



Wellington City

a safe place to live, work and play

Absolutely

POSITIVELY

ME HEKE KI PŌNEKE
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION AS A WORLD
HEALTH ORGANIZATION SAFE COMMUNITY

MARCH 2006

Wellington



A word from the Mayor

Community safety is a vital component of any successful city. It impacts on quality of life and perceptions of the city as a whole, not only for a city's residents, but for its visitors as well.

Wellingtonians are proud of their city. Our vision, *Creative Wellington – Innovation Capital*, reflects that pride and clearly illustrates our strong sense of place.

One aspect of this sense of place is that Wellington is a lively city that attracts a diverse range of people to its centre. There's something exciting happening at virtually any time of the day and night. But safety is fundamental to maintaining this feeling of vibrancy. Creative people want to live, work and play in places where they can go about their everyday business with the knowledge that they are indeed safe. Any threats to community safety will undermine our city's success.

Only a few years ago, public perception was that Wellington, particularly in the central city area, had high levels of crime, including violent crime. In 1998/99, Wellington experienced a spate of high profile, violent incidents, including the on-street murder of a young person and several serious sexual assaults in public places. Highlighted by both local and national media, and coupled with stories on the high level of drunken and unruly behaviour of youth in the central city, Wellingtonians became afraid. In fact, the 1999 Residents' Satisfaction Survey showed that only 30 percent of respondents felt safe in the city at night.

In response, Wellington City introduced the City Safety Package in 2000, comprising 31 specific initiatives and funding of \$5million. A dynamic Safety Strategy evolved to underpin the Safety Package. Responsive to current issues and emerging trends, the strategy aims to ensure *people feel safe in Wellington at any time*.

Key elements of the safety package have included:

- The establishment of 15 (full time equivalent) City Safety (Walkwise) officers, who operate 24/7 in the central city. They act as ambassadors for the Council, aiming to prevent and deter crime and anti-social behaviour through visibility.
- Partnerships with government, police, health and community agencies, and the business sector (in particular the hospitality and security industries) have been established through a variety of programmes. The partnership with police has been essential to the success of the programme. This has been key to the Council's leadership role, with the Council facilitating and promoting models of community safety.
- Increased events for youth, along with participation by youth in the planning, participation and delivery of Council led initiatives.
- The integration of safety initiatives into "business as usual". Examples include urban design, lighting, and the development of partnerships.
- Injury prevention through the flow-on effects of all 31 initiatives and through other related Council projects. These projects include the Council's Liquor Licensing Policy and the inter-agency initiatives of the Liquor Liaison Group, the joint Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) and Walkwise initiative known as *Shopsafe* to reduce injuries amongst retail staff and the Council's *SaferRoads* project aimed at reducing traffic accidents in the city by a third by 2010.
- A robust approach to city safety because we believe that looking to reduce fear of crime and improve perceptions of safety ultimately reduces the number of injuries.

Since we introduced this package, we have seen indications of a significant shift in perceptions of safety, including:

- *The Quality of Life in New Zealand's 12 Largest Cities Survey 2004*, which reports Wellington in the top three for overall perceptions of safety in the city after dark.
- The Council's *Residents' Satisfaction Survey*, which shows that over the past couple of years approximately 100 percent of respondents felt safe in the city during the day, and around 70 percent of people felt reasonably, or very safe, in the central city at night. (This is an excellent result compared with 1999 when only 30 percent of residents reported feeling reasonably or very safe in the central city at night).
- A number of Wellington's initiatives have been picked up in other centres or nationally - a clear illustration of Wellington's leadership role. For example, information cards for youth are now distributed nationally and the Walkwise model has been adopted by other cities. It is obvious that the package has been successful.



I am proud that today, Wellington has a reputation for safety and our residents feel safe living, working and playing in the city. To maintain that reputation the Council has agreed to spend a further \$15million over ten years to support safety initiatives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerry Prendergast".

Mayor Kerry Prendergast



About our city

Wellington City is the capital of New Zealand and has a population of 163,824 (Census 2001). Wellington City today has more people aged 20-34 than other areas of New Zealand, fewer elderly people and fewer children. Wellingtonians consist of 80.9 percent European, with 12.5 percent Maori, 7.9 percent Pacific Island, 6.8 percent Asian and 0.9 percent other (Census 2001).

Just over a third of the population in the Wellington region is aged between 15 and 64 years, which is the highest proportion of working age population for any region. As a consequence Wellington has a high rate of participation in the labour force – 68.2 percent.

Wellington people earn the highest median incomes in New Zealand. The proportion of the population with a personal income of over \$40,000 is 5.29 percent higher in Wellington City than Auckland City. Twenty-four percent of Wellingtonians own their own homes.¹

WHO criteria for this application

WHO Safe Community communities must meet these six criteria:

1. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community.
2. Long-term, sustainable programmes covering both genders and all ages, environments and situations.
3. Programmes that target high-risk groups and environments, and programmes that promote safety for vulnerable groups.

4. Programmes that document the frequency and causes of injuries.
5. Evaluation measures to assess their programmes, processes and the effects of changes.
6. Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Community networks.

This application will go into each of these criteria in more detail.

¹ This information comes from New Zealand Census 2001 and is off the Positively Wellington website: WellingtonNZ.com



An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community

Wellington City Council has focused on building partnerships with key community groups and government agencies to improve safety in the city.

A recent review of inner city charge sheets by Police indicated that around 80 percent of disorder and violence in the City is alcohol related.



Sustainable and meaningful partnerships must be developed and maintained with a broad range of agencies and community groups. Although the Council has a leadership role it cannot achieve real and sustainable benefits unless it is working closely with other agencies and the community.

The Council has developed seven key strategies for the city. The Social and Recreation Strategy within which safety sits aims to build strong, safe and healthy communities for a better quality of life. The strategy recognises the importance of working collaboratively with communities to ensure the best delivery of services and programmes. One of the results will be safer communities with people feeling safe in the city and in their homes.

To achieve our objective of enhancing community safety we have developed relationships and fostered cooperative initiatives with key constituents in the city. Partners and potential partners include the Police, ACC, community groups, youth service providers, health providers, Child Youth and Family Services and the Crime Prevention Unit.

The Safety Advisory Group has been established to provide advice and identify appropriate responses as part of the City Safety Package. The group was set up in June 2004 and comprises representatives from Wellington City Council, the Crime Prevention Unit, Police, ACC and the Capital & Coast District Health Board. The purpose of this group is to report to the Council on issues, trends and priorities and to work together to ensure each organisation plays its part in contributing to the overall goals and objectives set out in the action plans.

The action plan framework is designed to ensure the actions taken in respect of identified safety issues in Wellington City are coordinated, responsive, flexible and sustainable.

The plans will assist local organisations and community groups to identify the range of initiatives currently implemented or planned in respect of a particular issue, the relevance those activities have to stated objectives and the safety outcomes sought by Wellington City Council. The plans will also help us to identify any gaps.

A 'Problem Oriented Approach' to output development and resource allocation, one that uses enhanced intelligence and analysis of statistics will ensure that emerging issues are identified early and responded to appropriately.

We have processes in place, particularly with the Police and ACC where ongoing monitoring occurs enabling us to deal with emerging issues rather than waiting for yearly reports and having to respond retrospectively.

Our strong relationships enable us to tackle issues that threaten the Council objectives that – *people feel safe in Wellington at any time* and that *the central city is the premier and most rapidly growing retail, entertainment, service and knowledge centre for the region*.

A recent review of inner city charge sheets by Police indicated that around 80 percent of disorder and violence in the City is alcohol related.

Alcohol and entertainment go hand in hand and are entrenched in our social culture. One of the adverse impacts on the city from cultivating a premier entertainment centre is the misuse of alcohol, disorderly behaviour and violence.

It is clearly evident that one organisation is not in any position to make a significant difference. The problem is a broad, multifaceted social issue and in the case of alcohol cannot be confined to simply a regulatory approach of improving the management of drunks in licensed premises and minors gaining access to licensed premises.

In New Zealand local authorities are charged with responsibilities under the Sale of Liquor Act through a regulatory committee known as the District Licensing Agency (DLA). It can be difficult for a local authority to strike a balance between the competing goals of improving city safety and reducing alcohol misuse and promoting a premier entertainment centre.

This has been achieved in Wellington through effective partnerships and collaboration.

The strong coordination and cooperation between the agencies including the industry also assists and is a vital link in maintaining a consistent approach in this area.

As part of this coordination we operate a number of initiatives involving partnerships with a range of key stakeholders.

Koordinated Enforcement Group (KEG) is one of the initiatives that was started with the objective of:

- reducing the level of alcohol related offending in Wellington with the aim of improving city safety
- improving safety in and around licensed premises in the city
- improving licensees' understanding of how they will be dealt with by the various regulatory authorities.

The Group, consisting of Police, Council and Regional Public Health, was formed in response to an escalation in alcohol related violent offending in Wellington City and a national focus on youth access to alcohol following the lowering of the drinking age to 18 years.

Other initiatives include the Police and DLA Bulletin, which is an electronic bulletin compiled by Police and Council staff produced monthly and distributed widely within the sector. It is designed to keep high risk and other premises up to date with current Police/DLA concerns and issues.

On the Town is a quarterly Wellington City Council publication to all licensees featuring articles which have been jointly devised to educate licensees and managers on compliance and other issues.

As part of the monitoring role there have been 11 joint inspection operations carried out in the past year involving the monitoring and enforcement agencies. Wellington City Council has also worked closely with the Wellington Door Staff Association whose members now provide services to a large proportion of the licensed premises in the Courtenay Quarter of the city. Council's role has included supporting the development of the group and participating in its training.

Other initiatives include Controlled Purchase Operations, which are jointly run monitoring operations conducted by Police, DLA and Regional Public Health. These involve using minors (people under the age of 18 years) to test the level of compliance with prohibitions on the sale and supply of alcohol to those under 18. Any breaches of the Sale of Liquor Act have resulted in the agencies responding in some cases with legal action but also follow up support and monitoring.

In Wellington we coordinate our efforts when running joint initiatives to ensure the task of running the operation and/or taking enforcement action to the Liquor Licensing Authority (LLA) is not overly onerous. The DLA coordinates the logistics associated with the operation. The Police provide the authoritative presence and file any enforcement applications. Regional Public Health (health promotion staff) recruit and look after our young volunteers.



Early evaluation results suggest a reduction in public place drinking and some improvement in anti-social behaviour.

Liquor Control Bylaw

Recent changes to the Local Government Act in New Zealand resulted in a number of councils introducing a Liquor Control Bylaw. This replaces a previous provision that allowed local councils to have 'liquor bans' in place. Wellington City Council plays a key role in public safety and is seen by Police as a strategic partner in reducing crime. Evidence of this is the response Police negotiated with the Council over the problem of drinking in public places, which resulted in the Council consulting on and then implementing a Liquor Control Bylaw in November 2003.

This has enabled the Police to enforce bylaw provisions around a ban on drinking in a defined area of the central business district. It is seen as another tool to reduce alcohol related harm in the city and sits alongside the other responses under the Sale of Liquor Act. Early evaluation results suggest a reduction in public place drinking and some improvement in anti-social behaviour.

Support for partnership

Letters of support for our partnerships and the collaborative approach we have taken are contained in appendix one.



2

Long-term, sustainable programmes covering both genders and all ages, environments and situations

We have worked with our partners to identify the issues and put in place funding and programmes to improve safety for all who live, work and play in the city.

Focus areas for 2000–2004

Seven issues impacting on city safety that were identified through the Draft Annual Plan process in 2000 were:

1. Dark spots in the city encourage crime and reduce feelings of safety
2. Few activities to involve young people once they are in the city
3. The need for young people to be able to resist or avoid victimisation
4. A need to enhance the network of public transport in the Wellington region to ensure that people are able to get home safely at all times
5. Youth access to and misuse of alcohol and other drugs
6. Crime and fear of crime can deter visitors and citizens from entering the city centre
7. The need for strong leadership and active decision making at senior levels and close collaboration with groups and agencies working with communities.

Thirty one initiatives were developed to support these focus areas and perceptions of safety have improved dramatically since the package was implemented. Appendix two, provides an overview of implementation of these initiatives.

ISSUE 1

Dark spots in the city encourage crime and reduce feelings of safety and security

Five initiatives were identified to address this issue.

1.1: Safety audits (central city) to identify unsafe areas and implement solutions. Safety audits were used to identify safety issues and gaps as a mechanism to prioritise and guide the work programme. The audits were carried out in accordance with internationally recognised urban public security and safety criteria in 10 precincts across the central business district. They were useful to ascertain issues of environmental risk such as inadequate lighting.

Each audit was based on nine criteria including factors such as visibility, lighting and overall quality of the environment. Results were analysed and an implementation plan set in place. The implementation plans were undertaken internally with development costs being within organisation budgets. This work has been integrated into the Council's urban design programme and incorporates the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED).

1.2: Lighting strategy – a lighting strategy was developed to:

- improve safety by concentrating on lighting for pedestrians and by increasing lighting of buildings
- ensure safety concerns were taken account of in lighting parts of the city
- improve night time environment by installing lighting that matches usage
- improve accessibility to all parts of the city centre by assisting direction finding along specific routes through lighting

The lighting strategy is integrated with other safety initiatives, for example the move to white lighting in the Manners Mall/Dixon Street area to enhance the effectiveness of CCTV.



- integrate all exterior lighting elements (pedestrian, roadway, building and landscape) to promote a safe evening environment.

The strategy has been integrated into business as usual to provide a cohesive and consistent approach to lighting in the city. It is integrated with other safety initiatives, for example the move to white lighting in the Manners Mall/Dixon Street area to enhance the effectiveness of CCTV. White lighting has other benefits as well.

The strategy supported the provision of better lighting in a number of risk areas (see notes under section 1.5) and continues to be applied as other risk areas are identified, for example the Council is currently redeveloping Glover Park which has been identified as a trouble spot. This redevelopment has taken account of safer design principles and will see a greatly enhanced and more open public space including improved lighting. Overseas experience suggests it is likely to have a significant impact on safety and perceptions of safety.

1.3: Community safety audits – as with the central city safety audits, the community audits were carried out to identify unsafe areas with a view to implementing solutions. The audits were conducted in accordance with internationally recognised urban public security and safety criteria and the programme incorporated the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

Each audit was based on a request from a particular community that had identified a perceived safety need. Following each audit an implementation plan was developed and all work required was undertaken by Council with the costs coming from within existing budgets. A report was prepared for each community involved.

Audits were conducted and improvements completed in Aro Valley, Strathmore, Kilbirnie, Lyall Bay, Newtown and as part of the Northern Growth Management Plan. Community involvement was integral to the success of this initiative.

A '*Community Safety Audit*' booklet was developed from council resources. All community groups reported being highly satisfied with the outcomes.

1.4: CCTV installation – as a result of a successful CCTV pilot run in 2003 permanent surveillance cameras were installed at three points in the central city in April 2005. The CCTV cameras are seen as one part of the joint strategy by Wellington City Council and Police to reduce crime and ensure public safety in the central city. The CCTV cameras are monitored at high risk times. While the information is available for police to pursue offenders the main focus has been on trying to stop trouble before it starts. The cameras are monitored by Walkwise staff who have a good understanding of the city and the people that use it. They have been able to identify problems before they escalate and contact Police in appropriate situations or deal with it themselves.

Residents and retailers consider CCTV contributes significantly to perceptions of safety and the Police report it is highly successful in decreasing resolution time, contributing to response planning and ensuring a rapid response. A map of the CCTV locations is provided in appendix three.

1.5: Provision of sensor lighting – it was agreed to provide some sensor lighting in areas identified as suitable for its use. However, the cost of sensor lighting proved to be high and instead 'timer' lighting was installed in areas identified as being high risk through safety audits (Bond Street, Forresters Lane, Opera House Lane and Lukes Lane). This initiative was aligned with the overall lighting strategy.

For youth to be able to contribute positively toward the community and function confidently within it they need to feel safe and secure.



ISSUE 2

Wellington is a vibrant and lively city that attracts people to its centre, however, there is a lack of activities to involve young people once they are in the city.

This group of initiatives is aimed at providing a wide range of events and activities for youth of all ages, across the city. The initiatives are also intended to ensure that youth have input into planning of events and activities and that they are aware of what is happening in the city for them. They are focused on the provision of indoor and outdoor venues as a means of achieving this and on how we can promote these venues to youth.

The programmes developed for this initiative are described in detail on page 19.

ISSUE 3

For youth to be able to contribute positively toward the community and function confidently within it they need to feel safe and secure. Recent incidents have highlighted the need for young people to be able to resist or avoid victimisation.

These initiatives are looking to further Council support for programmes aimed at keeping youth safe, and teaching them life skills. Council recognises that prevention is a key part of ensuring safety outcomes in the future.

The programmes developed for this initiative are described in detail on page 21.

ISSUE 4

Although there is a good network of public transport in the Wellington region and a limited late night bus service this is not enough to ensure that people are able to get home safely at all times.

Four specific initiatives were designed to address this issue.

4.1: After Midnight bus service – existing service providers in the city were utilised to operate an ‘After Midnight’ bus service to outlying suburbs to increase access to safe public transport. Since its introduction the service has sustained levels of usage that have resulted in additional services being provided, including to the Hutt Valley. Some consideration was given to providing ‘minders’ on this service but regular reports indicate this is not required. Six monthly reports show high patronage and do not indicate any problems. This initiative did not require direct funding.

4.2: Taxi cards (Homesafe) – this was a joint project between Wellington City Council and Wellington Combined Taxis. Homesafe is a pre-paid, set-fare taxi voucher for young people of all ages to travel safely from anywhere in Wellington’s central business district to their homes (within Wellington City’s catchment area).

The scheme enables parents, caregivers and young people to buy the set-fare vouchers with suburban zone destinations on them. One-off funding of \$56,000 was provided by the Council in 2000/01. This amount was matched by an equal contribution from Wellington Combined Taxis.

Young people identified the need for safe transport around the city in Draft Annual Plan Youth Forums.

Vouchers are easy to obtain from any Council library, New World Supermarket, Shell Service Station, or direct from Wellington Combined Taxis. Wellington City Council maintains a relationship with Wellington Combined Taxis. The vouchers remain popular, with increases in use recorded each month since introduction, not only among young people but among a wider section of the community.

4.3: Public transport minders monitoring – this initiative was to ensure safe public transport through the provision of minders on buses. After some monitoring, it was considered unnecessary to provide monitors (as noted above in section 4.1). No specific funding was allocated. The After Midnight bus service continues to be monitored and should the need be identified then the decision can be revisited.

4.4: Advocacy for safe public and private transport – in collaboration with the Council’s Road Safety Coordinator funding was provided for road safety programmes such as the Plunket car seat scheme which allows families with infants to hire a car seat. This helps ensure that all children are safely restrained. In addition ACC has identified the need to improve the use of restraints for young children in the Pacific community. Work is continuing in this area following a meeting between ACC injury consultants and the Council’s Pacific Advisory Group which represents all seven Pacific nations and provides advice and connections with these communities.

Cleanliness is acknowledged as a key element of any safety programme. Existing services were utilised and enhanced to increase cleanliness within the city.



ISSUE 5

Regardless of the prevention methods currently used to control or prohibit access to drugs and alcohol, many youth still have relatively easy access to these. Youth who misuse alcohol and other drugs tend to be involved in anti-social behaviour and are often involved with the Police.

These initiatives are aimed at reducing the misuse of drugs and alcohol by youth through a variety of prevention methods. The programmes developed for this initiative are described in detail on page 22.

ISSUE 6

Crime and fear of crime can deter visitors and citizens from the city centre

Five specific initiatives were designed to address this issue.

6.1: Partnership promotion campaign of the city as a safe and clean destination for all. Cleanliness is acknowledged as a key element of any safety programme. Existing services were utilised and enhanced to increase cleanliness within the city. The central city 'Streetwise' cleaning model, operating a 24/7 service was adopted. Streetwise staff are out cleaning when litter is being created which contributes to a cleaner and safer environment. They provide a street presence and are a source of help for those in the city. They all carry radios.

Regular liaison was established with Streetwise and there was increased input to and attendance at Citywise briefings involving Walkwise, Streetwise, Parkwise (parking enforcement staff) and Police. There are important gains in efficiency by bringing these four groups together to share knowledge of issues and activities on Wellington's streets.

6.2: Central City Police Kiosk. The Central City Police Kiosk was opened in September 2000 to support a community policing approach in the central city. The Council paid for the initial fit-out of the offices in the James Smiths building and has subsequently contributed to the rental. There is space for up to 12 Police officers and volunteers. Mountain bikes were also provided to give visibility, mobility and a friendly face to Police.

Initially it was intended that 'beat' staff would operate from the kiosk, but in practice other Police staff responding to issues identified through Police intelligence, such as motor vehicle crime and violence, are also based there as required. This initiative also contributes to increasing community policing (page 23) and was put in place to increase the delivery of services to popular gathering places.

The office continues to be a focal point for Police operating in the central city. During the day it is also staffed by volunteers who are available to the public and contact Police as required. Beat staff and those tasked with responding to issues in the city operate from the base. It has changed to meet the emerging issues in the city and respond to these.

6.3: Walkwise (city safety officers) has been one of the most visible interventions introduced and Walkwise staff have earned an excellent reputation with Police, retailers and Wellington residents. Walkwise officers were appointed as the 'eyes and ears' of the city and to be ambassadors for Wellington on the streets of the central city.

There are 15 full time equivalent staff covering 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The main tasks of the officers include:

- deterring crime through visibility
- being the eyes and ears of the Police
- identifying hazards in public areas
- promoting the public image of the 'safe city'
- distributing information
- greeting and directing visitors to the city
- assisting citizens
- providing feedback to utilities.

A survey carried out by independent research company, A C Nielsen, showed high levels of acceptance by residents and retailers with a large proportion believing Walkwise contributes significantly to a reduction in crime in the city. Specifically 80 percent of residents believe Walkwise makes the inner city safer (Awareness and Perception study by AC Nielsen, March 2002).

In addition the Council's Residents' Satisfaction Survey reports a high level of public support for the scheme. Walkwise officers now contribute a considerable amount of information to the Police intelligence system and in return enjoy a sound relationship with Police and receive useful information back.

Walkwise makes a significant contribution to injury prevention in the city by providing information on problems associated with city assets prompting a more rapid response and lowering costs of damage. The Police report that the information they receive contributes to an improved response to issues and knowledge about emerging trends. Dunedin, Manukau and Porirua City councils have adopted the model for their cities.

Creating a safe city involves the community, agencies and the Council working together.



ISSUE 7

Creating a safe city involves the community, agencies and the Council working together. This requires strong leadership and active decision making at senior levels and close collaborations with groups and agencies working with communities.

Five specific initiatives were designed to address this issue.

7.1: Maximise cooperation and collaboration between groups that already exist.

Key agencies include Violence Intervention Networks, Youth Collaboration Group, Youth Network and social service providers. This is an ongoing initiative and works towards a cooperative approach across the city around a wide range of services. Various forums have been established or strengthened, for example the Youth Collaboration Group and the Wellington Regional Leaders' Forum with increased information flow and coordination of activities through regular meetings.

7.2: Develop a 'Leaders' group to provide high level co-ordination of key agencies.

A Leaders Forum was established in 2000 and has been successful in identifying regional priorities and sharing information especially associated with social issues impacting on the whole region. The membership includes the Mayors of each local council plus council officers and representatives of government agencies. A small executive group provides the ongoing support for the projects being carried out by member agencies. Projects that have been coordinated at a regional level through this forum have addressed:

- street racers
- wrap around services (bringing all the service providers, e.g. those who are working with a particular family together so they don't work in isolation from each other)
- family violence
- regional alcohol strategy
- regional youth issues
- clandestine drug laboratories (in the past Police identified a manufacturing laboratory, dealt with the offenders, often removed chemicals and didn't tell anyone else. We have worked with Police to develop a plan that has councils, through their environmental health officers, making sure the house is safe).

7.3: Increased support and funding for safety projects proposed by community organisations.

Community groups involved in the delivery of programmes that support the safety strategy are eligible to apply for grants. A broad range of programmes have been supported and benefits have been reported on each one.

Grants of \$94,800 were allocated in 2004/2005. The grants supported many initiatives including anger management groups and programmes for women, the Wellington Boys and Girls Institute Footsteps Project which is an adventure based learning programme for at-risk youth, parenting programmes for families at risk, violence prevention and self development programmes in schools, the alcohol-free ZEAL inner city youth venue, and training of Door Staff Association members.

Appendix four provides a table of Safer Community Grants.

7.4: Leaders Forum working groups and project leadership to implement strategies for specific safety issues. This involved identification of safety issues affecting the region and ensures a regionally cohesive response to those issues.

Wellington City Council has provided:

- representation on the Executive Group of the Leaders' Forum
- input into the working party on family violence coordinated by Police
- coordination of the regional approach to the management of illegal street racing
- support for safe driving policy guidelines recommended by Land Transport New Zealand and ACC.
- coordination of the clandestine laboratories project
- Participation in the regional alcohol strategy project

In addition we have introduced long term sustainable programmes to reduce injury caused by traffic accidents and programmes to increase accessibility and mobility for all.

The SaferRoads project is the name given to Council's innovative city-wide safety project. Aimed at achieving the government's 'Road Safety to 2010' strategy within Wellington City.

In September 2002, the Council confirmed its support for moving into an area-based approach for the Council's future road safety programme. The project's objective is to reduce accident levels on the city's roads by one third by 2010 based on 2001 accident levels. This involves expenditure of an estimated \$20.45 million over the period 2003 to 2015.

To achieve this target, the Council is working with local communities to improve road safety within their neighbourhoods.

Wellington City Council is leading the project in association with its road safety partners – Police, Land Transport New Zealand, Transit New Zealand and Greater Wellington Regional Council. (See page 26 for more information on the SaferRoads project and its impact on reducing injury.)



Programmes that target high-risk groups and environments, and programmes that promote safety for vulnerable groups

We have targeted high risk groups like youth and introduced specific initiatives dealing with them. Of the seven issues highlighted in the previous section the following are those targeting high-risk groups.

ISSUE 2

Wellington is a vibrant and lively city that attracts people to its centre, however, there is a lack of activities to involve young people once they are in the city.

Young people are high users of the inner city and are also at risk of victimisation and offending. These initiatives therefore focused on youth. Specific objectives are:

- to ensure that young people in Wellington have access to a wide range of activities
- to ensure that young people in Wellington have access to a wide range of venues.

Seven specific initiatives were designed to address this issue.

2.1: Extension of current youth programmes across the city as a proactive response to youth crime. Wellington City Council was already supporting the delivery of a range of events and activities to youth throughout the city. This initiative offered support primarily through increased funding (often in partnership), facilitation and contracted provision to extend the current programmes of youth activities throughout the city.

The criteria established for monitoring included an increased number of events, more young people attending events, a high level of awareness and acceptance of events among the target youth audience. Young people are involved in the planning of a significant number of the events and this in turn has led to partnerships with other agencies and internally within the Council along with greater youth participation in the management of events.

The Police advise of fewer Youth Court appearances and a downward trend in youth crime. Principal Youth Court Judge Andrew Becroft has reported to the Youth Network that the number of Youth Court appearances in Wellington has been decreasing since 2003.

2.2: Additional youth advisors – Additional funding was provided for two full-time youth advisors as a part of the youth services team. One position commenced in the 2000/2001 financial year, the second in the following year.

Benefits derived from these positions include:

- a strong focus on capacity building to identify needs and gaps around the provision of youth services in the city
- network of youth workers accessing and contributing to Council projects and information
- youth focused material being regularly published and distributed
- leadership and coordination of the Youth Council which now has Terms of Reference to guide its work
- development and implementation of a youth communications strategy
- liaison with schools (including schools suggestion box scheme)
- support for the Youth Worker Collective.

2.3: Future planning of events and activities by youth. The results of public consultation on safety clearly indicated a desire for youth events and activities to be selected and planned by youth where possible. A range of methods was identified to obtain youth input into planning events and activities in the city.



The youth communication strategy was developed with the input of youth in Wellington. Its flexibility appeals to a wide age range.

These included surveys undertaken by youth, feedback forms, annual forums and in schools suggestion boxes and planning days. The contribution by youth has formed the basis for service delivery and provision of information to programme providers.

2.4: Youth communication strategy. A youth communication strategy has been developed and acts as a coordinating mechanism promoting the wide range of youth events, safety information and initiatives to young people. It includes a distinctive youth brand through 'The Link' website for much of the communication, decisions on the type of media used and an implementation plan including promoting the strategy and the provision of the information cards discussed under 3.3.

The youth communication strategy was developed with the input of youth in Wellington. Its flexibility appeals to a wide age range. The strategy drives all communication delivered by the Council to youth in Wellington.

Web Trends report how many people are accessing the website and for what reason. Since the introduction of the website it has had an average monthly hit rate of 33,000 successful visits to the site (an average of more than 1000 visits per day). This indicates it is well used as a communication tool. Those who send messages are often making suggestions for the site or seeking advice on who to contact at the Council for specific information. This is a successful method of increasing accessibility and in turn participation for young people.

2.5: Inner city venue for youth. With the cost of developing a new venue and the wide variety of space available the initiative was focused on supporting, subsidising or entering into partnerships with existing providers to establish an inner city venue for young people.

The first venue to be developed was Zeal, based in a Council owned building in Victoria Street.

Zeal is operated and managed by a Trust with financial support from the Council. Zeal provides regular events for young people and also works with groups in local schools. These events remain well-patronised and have continued now for around four years. There is an average of 400 participants weekly. Alongside the weekly events a number of other activities, including drama, art and the use of a recording studio, form a part of the youth activities.

Zeal is also used by a number of organisations as a venue for youth related meetings or activities. A second venue was identified but due to a range of legal issues associated with the lease and the operation of the venue it closed. The money allocated for that venue has subsequently been allocated to the establishment of a youth café in the city, additional funding for Zeal to relocate and a small allocation to the Youth Health Project for the training of youth workers. This allocation by the Council's Community, Health and Recreation Committee followed an analysis of youth needs carried out by Council officers.

Zeal has now relocated to a property adjacent to Glover Park and features as a part of the Glover Park redevelopment. Zeal is now working across a wider part of the community especially with schools. It had contact with around 21,000 young people last year.

Progress on the youth café is continuing and the Council has committed \$190,000 over two years from the Annual Plan to support the development of the café. It has strong support from youth in the city.

2.6: Mobile events equipment maintenance. Two mobile events vans along with both sporting and musical equipment were purchased in July 2000 to ensure equipment was available to promote indoor and outdoor events and to maximise the use of current facilities.

Equipment includes recording, sound and amplification, lighting and a range of sporting equipment. Use of the two mobile events vans has steadily increased over the past five years. From just a few events each month the vans have now become a significant part of a youth development in Wellington.

Examples of the use of the vans include the youth farewell to Chaffers Park in early 2004, the opening of the Oriental Parade Beach, Body Rock, regular Culture Jams in the city and suburbs, Tu Tangata Poly Fest, Newlands Youth event and the Tawa Pool Fest.

The vans also regularly support events planned by young people through schools and youth organisations. The vans and equipment are now supporting an average of 20 youth inspired activities each month. This initiative has supported the work of the youth advisors and extension of current youth programmes. The youth programme achieved national recognition through a Creative Places Award for the two mobile events vans in 2002.

2.7: Internet directory of youth events and activities. The initiative was to provide easy access to information on a web-based platform and led to the establishment of the website www.thelink.org.nz. As noted in 2.4, the website has had an average of more than 1000 visits per day. It provides immediate and accessible information on activities and Council information and is a component of the youth communication strategy.

ISSUE 3

For youth to contribute positively towards the community and function confidently within it, they need to feel safe and secure. Young people need to be able to resist or avoid victimisation.

Four specific initiatives were designed to address this issue.

3.1: Youth Initiatives Grants Fund – programmes aimed at assisting youth to develop life skills were eligible for grants and a wide range of youth/safety related projects received some support. The grants supported or enhanced the youth safety initiatives listed under Issue 2, for example Zeal, and the extension of youth programmes. Criteria included that the programme had community support and was a part of a partnership. Grants have been paid to support communities, after-school or holiday programmes, interventions for 'at-risk' youths and to promote youth participation and leadership.

Appendix five provides a table of the Youth Initiatives Grants.

All grants recipients have provided reports to Wellington City Council. A broad range of programmes are being supported and benefits have been reported on each one. An example of programmes that have attracted support is the Challenge for Change – operated by the Boys and Girls Institute, which received \$10,000 in 2002/03. The Challenge for Change programme has been established in collaboration with the Police and is integrated with other programmes. It offers mentoring and support for youth and is highly consistent with the safety strategy in that it emphasises youth involvement and partnership.



In conjunction with the Alcohol Advisory Council (ALAC), a range of material was prepared. It was widely distributed with the assistance of the Youth Council and other young people in the city.

3.2: School-based research programme. School-based research programmes provided an opportunity for Wellington schools to assess levels of 'at risk' behaviour among students. This programme was offered to Project Adventure and later transferred to the Wellington Boys and Girls Institute following the demise of Project Adventure.

Levels of risky behaviour among students were assessed. Schools were given information and advice about dealing with specific behaviours. Programmes were developed by local providers including mentoring and role modelling.

3.3: Youth Safety Pack. In conjunction with the Alcohol Advisory Council (ALAC), a range of material was prepared. It was widely distributed with the assistance of the Youth Council and other young people in the city.

It includes cards with information on alcohol laws, skating laws, hosting parties and dealing with Police. The information has proved very popular with numerous requests for it. It has been updated and reproduced due to high demand. The information cards have attracted high levels of interest and support from other areas and are now produced jointly with ALAC and distributed nationally.

3.4: Youth Wellness Centre. This initiative was to provide a Wellness Centre for youth. It did not receive funding though the safety package but was funded by a grant from the Ministry of Health. The then Health Minister Annette King launched Evolve in June 2004. Evolve offers free health care, peer support and information for Wellington's young people. Whilst not a Wellington City Council initiative the concept was supported and a small grant was allocated by Wellington City Council to support youth worker training in areas not associated with the health project such as peer support around social issues.

ISSUE 5

Regardless of the prevention methods currently used to control or prohibit access to drugs and alcohol, many youth still have relatively easy access to these.

Youth who misuse alcohol and other drugs tend to be involved in anti-social behaviour and are often involved with the Police.

Five specific initiatives were designed to address this issue.

5.1: Increased drug and alcohol programmes (see 3.1). Funding was made available through the Youth Initiative Grants Fund to support existing community resources in providing further drug education programmes and reporting is through the grants process.

5.2: Courtenay Place Safety Programme. The Courtenay Place Safety Programme aims to increase host responsibility and public safety within and around Courtenay Place. The initiative focused on encouraging 'bouncers' and other bar staff to take ownership of problems that stem from the misuse of alcohol.

A project to establish the Wellington Door Staff Association, funded through sponsorship and subsequently some grant funding, has extended across the city. ACC provided training and first aid kits to the Door Staff Association.

The Association is now well-established and is the preferred provider for door staff duties at most inner city bars and clubs. Police report that the establishment of the Door Staff Association has led to an increased capacity and greater professionalism in controlling late night crowds in the inner city.

5.3: Advocacy for increased community policing and the need for a friendly Police presence “walking the beat”. The aim was to increase the level of community policing within Wellington City with a view to building a better relationship between Police and youth. Police presence in the city increased and as a result we saw more young people participating in events in the city and gathering in a safe environment. There was also a reduction in alcohol related harm and a closer relationship between Police and Walkwise Officers. This has lead to improved weekly briefings involving a wide range of organisations concerned with safety in the city including Police and Walkwise.

5.4: Increased service levels in liquor licensing and monitoring.

Issues associated with liquor enforcement have become a part of the safety package through a partnership developed between the Council’s Community Services and Building Consents and Licensing Services teams. Initiatives put in place include:

- regular meeting of the Liquor Liaison Group involving a range of agencies dealing with alcohol related issues
- improved gathering of information on licensed premises through a range of sources
- establishment of the Koordinated Enforcement Group (KEG) to better identify and deal with problem premises and to respond pro-actively. Police, Capital and Coast District Health Board and the Council are key participants in KEG
- Business Before 5 meetings as a method of getting licensed premises operators together to raise issues and share information

- improved gathering of information through an enhanced Last Drink Survey and now a new programme called Alcolink (records information on the last drinking location of those who are arrested and affected by alcohol. This provides a snapshot of problem licensed premises)
- controlled purchase operations in the city.

5.5: Participation in substance abuse and domestic violence working groups. There has been a high level of participation in various groups that meet to consider issues associated with substance abuse and domestic violence. This involvement includes:

- attendance at meetings of the Leaders Forum
- attendance at Family Violence Network, Wellington Youth Network, Violence Intervention Project
- attendance at meetings of Liquor Liaison Group.



Programmes that document the frequency and causes of injuries

We have worked with our partners, in particular the ACC, to identify frequency and causes of injuries and address these. We work within the Council to support injury prevention programmes such as SaferRoads – an initiative aimed at reducing road accidents. We work with other agencies to support initiatives like the Push Play Outreach Programme, which operates in low decile schools and aims to increase the quantity of physical activity and the quality of physical education. Our involvement with the Liquor Liaison Group is directly related to reducing the number of injuries caused by alcohol.

Working with ACC

The Wellington Injury Data ACC ThinkSafe Reports produced by the Safe Communities Foundation provide us with vital information identifying key causes of death and hospitalisation in our area. Wellington City Council works closely with ACC and recognises the links between the work we both do. The Council and ACC have developed a Memorandum of Understanding and an Action Plan to help us move forward together.

The December 2004 report shows that the leading cause of injury deaths was suicide – 42 percent. Central Government has identified suicide as a major issue and is currently preparing resources aimed at addressing this. The Council will use these resources in addressing local issues. We also recognise the part that alcohol and drug abuse play in suicide and continue to prioritise work in this area. Wellington City Council recently formed a new business unit – City Communities – which will focus on social cohesion and social connectedness and will provide another perspective on some of the issues causing suicide, and help with ways of minimising the risk of people taking their own lives.

The report also shows that falls are the leading cause of injury hospitalisation across all ages in Wellington City.

Working together with the ACC Injury Prevention Team we identified that city shops and licensed premises had one of the highest levels of injury in the city. With that knowledge available ‘Shopsafe’ was developed by ACC and delivered by Walkwise officers to a large number of inner city retailers. Shopsafe provides information and a checklist for retailers to ensure they are doing everything they can to minimise injury.

Shops now proudly display the ‘Shopsafe’ sign signifying they have worked to make their premises safe – nearly 50 percent of shops in the city have participated in the programme.

We have extended this concept to licensed premises and we use the ‘Shopsafe’ approach when assessing premises for extended hours. This means that alongside the normal liquor related assessment we are also thinking about risk and injury.

Walkwise, Council and ACC along with other agencies provide ‘safe’ visits by year 8-9 students (10-12 year-olds) where they are given information on being safe in the city. They meet at the Council’s Emergency Management Office and walk through town via the railway station escorted by Walkwise officers. Students visit Civic Square and learn about road safety, visit the fire station and then go to Te Papa museum and learn about earthquakes and what to do.

ACC is also working with the Council’s Property Team to make sure the contractors we employ are certified ‘sitesafe’.

Working with the Liquor Liaison Group

Over the years there has been a deliberate Council objective to attract people to the central business district to ensure a vibrant city centre. While this is good for the city we have had to manage problems that sometimes occur with increased numbers of people in the city. In particular this has required a Council commitment to adequately resource our responsibilities under the Sale of Liquor Act.

The Council has looked at overseas examples of successful road safety initiatives. The Safer Roads project applies these ideas in Wellington. The emphasis is on finding ways to manage speed, improve traffic flows and minimise risk.



As a part of our approach Wellington City Council has a Liquor Licensing Policy which aims to provide a framework for consistent decision making about the sale of liquor within the city with the intent of reducing alcohol related harm. The policy is a combination of community expectations about how alcohol is made available to consumers and legislative requirements governing generally accepted norms of behaviour.

The strong coordination and cooperation between the agencies including industry assists with implementing this policy and is a vital link in maintaining a consistent approach. This is achieved through a Liquor Licensing Liaison Group and the Koordinated Enforcement Group (KEG).

As a part of this approach we are interested in not only reducing problem behaviour but in reducing the incidence of alcohol related injury in the city by ensuring incidents relating to licensed premises are reported and acted on promptly.

ACC is part of the Liquor Liaison Group, it has also supported the Door Staff initiative with training and extended the *Shopsafe* model as a part of the process used when considering an extension of hours for licensed premises.

As with most places in Australia and New Zealand there is a clear connection between alcohol misuse and levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. Recent analysis by Police indicates that around 80 percent of disorder and violence offences are alcohol related.

SaferRoads

The SaferRoads project involves the expenditure of an estimated \$20.45 million over the period 2003 to 2015 to reduce accidents on the city's roads by one third by 2010.

To achieve this target, the Council is working with local communities and road safety partners – Police, Land Transport New Zealand, Transit New Zealand and Greater Wellington Regional Council to improve road safety within the city's neighbourhoods.

Over the past two decades the overall number of crashes in Wellington has declined. This is due to improved safety technology in both road and vehicle engineering. However, more work needs to be done to achieve the 33 percent goal. The objective would mean cutting injury causing crashes from 2001's total of 253 to 170, and the 1066 non-injury crashes to 700.

Community involvement and support are crucial to the project's success. Solutions will be tailored to best meet the unique needs of residents and motorists in different areas of the city. As a result of this project Wellington roads will become easier to use and significantly safer.

Under the project, the city is divided into twenty zones (15 suburban areas and five main routes). The Council is consulting with residents from these zones as we plan the safety improvements.

Over the seven years of the programme (funding permitting) traffic-engineering improvements will be coordinated with other Council developments, such as suburban centre upgrades and the road resurfacing programme, etc.

The Council has looked at overseas examples of successful road safety initiatives. Many ideas have been included in the *SaferRoads* project. The emphasis is on finding ways to manage speed, improve traffic flows and minimise risk. This is being done through engineering improvements, education campaigns and enforcement.

Improvements include more use of coloured street surfaces to clearly define transitions between main routes and residential streets, better lighting design, speed humps, clearways and reduced speed limits.

Prior to the project starting in each of the designated areas, a series of workshops is held in the various areas/zones. These provide an opportunity to learn more about the project and for people to provide feedback on what is proposed.

We want people to think about road safety issues in their areas and bring their ideas along to the workshops. It is estimated that only half of all injury causing accidents and a tiny fraction of all non-injury accidents are reported to the Police. But local people are aware of crashes that happen in their area.

In many cases the problems are more to do with behaviour rather than road engineering. Drivers may not indicate, or they may drive too quickly for the road conditions. In these situations locals can have ideas for developing successful strategies in their area.

Push Play

One joint initiative we have developed with Sport Wellington Region and Capital & Coast District Health Board is the pilot *Push Play Outreach Programme*.

It comprises a schools and a community programme, both of which are run by the full time Push Play Coordinator.

The schools programme started as a pilot in four low decile Wellington primary schools. Its aim is to increase the quantity of the schools' physical activity levels and the quality of their physical education.

It achieves this by supplying resources, ideas, professional development and by developing relationships between the schools and community services and recreation providers.

The community outreach programme is based around a Push Play Trailer which can be hired by community organisations. The Push Play Trailer is a free resource full of fun equipment, a veritable mobile activator. The Push Play Coordinator can also help with games ideas and with running sports events.

Since October 2004 the programme has worked with more than 50 community groups and 15,000 people, helping them to get active and have fun.

The Council believes that increased physical activity reduces the likelihood of injury and thus ultimately contributes to injury prevention.

Working within the Council

Walkwise reports damage to assets in the city direct to the Council's main reporting system (Confirm) so the Council is attending to hazards much earlier than before, thus reducing the likelihood of injury.

In late 2005 a stand alone City Safety Business Unit was established resulting from the internal review of Council Business Units – Community Services and Community Planning. This reflects the current priority for Wellington City Council that Wellington is seen as a safe city. (See page 36 for more information on this initiative.)

The establishment of a stand alone City Safety Business Unit reflects the Council's priority that Wellington is seen as a safe city.



Wellington City Council has implemented a raft of initiatives aimed at injury prevention for its own staff. These include:

- a comprehensive health and safety management system that meets the Australian and New Zealand standard AS/NZS 4801
- comprehensive health and safety training (more than 80 qualified health and safety representatives throughout the Council)
- well-resourced Occupational Health Team, including a Health and Safety Manager, an Occupational Health Nurse and a Case Manager
- early Intervention programme that encourages employees to report discomfort so interventions can be put in place before injury occurs
- one on one consultation available for employees with the Occupation Health Nurse and/or by referral with physician and physiotherapist as appropriate
- health and safety check induction for all new employees
- health and safety committees both at corporate and business unit level
- in-house gymnasium with free medical assessment and gym induction by a personal trainer
- services of an on-site massage therapist offered to employees
- free flu vaccinations offered annually
- staff canteen offers healthy food and beverage choices
- health and safety signage displayed throughout the Council and changed regularly
- stress management training provided regularly for employees and managers
- free confidential access to an Employee Assistance Programme
- annual eye checks provided free to employees
- exercise programmes promoted and run in-house including; Pilates, Yoga, Tai Chi
- employees subsidised to enter Business Games competitions
- electronic Incident reporting system that provides relevant managers and occupational health staff with immediate notification of injury so a needs assessment and rehabilitation can be started immediately if an employee is injured
- regular heart and health checks provided for all employees and referrals to doctors and ongoing monitoring provided for those identified as at risk.



5

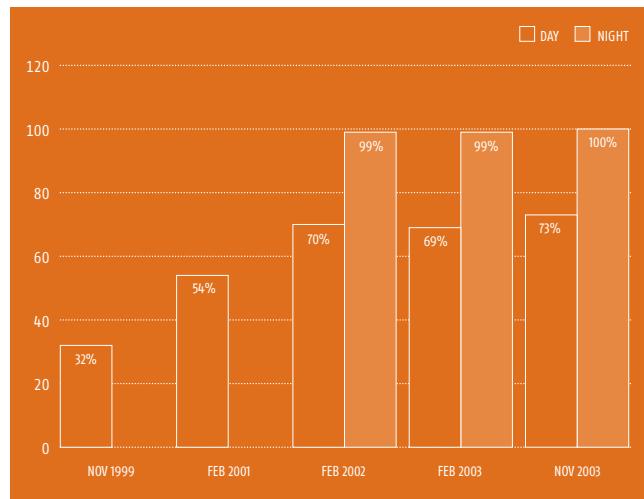
Evaluation measures to assess their programmes, processes and the effects of changes

We have maintained questions in the Council's Residents' Satisfaction Survey assessing levels of perceptions of safety. We have also continued to get regular information from Police, Capital and Coast District Health Board and ACC to determine levels of risk. Each of the 31 initiatives was evaluated and last reported on in April 2004.

The investment in safety and the opportunities taken to champion this package have had a marked effect on perception of safety for citizens of Wellington. Not all initiatives can be evaluated or reviewed. Some initiatives reflect best practice or improved processes rather than a specific intervention.

Consequently not all initiatives have been evaluated systematically. However, stakeholders all note that a key to the success of the package has been the interdependence between the initiatives in contributing to a safer city. It can also be noted that across the initiatives, partnerships and collaboration have been enhanced.

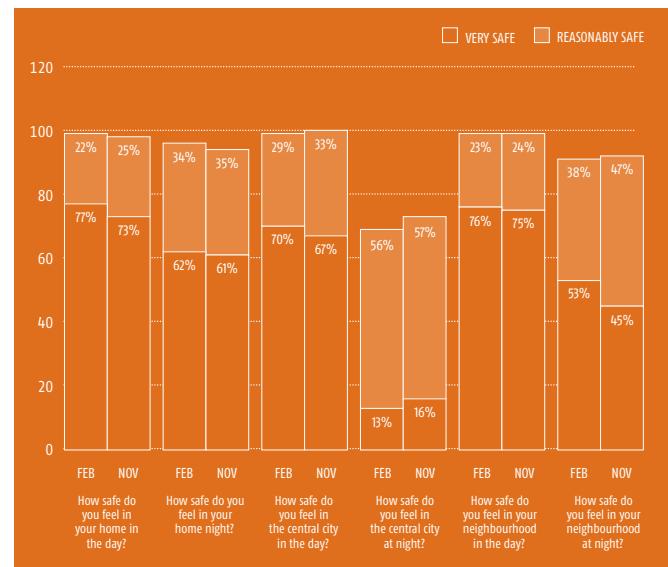
PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE REPORTING THEY FEEL SAFE OR VERY SAFE IN THE CENTRAL CITY



Public perception

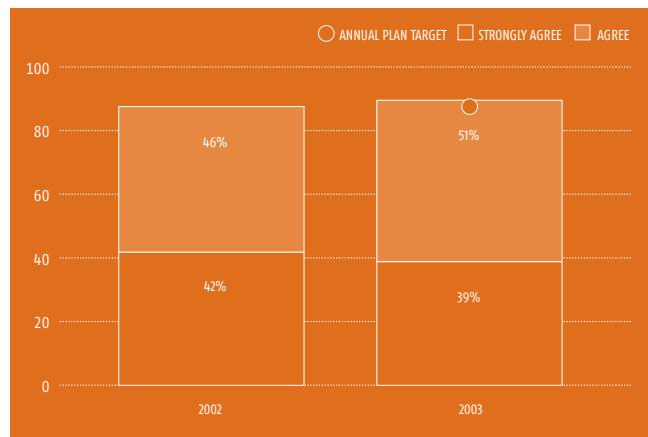
One of our most impressive measures has been the complete turn-around in perceptions of inner city safety as documented in the Council's annual Residents' Satisfaction Survey. In February 2001, 30 percent of residents reported feeling reasonably or very safe in the central city at night. In contrast the survey now shows that close to 100 percent of respondents feel safe in the city during the day. For the same period this survey has consistently shown around 70 percent of people coming to the central city at night feel reasonably or very safe.

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS WHO FELT SAFE OR VERY SAFE IN THE FEBRUARY AND NOVEMBER 2003





PERCENTAGE OF PARTNERS IN THE AREA OF CITY SAFETY WHO FEEL THE COUNCIL'S SAFETY INITIATIVES ARE HAVING A POSITIVE IMPACT ON SAFETY IN WELLINGTON CITY



In addition *The Quality of Life in New Zealand's 12 Largest Cities Survey 2004* reports Wellington to be in the top three for overall perceptions of safety in the city after dark. Similarly *The Quality of Life in New Zealand's Eight Largest Cities Survey 2003* reported overall perceptions of safety were highest in Dunedin and Wellington.

To ensure better monitoring the Council has worked closely with Police, ACC and Capital and Coast District Health Board to ensure we have regular information on emerging issues and trends that affect city safety.

What partners think

Partnerships have been an important aspect in implementing the safety package and ensuring the ongoing viability of many of the initiatives. There has been strong support for that approach and 90 percent of partners (key community organisations and groups) in the area of city safety either strongly agreed (39 percent) or agreed (51 percent) that the Council's initiatives were having a positive impact on safety in the city.

The 2002/03 Annual Plan target of 88 percent agreeing to the initiatives or strongly agreeing was surpassed with a result of 90 percent. These are global indicators that cannot and should not be associated with any one initiative but rather suggest the success of the overall package. There are likely to be other environmental factors that will also impact on the outcome.

Monitoring

An additional \$40,000 was approved in 2004/05 for monitoring of the safety initiatives. Monitoring will be extended to incorporate greater analysis of statistics to inform priorities and responses.

To ensure better monitoring the Council has worked closely with Police, ACC and Capital & Coast District Health Board to ensure we have regular information on emerging issues and trends that affect city safety. This allows the Council and other agencies to take action early to improve safety.

6



Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks

The safety initiative has been the subject of papers presented at conferences both in New Zealand and internationally. Presentations have also been made to other local authorities in New Zealand some of which have visited Wellington to meet the partners of the initiatives.

List of conference papers/presentations:

- Co-authored a paper - examples from the field with particular reference to preventing violence by developing safer public places. Presented at 14th International Conference on Safe Communities Conference – Bergen, Norway June 2005
- Presented a paper, 'Is it community safety, crime prevention or injury prevention? A Wellington perspective,' at Bold Perspectives Conference – Auckland March 2005
- Presented a paper, 'A Collaborative Approach to Community Safety.' Occupational Health and Safety Conference – Wellington, Te Papa, September 2004
- Presented a paper, 'A Collaborative Approach to reducing Alcohol and Drug Related Harm: A Wellington Perspective' – Australasian Drug Strategy Conference in Alice Springs May 2004
- Presented a paper, 'Community Safety: Council's Role?' at the Local Government New Zealand Conference 'local government unlimited' – Queenstown July 2003
- Co-presented a paper, 'Merv and Vera Fight Substance Abuse,' to the Australian Drug Foundation 4th International Conference on Drugs and Young People – Wellington Town Hall, May 2003
- Co-presented a paper, 'An overview of Wellington Safety Initiatives,' to the Safer Community Conference – Wellington September 2002
- Presented a paper at the 2nd Australasian Conference on Drug Strategy, 'Cooperative approach to Reducing the Harm from Alcohol and Drugs' – Perth May 2002
- Presented a paper to the Working Together Conference on 'Alcohol related Harm is more than just Liquor Licensing' – Wellington February 2002

Other Councils we have met with:

- Christchurch City Council
- Dunedin City Council
- Palmerston North City Council
- Auckland City Council
- Nelson City Council
- Hamilton City Council
- CPTED email network
- Links to ICA, ANZSOC, UK Home Office and Crime Prevention Victoria

How the international WHO Safe Community movement could support our community

WHO Safe City Status would benefit Wellington City by ensuring safety was seen as a foundation focus for the city. In many ways achieving this status is only the beginning and provides a great framework for continued initiatives, greater cooperation and integrated thinking across agencies and the community.

Wellington City Council has always prided itself in wanting to share with others and accreditation would offer further opportunities for this to happen.

Wellington has acknowledged that by working within this framework will require us to maintain high standards which will allow Wellington to continue to be a safe city.

Support from the WHO Safe Community movement will give Wellington City and the safety work going on here, a global profile and exposure. It will provide us with an international network of Safe Communities giving us opportunities to learn from other safe cities. Being a part of the WHO Safe Community movement opens up access to resources from the considerable knowledge base in the movement which will help us continue to develop and expand on what we are doing.



Where to from here?

Focus areas 2004–2008

The successes over the past few years in increasing perceptions of safety must now be maintained. Reports are clear that pro-activity, partnership and integration are critical to success. The Council will continue its leadership role in the area of safety.

Ongoing safety initiatives will:

- recognise the breadth of safety issues to be addressed
- encompass environmental design, community development, education and enforcement
- have the flexibility to respond to the varied needs of social, business and political life that make up Wellington's communities of interest
- create opportunities for groups of citizens to collaborate in making Wellington safe
- enable programmes contributing to city safety to be identified, implemented and evaluated for their impact on achieving Wellington's vision.

Over the next few years there are three themes driving the future focus of the safety strategy: maintenance of proven success factors, integrating safety concerns into business as usual and innovative initiatives to respond to emerging issues and trends.

Maintenance

The focus on youth, alcohol and leadership over the past few years has changed the way that Wellington City Council is perceived and the way it does its business. Not only has safety been enhanced as a result of that focus but also the sense of community responsibility and, in the case of

alcohol, effectiveness of the licensing regime. Therefore it is important that the changes that have been made and the leadership provided by the Council continue in these areas.

Integration

A key feature of sustainable safety programmes is the way in which safety issues are integrated into business as usual. Significant change has been made to the way the Council carries out its business so that safety concerns and issues are more integrated, for example, capitalising on the presence of street cleaners to report safety issues. However, integration into business as usual can be enhanced and to ensure the momentum continues a systematic process is required to ensure on-going integration. Consideration is currently being given to developing a design guideline for walkways. The Council has more than 500 walkways and by developing a guideline there can be some confidence that the walkways are maintained, lit and designed in a manner that supports safety.

Innovation

Ongoing innovation in implementing the safety strategy requires flexibility and responsiveness. This implies an ability and capacity to respond to emerging issues and trends as they become apparent. Of particular importance in identifying issues and trends are:

- the partnerships that the Council has with the Police and other agencies with an interest in safety
- monitoring and analysis of statistics and other information. It is important that issues and priorities are identified in collaboration with our partners and stakeholders.

Collaboration

To ensure a collaborative approach it is intended to continue to develop relationships with key stakeholders including the Police, ACC, retailers and community representatives. Those relationships are pivotal to the future of the strategy. Further relationships will be strengthened and developed both in the community and with central government, for example with the Crime Prevention Unit. Safety initiatives must be responsive to emerging issues and trends. For example, in March 2004 the Police released crime statistics for the calendar year to December 2003. Those statistics showed an increase in crime, in particular, violence, burglary and thefts from cars. Council officers had already met with the Police to determine initiatives to address these issues. It is intended that in partnership with the Police, the Council will develop information material (for homeowners and landlords), liaise with other partners to develop responses (for example, with the Chamber of Commerce and retailers) and maintain other initiatives such as the safety audits, alcohol interventions and KEG.

In addition Police are increasingly concerned about substance abuse and some consideration is being given to what the Council's role is in addressing that issue. Consideration is being given to initiatives such as developing a voluntary code on substance abuse and facilitating its adoption by community members who are affected by or affect the level of substance abuse. A challenge that is increasingly raised in the literature is the way in which urban renewal and social capital impact on safety. Further work is necessary to identify how the Council might take those issues on board and integrate them into the safety programme.

There will be an increased emphasis on neighbourhood safety in recognition of a change in perceptions of safety in the neighbourhood. Until February 2003 perceptions of safety seemed to have stabilised at a high level.

Almost all Wellington residents feel very safe or reasonably safe in their homes, neighbourhood and the central city during the day. The majority of residents also feel safe in these locations at night. But there was a statistically significant decrease in the perceptions of safety in the neighbourhood at night between February and November 2003.

In response to this indicator safety in the neighbourhood has been given priority. Wellington's inner and outer city suburbs will contribute to safety by ensuring there are local solutions to local safety issues.

For example, residents are encouraged and assisted to work together to build support systems responding to particular neighbourhood needs such as crime and accident prevention, child watch, elderly people's alert.

In March 2005 Police statistics showed that crime in Wellington City had dropped by 11 percent to a record four-year low. Wellington City Council believes that the partnership between the Council and the Police has helped achieve this reduction. The Council has also been working with Police and the Crime Prevention Unit to identify those areas within the CBD and suburbs where we can make an impact on burglary and vehicle crime.

Future safety initiatives will be driven by themes of innovation, integration (into business as usual) and maintenance of initiatives, tactics and achievements that have proven successful.

We are looking at how the design of environments can be improved so that opportunities for crime are reduced, and quality of life is improved.



Establishment of the City Safety Business Unit within Wellington City Council

In late 2005 the City Safety Business Unit was established reflecting the current priority for Wellington City Council that Wellington is seen as a safe city.

The key theme for the next three years is '*to build public confidence in the safety of city streets and suburbs*'. This includes working with Police to keep crime levels down, and looking for new initiatives that will improve safety in our communities.

The team will continue with current activities including the Walkwise contract, maintaining a system of three public safety cameras in the central city, and liaising with Police over resolution of public safety issues in the city. In addition, City Safety will provide a perspective on crime prevention in relation to Council events, liquor licensing, and working with the Council's City Housing team to improve safety within the tenancies.

City Safety will expand and strengthen the support given to other Council business units who are involved in the planning, design and management of public spaces in Wellington. This includes looking at how the design of environments can be improved so that opportunities for crime are reduced, and quality of life is improved.

City Safety will assist in ensuring adequate social and community support is available to those in need, to promote community cohesion and appreciation of diversity.

There are also important links between the work of City Safety and injury prevention, accessibility, and reducing alcohol related harm. We have established relationships and opportunities have been identified to work together in these area.

Appendix one

31st October 2005

BELL PLANNING
A S S O C I A T E S

World Health Organisation Safe City

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in support of an application by the City of Wellington, New Zealand to be awarded the category of a Safe City under your guidelines. I am an Architect, Town Planner and Trainer, a Life Member of the Planning Institute of Australia, a Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute (UK). For the past 15 years I have specialised as a private practitioner, urban designer and City Planner in providing advice on and implementing Safer Design and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) policies and preparing Crime Prevention Strategies for local government throughout Australia and New Zealand and have undertaken international research on the subject.

I have worked with the City of Wellington on numerous occasions in the past 5 years in the area of Safer Design (CPTED). During this time the City has undertaken a range of community safety initiatives with which I have been involved, including CPTED training for multi-disciplinary groups of staff within Council, providing advice in association to the New Zealand government on Urban Design and Safety and facilitating a variety of events on the subject for local, regional and national audiences. These have included a national conference on local government and safety, local regional local government leaders' group seminars and training for multi-disciplinary groups including local government, the private and community sectors, the development sector, Police and other agencies interested in promoting safety and security.

I have studied the safe city projects which the Council has implemented and have been aware of their success and level of community engagement and acceptance.

Through these experiences with the City I have been impressed with its capacity to work in partnership with a range of national, regional and local agencies, organisations and community groups to promote safety and implement programs and policies in this field. The Council has led the country in its safety initiatives which have provided a model for other local governments. It has also facilitated processes with the Crime Prevention Unit of the New Zealand Justice Department to gain from best practice experience in implementing city safety strategies throughout the world and in Australia in particular.

In summary, the City of Wellington through its working in partnership with a range of levels of government, the non-government and private sectors and drawing upon the lessons learnt elsewhere, has developed safe city policies and programs which lead the country.

I am very happy to strongly recommend their classification as a Safe City.

Yours faithfully,



Wendy Bell
Bell Planning Associates

BELL PLANNING
A S S O C I A T E S



12 January 2006

Laurie Gabites
Manager City Safety
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington

Dear Laurie

This letter is to provide support for Wellington City Council's bid to obtain WHO Safe City status.

The Wellington Police are particularly proud of the close and effective relationship we have with the Wellington City Council. Together we have provided long-term, consistent leadership.

We have developed a strong, strategic safety focus for Wellington and promoted leadership, in those people, organisations and communities we have contact with, through shared information and shared decision-making.

- We have continued to gather reliable information to pinpoint problems
- Identified key people and organisations
- Brought people and issues together
- Encouraged people to take ownership of problems - Without being seen to be taking control
- Worked with them to devise solutions
- Constantly looked at ways to improve these relationships.



This partnership won the 2003 Bearing Point Award for Innovation in Local Government and follows an increase in the perception of safety felt by residents from around 30 % in 1998 to 70 % in 2003.

Police had begun developing a good working relationship with Wellington City Council in the early 90's, mainly in the youth and community area. The turning point came in 1994 when Police were able to convince Mayor Fran Wilde to support and sponsor the creation of the Wellington Safer Community Council.

Between 1994 and 2000 Police, Council and Child, Youth & Family formed the core of the Safer Community Council and were responsible for the development and promotion of most projects including:

- Loimata O Apa Ula, targeting violent Pacific Island youth in Newtown
- Challenge For Change, a mentoring and family support program in the Eastern Suburbs and Northern Suburbs, which is still highly effective today
- Team Mediation, youth mediating youth problems, which started at Wellington High School and has now expanded into many other secondary schools
- Tu Rangatahi, targeting young Maori at risk of being recruited into the gangs

Safer Communities Together

WELLINGTON DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Cnr Victoria & Harris Streets, P O Box 693, Wellington, New Zealand
Telephone: 04 381 2000 Facsimile: 04 472 3943

- Te Whare Rokiroki Maori Women's Refuge day program and community base in Newtown

In 2000 these projects and in particular the Police partnership with Child, Youth & Family Service, won the KPMG Public Sector Innovation Award, for a significant and consistent reduction in youth crime accomplished through community problem solving and collaboration. Some of the results are:

- The number of Family group Conferences has more than halved, from 160 in 1996 to 74 in 1999
- The number of charges dealt with has dropped from 554 to 176
- The number of recidivist offenders has gone from around 30 a year down to 2

The Safer Community Council was abandoned in 2000 and a wider, more flexible, collaborative framework, driven by the partnership between Police and Council was developed.

This change has influenced a national move away from Safer Community Councils in larger metropolitan areas and formed one option the Crime Prevention Unit has developed for its funding partnerships with Local Government.

Some of the joint projects and partnerships are:

- The development, management and training of Walk-Wise City Safety Officers, who operate both as the 'eyes and ears' of Police and Council and as ambassadors for visitors to Wellington.
- Linked with Walkwise is the co-ordination of the other Armourguard business units such as Streetwise and Parkwise to enhancement safety through cleaner streets and a highly visible, proactive 24/7 presence.
- Support for the development of the Cuba St Community Policing Base and purchase of bikes and equipment.
- Development of CCTV as a small but effective surveillance tool, monitored by Walkwise.
- Liquor ban in central city, as part of an overall liquor strategy.
- Homeless Taskforce, which has holistically dealt with issues of homeless people living on the streets of Wellington.
- Integration of safety audits and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design concepts in the development of the central city and environs
- The late night bus scheme, which has now expanded throughout the region
- Alcohol, skateboard laws and youth rights information cards
- The Home Safe Taxi card scheme with Combined Taxis
- The development of static and mobile youth venues such as ZEAL & MERV (Mobile Entertainment & Recreation Vehicle) & VERA (Vehicle 4 Entertainment & Recreation Activities)

- Long term support for EVOLVE, a one-stop holistic youth health facility, now principally funded by the Ministry of Health and which is operating in Eva St, opposite Te Aro Park.
- An inter-agency Liquor Licensing Group which has
- Presented to and educated the hospitality industry at many ongoing Business Before 5 seminars the group has developed and run.
- Supported the Door staff or 'Bouncers' at the various licensed premises around Wellington to form a professional association, to link them into other existing, mutually beneficial networks and help them provide a wider and safer environment.
- Developed the KEG process (Co-ordinated Enforcement Group) for identifying and targeting liquor law breaches and premises.
- Ethnic Forums and joint projects such as
- Camps and on-going programs targeting Somali youth, who were disproportionately represented in youth and adult offending
- A series of education programs targeting all refugee and migrant communities and giving them the skills to understand NZ society and to access services
- Family Violence Network which has developed information packs for victims and abusers, given out by Police at the scene of all FV incidents
- Road Safety Committee, which has run many events such as the annual Orange Day school patrollers march and regular Bike Day events.
- Railway Station Project - a multi-agency team of Principal's from all the Wellington Colleges, Police, Tranzrail, Walkwise, Council and various support services that has significantly reduced the truancy, disorder and drug offences that resulted from unsupervised student behavior at Wellington Railway Station.
- Wellington Youth Offending Team

The 2004/5 year was an outstanding year for the Wellington Police, achieving a significant reduction in crime.

The partnership that Police engage with the Wellington City Council and the joint project were significant contributors to this crime reduction.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Dunstan
Inspector
Acting District Commander, Wellington





2 December 2005

To Whom it May Concern

Capital & Coast District Health Board is a statutory body, established under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000. District Health Boards are required to fund and provide health, disability and public health services; improve the health of their population and reduce disparities. District Health Boards and local government both have responsibility to improve the wellbeing of their populations and, as part of this, contribute to safe social and built environments.

Capital & Coast DHB has worked with Wellington City Council since 2001, to develop a collaborative approach. Over the past three years, there have been more formal partnerships and several intersectoral projects.

The collaboration includes working with each other and communities towards:

- better community consultation and participation;
- information sharing and joint planning;
- collaboration in areas of common interest;
- collaboration for outcomes that we cannot achieve alone
- optimising resources –people, skills, funding
- gaining feedback from communities and each other
- measuring outcomes-effectiveness, trends,
- reporting back to communities.

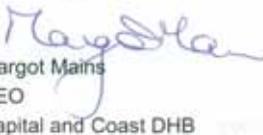
Wellington City Council has focused on building partnerships with key community groups and government agencies to improve safety in the city.

Examples of collaborative work include:

- Intersectoral group to support youth participation and safety
- Collaborative approach to development of a new Regional Hospital and to Primary Health Organisations
- Co-hosting (with C&CDHB) a group to develop the Homelessness Prevention Strategy, following joint work to address homelessness in the city.
- Jointly supporting a Wellington Regional Refugee Health and Wellbeing Summit, based on refugee community leadership working with non-government organisations and government agencies towards an action plan.

Capital & Coast DHB is continuing to work collaboratively with Wellington City Council.

Yours sincerely


Margot Mains
CEO
Capital and Coast DHB

Chief Executive's Office, Capital & Coast District Health Board, Level 1, Lotteries Commission Bldg,
54-56 Cambridge Terrace, Private Bag 7902, Wellington, New Zealand
Telephone (04) 385-5408, Facsimile (04) 385-5929



Local Government New Zealand

te pūtahi matakōkiri

17 November 2005

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

WHO Safe City Status

Local Government New Zealand is the national association representing all local authorities in New Zealand. Our role is to represent the national interests of local authorities and work with them to enhance good practice. *Local Government New Zealand* provides leadership on pressing social and economic problems facing New Zealand's communities.

Wellington City Council is a member of our association. The Mayor, Ms Kerry Prendergast, sits on the National Council of *Local Government New Zealand*. I wish to state as a matter of record that Wellington City has been an active partner in a range of safe city oriented initiatives that *Local Government New Zealand* has undertaken over the last few years.

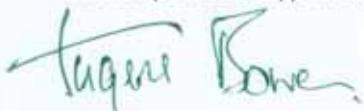
Key initiatives include:

- Two national conferences on community safety held in 2004 and 2002: these conferences were organised by a project team comprising staff from *Local Government New Zealand*, Wellington City and a number of other relevant agencies.
- Each conference ran over two days, was attended by between 180 and 200 participants and included a range of presentations on international and national practice for enhancing community safety. They also included a number of case studies of community based initiatives. Wellington City hosted the 2002 conference and provided many of these case studies.

- Wellington City Council has been an active participant in a joint central/local government task force on community safety. This involved taking the lead in employing an analyst who developed guidelines on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. The Guidelines will shortly be released by the Task Force and the Minister of Justice in the New Zealand Government.

Local Government New Zealand has on a number of occasions sought advice from Wellington City Council staff on issues concerned with community safety, including good practice workshops at our National Conference. In our view, it is one of the leading councils in this area and is looked to by other councils concerned with developing local community safety programmes.

We are pleased to support the council in its bid for WHO Safe City Status.



Eugene Bowen
Chief Executive
Local Government New Zealand

effective local governance

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2 November 2005

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Laurie Gabites
Manager – City Safety
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
WELLINGTON

Dear Laurie

In response to your request to provide some observations on the Wellington City Council's City Safety programme.

In my role as Customer Advocate for the Dunedin City Council, I have been tasked with managing the Dunedin City Safety project in collaboration with the Dunedin Police.

In mid 2002 the Dunedin City Council and Dunedin Police agreed to work together in order to deal with an increasing incidence of inner city disorder. The first step was for staff from the Police and the Council to visit other metropolitan areas in order to observe how the key agencies were working together in those locations.

This included a visit to Wellington in July 2002 to meet with the City Safety Coordinator and Police staff, along with appropriate staff from contracted service providers. Subsequent visits and liaison between Wellington and Dunedin has been ongoing.

Wellington City has a comprehensive city safety programme involving a number of key community groups and government agencies, working in a collaborative effort to increase the level and perception of safety in the central city.

The project has been particularly successful, with the progress of the strategies clearly measured through surveys and other indicators. The approach to city safety taken by the City Council and Police in Dunedin is modelled on the successful Wellington approach.

There are a number of factors involved in the success of the Wellington approach, including the level of commitment and funding provided by the Council, which is then put to good effect by the way in which the various community and other stakeholders work together for the common goal of creating a safer city environment.

This collaborative approach has involved a number of key organisations making a financial and strategic commitment to work together. It has prospered through the leadership and initiative shown by the Council, and the City Safety Coordinator.

Wellington City Council has openly shared ideas and information about their initiatives with other community, government and local government stakeholders. This willingness to share has been a factor in a number of the strategies (such as the provision of City Safety Officers) having been successfully implemented in other centres.

I am happy to discuss the programme further if required.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Adrian Blair".

Adrian Blair
CUSTOMER ADVOCATE

ACCIDENT COMPENSATION CORPORATION

Monday, 7 November 2005

Laurie Gabites
Manager
Community Services Business Unit
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
WELLINGTON



Injury Prevention - Lower Hutt
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WHO Accreditation for Wellington City Council

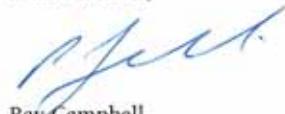
Wellington City Council has been a leader in ensuring its city has attained the highest possible level of health and safety for its residents by working collaboratively with government agencies and community groups to ensure that Wellington is one of the safest and healthiest cities to reside in New Zealand.

Wellington City Council, government agencies, such as Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC), Police, Fire Service, etc and local community organisations have taken ownership of their respective roles in part of a broad action strategy towards driving down crime and improving peoples perceptions of safety within the city.

Wellington City Council has been involved in some strategic initiatives that highlights collaboration between agencies to reduce crime and improve upon safety. One of the best examples of this is the Wellington City Council, Police, Fire Service, Ambulance, Department of Labour, Child, Youth and Family and ACC, Walkwise programme. Walkwise Safety Officers patrol Wellington city 24 hours, 7 days a week, predominately identifying hazards, preventing injuries, giving first-aid, if required, and educating retailers, via the ShopSafe programme. The ShopSafe programme is a programme aimed at employees and customers about health and safety. The Walkwise programme has increased the safety perceptions of Wellingtonians from 32% to 73%, has been recognised by the Bearing Point Innovation Awards and in 2003 Wellington received the highest rating in the Quality of Life Survey.

ACC fully supports Wellington City Council in its WHO accreditation status and if you require further examples of the excellent initiatives that Wellington City Council have been working on, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Ray Campbell
NATIONAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY DELIVERY



13th November 2005

To whom it may concern,

I wish to support the Wellington City Council (WCC) in their application for the WHO safe city status. Wellington Boys and Girls Institute (BGI) has had a very positive partnership with WCC which has grown over the past 5 years, and our two most successful projects - Challenge for Change and Footsteps - are both WCC supported from the ground up.

Our relationship with WCC is one where we sit down together and share our insights into the underlying issues. Then together we design solutions with WCC and other partners such as churches, government agencies, private businesses and the police. I believe it is because of WCC's collaborative and proactive approaches, as well as a focus on early intervention programmes, that we are starting to see safety dividends. It is not an accident that young people who reside in the Wellington City area have a low youth crime rate, despite the high number of refugees, and other high risk groups in the city.

The Footsteps programme is a good example. It was a response to refugee youth acting unsafely in the city (forming gangs; carrying knives; playing dodgems with stolen cars; and other at risk behaviour). Jointly funded by WCC and BGI, the Footsteps programme uses adventure based learning activities (ropes courses, kayaking, snowboarding, skiing and camping) to inspire at-risk youth to make positive life changes. Teens with challenging behaviour have specialty programmes designed for them and their families, with the aim of preserving and enhancing the family unit. These programmes often work best as collaborative ventures - for example, psychologists who attended with their young clients reported that the adventure-based learning environment was more effective for therapeutic intervention.

In January 2004 Refugees as Survivors (RAS) staff came up with the label of "Camp Fantastic" for a residential programme designed by Footsteps staff, the Refugee and Migrant Services, Somali Council volunteers, and Police Youth Aid. The intervention was planned and implemented for Somali boys who were forming themselves into gangs for protection, in doing so, gave some cause for concern to the Newtown community in particular. Feedback from the camp was overwhelmingly positive. Comments from the boys included - "We made new friendly relationships with the Police" ... "This is the first time I've been in a police car without handcuffs on!" More trusting relationships developed between boys and Police, and some key boys even agreed to deescalate gang activity.

In the socially disadvantaged areas in Miramar and South Wellington, community groups supported by WCC safety initiatives developed a community led response to theft and violent youth behaviour 5 years ago now. From this the Challenge for Change (C4C) mentoring programme was born.

At a recent community meeting Challenge for Change was identified as the highlight in their community. Project Adventure, one of the community groups involved early on in C4C, did some follow up work to discover that 23 of the first 24 participants stopped offending as a result of this programme. We have also done some studies and found that 50% of the mentors are still in regular contact with their young person 5 years later.

Many of the young people who are referred to C4C come from single parent families. In most cases their parent has to work so many of the young people are left unsupervised for long periods of time. Also as they are often exhausted from working in unfulfilling jobs and they are on their own they do not have the resources to invest emotionally into their children's lives. This leads to the young people suffering from low esteem, lack of confidence, boredom, depression and in some cases they become suicidal.

The emotional state of the young people and the fact that they are left unsupervised for long periods of time has resulted in a number of them beginning to shoplift, commit acts of vandalism or get into fights with other unsupervised children in their neighbourhood. The combined approach of the Mentors building a caring, trusting relationship, setting goals with them and supporting them to use their leisure time more effectively along with the Parents attending a ten week Parenting Programme makes a huge difference to the young people's safety. The Parents develop a greater awareness of their responsibility along with some strategies that empower them as parents. The changes that the families and young people make have a significant positive influence on their community. We even have video records of this from the parents themselves. It is no wonder the Governor General described that of 500 finales she attends each year, this is the highlight.

BGI would like to acknowledge WCC's crucial role in helping us achieve our mission: developing young people physically, mentally, spiritually and socially from a relational perspective that takes seriously family, cultural and spiritual contexts. We wouldn't be where we are without WCC's financial and moral support. The feedback from Laurie Gabites, Wendy Walker and Deborah Hope helps us remain connected into something larger both within WCC and in the wider community. We have had support from David Daniela and the youth team with equipment and advice. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and City Councillors have also been very generous with their time officiating at our many events. We see our partnership with WCC as a privilege to be a part of, and we hope it continues to strengthen into the future.

Kia Ora and warm regards,

Ross Davis
Director Youth and Community Projects

Appendix two

Schedule of Initiatives

WELLINGTON CITY – SAFE CITY INITIATIVES			
Identified Issues	Specific Objectives	Description of Group of Initiatives	Individual Initiatives
Dark spots in the city encourage crime and reduce feelings of safety and security	To ensure that the design of Wellington's Public Spaces enhances safety and perceptions of safety"	This section includes a package of initiatives aimed at ensuring Wellington's public spaces are safe. This is both in terms of physical safety and peoples perceptions of safety as they move through the city. The initiatives have been developed in response to public concerns that many areas of the city are not well lit and that violent crime in the central city, even if rare, increases fear of moving around the city during night hours.	Safety Audits in the Central City to Identify unsafe areas and implement solutions. With funding of \$225,000 over 2 years. Development of a Lighting Strategy for the city along with an implementation plan. Funding of \$180,000. Community safety audits. Development of Suburban safety audits to identify unsafe areas and implement solutions. Funding of \$270,000. Investigate the use of CCTV in the Central City as a part of improving safety. Pilot implemented and evaluated with 3 permanent cameras installed in 'Hot Spot' locations in the CBD. Investigation of providing sensor lighting for areas identified in the city as appropriate – funding of \$20,000.
Wellington is a vibrant and lively city that attracts people to its centre, however there is a lack of activities to involve young people once they are in the city,	To ensure that young people in Wellington have access to a wide range of activities." To ensure that young people in Wellington have access to a wide range of venues.	This group of initiatives is aimed at providing a wide range of events and activities for youth of all ages, across the city. They are also intended to ensure that youth have input into planning of events and activities and that they are aware of what is happening in the city for them. They are focused on the provision of indoor and outdoor venues as a means of achieving this and on how we can promote these venues to youth.	Extension of current youth programmes already operating across the city. Funding \$160,000 provided over four years – funding is on-going. Provision of additional youth advisors in the city. Develop a plan for future planning of events and activities by and for youth. Funding set at \$40,000 per year Development of a youth communications strategy and implementation of appropriate communication tools for youth with funding set at \$100,000 per year. Development of an inner city youth venue in partnership with a service provider with initial funding of \$150,000 for a new youth venue partnership to be set up and on going support costs. The purchase and development of two Mobile events vehicles and ancillary event equipment (both indoor and outdoor) for use with youth at events in the city. Development of an Internet directory of events and activities for youth. Development of a youth website associated with the Wellington City Council website. Funding of \$35,000.

WELLINGTON CITY – SAFE CITY INITIATIVES

Identified Issues	Specific Objectives	Description of Group of Initiatives	Individual Initiatives
For youth to be able to contribute positively toward the community and function confidently within it they need to feel safe and secure. Recent incidents have highlighted the need for young people to be able to resist or avoid victimisation.	To ensure that young people have access to appropriate support structures, education programmes, and advice to help keep themselves safe.	These initiatives are looking to further Council support for programs that are aimed at keeping youth safe, and teaching them life skills. Council recognises that prevention is a key part of ensuring safety outcomes in the future	The provision of contestable youth development grants of \$200,000 per year to support the provision of youth related activities across the city. The development and implementation of a school based research programme to identify needs of young people in the community. Resulting in a range of activities and projects such as Youth Council, Wellington Youth Project and a number of others. Investigation and development of youth safety packs for distribution amongst youth community. Support for the development and operation of a youth wellness centre in the CBD.
Although there is a good network of public transport in the Wellington region and a limited late night bus service, this is not enough to ensure that people are able to get home safely at all times.	To ensure that people have access to safe transport at all times.	Initiatives for this issue deal with increasing the safety of Wellington's public transport systems, and increasing access to safe transport home.	Development and implementation of and After Midnight bus service. Implementation of pre purchase Taxi cards 'HomeSafe'. A one-off development grant of \$56,000 was made. This was a project in partnership with Wellington Combined Taxis Advocacy for safe public and private transport. Investigation for the need of public transport 'minders' on local buses – not identified as a need.
Regardless of the prevention methods currently used to control or prohibit access to drugs and alcohol, many youth still have relatively easy access to these. Youth who misuse alcohol and other drugs tend to be involved in anti-social behaviour and are often involved with the Police.	To reduce the harm caused by the misuse of alcohol and drugs.	These initiatives are aimed at reducing the misuse of drugs and alcohol by youth through a variety of prevention methods.	Increased drug and alcohol programmes in the city. Development of the Courtenay Place safety programme including support and funding for the development of the Wellington Door staff Association. Provide advocacy for increased community policing and the need for friendly police presence 'walking the beat'. Increased service levels in liquor licensing and monitoring including Liquor Liaison Group and other initiatives associated with reducing alcohol related harm. Participation in substance abuse and domestic violence working groups.

WELLINGTON CITY – SAFE CITY INITIATIVES

Identified Issues	Specific Objectives	Description of Group of Initiatives	Individual Initiatives
Crime and fear of crime can deter visitors and citizens from the city centre.	To ensure that Wellington has a safe vibrant inner city.	The initiatives in this section focus on methods for reducing fear of crime in the central city, to ensure it remains an attractive destination for tourists and citizens.	<p>Partnership promotion campaign of the city as a safe (and clean) destination for all.</p> <p>Central City Police Kiosk (central city Police beat accommodation). With on going funding of \$35,000 per year.</p> <p>The implementation of 15 FTE City Safety Officers in the city to provide a wide range of services and act as eyes and ears across the CBD. Funding of \$600,000 per year.</p>
Creating a safe city involves the community, agencies and Council working together. This requires strong leadership and active decision making at senior levels and close collaboration with groups and agencies working with communities.	To encourage and support groups and agencies at both the community and leadership levels to collaborate and co-operate.	This group of initiatives is aimed at ensuring appropriate decision making on safety issues in Wellington and promoting co-operation and collaboration between all organisations working towards achieving safety outcomes in Wellington.	<p>Maximise co-operation and collaboration between groups that already exist (e.g. Strengthening Families, Council and other key agencies – government, non government and community groups).</p> <p>Develop a regional leaders' group to provide high level co-ordination across key agencies on a wide range of social issues. Membership includes local councils (mayor and CEO), Iwi, government agencies, District Health Boards, ACC and a number of others. The Leaders Forum has identified and worked across agencies to facilitate solutions to a wide range of social issues.</p> <p>Increased support and funding for safety projects proposed by community organisations. Funding of \$100,000 per year through contestable grants.</p>

Appendix three

CCTV – Camera Location Central



Appendix four

Safer Community Grants – July 2004 to June 2005

Organisation Name	Project Description	Amount Granted
Birthright Wellington	Parenting programme for one parent families at risk	\$4,500.00
Catholic Social Services	Four violence prevention and self development programmes in schools	\$4,000.00
Door Staff Association (Wellington)	Training and support to door staff in the Wellington rate-paying area	\$5,000.00
Downtown Community Ministry	Street People project assisting people who can't manage a bank account	\$7,500.00
Drug Arm Wellington	Street vans, upgrading kitchen and office equipment	\$4,240.00
Island Bay Community Centre	Self-defence project	\$600.00
Lender of Last Resort	Salary grant for part time office assistant	\$3,000.00
Parent Help Wellington Inc.	Anger change groups for women	\$4,000.00
Wellington Boys and Girls Institute Inc	Gain programme revamp	\$2,000.00
Wellington Boys and Girls Institute Inc	Footsteps project costs	\$15,000.00
Wellington City Mission	For a new staff member to attend a Child Protection Services education programme	\$660.00
Wellington Ending Abuse & Violence Inc	Women and Anger programmes and a manual for the men's course	\$9,000.00
Wellington Free Ambulance	To educate community groups on how and when to call for an ambulance	\$3,500.00
Wellington Independent Rape Crisis Centre Inc	To print 1500 copies of Youth Information booklet on rape and sexual abuse	\$2,300.00
Wellington Night Shelter Trust	Emergency night shelter providing a place of safety	\$10,000.00
Wellington Somali Council Inc	Expansion of soccer training for at risk refugee youth	\$4,500.00
Wellington Women's Refuge	To continue to provide a community office and education on family violence	\$10,000.00
ZEAL (Under Body & Soul Trust)	Inner city youth venue with high quality programmes	\$5,000.00
Total:		\$94,800.00

Appendix five

Youth Initiative Grants – July 2004 to June 2005

Organisation Name	Project Description	Amount Granted
Birthright Wellington	Self esteem building programmes for children at risk	\$4,500.00
Central City Resource Team (under Te Aro School)	Secondary Transition trial – excludes salary	\$3,000.00
Challenge 2000	Two six-month long personal development programmes for 32 young people	\$16,000.00
Crossfire	A youth concert happening four times a year	\$3,000.00
Island Bay Community Centre	To run a series of dance events for youth of Island Bay	\$3,000.00
Karori Community Centre Inc	An initiative to provide young people with opportunities to participate in community	\$5,800.00
Migrant Nation Theatre Project (Under Capital Theatre Productions)	Theatre project giving voice to the stories and issues facing immigrants	\$5,000.00
Newlands Paparangi Progressive Assn	Co-ordinator to facilitate and co-ordinate events for youth	\$10,000.00
NRG Trust	Pilot Project - a programme sourcing job-shadowing opportunities for young people	\$7,500.00
NZ Film & Television School Trust	Invest in better equipment that will be available for collaborative projects with the community	\$13,000.00
Pacific Budgeting Family Services Trust	Mentor 2005 project for 11-18 yr old youths – teacher aide costs	\$3,800.00
Presbyterian Support (Central)	Teen Parenting Programme for 12 families	\$12,000.00
Salvation Army - Newtown Corps	Community youth work in Newtown and surrounding schools	\$10,000.00
SkyLight (The Children's Grief Centre)	Salary support for Youth Liaison position	\$8,000.00
United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand	Conference for 300 secondary school students to discuss global issues (venue assistance)	\$4,000.00
Wellington Boys and Girls Institute Inc	Newlands Youth Centre project	\$5,000.00
Wellington Boys and Girls Institute Inc	Tawa Futures (co-ordinator and project administration costs)	\$8,000.00
Wellington Boys and Girls Institute Inc	Inner City Social Programme activities	\$10,000.00
Total:		\$131,600.00