



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

DISTRICT SAFETY PLANS - PRIORITISATION

**- A WHOLE OF SOCIETY VEHICLE
TO INCREASE SAFETY**

Therasha Hanekom, Garden Route Safety Summit, 15-16 October 2019

Professional Policing – EDEN & DA GAMASKOP CLUSTER

- **Lack of police visibility – more targeted patrols at hotspot areas (Eden)**
- **SAPS infrastructure, equipment & vehicles:** (sufficient police vehicles, but not well maintained; takes long to repair) ie old radios - used in George - Improve SAPS infrastructure to impact on professionalism and service delivery.
- **Shortage of police members – all stations (Da Gamaskop)**
- **Shortage of police & physical resources (DaGamaskop)**
 - **KwaNonqaba Police Station** infrastructure - inadequate – lack of electricity supply, flooding in detective's offices, lack of security. KwaNonqaba has the highest crime rate in the Cluster.
 - Many smaller police stations **lack adequate security.**
 - **Long distances** from police stations to communities **impact on response time.**

Professional Policing – EDEN & DA GAMASKOP CLUSTER

- Delays in the repair of police vehicles when booked into State garages. The garage only logs the vehicle once they start to service the vehicle.
- Vehicles – many not suited to off-road terrain. Some are driven irresponsibly & used personal use.
- CPF KwaNonqaba nowhere to meet & municipal hall - not available to them.
- Eden:
- Insufficient involvement of Municipal Law Enforcement (LE) officials in communities & a lack of support to SAPS as LE work during week days only & are not available to assist SAPS in enforcing by-laws over the weekends. - involve LE in operations, work with municipality on by-laws on spaza shops

Professional Policing – EDEN CLUSTER

- **High levels of absenteeism** contribute to shortage of staff - lack of visibility & reduces response times & the time available to carry out policing activities. – proposed amendments to the reservist policy to relax the entry criteria so that more reservists can be recruited into SAPS. Senior Management to manage the absenteeism of SAPS officials more productively.
- **Lack of professionalism** among some SAPS officials- community members not always treated with adequate respect and professionalism
- **Steps should be taken to prevent corruption** in the South African Police Services

Professional Policing – Da Gamaskop

10111 emergency numbers - not functional -
Community to be made aware of sector phone numbers.

There is **no identifiable 'brand' for police stations**. Each police station looks different and has different infrastructure.

Public spaces - Eden

1. **Poor lighting conditions** contribute to crime, especially contact crime
2. Drugs among the youth & school children – Paccaltsdorp
3. **Bushy areas** – people - targeted by criminals
Dark open spaces contribute to high crime in the cluster - Work with municipalities to develop a plan to address problematic open spaces. **(Da Gamaskop)**

Public spaces - Eden

4. **Empty buildings** in George, Knysna and Wittedrif in Plettenberg Bay are used by criminals to commit crime
5. **Vagrants & sex workers** take shelter at public spaces causing a safety concern: George and Knysna, Oudtshoorn
6. To ensure that **school premises are safe** and to ensure **children arrive safely at schools.**

Public spaces Da Gamaskop

Too many liquor outlets are situated near schools and churches -

To identify liquor outlets in the areas.

To regulate licenced outlets and make sure they comply with the terms of the licence.

To enforce the law with regards to unlicensed premises.

Partnerships EDEN

1. **Lack of crime prevention & community safety projects** being implemented in Eden Cluster due to **insufficient funding.**
2. **Safe houses** needed to accommodate victims of crime, domestic abuse, xenophobic attacks, child abuse, especially those catering for women and children
3. **There is a need to support the activities of NHWs in the Cluster (equipment and financial support) (Lack of support for NHW members Da Gamaskop)**

Partnerships Da Gamaskop

1. **Short sentences** caused by delays & poor prosecution means that offenders return to the community –
 1. Avoid delays in prosecution / court appearances
 2. Improve SAPS investigations.
 3. Improve the feedback to victims, NHWs and community
 4. Successful prosecution
2. **A forum is needed to bring all the role players together to deal with crime and safety issues**
3. CPFs are not submitting their EPP reports & accessing funding from DoCS to support their activities -To strengthen CPFs and to increase their access to funding.

Current Reality on safety plans

- Safety plans are developed in silos (SAPS/By-law Enforcement Plans/School Safety/NHW/CPF/Traffic Safety Plans/Environmental Safety plans/Disaster Risk Management Safety plans)
- Duplication of safety plans
- No or little integration of safety plans
- No or little buy in from different stakeholders and role players
- No over-arching integrated safety plan for each region

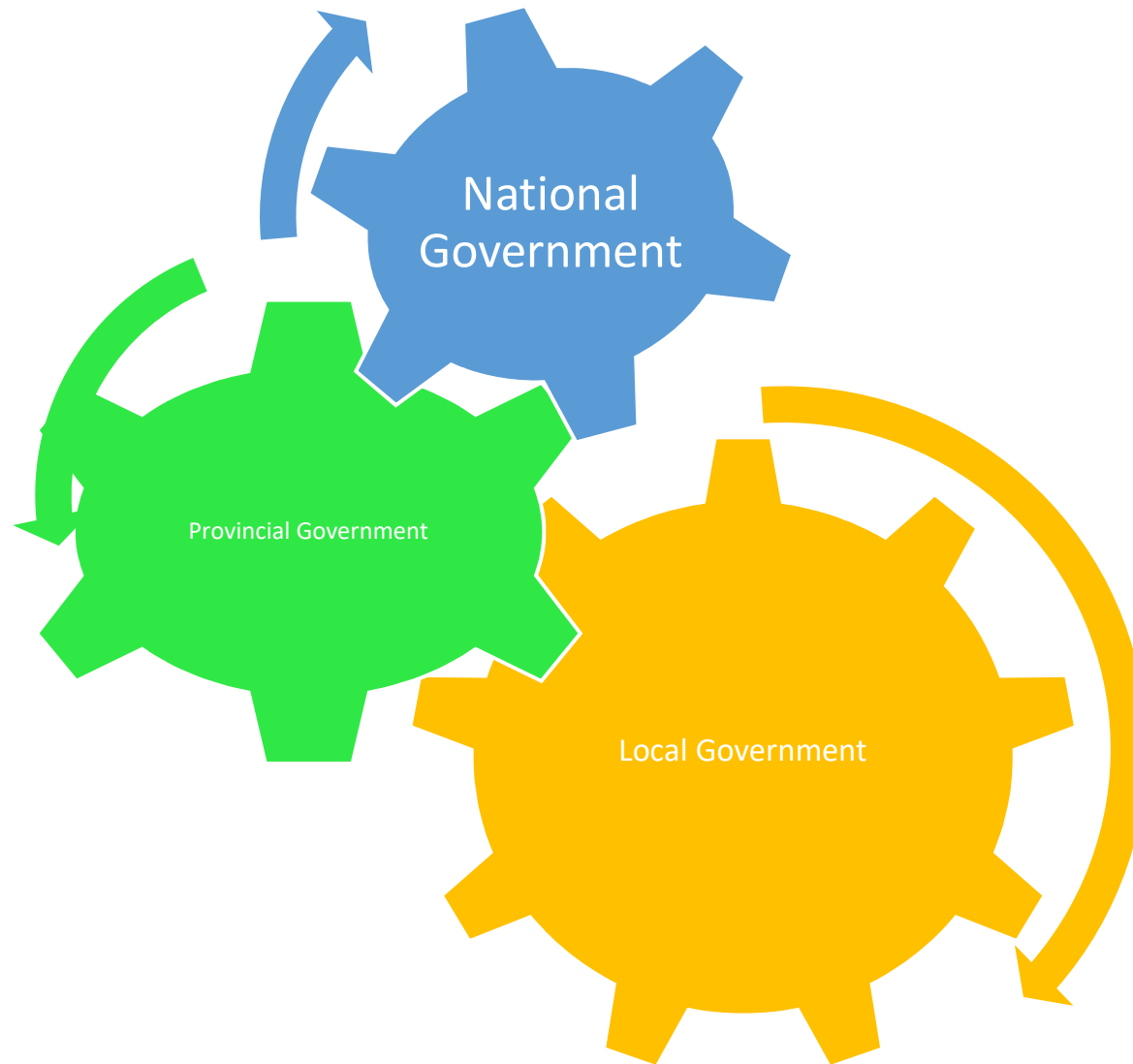
Making South Africa safe for all its people

• **Governance framework for safety in SA** - clear that **all spheres & levels of government** as well as **society as a whole**, have the **collective responsibility** of making South Africa safe for all its people.

Making South Africa safe for all its people

- Reiterated in Chapter 12 of the NDP, which speaks to ‘Building safer communities’ & calls for **developing integrated approaches** to community safety that **involve coordinated actions across government departments, the private sector and civil society**, as well as active contributions & meaningful participation from **community organisations and ordinary citizens**.

Roles of local, provincial and national government



Roles of local, provincial and national government

Particular emphasis is placed on the role of **local government**,

given its **proximity to communities** & its **constitutional mandate** to build safe and healthy environments.

Roles of local, provincial and national government

Provincial government mandate –

1. to support district & local municipalities in the effective performance of its functions (i.e. **building safe and healthy environments**),
2. to **monitor implementation** of both national and provincial safety policy,
3. to **coordinate integrated development planning** across the province.

Roles of local, provincial and national government

At a **national level**,

Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) - monitor national progress towards all outcomes in the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), which includes

Outcome 3: All people in South Africa are and feel safe,

Outcome 9 Responsive, accountable, effective and efficient developmental local government system.

Roles of local, provincial and national government

While the bulk of responsibility for safety planning lies with **local and provincial government**, all sectors and spheres of government are responsible for making South Africa safer.

Chapter 3 of the Constitution makes this principle clear, as it recognises the **distinct, yet inter-dependent and inter-related nature of government**, and thus **requires local, provincial and national government** to adhere to the principles of cooperative government and inter-governmental relations.



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

WHAT IS A SAFETY PLAN?

Key elements?

What is a community crime prevention/safety plan?

- A **consultative** document that sets out the strategic objectives and operationalise those into **local crime prevention action steps**.
- Incorporated into the IDP
- Lue-Dugmore et al (2008) define crime prevention as being **all targeted interventions** that aim to prevent crime.

What is a community crime prevention/safety plan?

- It should contain elements of:

Law enforcement, situational and social crime/violence prevention, institutional violence prevention & must address social unrest and mediation

What is a community crime prevention/safety plan?

- an **integrated social crime prevention plan** that acts as a starting point in informing numerous stakeholders concerned with safety on how to deal with the safety issues within their particular communities/region.
- emphasis from tackling crime and victimisation “**after an offence**” has happened to mainly the **prevention** of a crime “**before**” it has taken place.

Address crime prevention

Social crime prevention aims to address the underlying causes of crime, adopting a multi-faceted and multi-disciplinary approach, ensuring an integrated approach, requiring a local focus and thus involving local, provincial, national government and other roleplayers as collaboration is required.

Addressing critical elements



***Figure 1:
The basic elements of a crime***

How the causes of crime are linked to the solutions

Solutions to crime must be based on the factors that cause crime,

- **Victims:**

Crime prevention projects could consider **what makes victims vulnerable, or attractive targets for offenders.**

- **Offenders:**

Crime prevention projects could focus on **what makes offenders willing and able to commit the crime.**

- **The environment:**

Crime prevention projects should **reduce the opportunities** for crime in crime-prone places.

3 approaches to crime prevention & examples





**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

PURPOSE OF A SAFETY PLAN

Why? Key elements?

What is the purpose of a safety plan?

- **A tool** to bring together different role-players involved in crime prevention & to focus their attention.
- **A way to identify priority areas and tasks.**
- **A means to develop local crime prevention partnerships.**
- **A method to ensure coordination and management of crime prevention initiatives.**
- **An action/s** to prevent crime and violence and reduce public fear of crime.

Common Understanding of the **KEY ELEMENTS** of the plan:

1. **Why** a plan is needed
2. **What** the plan is trying to achieve,
3. **What** must be done
4. **Who** must do it
5. **Where** must it be done
6. **How** must it be done
7. **By when** must it be done
8. **Who** will **monitor** it, **how** it will be monitored?
9. Common understanding of the **key terms** in the plan
10. Common understanding of what are the key elements that constitute a crime and what the root causes are.

Advantages of structured Safety Forum & plan programme

- ☐ **Stakeholders jointly identify safety concerns** based on their local knowledge & experience.
- ☐ Solutions are brainstormed and ideas are shared.
- ☐ Plans are allocated to **different role players**.
- ☐ Role players report on implementation of safety plan – community needs identified.
- ☐ Challenges with implementation are identified.
- ☐ Provides direction for stakeholders.
- ☐ Forum for engagement and sharing of concerns.
- ☐ Measure success and impact



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

SAFETY PLAN SCOPING

Define geographical boundaries for safety plans
& key role players

District Boundaries

Local Municipal Boundaries

Ward Boundaries



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

LESSONS LEARNT WRT THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFETY PLANS

Lessons learnt

1. Legal mandate
2. Agreement on the issues to be addressed based on analysis
3. Buy in and commitment from key stakeholders & role players
4. Plans must be resourced (Human, Financial, Physical Resources)
5. Driver/s of the plan
6. Central platform for feedback/report back/accountability
7. You cannot manage what you do not measure
8. Synergy of different plans will create greater impact, reduce duplication of state resources
9. Community consultation is key

An integrated approach to safety



Lessons learnt

10. Effective crime prevention needs activity at all three levels together with civil society

11. Partnerships goes to the heart of Community Safety and one has to understand what is meant by the word partnership

12. A community safety audit to identify problems and understand your community

13. Developing a strategy

14. Managing and implementing your strategy

15. Monitoring and evaluating your strategy

Lessons learnt

16. S M A R T work

To be workable, the elements of your projects at the levels of impacts/outcomes and objectives need to be

Specific,

Measurable,

Achievable,

Realistic and according to a

Time schedule.

17. Best if integrated into the IDP

18. Providing support around the implementation of safety plans.

19. Need to deepen our understanding of safety needs

20. Implement more evidence based interventions

21. Work in partnership with stakeholders – how to coordinate these?

Broad Recommendations - CSIR

- Safety Plans will not succeed without leadership and constant communication; information sharing and feedback. Community engagement is essential.
- Budget should be allocated to provide ongoing support to the Safety Plans. Budgets should be allocated to both the governance of Safety Plans and to the implementation of projects.
- The WC has an excellent resource in civil society; there are very good service providers with deep understanding of the interventions that can assist, and with a good track record.

Broad Recommendations - CSIR

- External objective Monitoring and Evaluation should be conducted to understand obstacles and to incrementally improve implementation from one budget cycle to another.
- Communication about the Safety Plans and of successes as they are achieved will provide vital engagement and motivation for sustaining what are often difficult and complex partnerships.



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

KEY FEATURES OF A SAFETY PLAN?

Key elements?

Key features of a good Community Safety Plan

Key Principles:

Ideally an IDP should include integration of safety considerations into all sector plans and strategies as well as a dedicated chapter or annexure on safety planning that provides an overview

Key features of a good Community Safety Plan

Topic	Content
Form	Quality rather than quantity are preferable. The integration of short sections on key elements of community safety at relevant points in the IDP are ideal and can be accompanied by a dedicated safety plan as an annexure to the IDP or one safety chapter in the IDP.
Appropriate	Safety and general planning should be geared to proven capabilities that can deliver a realistic strategy and practical actions e.g. ward councillors ensuring that there is a functional CPF for each ward.
Data	In the situation analysis phase of planning , data should be assembled that can present meaningful evidence for safety planning , e.g. ideally SAPS station statistics could be used to present ward profiles of crime.

Key features of a good Community Safety Plan

Topic	Content
Understand Community Safety	Usually safety planning includes both traditional (traffic, fire, DM etc.) and the more social / human aspects (crime, social violence etc.) but it may be useful to deal with these in two different streams.
Community safety structures	Recognise the importance of CPFs, NHWs, NGOs and SFs - community policing structures have an important role in municipal planning for community safety.
Public participation	The quality of engagement and information exchange within the existing systems e.g. wards, IDP forums, hearings etc. should be enhanced. Additional sector-specific information and ideas should be elicited from CPFs, sector policing bodies etc.

Key features of a good Community Safety Plan

The Safety Plan should reflect three levels of integration:

1. **Spatial integration:** Crime prevention initiatives based on mixed-use streets and public spaces, higher densities through an appropriate built form, permeable fences, symbolic barriers, opportunities for natural surveillance, etc. Public spaces need to be upgraded for the benefit of all urban residents, including the reduction of derelict vacant land and the development of existing public spaces.

Key features of a good Community Safety Plan

The Safety Plan should reflect three levels of integration:

2. **Social integration:** Inclusive participatory processes that involve local residents in the identification and solution of their crime problems.

This both encourages local empowerment and social cohesion, and provides a more accurate reflection of public needs with regard to neighbourhood crime.

Key features of a good Community Safety Plan

The Safety Plan should reflect three levels of integration:

3. Institutional integration: Here the IDP becomes a valuable mechanism to ensure that planning against crime becomes a practical reality. When crime patterns inform the IDP by identifying locations for strategic interventions, greater integration can begin to occur



**Western Cape
Government**

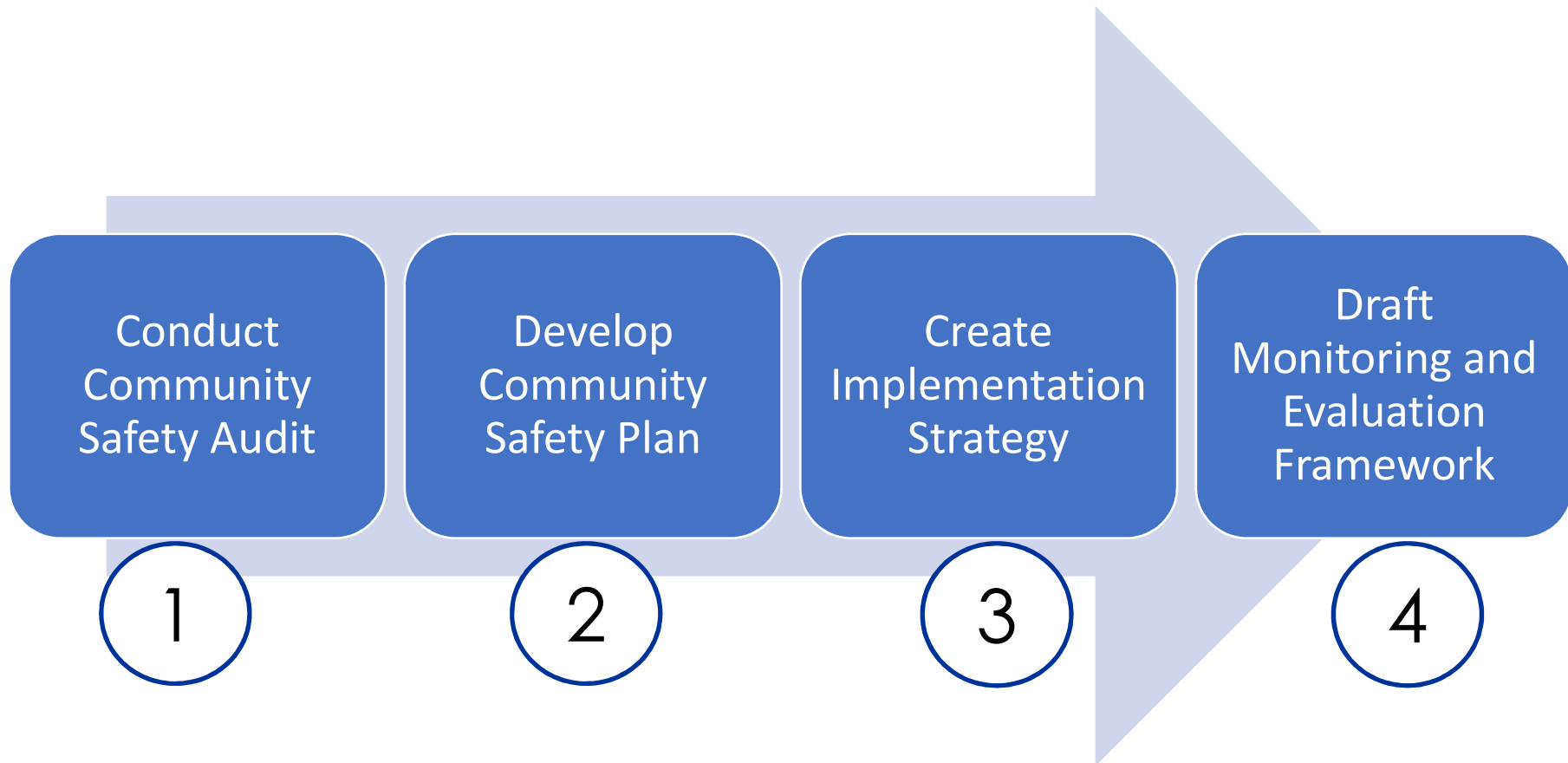
Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

STAGES OF DEVELOPING A SAFETY PLAN?

Key elements?

Safety Planning Process



Stages of the Community Safety Planning Process

Stage 1

A community safety audit/risk assessment to identify problems and understand your community

Step 1: Identify the **safety problems/risks** in your community by collecting information.

Step 2: Identify **who is involved** in safety / crime prevention activities in your community.

Step 3: **Analyse** the social and physical **characteristics** of your community.

Step 4: **Decide** which **problems** are the **most important**.

Step 5: **Analyse** the **target problems** in the context of your community.

Outcome: *Analysis of the crime problems and of the organisations/ people who are already involved in crime prevention in your area.*

Stages of the Community Safety Planning Process

Stage 2 Developing a strategy

Step 6: Develop a range of focus areas.

Step 7: Identify possible partnerships.

Step 8: Identify possible solutions.

Step 9: Select the most suitable programmes and refine them

Step 10: Obtain support for programmes you select

Outcome: *A safety plan/
local crime prevention strategy*

Stages of the Community Safety Planning Process

Stage 3 Managing and implementing your strategy

Step 11: Develop a project plan with goals and objectives, a time schedule and budget for implementation.

Step 12: Ensure you have the resources for good project management: many good ideas fail because of poor project management.

Outcome: *Implementation of your strategy*

Stages of the Community Safety Planning Process

Stage 4 Monitoring and evaluating your strategy

Step 13: Make sure you have planned and budgeted for monitoring and evaluation.

Step 14: Make sure you have well-defined project objectives.

Step 15: Identify ways to establish a framework for evaluation and carry it out.

Outcome: *An indication of what works, what does not work and what is possible.*



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

WHAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN DRAFTING A SAFETY PLAN?

Key elements?

Key considerations

Input – throughput – output – outcome - impact

Input (what informs your safety plan)

- Safety audit
- Crime statistics (hot spots) require building community resilience, cohesion
- Crime trends
- IDP consultative process

Throughput (what it will focus on/activities)

Listing key focus areas, responsibilities, how to monitor, budget, target dates, using the Whole of Society approach

Outputs – projects, programmes and operations implemented

Outcomes - Increased safety (better coordination, synergy of efforts, arresting crime & trends, better economic investment opportunities)



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

SAFETY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Safety Plan implementation

- **Adopt a multi-agency approach**
- The success of the safety plan lies in a multi-agency approach. Resources, strong commitment from government, a concerted will of elected politicians, civil society
- **Determine the main priorities based on** safety audit
- **Ensure resources are provided**
- **Ensure strict oversight procedures**
- **Ensure continuous monitoring and evaluation**
- **Regular reporting**

Safety Plan Implementation Challenges

There can be little doubt and that one of the **biggest obstacles** to implementation of any social crime prevention strategy **is a lack of management and coordination capacity** that straddles the different sectors and specialist capabilities required to make simple the apparent complexity of its requirements (Lue-Dugmore et al 2008).



**Western Cape
Government**

Community Safety

BETTER TOGETHER.

ENQUIRIES:

MS THERESHA HANEKOM

CONTACT NO:

021-483-5717

E-MAIL:

THERESHA.HANEKOM@WESTERNCAP.GOV.ZA

THANK YOU