

STRATEGIC SERVICE PLAN

Community Safety Services

2023-2027

The City of Casey is committed to helping create a safe community. Safety influences all aspects of a person's life, including where they will live, socialise, learn, work and interact.

Alongside shelter and food, safety is considered the basic pre-condition for good health and wellbeing. Community Safety influences our long-term choices and decision-making at the individual, family, community and Government level.

The Community Safety strategic service provides a range of services and programs that support Council's objective of helping to build a strong community that is resilient, healthy and flourishing.

Community Safety sub-services

The Community Safety strategic service consists of five sub-services: Local Laws, Disease Prevention, Emergency Management, Community Safety and School Crossings.

Sub service	Purpose	How this is achieved
Local Laws	Facilitate an environment where people can work, live, travel and play safely.	• Providing safe environments and assets, free from dangerous or detrimental activities. • Responding to complaints. • Issuing infringement penalties and permits.
Disease Prevention	Minimise the risk of infectious disease and environmental threats to public health.	• Removing syringes from public places and providing a syringe container exchange service. • Providing public immunisation sessions. • Conducting food sampling at business premises and investigating public health nuisance complaints, e.g. noise, pests and ensuring public swimming pools are free from disease. • Providing domestic wastewater management and administration (e.g. issuing septic tank permits). • Supporting mosquito borne disease prevention.
Emergency Management	Prevent and reduce the causes and effects of emergencies in the City of Casey.	• Providing single incident (house fires) emergency response and relief support. • Providing emergency relief centres and roadside fire safety signage. • Providing community education activities. • Undertaking inspections and compliance activities, e.g. issuing permits to burn. • Maintaining Bushfire Places of Last Resort and Neighbourhood Safer Places, fire access tracks and static water supply tanks to support firefighting operations. • Maintaining registers of vulnerable facilities and vulnerable people. • Leading the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) and committee.

Community Safety	Run programs which contribute to the safety, health and wellbeing of the community. Focus on prevention of incidents.	• Undertaking graffiti removal. • Designing public spaces with input from the community to improve neighbourhood safety. • Developing community safety policies e.g. digital visual surveillance policy. • Providing the L2P Learner Driver Program.
School Crossings	Support youngest members of community to be safe on roads, particularly in transit to/from school.	• Operating supervised school crossing sites. • Providing road safety education resources in kindergartens and schools.

Community Safety Strategic Service Goals

Goal 1: Community Safety services delivered by the City of Casey improve community safety outcomes, adhere to legislative requirements and are viewed favourably by residents.

- Create bushfire management plan for high-priority bushland reserves.
- Provide new school crossing infrastructure and decommission sites no longer a priority.

Goal 2: Casey residents feel connected to their community, and their perceptions of safety are aligned with their actual safety.

- Establish a Community Safety Communications plan.
- Align Council's graffiti contract with the priorities of this strategic service.

Goal 3: Lead an organisation-wide approach to community safety through partnership with external organisations.

- Establish an organisational Community Safety steering group to align community safety activities.
- Connect with local businesses, schools and agencies to share ideas and resources.

Goal 4: Casey's Community Safety service balances compliance with education, taking a risk-based approach to enforcement.

- Where possible take an education rather than enforcement approach.

Goal 5: Balances the competing challenges of population growth and a constrained funding environment, ensuring a focus on financial efficiencies and service model agility.

- Ensure Council's community safety services are operating efficiently while delivering the level of service required to meet legislative responsibilities and community needs.
- Implement appropriate software to support the service.

Goal 6: Casey's Community Safety service advocates effectively for reform and external funding.

- Contribute to the Advocacy Plan Towards 2026.