Merrylands being hot spots.

5. Consultations with Stakeholders

Consultation with Holroyd LAC

A meeting to identify issues was held with Holroyd LAC at the commencement of the project. Holroyd LAC identified that

- Crime in general is stable in the area. There are corridors along transport routes where crime is committed and there is a shift in offending age groups. Much of Holroyd LAC's crime prevention work is around 'target hardening'.
- Young people are offending more often and more violently. Police have found that young offenders are more likely to offend with a serious crime as their first offence.
- Young offenders committing offences in Holroyd are often from out of the area.
- There are a large number of repeat offenders in the area.
- Poor lighting and poor maintenance of trees around railway stations make these areas more prone to theft.
- Theft of vehicle number plates for petrol fraud is a significant issue in the community.

Consultation with Youth Services

Following the incident at Merrylands High in April 2008 the local police raised their profile with the culturally and linguistic diverse communities (CALD) community and families of CALD young people. AG's organised a meeting between youth workers, police and interested parties to discuss the issues associated with young people and offending.

At the meeting it was identified that:

- A disproportionate number of young people are offending.
- There are young children out late at night without parental supervision.
- Offenders generally have poor social skills and poor literacy.

- There is a need for more community events to engage families of young people - the youth centres hold such events but not frequently.
- Truancy is an issue. Some schools have implemented the SMS notification system to parents.
- There is a lack of awareness by young people that the crimes they are participating in are regarded as serious.
- Young people do not report when they are victims of crime.
- There are tensions between different groups at youth programs and schools.

Statistics on young people and crime

The data in table 5 provides further information on young people and crime.

Table 5 – Age and Gender of persons of interest - 2007 – Holroyd

Offence	Male 10 – 17 Years	Male 18- 19 Years	Male 20 – 29 Years	Female 10 – 17 Years	Female 18 – 19 Years	Female 20 – 29 Years
Assault - domestic violence related	17	11	57	8	1	4
Assault - non-domestic violence related	31	13	22	15	1	8
Robbery	29	4	6	5	0	1
Break and enter - dwelling	11	2	5	0	0	0
Break and enter - non-dwelling	12	1	1	0	0	0
Motor vehicle theft	9	5	11	2	1	1
Steal from motor vehicle	5	2	2	1	0	0
Steal from retail store	15	0	17	22	6	19
Steal from person	0	0	1	10	0	1
Malicious damage to property	44	9	24	10	0	4

In 2007 there were 302 young people 10 – 19 years in Holroyd who were persons of interest to the police compared to 214 young people in 2006. Local police statistics show that offenders as young as 13 have been charged with robbery with aggravation, and 14 and 15 year olds charged with armed robbery.

Young people are also well represented in the statistics for victims. In 2007 young people aged less than 19 years comprised 22% of all victims. Of these, the highest recorded offence was assault.

6. Council's Commitment to Crime Prevention

Holroyd Council has always been committed to working with the community to address community safety and crime prevention. In 2000 Council assisted the community to develop the *Crime Prevention Plan* which was implemented over the following four years. Council was successful in obtaining funds from the NSW Attorneys General's Department Crime Prevention Funding to implement the Merrylands Neighbourhood Project. This involved strengthening local neighborhoods and increasing knowledge about safety and crime prevention.

In 2008 the Council's Community Safety Committee undertook an audit of Council and community endeavors to reduce crime and increase safety. This audit found that there were many and varied activities in place to reduce the incidence of crime. In addition the Holroyd LAC conducts a number of promotions in the area to reduce specific crimes.

Some of the activities include:

Business Safety

Currently in place for business are the graffiti abatement program and the liquor accord run by Council. The business key holder register, shop watch alert cards and shop front numbering schemes are coordinated by the Holroyd Local Area Command Crime Prevention Officer with the assistance of Volunteers in Policing.

Building a safer community

Council has recently launched 'Safety Street', a web site for residents on how to reduce crime and increase their safety. Council's planning department works with police to implement 'Safer by Design' principles. A road safety campaign operates within Council.

Within the community a number of neighbourhood centres operate programs around self defence and Cumberland Women's Health Association (CWAHA) runs a domestic violence project. A 'religion and family harmony' project operates in the area through which community and church leaders are educated about domestic violence, informed on strategies to reduce and prevent violence and how to respond appropriately to disclosures.

Council runs the annual community safety awards. This year the major prize was awarded to the Cumberland Women's Health Centre for the Parramatta Holroyd Safety Project, which focuses on assisting victims of domestic violence. The minor

prize winner was awarded to Macquarie Legal Centre for Crime Prevention Workshops Program, which delivered a series of workshops to ten local High Schools focusing on the potential and legal consequences of unsafe actions.

Youth

Council's youth workers have developed and distributed a anti-bullying DVD throughout the schools.

Facilities

Council runs and contributes towards two youth centres in the LGA. Council also provides a range of community services for childcare and aged persons. Council's rangers monitor car parking and antisocial behaviour and it has in place a Liquor Accord.

Council received Federal funding in 2006 to complete a web watch project and now has a dedicated website to community safety. The website has educational materials which advise measures to prevent theft and ensure personal safety.

After the Merrylands High incident, Council's Youth Services have been working with Holroyd LAC and Parramatta Eels to develop a mentoring program for young people at risk. This was piloted this year and is still to be evaluated. The project identified 10 young people at risk of offending and matched them with Parramatta Eels players who were to mentor the young people and provide opportunities for them to participate in the community. The Eels players were supported by local youth workers. Preliminary indications are that the mentoring program has reduced the risk of young people offending but additional resources are needed to build the program and develop a case management function.

Council is presently reviewing its graffiti management strategy. Council currently spends over \$150,000 per annum on graffiti removal. All reported graffiti on Council facilities is removed in 24- 48 hours if offensive or within 10 days otherwise. Council has recently considered a report on graffiti management and the outcomes of this report are included in the action plan for graffiti management.

Holroyd Council will continue to support crime prevention initiatives within the area. It will:

- Work co-operatively with Holroyd LAC. This will involve the provision of ongoing assistance as required, participation with Holroyd LAC in the Community Safety Committee and participation in Holroyd LAC Community Safety and Precinct Committee. It will also maintain current relationships around development applications and Safer by Design.
- Continue to resource and support the Liquor Accord.
- Ensure the removal of graffiti.

- Continue to support and resource the Community Safety Committee.
- Hold the Annual Community Safety Awards.
- Maintain and promote the Safety Street web page.
- Work with the community through the Community Safety Committee and distribute the Neighbourhood Watch newsletter with the council rate notice.

7. Crime Prevention Priorities

Through looking at crime data and reviewing the results of consultations and collation of views the following priorities for Holroyd have been identified:

- Malicious Damage – reducing graffiti and general vandalism
- Theft from persons/ motor vehicles – reducing incidences of theft
- Assault – reducing the risk of young people offending or becoming victims.

Strategies around these priorities have been developed and follow in Section 8. It is important to note that the strategies will be actioned in partnership with the community. Some strategies will be dependant on funding while others may involve working more strategically.

8. Crime Prevention Approaches

AG's has reviewed crime prevention projects completed by NSW councils and has arrived at several key conclusions. Of relevance to this plan are:

- Efficiently and effectively designed, managed and implemented programs are more likely to succeed than those that are not.
- Programs that have an employed program officer to oversee the program are more likely to be successful.
- Programs that are aimed to reduce theft crimes such as break and enter and steal, steal from dwelling and steal from a retail store were most consistently successful.

In considering crime prevention strategies it is valuable to look at previous research. The priority crimes to address in Holroyd are malicious damage, theft and assault.

Holroyd LAC have identified that vehicle number plate theft and petrol fraud is a local issue. BOSCAR has published research around the rise of petrol costs correlating with the rise in petrol fraud. Holroyd LAC and AG's are working on projects to develop locking screws on number plates to reduce the incidence of theft of plates.

International research shows that illuminating areas that are recognised as crime 'Hot Spots' can result in a decrease in crime. Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) based initiatives have been shown to be inexpensive and effective in reducing theft.

Assault and theft are crimes young people are increasingly committing and are victim of. Research shows that some of these crimes are opportunistic rather than motivated. By ensuring vulnerable young people are engaged positively within the community some of the incidences of these crimes may be reduced.

9. Crime Prevention Action Plan

Priority 1: Reduce Malicious Damage to Property

<u>Target Offence:</u>	1.1 Graffiti
<u>Project:</u>	Graffiti Management - To develop a comprehensive Graffiti Management Strategy to reduce the impact of graffiti on the community
<u>Rationale:</u>	Graffiti is an ongoing problem in society and there are a number of approaches to address the issue from target hardening to monitoring its occurrence with a view to prosecution.
<u>Objective:</u>	To reduce the incidence of graffiti
<u>Lead Agency & Partners:</u>	Council
<u>Expected Outcome:</u>	Reduced incidences of graffiti

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
Review current graffiti management practices	Review completed	November 08	Nil	Council report FW100 08 -18 th November 2008
To ensure graffiti minimisation assessments are completed for all commercial and residential DA's through CPTED	CPTED reviews completed on DA's with graffiti minimisation strategies included.	Within 12 months	Within existing staff resources	Graffiti minimisation assessments as part of CPTED
To develop a media campaign around anti vandalism.	Campaign developed and implemented	Within 12 months and then ongoing	Within allocated Media Relations Resources	Campaign implemented
To promote reward scheme for information leading to the conviction of anybody committing wilful damage including graffiti	Reward scheme established Rewards paid for successful prosecutions	Annual	\$10,000 per annum for rewards	Scheme established and promoted Rewards paid
To develop a non 'zero tolerance' approach to graffiti removal	Rapid removal of graffiti in high profile areas Number of young people who offend in	Ongoing	Initially \$318,700 in the 1 st year (\$243,700 +	"In-house" graffiti removal unit established

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
	graffiti involved in its removal		\$75,000). Then \$243,000 per annum – subject to Councils quarterly review approval	Graffiti removed within determined time frames
To consult Council’s Youth Advisory Committee and Holroyd LAC on the above initiatives	Consultations completed and input reported	Within 6 months	Within existing staff resources	Consultations completed
To establish a Graffiti Data Management System	Data management system developed and implemented	Ongoing	\$4,000 per annum – subject to funding availability	System implemented
To further investigate the use of aerosol art in murals as a graffiti deterrent	Aerosol art in murals investigated	Within 12 months	Within existing staff resources	Report to council on issue

Priority 2: Reduce theft within the community

<u>Target Offence:</u>	2.1 Steal from car and dwellings
<u>Project:</u>	Implementation of policy and practices around Environmental Design principles
<u>Rationale:</u>	Theft from cars and private dwellings is an issue for Holroyd. Information from police suggests that environmental factors exacerbate this crime.
<u>Objective:</u>	To achieve a 10% reduction in all thefts over the next three years
<u>Lead Agency & Partners:</u>	Council, Community Safety Committee and Holroyd LAC
<u>Expected Outcome:</u>	Thefts from persons, cars and thefts of cars will be reduced significantly as the community becomes more aware and more target hardened.

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
To ensure crime risk assessments are completed for all commercial and residential DA's through use of CPTED	CPTED procedures reviewed Increase in buildings with good design to reduce crime	Within 12 months	Within existing staff capacity	CPTED review completed
To ensure safety audits are conducted regularly across the LGA. Implementation plans to be developed following each audit.	Develop Safety Audit procedures Audits completed within new procedures Implementation plans to be reported to Community Safety Committee	Within 12 months Ongoing Ongoing	Within existing staff capacity Within existing staff capacity Council funds may be required to implement audit findings	Safety Audit schedule developed for current and future years . Audits completed Implementation plans developed and completed
To enhance safety of areas along transport corridors identified as hot spots. Safety audits to be completed at Rail stations with City Rail involvement.	Safety audits completed at Merrylands, Guildford, Westmead and Wentworthville Station.	Within 36 months	City Rail or Council may need additional	Liaison with PCC to discuss joint audits

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
There is a potential to conduct joint audits with Parramatta Council			funding to implement works	Audits completed for each rail corridor
To ensure Lane Street Wentworthville is a safer place through conducting annual day and night safety audits	<p>Safety audit conducted</p> <p>Implementation plan developed</p> <p>Audit repeated annually</p>	<p>Within 12 months</p> <p>Within 12 months</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	Audit may identify works requiring funding	<p>Audit scheduled</p> <p>Audit completed and implemented</p> <p>Audit scheduled</p>

Priority 2: Reduce theft within the community

- Target Offence:** 2.2 Fraud
- Project:** Implementation of vehicle number plate screws
- Rationale:** Theft of vehicle number plates is an issue for Holroyd. Information from police suggests that number plates are stolen and then used for theft of petrol. There is an identified need to raise community awareness around the need to have lockable vehicle number plates.
- Objective:** To achieve zero theft of vehicle number plates
- Lead Agency & Partners:** Holroyd LAC
- Expected Outcome:** Reduction in number plate theft will reduce incidences of petrol theft and fraud

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
To implement vehicle number plate locking screws	Number plate locking system available	Within 12 months	Funding required to purchase and distribute locking screw for number plate	Funds identified Screws purchased Community Awareness of availability

Priority 2: Reduce theft within the community

Target Offence: 2.3 Steal from car and dwellings

Project: Community Awareness to increase safety

Rationale: Theft from cars and private dwellings is an issue for Holroyd. There is an identified need to raise community awareness around crime prevention and to identify strategies to reduce the potential for crime to be committed.

Objective: To achieve a 10% reduction in all thefts over the next three years

Lead Agency & Partners: Community Safety Committee and Holroyd LAC

Expected Outcome: Thefts from persons, cars and thefts of cars will be reduced significantly as the community becomes more aware and more target hardened.

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
To promote Council's Safety Street website within the community through the local newspaper and council information sources	Safety Street hits on the website increase by 25% each year	Ongoing	Within existing staff capacity	Annual newspaper article Promotion in Council's medium annually
To conduct promotional campaigns around safer behaviours for personal safety	Campaigns developed and implemented	Ongoing	Some funds maybe required for promotions	Campaigns developed and implemented
To conduct personal safety lectures, particularly in vulnerable communities.	Lectures conducted.	Ongoing	Within existing capacity	Vulnerable communities identified and lectures held.
To promote crime prevention strategies through a variety of means including the Neighbourhood Watch newsletters and media releases, victim follow-up and high-visibility policing in crime hot-spots.	Crime prevention strategies promoted.	Ongoing	Within existing capacity	Crime prevention strategies promoted.

Priority 3: Reduce young people’s participation in crime

- Target Offence:** 3.1 Assault, Robbery
- Project:** Develop a program of structured activities to engage young people at risk of violence in positive peer based activities
- Rationale:** Police advise that young people have been involved in crimes of violence, particularly around the rail corridor, on Friday and Saturday nights. In many instances, conflict has occurred between different groups of young people. There is a need to engage these young people in positive, supervised recreation that provides an opportunity to improve relations across groups of young people. The role and function of the Youth and Liaison Officer and School Liaison Police is critical in working with stakeholders in the development, implementation and evaluation of youth strategies aimed at reducing assault and robbery.
- Objective:** To engage young people at risk of violence in positive developmental recreation activities
- Lead Agency & Partners:** Holroyd Council Youth Services Team , Holroyd Parramatta Youth Network (HAPYN) , Holroyd LAC , Holroyd Council’s CALD worker
- Expected Outcome:** To reduce the incidence of assault, robbery and steal from person offences at peak times

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
To enhance Parramatta Eels Mentoring Program to include case management for participants to realise positive outcomes.	Young people at risk identified and included in mentoring program	Within 12 months	Yes funding is needed to develop the program and provide ongoing case management support for young people at risk	Evaluation of 2008 program
	Reduction in offending by program participants	Within 24 months		Development of 2009 program
	Case management function developed	Within 12 months		Case management component developed and implemented
	Number of referrals to support services increase	Ongoing		
To develop CALD communities capacity to assist	CALD communities capacity identified	Within 12	Existing staff	Relationships developed with

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
Holroyd LAC and youth programs	Increased participation by CALD communities in youth activities	months Ongoing	resources Existing staff resources	CALD communities CALD community adults participate in youth programs
To develop a range of youth programs within existing centres that are offered in the weekend and at night. These structured programs will engage at risk of offending young people	New programs offered Young people at risk of offending access the centres Reduction in number of young people as victims and offenders in opportunistic crime	Within 12 months	Yes funding is required to staff centres and provide program costs as well as transport costs for young people to attend	Programs developed Programs evaluated
To develop cultural arts program with young people and City Rail to design and paint murals in the railway tunnels of Merrylands, Guildford and Wentworthville stations	Rail tunnels identified and art project completed Reduction in incidence of graffiti on target sites	Within 12 - 36 months	Yes funding is required to employ artist. City Rail could be approached to resource the project	Project developed Artist employed Young people identified to participate Project completed and launched
To develop an educational program to challenge young people around identification with gang culture. The program will be developed and implemented throughout high schools and youth facilities in the area	Issues identified around young people , gangs and violence Reduction in numbers of young people becoming involved in gangs Reduction in incidence of crime by young people as part of a gang	Within 12 - 24 months	Yes funding will be required to develop the program and to implement throughout the schools	Funding identified Program developed Program implemented through schools
To continue to work with Stockland Merrylands to develop and implement a youth protocol	Reduction in number of incidences committed by young people at Stockland Mall	Within 12 – 24 months	Within existing staff resources	Protocol developed and implemented
To conduct lectures at school “Keeping Me Safe” Program.	“Keeping Me Safe” Programs conducted.	Ongoing	Within existing resources	“Keeping Me Safe” Programs conducted.
School Liaison Police to conduct workshops with local high schools and youth centres on crime related topics.	Workshops conducted.	Ongoing	Within existing resources.	Workshops conducted.

Priority 3 : Reduce young people’s participation in crime

Target Offence: 3.2 Assault, Robbery, Steal From Person

Project: Strengthen the capacity of the local youth network to engage young people at risk of offending

Rationale: Some young people at risk of crimes of violence are difficult to engage and are not currently accessing youth services. There is a need to enhance the skills of local youth service providers to engage these young people and manage challenging behaviours. There is also a need for a strategy to identify opportunities for high-risk young people to be engaged by different services at peak times.

Objective: To increase the numbers of at risk of offending young people participating and engaging in local youth services and activities

Lead Agency & Partners: Holroyd Council Youth Services Team, HAPYN

Expected Outcome: Increased service referrals for young offenders and those at risk of offending
Reduced incidents of assault involving young people

Action	Performance Measures	Time Frames	Funding required	Milestones
To access training for youth workers in Managing Challenging Behaviours and Engaging With Challenging Young People	Training identified and attended	Ongoing	Within existing training budgets	Training identified and attended by youth workers
To access training for young people around peer education and ‘save a mate ’	Training and participants identified Training attended by young people	Ongoing	Some funding is required to subsidise young people to attend training	Training identified and organised for young people to attend
To seek support to expand young peoples access within Holroyd to Links to Learning and Connect programs	Programs run in local area	Within 12 - 24 months then ongoing	Yes funding required to establish a Links to Learning or Connect program	Funding applied for Program funded and established

10. Conclusion

Holroyd City Council for many years has demonstrated a commitment to improving community safety. The *2001 Crime Prevention Plan*, the neighbourhood funded projects and more recently the Safety Street Web Watch Project have all contributed to making Holroyd a safer place. This plan will take Council and the community into the future and ensure that together they can make Holroyd safer still.

11. References

NSW State Government State Plan – A new direction for NSW State Plan - A New Direction for NSW

NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, *Local Government Area Crime Report Holroyd 2006*

NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, *Local Government Area Crime Report Holroyd 2007*

12. Useful Websites

Holroyd Council's Safety Street

<http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au/safetystreet>

Commonwealth Attorney General's Department

<http://www.crimeprevention.gov.au>

NSW Attorney General's Department

<http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/cpd>
<http://www.crimeprevention.nsw.gov.au/>

To access fact sheets on crime prevention

http://www.crimeprevention.nsw.gov.au/Lawlink/cpd/ll_cpdiv.nsf/pages/CPD_factsheets