

Town of Bassendean



Community Safety Plan 2026-2030

Table of Contents

PART 1: COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN	3
1. Introduction	3
1.1 Our Commitment to Community Safety	3
1.2 Purpose	5
1.3 Vision	5
2. What We Already Do	6
2.1 Maintenance of public infrastructure and public spaces.....	6
2.2 Verge Maintenance and Community Involvement.....	6
2.3 Lighting and Footpath Improvements.....	7
2.4 Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV).....	7
2.5 CCTV Rebate Scheme.....	8
2.6 Graffiti Removal and Management.....	8
2.7 Local Emergency Management Committee.....	8
2.8 Public Open Space Strategy	9
2.9 Community Services	10
2.10 Environmental Health Services	11
2.11 Planning Services.....	13
2.12 Ranger Services	13
3. Action Plan	15
4.0 Implementation and Review	23
4.1 Short Term Progress Indicators.....	23
4.2 Medium Term Progress Indicators	23
4.3 Long Term Progress Indicators.....	24
PART 2: PLAN CONTEXT	25
1.0 Roles in Community Safety.....	25
2.0 Statutory Alignment	29
2.1 Town of Bassendean Council Plan 2023 - 2033.....	29
2.2 Town of Bassendean Plans and Policies	30

3.0	Community Consultation	32
3.1	MARKYT Community Scorecard	32
3.2	Public Health Plan 2022 - 2026	32
3.3	Town of Bassendean Public Open Space Strategy	33
PART 3: COMMUNITY PROFILE AND CRIME DATA		34
1.	Community Profile	34
1.1	Town of Bassendean (LGA) Profile (2021)	34
1.2	Population	35
1.3	Housing	36
1.4	Age Structure	36
1.5	Homelessness	38
1.6	SEIFA Score	39
2.0	Crime Data	41
2.1	Crime Statistics Overview	41
2.2	WA Police Crime Data	42
2.3	Top Crime Types in Town of Bassendean Per Suburb for 2024-2025	44
3.	References	50

PART 1: COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

1. Introduction

Local governments play a key role in fostering communities that are safe and liveable. Their role is not just about providing basic services, but also shaping environments where people feel secure, connected, and proud to live. A reduction in both crime and the fear of crime contribute significantly to the overall quality of life within a community. People can feel unsafe for a range of reasons. Personal experience, socio-economic disadvantage, and visible signs of neglect in public areas, including graffiti, vandalism, litter, and the presence of individuals affected by drugs or alcohol, can all contribute to perception of an unsafe environment.

When crime rises local governments often face higher costs associated with damage repairs and risk mitigation. At the same time, people may avoid parks, streets, and community spaces. This reduces the number of people out and about which lowers natural surveillance and can create conditions that further enable antisocial or criminal behaviour.

To build vibrant, resilient communities, local governments need to prioritise the creation of safe public spaces, that encourage community trust, ownership, and active participation.

1.1 Our Commitment to Community Safety

The Town of Bassendean's (Town) commitment to community safety is clearly reflected in its *Council Plan 2023–2033* (Council Plan), which sets a vision to be a safe, healthy and inclusive community. The Council Plan provides a clear framework for the Town's four-year delivery program of actions, ensuring that community safety remains a central focus.

The Town has already implemented several initiatives to enhance community safety including the CCTV Rebate Scheme, and Safe Active Street, promoting safer pedestrian and cyclist access. In collaboration with Main Roads WA, the Town is developing a new road safety initiative to improve the safety of roads and intersections within Bassendean, aiming to reduce crashes through the installation of low-cost road treatments, as part of the Low-Cost Urban Road Safety Program.

Supporting these efforts, this Community Safety Plan (Plan) outlines the Town's approach to creating a safer community and defines the roles of key partners. It aligns with the Council Plan and complements other key plans such as the Public Health Plan and the Public Open Space Strategy. Using recent crime statistics from the Western

Australia Police Force and demographic insights from the 2021 Census, the Plan adopts a targeted, data-driven approach to enhancing safety across the Town.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to:

- Provide the Bassendean community with an overview of current local community safety issues.
- Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of each tier of government, and to position local government as an enabler that facilitates collaboration, supports delivery, and connects communities with broader policy objectives.
- Increase community knowledge through education and information to help reduce the opportunity for crime and injury.
- Highlight and support existing strategies and infrastructure and how they are contributing to community safety.
- Encourage a whole of community approach to awareness and promotion of community safety.
- Strengthen partnerships and work collaboratively with other agencies and the community to improve the effectiveness and implementation of strategies.
- Identify actions to improve safety within the Community, including actions that the Town can facilitate, advocate or lead where resources are available.
- Deliver an achievable action plan for the next four years.

1.3 Vision

Our vision for the Town of Bassendean is to be a safe, healthy, and inclusive community that respects and celebrates cultural heritage and diversity; a home by the Swan for everyone to enjoy.

2. What We Already Do

The Town of Bassendean delivers a number of programs and services that aim to improve safety and minimise crime. The Town is committed to enhancing public spaces to ensure they are safe, enjoyable, and conducive to community interaction and well-being. This commitment is reflected in various initiatives and strategies aimed at improving infrastructure, public open space, access and inclusion, safety, and community engagement.

2.1 Maintenance of public infrastructure and public spaces

The Town of Bassendean undertakes maintenance of public infrastructure as part of its broader commitment to community safety and wellbeing. This includes:

- Parks and public spaces - maintaining clean, safe, and accessible parks, playgrounds, and reserves and applying Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles of CPTED to encourage community use and deter antisocial behaviour.
- Drainage and stormwater systems - managing stormwater infrastructure to prevent flooding and water-related hazards.
- Roads and footpaths - regular inspection and maintenance to ensure safe travel for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. This includes repairing potholes, resurfacing roads, and maintaining clear signage.
- Street lighting - ensuring adequate lighting in public areas to improve visibility and reduce the risk of accidents and crime.
- Waste and litter management - regular rubbish collection, providing street litter bins, maintaining street cleaning and public sanitation services help prevent the buildup of waste that can attract pests, spread disease, and create safety hazards in public areas. Clean, well-maintained environments also foster a sense of order and community pride, which can deter vandalism and reduce the likelihood of anti-social behaviour.

2.2 Verge Maintenance and Community Involvement

The Town encourages residents to develop and maintain their street verges as sustainable, productive, and social spaces. A new Verge Maintenance Policy has been endorsed, reallocating funds to reinvest in community infrastructure and asset renewal. This policy aims to enhance the appearance and functionality of public spaces, contributing to a safer and more attractive environment.

2.3 Lighting and Footpath Improvements

Community feedback has highlighted the need for improved street lighting and footpath infrastructure to enhance pedestrian safety and accessibility. The Town is actively addressing these concerns through various projects aimed at upgrading lighting and repairing footpaths, ensuring that public spaces are well-lit and accessible for all residents.

2.4 Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)

The Town operates a number of permanent internal and external Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) systems to monitor and protect key community assets, including Town buildings and public reserves. CCTV cameras are currently installed at the following locations however many units are approaching end-of-life and require assessment. It is recommended that a comprehensive review of the current CCTV network be undertaken to determine whether upgrades or replacements are necessary. This review should inform future decisions and allow for budget allocation and inclusion in the Long-Term Financial Plan, ensuring the Town maintains effective security and asset protection.

Current locations:

- Library
- Customer Service Centre
- Administration Building
- Youth Centre
- Ashfield Community Centre
- Depot
- Mary Crescent Reserve
- Jubilee Reserve

CCTV locations are mapped and accessible via the Town's Geographic Information System (GIS). Footage recorded by the Town's CCTV system may be provided to the Western Australia Police Force, upon formal request to assist with official investigations.

2.5 CCTV Rebate Scheme

Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) is an effective tool for enhancing community safety and assisting in the detection and investigation of crime. CCTV systems can deter criminal activity, assist law enforcement in investigating incidents, and improve overall community safety.

In 2023, the Town introduced the CCTV Rebate Scheme to encourage private property owners to install surveillance systems, thereby supporting the efforts of WA Police in maintaining community safety. Eligible residents can receive a 50% rebate on the cost of a new CCTV system, up to a maximum of \$200. By participating in the CCTV Rebate Scheme, residents can enhance their home security while contributing to the broader goal of community safety. The Town is currently considering extending this rebate scheme to local businesses to further enhance coverage and protection.

2.6 Graffiti Removal and Management

Graffiti detracts from the visual amenity of the area, is destructive to property, adds to community perceptions of disorder, and is a cost burden to the community. The Town's Graffiti Management Policy captures graffiti on public and private property.

The Town removes graffiti from:

- Council assets, including leased sites
- Structures on public land and
- Private property (under certain conditions).

The Town does not remove graffiti from any utility providers' infrastructure within public or private land.

The community are encouraged to report incidences of graffiti for removal either via the Town's Customer Service team on 9377 8000, by email to mail@bassendean.wa.gov.au or online through the Town's website. www.bassendean.wa.gov.au.

2.7 Local Emergency Management Committee

The Bassendean Local Emergency Management Committee (BLEMC) is responsible for planning, coordinating, and supporting emergency management activities within the Town of Bassendean. It is established under Section 38 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* (WA) to oversee and coordinate emergency management within the Town of Bassendean. Its operations and responsibilities are guided by the Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA), developed in accordance with Sections 36 and 41 of the Act.

The BLEMC meets quarterly and along with Councillors and Administration staff, includes representatives from:

- Emergency services (e.g., Police, DFES, St John Ambulance)
- Government departments (e.g., Health, Communities)
- Utility providers
- Local community and volunteer organisations.

2.8 Public Open Space Strategy

The Town of Bassendean manages more than 60 hectares of local open space, including parks, sports fields, and nature reserves. To guide the planning, development, and management of these areas, the Town has established a Public Open Space Strategy that prioritises creating functional, safe, and attractive spaces. These spaces aim to provide recreational opportunities, support environmental conservation, and serve as venues for community interaction and events. While many areas are well-maintained, there are opportunities to improve safety and amenity across the Town's open spaces. Improvements such as upgraded lighting, CCTV and other passive surveillance measures, can increase visibility and help deter anti-social behaviour. Passive surveillance improvements may include:

- Maintaining vegetation to ensure clear sightlines and prevent hiding spots.
- Locating BBQs, picnic shelters, play equipment, drinking fountains, and car parks in active, visible parts of parks.
- Positioning benches, bike racks, shelters, bins, and bus stops in high-traffic areas and avoiding layouts that create hidden corners.
- Installing adequate lighting along paths, entries, and gathering areas, including sensor or timed lighting where suitable.
- Providing design elements that attract regular use, such as walking paths, shaded seating, and dog-friendly areas.
- Using open-style or low fencing instead of solid barriers to maintain visibility.
- Supporting community activation—markets, fitness classes, and community gardening—to increase natural foot traffic.

Additional initiatives, such as park activation programs, ranger patrols, and neighbourhood watch partnerships, can further enhance safety and community confidence. Implementing these improvements requires careful planning and appropriate resourcing. Aligning capital works and operational budgets with the Town's long-term financial plan ensures that investments in lighting, safety infrastructure, and

activation programs are sustainable. Prioritising high-use areas, coordinating upgrades with routine maintenance, and exploring grant funding or partnerships can help maximise the impact of available resources while supporting ongoing improvements across the Town's public open spaces.

2.9 Community Services

Community Services plays a key role in enhancing the safety, wellbeing, and social cohesion across the Town by delivering inclusive programs, events, and partnerships that strengthen community connection. Key functions include:

- Civic, commemorative and community events – planning and delivering safe, inclusive public events that encourage positive social interaction and foster community pride.
- Community grants – assessing funding applications to support local organisations in delivering events and initiatives that activate public spaces, increase community participation, and contribute to a vibrant and safe Town.
- Health and well-being – facilitating initiatives that promote mental and physical wellbeing, social inclusion, and a sense of safety and belonging for all residents.
- Volunteer services – connecting community members with meaningful opportunities to contribute their time, skills and interests. Opportunities include becoming a Cyber Citizen Tutor, supporting the Books on Wheels service, assisting with local history projects, or helping at events and activities. The service works with individuals to find roles that match their availability and interests.
- Community transport - providing accessible and affordable transport for residents who may face mobility or access challenges. The service supports independence and social connection, through scheduled trips to shopping centres, medical appointments, and community activities, helping residents stay active and engaged within the Town.

While current programs, events and services provide important benefits, there are opportunities to improve their reach and effectiveness. Some examples may include:

- Improving access to programs and services for all residents, including those with mobility challenges, culturally diverse backgrounds or other barrier, for example by offering culturally appropriate programs.

- Regular evaluation of program outcomes and community needs to support better planning and continuous improvement. Tracking participation rates, resident feedback, and safety incidents, can inform changes to the services or program.
- Expanding initiatives that promote mental health, social inclusion and community connection, particularly targeting vulnerable or isolated residents.
- Offering new and culturally inclusive events to increase engagement, build community pride and ensure public spaces are activated safely and positively.

2.10 Environmental Health Services

Environmental Health Services play a vital regulatory and advisory role in protecting public health and promoting safe, healthy environments within the community.

Environmental Health Officers are responsible for administering and enforcing a range of State legislation, regulations and local laws that aim to prevent public health risks, reduce environmental hazards and ensure businesses operate in a safe and compliant manner.

EHOs undertake a broad range of duties that involve monitoring, education, compliance and enforcement to minimise health risks and support community wellbeing. These responsibilities are guided by legislation including the *Public Health Act 2016*, *Food Act 2008*, *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and associated regulations.

Key functions of Environmental Health Services include:

- Food safety regulation and compliance – Registering and inspecting food businesses to ensure compliance with the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code*. This includes routine inspections of food businesses, investigating food complaints and food poisoning incidents, and providing guidance to food business operators on safe food handling practices.
- Public health legislation enforcement – Administering and enforcing requirements under the *Public Health Act 2016* to manage public health risks, investigate complaints and respond to issues that may impact community wellbeing.
- Asbestos management and compliance – Investigating complaints relating to the unsafe removal, storage or disposal of asbestos and ensuring compliance with the *Health (Asbestos) Regulations 1992*. EHOs also provide advice to property owners and contractors regarding safe asbestos handling and disposal.

- Environmental noise investigations – Assessing and responding to noise complaints under the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997*, including noise generated from commercial premises, construction activities, mechanical equipment and other sources that may impact residential amenity.
- Wastewater and sanitation management – Assessing and approving onsite wastewater treatment systems such as septic tanks and aerobic treatment units to ensure they operate safely and do not pose a risk to public health or the environment.
- Mosquito and pest management – Monitoring mosquito breeding areas and implementing control measures such as larviciding treatments and adult mosquito surveillance (including trapping). This work is undertaken in coordination with neighbouring local governments to help reduce mosquito populations, minimise nuisance to residents, and lower the risk of mosquito-borne diseases.
- Investigation of public health complaints – Responding to community concerns relating to issues such as offensive odours, vermin infestations, unsanitary living conditions, smoke nuisance, unauthorised discharges and other environmental health hazards.
- Water quality monitoring – Monitoring water quality at recreational and bathing locations along the Swan River to assess levels of bacteria and amoeba and minimise the risk of waterborne illness.
- Public event approvals – Assessing applications for public events to ensure compliance with the *Health (Public Buildings) Regulations 1992* including reviewing safety measures, occupancy requirements and toilet facilities to ensure safety of patrons.
- Inspection of Premises – Conducting inspections of regulated premises such as public buildings, skin penetration establishments (e.g., tattoo, piercing studios, beauty salons), and lodging houses to ensure compliance with relevant legislation, maintain required health standards and protect the safety of patrons and occupants.
- Community education and guidance – Providing advice and education to residents, businesses and community groups on environmental health matters such as food safety, waste management, pest control and public health responsibilities.
- Monitoring and enforcement of local laws – Supporting the enforcement of local government local laws that contribute to maintaining a clean, safe and well-

managed environment, including responding to complaints and undertaking inspections where necessary.

2.11 Planning Services

The Town's Planning Services are responsible for developing and implementing local strategies, plans, and policies that promote a safe, inclusive, and connected community. As part of its commitment to community wellbeing and urban safety, Planning Services ensures that all development proposals incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles, where relevant, within the planning framework. These principles help reduce opportunities for crime and enhance the overall safety and functionality of public and private spaces.

2.12 Ranger Services

Rangers play a key role in building safer, more connected communities. They provide a seven (7) day per week service and play a role in helping residents feel safe and secure. Rangers are not a substitute for Police and do not have authority to respond to criminal matters.

Rangers work to address local, non-criminal issues with a focus on education and awareness before enforcement.

- Visible patrols – Rangers conduct regular patrols across streets, parks, and public spaces to deter antisocial behaviour and provide a reassuring presence.
- Littering and illegal dumping prevention - respond to incidents of littering and illegal dumping to maintain a clean and safe environment.
- Abandoned vehicles - identify and arrange the removal of abandoned vehicles that may pose safety risks or attract antisocial behaviour.
- Parking enforcement - monitor unauthorised street and verge parking to ensure safe access and visibility for all road users.
- Fire hazard management - inspect and manage fire risks on public and private land to support bushfire prevention and community safety.
- Illegal camping - respond to and manage incidents of unauthorised camping on Town land, ensuring public spaces remain safe and accessible.
- Attend to animal control matters in accordance with the relevant legislation.

3. Action Plan

To achieve our vision of creating a safe, healthy and inclusive community; a home by the Swan for everyone to enjoy - the Town has identified the following actions to be undertaken between 2026 and 2030.

3.1. Awareness and Education

Objective: Increase community awareness of safety issues, including crime prevention and road safety, by providing accessible information, support and resources that enable residents to respond proactively to local safety concerns.

	Action	Outcome	Timeframe				Lead
			2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	
3.1.1	Develop joint messaging between the Town and WA Police regarding hot topic issues and crime prevention messages related to home safety through the website, social media and other communication channels.	Increased community awareness of crime prevention and home safety issues.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Director Community Place Communications Officer
3.1.2	Include and maintain relevant links and information on the Town's Community Safety section of the website on issues relating to community safety.	Improved community access to information about crime prevention and safety initiatives.		✓	✓	✓	Communications Officer ICT Services

3.1.3	Continue to provide and promote the “ <i>Slow Down Consider our Kids</i> ” bin stickers.	Increased awareness of safe driving behaviours in residential streets.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Waste Services Customer Services Library Services
3.1.4	Source and make available to the community, resources on topics such as domestic violence, homelessness, mental health, and substance abuse	Improved community awareness of and access to available support services and assistance.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Library Services Communications Officer

3.2 Partnership and Collaboration

Objective: Strengthen partnerships with WA Police, State Government Agencies, and non-government and not-for-profit organisations, to deliver coordinated safety outcomes

	Action	Outcome	Timeframe				Lead
			2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	
3.2.1	Promote community safety initiatives and crime prevention programs through the Town's website, communication channels and community networks including programs such as ‘ThinkUKnow’ , Eyes on the Street , School Watch Program and graffiti prevention initiatives	Increased awareness of crime prevention and community safety initiatives among young people and the wider community		✓	✓	✓	Community Services Communications Officer Ranger Services Infrastructure Services
3.2.2	Maintain strong partnerships with WA Police Force, including establishing a memorandum of understanding with Kiara Police and meeting regularly to discuss local safety concerns, emerging issues and collaborative responses.	Improved information sharing and coordination with WA Police to respond to local safety issues.		✓			Director Community and Place
3.2.3	Support and promote collaborative initiatives led by outreach services,	Improved coordination and support for individuals		✓	✓	✓	Community Services Ranger Services

	neighbouring local governments and community organisations, to improve responses to homelessness and rough sleeping.	experiencing homelessness					
3.2.4	Through the Town's website and information materials, promote awareness of local services and organisations that support community wellbeing and safety, including those that address domestic and family violence, health outreach services such as the Street Doctor , and other local support agencies.	Increased community awareness of local services that support wellbeing, safety and early intervention			✓	✓	Director Community and Place
3.2.5	Investigate opportunities to introduce community safety support initiatives for residents such as a free Vehicle Child Restraint fitting and checking service , subject to feasibility and available resources.	Improved awareness and correct installation of child vehicle restraints, contributing to safer travel for children.		✓	✓	✓	Infrastructure Services

3.3 Community Engagement and Connection

Objective: Strengthen community connection and neighbourhood collaboration through local events, programs and initiatives that build safer, more resilient communities.

	Action	Outcome	Timeframe				Lead
			2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	
3.3.1	Deliver and support school holiday activities for young people.	Increased positive engagement opportunities for young people during school holidays.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Library Services
3.3.2	Continue to support community-led events that contribute to place making and or activation of public spaces.	Increased community participation and activation of public spaces.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Community Services
3.3.3	Provide funding and support for local <i>Get to Know Your Neighbour</i> events, which encourage locals to come together and host a gathering creating community spirit and creating safer neighbourhoods.	Stronger neighbourhood connections contribute to safer and more supportive communities.		✓	✓	✓	Community Services

3.4 Targeted Safety Enhancements

Objective: Enhance public safety by implementing strategic surveillance infrastructure, improving lighting in key public areas, and advocating for collaborative audits and funding to support ongoing community safety initiatives

	Action	Outcome	Timeframe				Lead
			2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	
3.4.1	Develop and implement a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Strategy by December 2026, to guide the planning, installation, governance, and management of CCTV across the Town of Bassendean. The strategy will identify priority locations, ensure compliance with privacy and legislative requirements, and consider collaboration with law enforcement and community stakeholders.	Improved planning, placement, and management of CCTV across the Town to support community safety and crime prevention	✓	✓	✓	✓	Infrastructure Services ICT Services Director Community & Place
3.4.2	Introduce a CCTV rebate scheme to encourage business owners within designated Town of Bassendean precincts to install security cameras, while also establishing CCTV coverage in key commercial and business areas as determined. This initiative aims to enhance community safety, deter	Increased installation of CCTV systems by local businesses, resulting in improved security across key areas of the Town of Bassendean and enhanced support for community safety and	✓	✓	✓	✓	Community Services

	antisocial behaviour, and support incident investigation	incident response in collaboration with WA Police					
3.4.3	Undertake night-time lighting audits to identify locations where improved lighting in streets and reserves would provide the greatest benefit, including investigating solar-powered lighting solutions such as bollards where suitable.	Priority locations for lighting improvements are identified to support safer streets and public spaces			✓	✓	Infrastructure Services
3.4.4	Investigate the feasibility of installing unmonitored, solar-powered CCTV towers in reserves along the Swan River, subject to suitable locations and available resources.	Feasibility of solar-powered CCTV towers in riverside reserves is assessed to inform future safety infrastructure decisions.			✓		Infrastructure Services
3.4.5	Identify funding opportunities and advocate for resources to support and expand community safety initiatives, in alignment with the objectives of the Community Safety Plan and where resources permit.	Increased opportunities to secure external funding and partnerships to support community safety initiatives.	✓	✓	✓	✓	All Staff
3.4.6	Assess public open spaces to identify areas where lighting and safety infrastructure improvements would	Public open spaces are safer, more functional, and better maintained,	✓	✓	✓	✓	Infrastructure Services

	enhance safety and prioritise upgrades in alignment with the Town's long-term financial plan.	with improvements delivered in priority areas and integrated into the Town's long-term financial planning, ensuring upgrades are sustainable and cost-effective					
3.4.7	Implement the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations			✓	✓	✓	Community Services Library Services Governance Human Resources Children Services

4.0 Implementation and Review

The *Community Safety Plan 2026-2030* (Plan) will be implemented over the next four years with a focus on delivering the identified actions and achieving its objectives. The Town is committed to ensuring that each initiative within the Plan is implemented effectively. To support successful delivery track progress, the Town will conduct annual reviews of the projects, programs and initiatives outlined in the strategy. These reviews will evaluate the relevance, effectiveness and impact of each program on community safety. They will also help identify emerging issues, new opportunities and innovative approaches that can further strengthen community safety and ensure that the strategy remains aligned with the evolving needs and expectations of the community.

The reviews will be coordinated by the Community & Place and Infrastructure & Sustainability directorates. Quarterly reporting against the action plan will be undertaken by the relevant Town service areas, helping to inform the annual review process.

At the conclusion of the four-year period the Plan will be formally evaluated and reviewed to inform the development of future plans. As changes in crime rates tend to occur over longer timeframes, a range of progress indicators will be used to assess the strategy's impact and effectiveness of the strategy over the short, medium and long term.

4.1 Short Term Progress Indicators

Implementation and early signs of effectiveness

- Timely implementation of actions as identified in the plan
- Improved inter-agency collaboration
- Community and business participation in initiatives (e.g. CCTV rebates).

4.2 Medium Term Progress Indicators

Shift in perception, behaviour and early outcomes

- Improved community perception of safety in public spaces (measured via community surveys)
- Increased community trust in the Town's safety efforts (measured via community surveys)
- Fewer complaints related to noise, disorder or nuisance behaviour (Incoming Customer Request Forms).

4.3 Long Term Progress Indicators

- Decrease or stability in crime rates (WA Police Crime Statistics),
- Decrease or stability in reports of vandalism, graffiti and property damage (WA Police Crime Statistics),
- Sustained improvement in community wellbeing scores (ABS Data).

PART 2: PLAN CONTEXT

1.0 Roles in Community Safety

Community safety refers to both the actual and perceived sense of security within our neighbourhood. It directly impacts our quality of life and wellbeing. A safe community is one where people feel confident, connected, and supported.

While the primary responsibility for law enforcement and crime prevention lies with State Government agencies, community safety is a collaborative effort across all three levels of government – federal, state, and local. By working together and engaging with the community, these tiers of government help build safer, more resilient places to live.

Federal	The Commonwealth Government plays a vital role in shaping and supporting community safety at the national level. Core Responsibilities include: • develops and enforces national laws and policies that guide priorities in crime prevention, justice, and public safety. • oversees critical areas such as national security, border Protection, cybersecurity, counterterrorism, and emergency management. • provides strategic direction for crime prevention and justice initiatives, addressing challenges and emerging issues that impact safety across the country.
State	The Western Australian State Government plays a central role in funding, delivering, and coordinating services that contribute to public safety and crime prevention across the state. Some key responsibilities and services include: • Law Enforcement and Public Safety – The WA Police Force is responsible for maintaining law and order, preventing crime, and ensuring public safety through enforcement and community engagement. • Emergency and Support Services- -agencies such as the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Department of Communities, Mental Health Commission, and Drug and Alcohol Services provide critical support in areas including emergency response, social services, and health-related safety.

	• Legislation and Policy - The State Government oversees legislation, regulation, and policy development in key areas such as: ○ homelessness ○ family and domestic violence ○ child protection ○ education ○ emergency services ○ health and mental health ○ road safety. • Crime Prevention Programs: - various departments contribute to crime prevention through targeted initiatives, such as: ○ the Department of Education's School Watch Program ○ youth engagement programs aimed at early intervention and community connection.
Local	Local governments play an important role in supporting community safety by enforcing state and local legislation, maintaining community assets and infrastructure, and delivering services that promote social wellbeing. They also contribute through education and awareness initiatives. Local governments help build safer communities by: Local governments contribute to a safer and more inclusive community by: • delivering and advocating for services and programs that enhance safety, inclusion, and community connection. • collaborating with stakeholders including state agencies, community groups, and service providers to deliver safety-focused projects and initiatives. • maintaining safe public spaces ensuring public areas feel welcoming and safe by: ○ removing graffiti ○ responding to vandalism on Town-managed land ○ providing and maintaining CCTV infrastructure ○ providing Ranger Services.
Community	Residents, community groups, and businesses each play a vital role in fostering a safer and more connected community by:

	• connecting with neighbours - building strong local relationships helps to establish trust, increase awareness, and create a supportive network that looks out for one another. • reporting incidents - prompt reporting of suspicious activity or crime to WA Police ensures timely and appropriate responses. • staying informed - remaining up to date with safety and security advice from reliable sources enables smarter, more informed decision-making. • making smart choices - opportunistic crime can be deterred through everyday actions such as: ○ securing homes and properties. ○ avoiding leaving valuables in vehicles. ○ installing lighting and basic security measures including CCTV.
Non-government Organisations	Non-government and not-for-profit organisations play a valuable role in enhancing community safety and supporting crime prevention efforts. They complement the efforts of government by providing essential services, education, outreach, and advocacy, particularly for vulnerable individuals and communities who may be at higher risk of harm. Some key contributors include: • St John Ambulance WA – Delivering emergency medical services, first aid training, and community health programs that build community resilience and improve safety outcomes. • Noongar Outreach Services – Providing culturally appropriate outreach and support for Aboriginal communities, helping to reduce harm, strengthen cultural connection, and promote safer environments. • Ruah Community Services – Offering housing and support for people experiencing homelessness, family and domestic violence, and mental health challenges, helping to reduce risk and improve community wellbeing. • Constable Care Foundation – Educating children and young people about safety, respect, and making positive choices through interactive theatre, workshops, and digital learning tools. • Holyoake – Delivering community-based programs that address alcohol and other drug use, support families, and promote wellbeing, inclusion, and safer communities.

	• Indigo Junction – Providing crisis accommodation, housing support, and youth services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and working in collaboration with other homelessness alliances across Perth’s eastern suburbs. • Other community organisations such as neighbourhood centres, women’s refuges, men’s sheds, multicultural associations, and youth services, which play an important role in fostering inclusion, reducing isolation, and promoting safe and connected communities.
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2.0 Statutory Alignment

2.1 Town of Bassendean Council Plan 2023 - 2033

To achieve the vision outlined in the Council Plan 2023–2033, a series of objectives, outcomes, and actions have been set out. These directly support the goals of the Community Safety Plan, particularly under the outcome of fostering a safe, inclusive, and healthy community.

The following actions from the Council Plan are directly aligned with enhancing community safety and wellbeing:

A safe, inclusive, and healthy community, with specific actions to:

- Develop an education campaign for local businesses and residents to raise awareness of local safety initiatives to combat crime, such as CamMap WA, family and domestic violence support services and Neighbourhood Watch.
- Upskill staff in public-facing roles to recognise and respond appropriately to homelessness and family and domestic violence and provide information on local support services.
- Investigate alternative models of service provision for young people at risk.
- Collaborate with key stakeholders, such as HeadSpace, Helping Minds and YMCA to promote and deliver mental health information and initiatives.
- Upgrade Ashfield Reserve lighting.
- Review areas designated as dogs prohibited on leash and off leash dog exercise areas
- Develop a Public Open Space Strategy.

These strategic actions are essential to strengthening community safety, wellbeing and resilience throughout the life of the plan.

A Town that is easy to get around safely and sustainably, with the specific actions to:

- Collaborate with Main Roads to implement their low-cost Urban Road Safety Program as sites across the Town of Bassendean deemed to be high risk by Main Roads.
- Implement the Rights of Way Strategy.
- Review the Path Network Planning Policy and guidelines.
- Implement planned improvements to footpaths and cycleways as listed in the Capital Works Program.

2.2 Town of Bassendean Plans and Policies

Plans and Strategies	Overview
Public Health Plan 2022-2026	Focuses on improving safety, health and wellbeing for all residents and visitors
Corporate Business Plan 2022-2026	Supports the creation of an inclusive environment where people feel welcome and safe
Local Area Traffic Management Plan 2012	Provides Council and the community with a clear framework for traffic management within the precinct.
Emergency Risk Management Profile 2010	Identifies and evaluates risks to enhance community safety and preparedness
Ashfield Community Action Plan 2009	Emphasises personal safety, community connection and crime prevention
Play Spaces Implementation Plan 2009	Guides the provision of play spaces that are safe and support children's active play
Street Lighting Policy	Promotes the use of energy efficient street lighting, that enhances pedestrian and road safety, while contributing to the Town's visual amenity
Traffic Management Treatment Policy & Guidelines	Addresses traffic flow, road safety and amenity issues on local roads under the Town's care and control
Graffiti Management Policy	Recognises the impact of graffiti on community safety and perceptions of crime and outlines prevention and removal
Unreasonable Customer Conduct Policy	Provides guidance for staff and Council Members on managing interactions with individuals whose conduct is considered unreasonable
Services for Children and Families	Aims to provide a safe, caring, and supportive environment that enables children to reach their full potential

Path Policy	Establishes standards and criteria for new and replacement pedestrian pathways within road reserves, parks and natural areas
Council Plan 2023-2033	Sets the community's long term strategic priorities, vision, and desired outcomes for the next ten years.
Public Open Space Strategy	Delivers an integrated public open space network that enhances quality of life, maximising amenity, functionality, and accessibility, encouraging greater participation and meeting diverse community needs.

3.0 Community Consultation

3.1 MARKYT Community Scorecard

In 2022, the Town of Bassendean engaged CATALYSE® to conduct an independent district-wide MARKYT® Community Scorecard survey. The purpose of the survey was to identify community priorities, support ongoing service improvements and inform the review of the Town's 10-year Strategic Community Plan. The survey was conducted from 9 May to 3 June 2022 and received 1,125 responses. Results highlighted community safety and crime prevention as key concerns, and identified the following community driven actions:

- Seek greater police visibility through more patrols, particularly at night, to address antisocial behaviour, burglaries, and drug and alcohol abuse.
- Increase security around the train line and train stations.
- Install additional CCTV cameras and lighting in well-known hotspots such as shopping centres, train stations, and car parks.
- Improve street and public area lighting.
- Install more cameras to deter and capture incidents of hooning.
- Promote and facilitate community programs such as Neighbourhood Watch.
- Provide incentives for homeowners to install security devices.

3.2 Public Health Plan 2022 - 2026

Community consultation conducted as part of the development of the Town's Public Health Plan between 1 and 30 June 2021, also identified safety as a top concern. 'Feeling safe in the community' emerged as the most important factor influencing community health outcomes.

Respondents expressed the desire for improved street lighting, better footpaths, and increased security to reduce crime. As part of the consultation, residents were asked to rank a series of public health concerns by level of importance. Of the 11 topics presented, the following were consistently ranked among the top six priorities:

- Unsafe community (e.g. crime and antisocial behaviour)
- Poor mental health
- Homelessness
- Illicit drug use
- Harmful alcohol consumption.

3.3 Town of Bassendean Public Open Space Strategy

The Town of Bassendean's Public Open Space Strategy includes a range of recommendations aimed at enhancing the quality, accessibility, and usability of open spaces across the district. One recommendation specifically addresses community safety, with the Strategy calling for the incorporation of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles. These principles focus on measures such as improving natural surveillance, providing appropriate lighting, encouraging passive activation of spaces, and creating clear sightlines to reduce opportunities for antisocial behaviour. More broadly, the Strategy emphasises the importance of developing and maintaining safe, welcoming, and inclusive public open spaces that encourage people to stay longer and participate in a variety of recreational, cultural, and social activities.

PART 3: COMMUNITY PROFILE AND CRIME DATA

1. Community Profile

1.1 Town of Bassendean (LGA) Profile (2021)

The Town of Bassendean is situated in the northeastern suburbs of Perth, Western Australia. It is positioned approximately 12 kilometres from the Perth Central Business District. The Town is well-connected by road and public transport, including train stations on the Perth-Midland line, facilitating convenient access to Perth and surrounding areas. Covering a total area of 10.4 square kilometres, the Town includes the suburbs of Ashfield, Bassendean, and Eden Hill, and comprises of residential neighbourhoods, commercial precincts and an industrial area.

The Town shares its boundaries with the City of Swan to the north and east, the City of Bayswater to the west and the City of Belmont to the south, across the Swan River. The Town includes approximately 5.5km of Swan River foreshore offering residents and visitors access to a variety of riverfront parks, nature reserves and recreational facilities. These natural assets contribute significantly to the Town's character and provide opportunities for leisure, community engagement and enhanced wellbeing.

Figure 1: Map of Town of Bassendean



1.2 Population

The population of the Town of Bassendean was 15,932 as per the 2021 Census, which is an increase of 0.6% since the 2016 Census, and an 18% increase since 2006. The median age is 40 years, and the gender distribution was nearly equal, with 48.9% male and 51.1% female residents.

There are 399 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people within the Town making up 2.5% of the population, which is higher than the Perth metropolitan average of 1.8%, and lower than the State (3.3%) (ABS, 2021). The median age is 23 years with a gender distribution of 51.1% males and 48.9% females.

In the Town of Bassendean, 17.1% of households use a language other than English at home, and 32.4% of residents were born overseas. This cultural diversity highlights the importance of developing community safety strategies that are culturally appropriate.

Additional statistics are provided in Tables 2 and 3, comparing the Town of Bassendean with the Perth Metropolitan Area and Western Australia. The data is also broken down by suburbs within the Town.

Table 1: Town of Bassendean community profile

ABS Census Data 2021	Town of Bassendean	Perth Metropolitan	Western Australia
Tertiary – Vocational education	8.4%	7.7%	7.4%
Tertiary – University or other higher education	14.9%	16.3%	13.9%
Median weekly household income	\$1,738	\$1,865	\$1,815
Median weekly rent	\$330	\$350	\$340
In the labour force	64.8%	65.2%	63.9%
Unemployment	4.8%	5.3%	5.1%

Table 2: Community profile – Ashfield, Bassendean and Eden Hill

ABS Census Data 2021	Ashfield	Bassendean	Eden Hill
Tertiary – Vocational education	7.8%	8.0%	9.6%
Tertiary – University or other higher education	14.9%	16.1%	11.8%
Median weekly household income	\$1,666	\$1,772	\$1,664
Median weekly rent	\$300	\$330	\$340
In the labour force	60.5%	65.9%	63.1%
Unemployment	6.1%	4.2%	6.1%

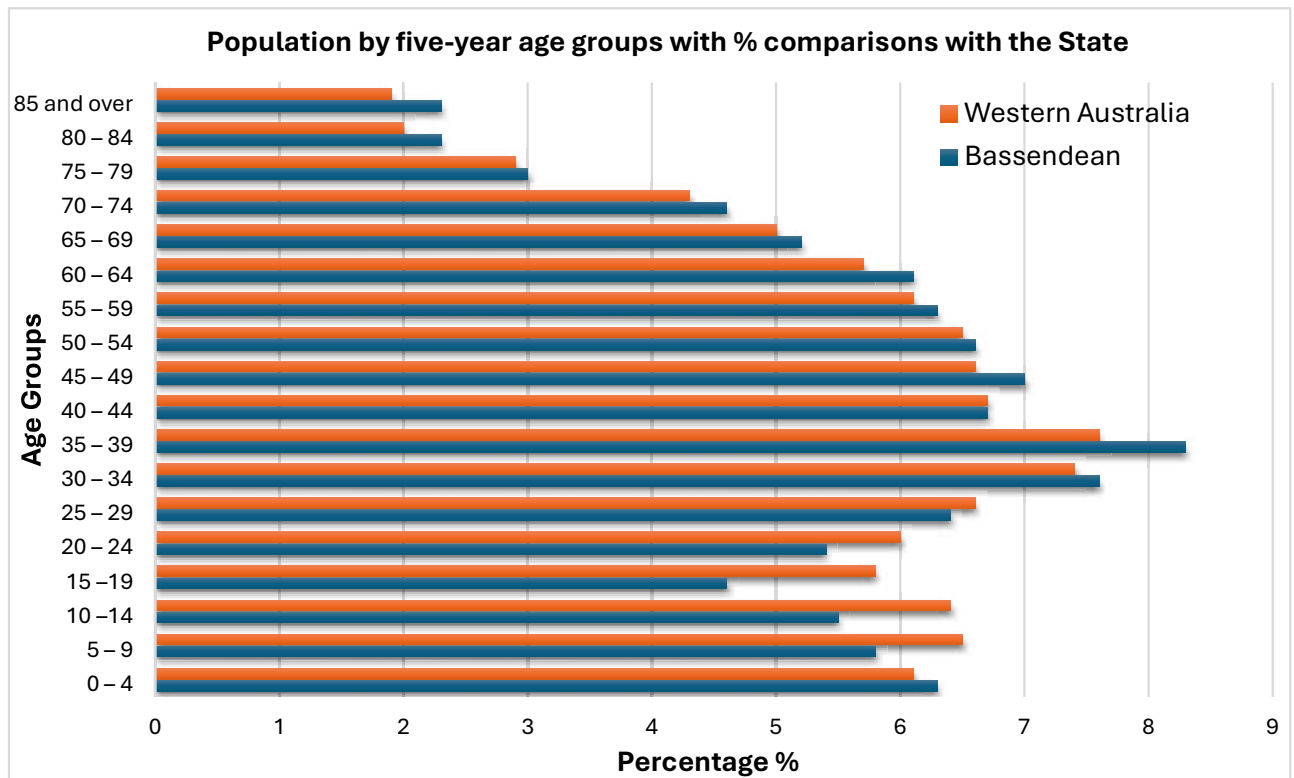
1.3 Housing

There are 7,179 private dwellings in the Town of Bassendean, with an average of 2.4 people per household. The median weekly household income was \$1,738, and the median monthly mortgage repayment was \$1,801. The median weekly rent was \$330, and the average number of motor vehicles was 1.8 per dwelling.

1.4 Age Structure

The demographics for the Town of Bassendean indicate children aged 0-14 years make up 17.6% of the population, which is lower than the State (19.0%) and people aged 65 years and over make up 17.4% of the population, which is higher than the State (16.1%) (ABS, 2021). There were 4,283 families in the area, with an average of 1.7 children for families with children and 0.7 for all households.

Figure 2. Population by five-year age groups with percentage comparison with the State



1.5 Homelessness

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), an estimated 122,494 people were experiencing homelessness across Australia on Census night in 2021 representing an increase of 5.2% compared to the 2016 Census. Of the total homeless population, 6.2% were classified as rough sleepers including people residing in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping without shelter in public spaces. Males comprised 55.9% of the homeless population, while females accounted for 44.1%. Although males continued to represent the larger proportion, the number of females experiencing homelessness increased at a higher rate between 2016 and 2021. Young people were also disproportionately affected with 23.0% of people experiencing homelessness aged between 12 and 24 years and 58% aged under 35 years.

In Western Australia, the 2021 Census identified 9,729 people experiencing homelessness reflecting an 8% increase since 2016. The number of people sleeping rough more than doubled during this period to 2,315, resulting in WA recording the highest proportion of rough sleepers nationally.

Within the Town of Bassendean, 42 individuals were recorded as experiencing homelessness on Census night in 2021, including 10 people identified as rough sleepers. This equates to a homelessness rate of 25 per 10,000 residents and a rough sleeping rate of 6 per 10,000 residents. While the overall number of people experiencing homelessness in the Town is comparatively low relative to larger metropolitan local governments, the presence of rough sleeping within the community highlights that homelessness is also an issue locally.

Neighbouring local governments also recorded varying levels of homelessness and rough sleeping. The City of Bayswater recorded 121 people experiencing homelessness, including 26 rough sleepers, while the City of Belmont recorded 95 people experiencing homelessness. The City of Swan recorded the highest homelessness among neighbouring local governments and the Town of Victoria Park recorded 121 people experiencing homelessness including 18 rough sleepers.

The Town of Bassendean acknowledged that homelessness is a complex social issue that requires coordinated responses across multiple levels of government and specialist support services. While local governments have limited capacity to directly address homelessness, the Town of Bassendean recognises the importance of acknowledging the issue within the community and supporting collaborative approaches with relevant service providers and neighbouring councils where appropriate. Such collaboration may assist in improving awareness, referral pathways and support for vulnerable community members experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.

1.6 SEIFA Score

The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, ranks geographic areas across Australia based on relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage using Census data. The most common used measure, the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD), incorporates factors such as income, education, employment, and housing. A SEIFA score of 1000 represents the national average, with scores below 1000 indicating higher levels of disadvantage and scores above 1000 indicating relative socio-economic advantage.

According to the 2021 Census, the Town of Bassendean recorded a SEIFA score of 1015, indicating a relatively low level of disadvantage compared to both the national and Western Australian averages. However, socio-economic conditions vary across the Town's suburbs. As shown in Table 4, Bassendean suburb has a higher score of 1028, reflecting greater advantage, while Eden Hill (991) and Ashfield (974) have lower scores, indicating comparatively greater disadvantage. Notably, Ashfield falls below the national average and is the most disadvantaged suburb within the Town.

Table 4: SEIFA Score by suburb

Suburb	Score	Usual Resident Population
Ashfield	974	1,395
Bassendean	1,028	10,837
Eden Hill	991	3,703

When compared to neighbouring local governments, the Town of Bassendean's SEIFA score is similar to that of the City of Bayswater (1018) and higher than those of the Cities of Swan (995) and Belmont (987), as shown in Table 5. It is also generally consistent with the scores for Greater Perth (1020) and Western Australia overall (1011), indicating that the Town's overall socio-economic profile aligns closely with the wider metropolitan area.

However, despite services being delivered across the Town, specific attention should be directed to more disadvantaged areas such as Ashfield and Eden Hill. These suburbs may experience higher levels of need due to factors such as:

- Higher unemployment
- Lower income levels

- Poorer health outcomes
- Limited access to services.

To ensure fair and effective service delivery and community development, additional resources, targeted strategies, or tailored support should be considered for these areas to assist residents in more disadvantaged communities in not being left behind, promoting more equitable and impactful outcomes across the Town. Initiatives may include:

- job readiness programs including resume writing and interview skills workshops,
- financial literacy sessions, such as budgeting and money management, avoiding debt and accessing financial assistance
- Education and skills development, such as digital literacy, English language support, practical skills training i.e., cooking, gardening
- Access to services, e.g., pop up information hubs, multilingual resources for culturally diverse communities.

Table 5: SEIFA Score comparison

Local Government Authority	Score	Usual Resident Population
Town of Bassendean	1015	15,932
City of Bayswater	1018	69,283
City of Belmont	987	42,247
City of Swan	995	152,974
Greater Perth	1,020	2,116,647
Western Australia	1,011	2,660,026

2.0 Crime Data

2.1 Crime Statistics Overview

Crime statistics available on the WA Police website show a slight overall decrease in crime across all three suburbs within the Town of Bassendean. According to Police crime data for 2024, the most commonly reported offences were:

- Stealing (including motor vehicles) – 451 incidents
- Assault – 272 incidents.
- Fraud and related offences – 272 incidents
- Drug offences – 161 incidents
- Property damage – 167 incidents
- Breaches of violent restraining order – 79 incidents
- Burglary – 126 incidents
- Robbery – 11 incidents

In total, 1,709 crimes were reported within the Town of Bassendean with a crime rate of 107.3 per 1,000 people. This reflects a 11.33% increase in overall crime reported, when compared to 2023 (1,535 crimes reported).

Crime Rate Comparison by Suburb – 2024

An analysis of crime statistics for 2024 reveals that the Town of Bassendean recorded a total of 1,709 criminal incidents, resulting in a crime rate of 107.3 per 1,000 residents. This places Bassendean slightly above its immediate neighbours, the City of Bayswater (105.0 crimes per 1,000 people) and the City of Swan (101.7 crimes per 1,000 people). Despite this slight difference, the overall crime rates among these three local government areas remain relatively comparable, suggesting a consistent level of community safety across this part of the east metropolitan region.

In contrast, the City of Belmont recorded a significantly higher crime rate, with 9,680 reported incidents among a population of 42,257—equating to 229.1 crimes per 1,000 people. This is more than double the rate observed in Bassendean and represents the highest crime rate among the local government areas included in this comparison. Similarly, the Town of Victoria Park experienced a high crime rate of 181.1 per 1,000 residents, with 6,681 reported offences. Both areas indicate a heightened level of criminal activity relative to Bassendean and its other neighbours.

On the other end of the spectrum, the City of Vincent stands out as having the lowest crime rate in the comparison group. With just 2,055 incidents among a population of 36,537, Vincent reported a rate of 56.2 crimes per 1,000 people—approximately half that of Bassendean.

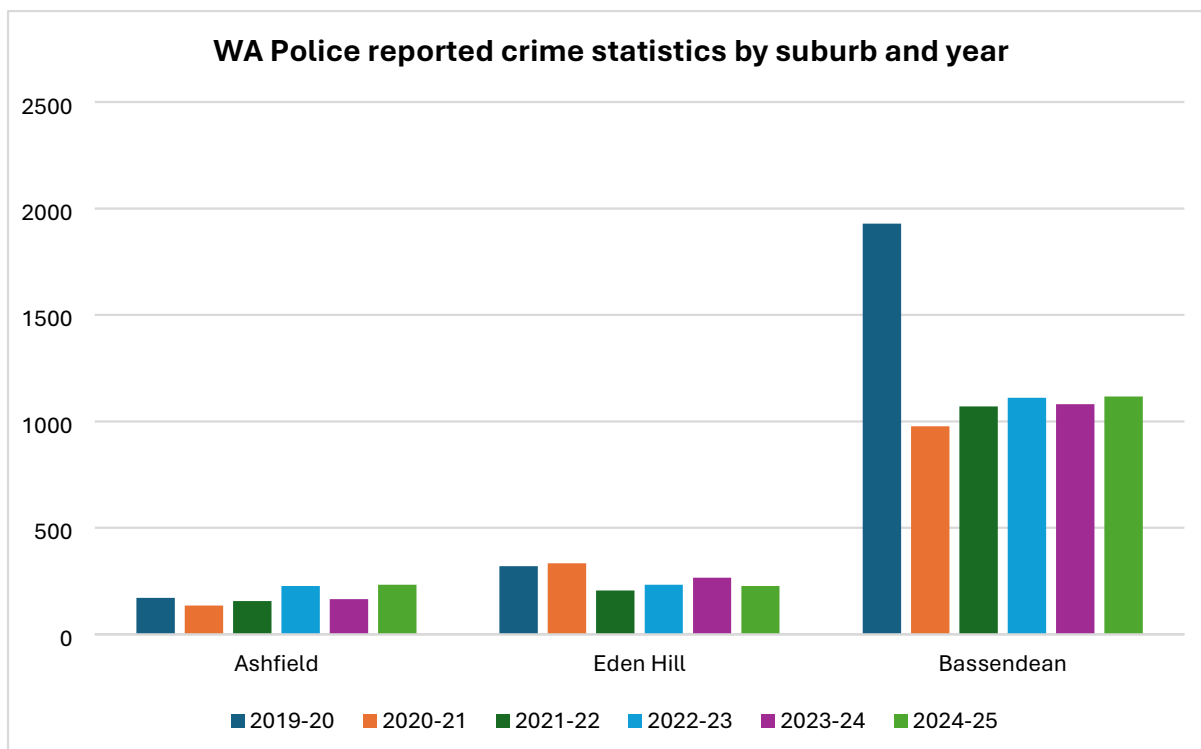
Table 6: Crime rate comparison by Local Government Authority and Western Australia for 2024

LGA Name	Total Population	Total Crimes 2024	Crime per 1,000 people
Bassendean	15,932	1,709	107.3
Bayswater	69,283	7,277	105.0
Belmont	42,257	9,680	229.1
Swan	152,974	15,556	101.7
Victoria Park	36,889	6,681	181.1
Vincent	36,537	2,055	56.2

2.2 WA Police Crime Data

Analysis of Annual Crime Statistics in the Town of Bassendean (2019-20 to 2024-25)

The bar chart below presents the annual reported crime figures from 2019-20 through to 2024-25 for three suburbs within the Town of Bassendean: Ashfield, Eden Hill, and Bassendean.



Summary of Crime Data:

- Ashfield consistently records relatively low crime numbers across all years, with incidents ranging between approximately 120 and 230 annually.
- Eden Hill experiences slightly higher crime levels than Ashfield, with annual incidents fluctuating between roughly 200 and 350.
- Bassendean shows significantly higher crime rates compared to Ashfield and Eden Hill, peaking in 2019-20 with nearly 2,000 reported incidents, followed by a reduction to around 1,000 to 1,100 incidents annually from 2020-21 onwards.

Crime Rate Per Capita:

When adjusted for population size using the most recent crime data:

- Ashfield exhibits the highest crime rate per capita, indicating a greater incidence of crime relative to its smaller population.
- Bassendean, despite having the highest total number of reported crimes, shows a lower per capita crime rate compared to Ashfield, reflecting its larger population base.
- Eden Hill's crime rate per capita is moderate, lower than Ashfield's and comparable or slightly below that of Bassendean.

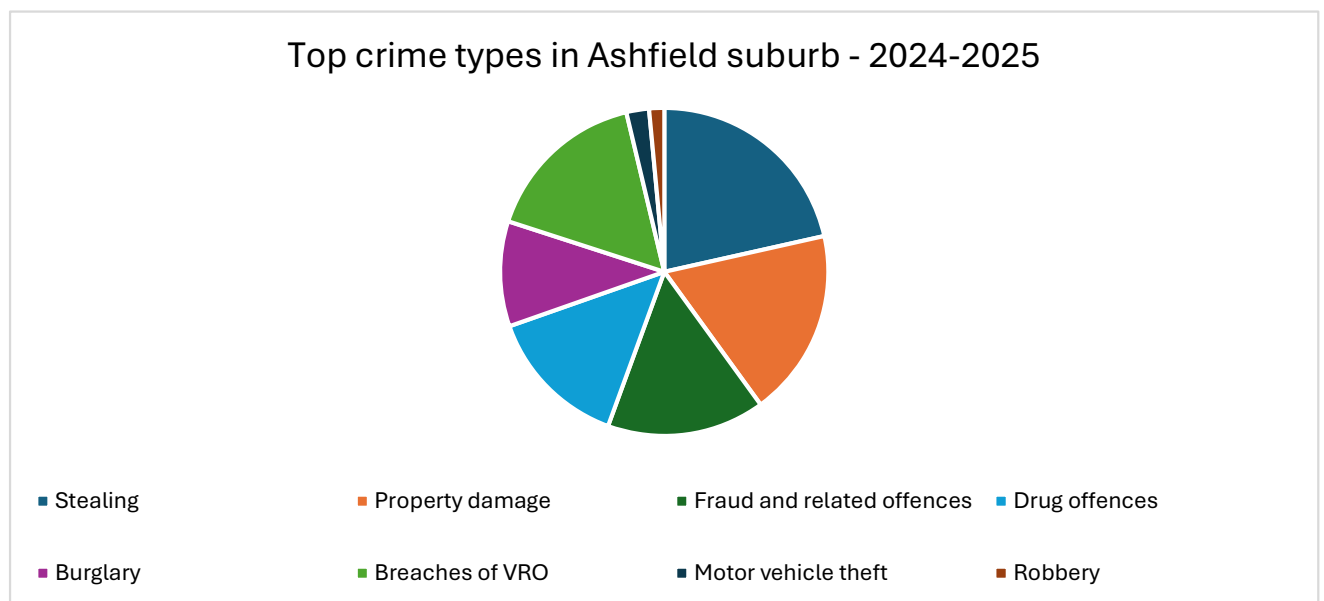
Observed Trends:

- Bassendean experienced a marked spike in crime in 2019-20, followed by a notable decrease and relative stabilization in subsequent years.
- Ashfield and Eden Hill have maintained more stable crime levels over the examined period, with only minor fluctuations and no significant spikes.
- Overall, the per capita crime rates reveal that smaller suburbs such as Ashfield may face higher crime intensity relative to their population size, despite reporting fewer absolute crime incidents.

2.3 Top Crime Types in Town of Bassendean Per Suburb for 2024-2025

Analysis of Top Crime Types in Ashfield Suburb (2024-2025)

The pie chart illustrates the distribution of various crime types recorded in Ashfield during the 2024-2025 period. The chart highlights the proportion of each crime category relative to the total reported crimes.



Key observations:

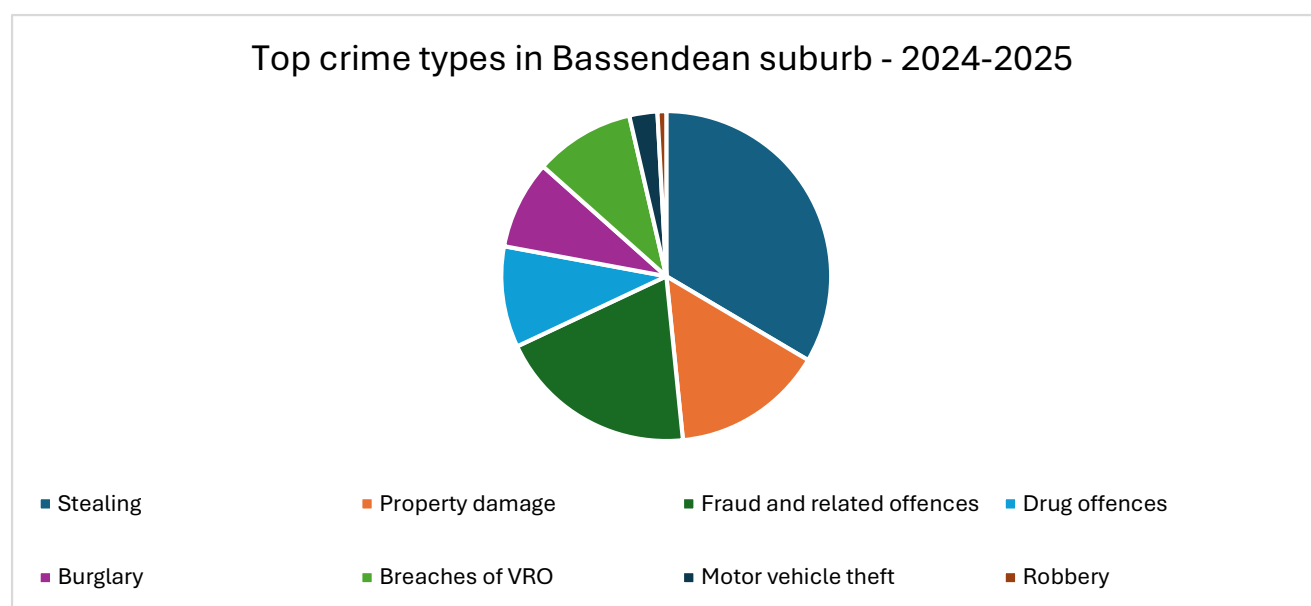
- Stealing is the most prevalent crime type, accounting for the largest segment of the chart. This suggests that theft-related incidents are a significant concern in the area.
- Property Damage and Fraud and related offences also represent substantial portions of the crime distribution. Drug Offences and Burglary each contribute

notable shares, indicating challenges related to illegal substances and break-ins.

- Breaches of VRO (Violence Restraining Orders) appear to be a moderate concern, suggesting some level of domestic or interpersonal conflict issues.
- Motor Vehicle Theft and Robbery constitute the smaller segments of the crime data, but they still contribute to the overall crime profile in Ashfield.

Analysis of Top Crime Types in Bassendean Suburb (2024-2025)

The pie chart displays the distribution of different types of crimes reported in the Bassendean suburb during the 2024-2025 period, showcasing the relative frequency of each crime type.



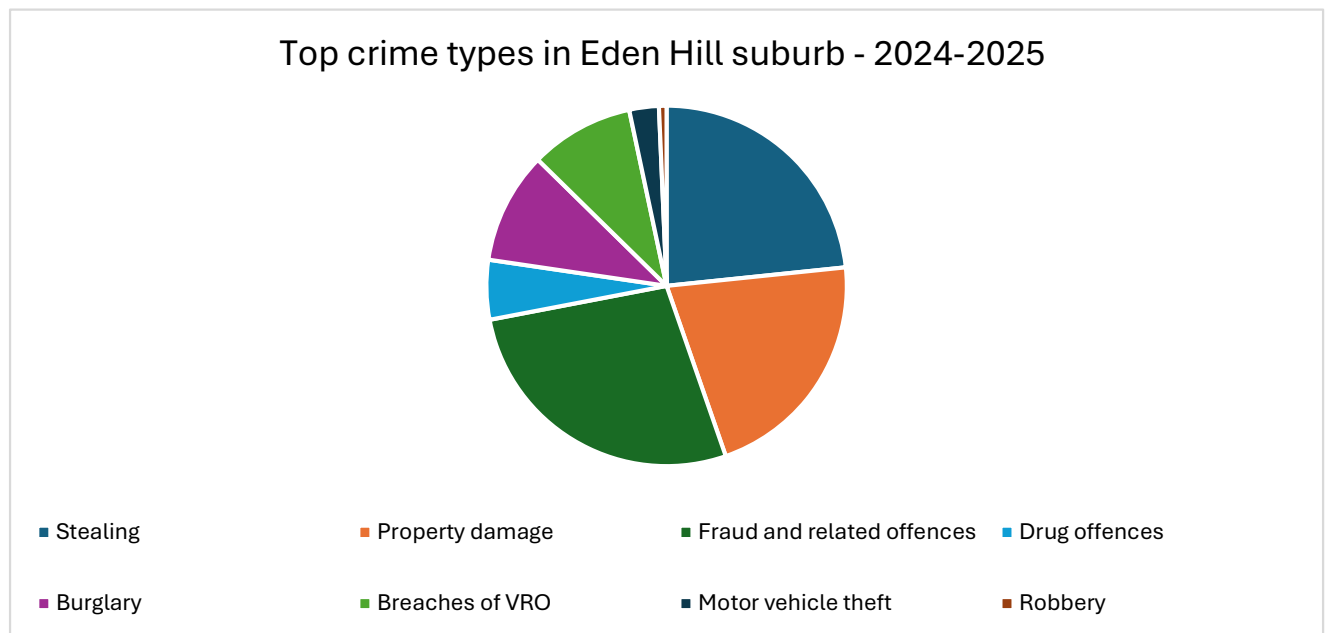
Key Observations:

- Stealing is the most dominant crime type, comprising the largest segment of the chart. This indicates that theft-related incidents remain the primary concern in Bassendean.
- Fraud and related offences form a significant portion of the total crimes, suggesting a notable occurrence of financial or identity-related crimes in the suburb.
- Property Damage is another prominent category, indicating challenges related to vandalism or destruction of property.

- Robbery also represents a considerable share, highlighting issues with direct confrontational crimes involving theft.
- Drug Offences and Burglary each account for moderate proportions of crime, pointing to ongoing problems with substance-related crimes and illegal entries.
- Breaches of VRO (Violence Restraining Orders) and Motor Vehicle Theft constitute smaller parts of the crime profile, though they remain relevant.

Analysis of Top Crime Types in Eden Hill Suburb (2024-2025)

The pie chart illustrates the distribution of the most common crime types reported in the Eden Hill suburb during the 2024-2025 period. This breakdown offers insights into the prevalent criminal activities and their relative impact on community safety.



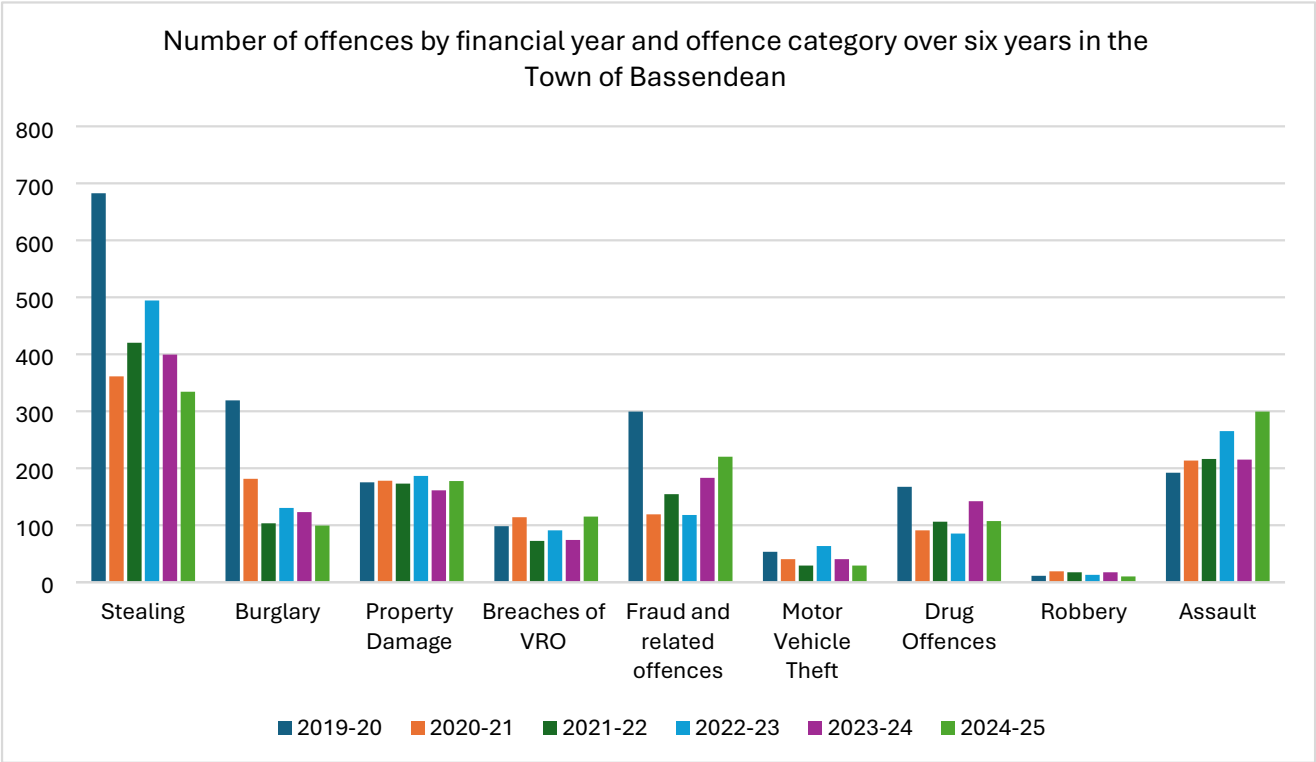
Key Observations:

- Fraud and related offences represent the largest portion of crimes, indicating that financial crimes, scams, and identity-related offences are significant concerns in Eden Hill.
- Stealing follows closely, comprising a substantial segment of the crime distribution. This suggests that theft remains a major issue affecting residents and businesses.
- Property Damage is another prominent crime type, showing frequent occurrences of vandalism or destruction of property in the area.

- Burglary and Breaches of VRO (Violence Restraining Orders) both account for moderate portions, reflecting ongoing issues with unauthorised entry and domestic/interpersonal conflict.
- Motor Vehicle Theft holds a similar share, highlighting the concern over vehicle-related crimes.
- Drug Offences form a smaller segment, suggesting relatively fewer cases of illegal substance-related crimes compared to other categories.
- Robbery constitutes the smallest segment, indicating that direct theft involving force or intimidation is less common in Eden Hill.

Analysis of Number of Offences by Financial Year and Offence Category in the Town of Bassendean (2019-2025)

The bar chart provides a comparative overview of the number of reported offences across different categories over six financial years (2019-2025) in the Town of Bassendean. This trend analysis highlights fluctuations and patterns in criminal activity over time.



Key Observations:

- Stealing consistently records the highest number of offences across all years, peaking at nearly 700 incidents in 2019-20. Although there is a decline in stealing offences in subsequent years, it remains the dominant crime type.
- Assault shows an increasing trend over the years, reaching around 300 offences by 2024-25. This may suggest a rising concern with violent crimes in the area.
- Fraud and related offences have seen a significant increase, especially from 2022-23 onwards, peaking in 2024-25. This may indicate growing issues related to financial and identity crimes.
- Property Damage remains relatively stable, with slight fluctuations but no dramatic changes over the six years.
- Burglary exhibits a declining trend, dropping steadily from over 300 offences in 2019-20 to lower levels in recent years.
- Breaches of VRO (Violence Restraining Orders) have remained fairly consistent, with minor variations year to year.
- Drug Offences and Motor Vehicle Theft show some variability but generally maintain moderate levels throughout the period.
- Robbery consistently records the lowest number of offences, remaining stable and minimal over the years.

Interpretation:

The data highlights a clear need for ongoing, targeted action to address rising levels of theft, assault, fraud, and drug-related offences. Strengthening community safety will require a comprehensive approach that prioritises personal safety, property protection, and the prevention of financial crime.

The significant rise in fraud highlights an urgent need for broad public education. Awareness campaigns are critical and should focus on scam prevention, financial literacy, and online safety. These should be delivered through a range of platforms—including social media, free workshops, and seminars—to effectively reach vulnerable groups.

Focusing resources in areas with high crime rates, particularly where theft and assault are increasing, will support more effective policing. Increasing neighbourhood patrols and enhancing the visibility of law enforcement can help deter criminal activity while building public trust.

Supporting community initiatives—such as improving street lighting and expanding CCTV coverage—is also essential in reducing property damage and preventing crime.

A coordinated strategy that balances enforcement, education, and prevention will be vital to improving safety outcomes and building a more resilient community.

3. References

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