

# PROPERTY CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGY 2016-2020

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## PROGRESS REPORT 2019



# Introduction

While the ACT benefits from some of the lowest property crime rates in Australia, there is no room for complacency because property crime can affect any ACT resident at any time. Remaining vigilant is essential to keeping property crime rates down.

The aim of the *Property Crime Prevention Strategy 2016-2020* (the Strategy) is to keep property crime down and our vision is for the ACT to have safe places, secure property and crime wise people. The Strategy focuses on preventing crime from occurring by reducing crime opportunities. This complements other Government reforms and a range of initiatives that focus on early intervention, reducing recidivism and improving access to justice services.

The Strategy was launched in September 2016 and Minister Rattenbury tabled a progress report in the Legislative Assembly in November 2017. This is the second progress report for the Strategy.

## Objectives

The Property Crime Prevention Strategy is driven by the following objectives:

OBJECTIVE 1: Community and neighbourhood connections are strengthened.

OBJECTIVE 2: The community is educated about personal responsibility for preventing property crime.

OBJECTIVE 3: Useful data and information about property crime are available and more accessible to the community.

OBJECTIVE 4: Collaborative responses are developed to address existing crime trends and changes in the crime environment.

OBJECTIVE 5: Those who are more vulnerable to property crime are supported to safeguard their property.

OBJECTIVE 6: The quality of data and intelligence to inform police driven crime prevention activities are improved.

To achieve these objectives, the strategy includes actions that centre on making places more difficult and less appealing for criminal activity, education, awareness and empowering individuals, businesses and communities to safeguard their property.

# Overview of results

## Positive results

The good news is that overall, the number of property offences in the ACT are going down. In 2015-16 there were 21,670 property offences, this number has decreased each year over the last three years, with 19,637 offences in 2018-19. This means there were 2,033 less property offences recorded last financial year, compared to three years ago in 2015-16.

We are exceeding our targets against unlawful entry with intent and other theft:

- ✓ We are well below the national average of 672 for UEWI, with an ACT rate of 521 in 2018
- ✓ The rate of other thefts reported has not increased since the Strategy was release in 2016

Key highlights from the work carried out under the actions in the Strategy include:

- ✓ In 2019, 368 registered Neighbour Day events took place with 15,111 participants across the ACT.
- ✓ Security fencing is now installed at 78 (of 92) ACT public school sites.
- ✓ Enhancements to the ACT Policing Website Statistics and further improvements to crime statistics reporting will be made through the strategic review of the ACT Criminal Justice Statistical Profile currently underway.
- ✓ The Government has provided recurrent funding to continue and expand the Strong Connected Neighbourhoods initiative (formerly High Density Housing Project) to Illawarra Court at Belconnen. JACS, Housing ACT, ACT Health and ACT Policing have established a network to address antisocial and criminal behaviours identified through this initiative.
- ✓ In 2018-19, through the HomeSafe Program, 182 home safety assessments took place for people vulnerable to property crime and 37 properties were safeguarded through minor modifications.
- ✓ In 2017 ACT Policing established the Crime Disruption Team with a primary focus on recidivist offending, including the disruption of robbery offences and ram raids across the ACT.

## Challenges

The property damage rate did increase by five (5) per 100,000 people in 2018-19, after decreasing in the previous financial year. While this is small increase, the Government will work with ACT Policing to continue to identify ways to address property damage across the ACT.

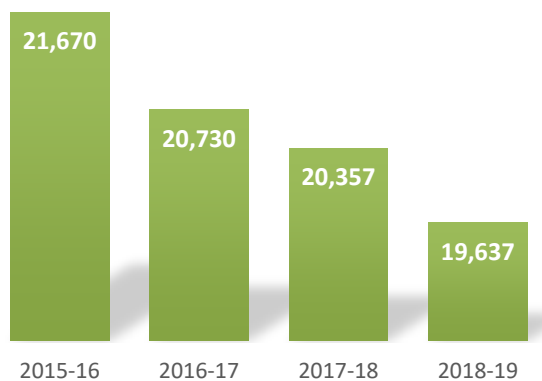
The bicycle theft rate per 100,000 people also increased by five (5). We know that sometimes a bicycle is the main mode of transport a person has and/or the key to staying active so having a bike stolen can be devastating for an individual. Over the next 12 months, the Government and ACT Policing will ramp up efforts to remind people to remain vigilant through continuing to promote the 'lock it, or loose it' message.

The main challenge for the ACT in relation to property crime continues to be motor vehicle theft. While it is encouraging that motor vehicle theft decreased in the ACT 2018-19, we remain above the national rate. This is a key issue, because often stolen vehicles are used in other crimes such as failing to stop for police, ram raids and burglaries. Preventing motor vehicle theft, could help curb other offences and will be a major focus going forward.



## Progress against the targets

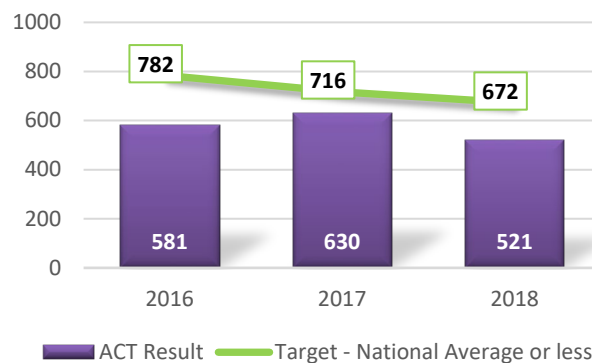
### All Property Offences



Source: ACT Policing PROMIS 2 July 2019

### Target 1:

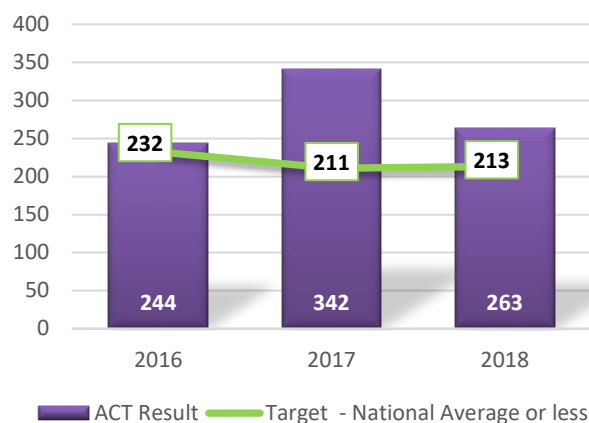
Victim rates for unlawful entry with intent remain below the national rate



ABS Publication 4510.0 Recorded Crime – Victims, Australia, 2018  
Based on number of victims per 100,000 people

### Target 2:

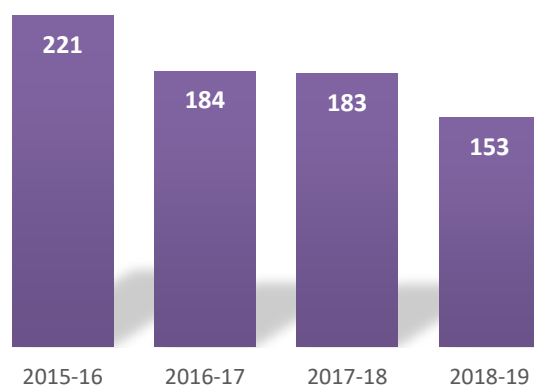
Motor vehicle theft is at or below the national rate



ABS Publication 4510.0 Recorded Crime – Victims, Australia, 2018  
Based on number of victims per 100,000 people

### Target 3

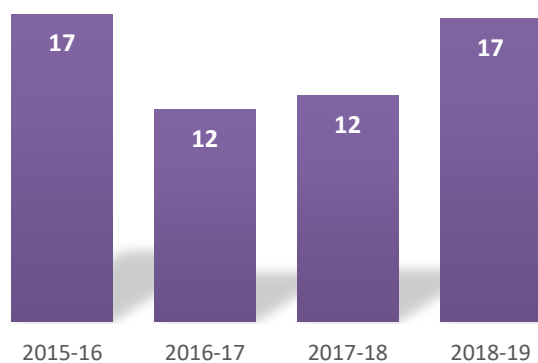
Stop the year on year increase in the rate of other thefts reported by 2020



Source: ACT Policing PROMIS 27 August 2019  
Based on number of offences per 100,000 people

### Target 4

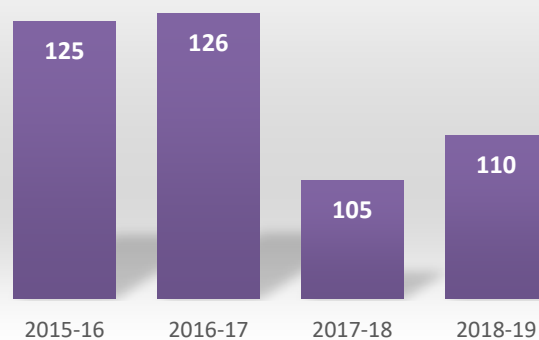
Stop the year on year increase in the rate of bicycle thefts reported by 2020



Source: ACT Policing PROMIS 27 August 2019  
Based on number of offences per 100,000 people

### Target 5

Stop the year on year increase in the rate of property damage reported by 2020



Source: ACT Policing PROMIS 27 August 2019  
Based on number of offences per 100,000 people



# Supplementary data

## Crime Victimisation

Data from the ABS publication 4530.0 Crime Victimisation, Australia differs from the Recorded Crime, Victim publications, as it is based on an annual national survey, which included 1098 ACT residents in 2017-18. It will include personal accounts of crime that have not been reported to police for a variety of reasons. While there are limitations to a self-reported survey based on relatively low numbers, this provides an alternative and complementary indication of crime levels.

According to the ABS publication 4530.0 Crime Victimisation, Australia, 2017-18, the most recent survey results for household crime shows the ACT continues to be at or below the national average for break-ins and attempted break in, and above the national average victimisation rate for theft from a motor vehicle and property damage. An increase in motor vehicle theft and other theft has resulted in the ACT appearing higher than the national average. Across all categories the ACT is within 1% of the national average apart from theft from a motor vehicle and property damage at 2%.

Break-ins	Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
	2015-16	1.6%	2.5%	-0.9%	↓ Below the national average
	2016-17	2.5%	2.5%	0.0%	→ at the national average
	2017-18	1.7%	2.5%	-0.8%	↓ Below the national average

Attempted Break-ins	Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
	2015-16	1.9%	2.1%	-0.2%	↓ Below the national average
	2016-17	1.4%	2.1%	-0.7%	↓ Below the national average
	2017-18	1.7%	2.2%	-0.5%	↓ Below the national average

Motor vehicle theft	Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
	2015-16	0.8%	0.5%	0.3%	↑ Above the national average
	2016-17	0.4%	0.6%	-0.2%	↓ Below the national average
	2017-18	0.8%	0.6%	0.2%	↑ Above the national average

Theft from a motor vehicle	Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
	2015-16	3.9%	2.9%	1.0%	↑ Above the national average
	2016-17	5.3%	2.8%	2.5%	↑ Above the national average
	2017-18	5.1%	3.1%	2.0%	↑ Above the national average

Property damage	Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
	2015-16	6.0%	4.8%	1.2%	↑ Above the national average
	2016-17	6.3%	5.0%	1.3%	↑ Above the national average
	2017-18	7.1%	5.1%	2.0%	↑ Above the national average

Other theft	Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
	2015-16	2.0%	2.7%	-0.7%	↓ Below the national average
	2016-17	2.7%	2.8%	-0.1%	↓ Below the national average
	2017-18	3.1%	2.5%	0.6%	↑ Above the national average

## Perceptions of property crime

The National Survey of Community Satisfaction with Policing includes questions about housebreaking and motor vehicle theft, providing an indication of the ACT community perception of these crimes.

Canberrans consistently report being less concerned about becoming a victim of these crime types than the broader Australian community.

### Persons who are concerned about becoming a victim of housebreaking in the next 12 months

Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
2015-16	56.0%	59.2%	-3.2%	↓ Below the national average
2016-17	53.0%	61.7%	-8.7%	↓ Below the national average
2017-18	55.7%	59.1%	-3.4%	↓ Below the national average
2018-19	54.4%	57.8%	-3.4%	↓ Below the national average

### Persons who are concerned about becoming a victim of motor vehicle theft in the next 12 months

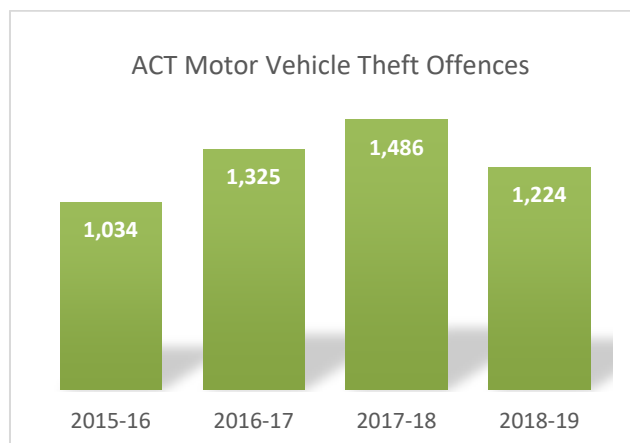
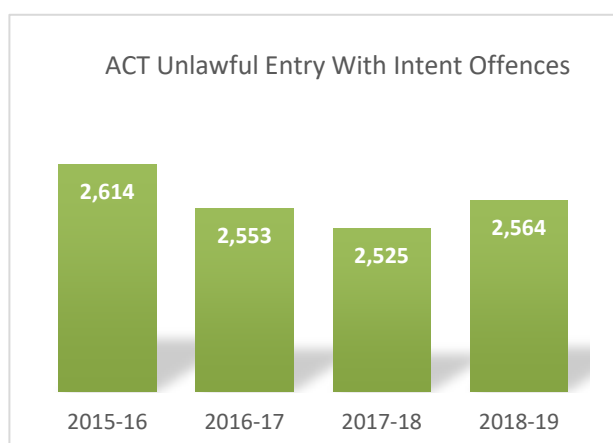
Year	ACT Result	National Average	Variation	National Average Standing
2015-16	43.3%	47.6%	-4.3%	↓ Below the national average
2016-17	43.5%	50.1%	-6.6%	↓ Below the national average
2017-18	44.0%	47.6%	-3.6%	↓ Below the national average
2018-19	46.9%	47.3%	-0.4%	↓ Below the national average

## Number of offences year on year

The targets for unlawful entry with intent and motor vehicle theft are based on the national average. As a comparison, the graphs below show the number of offences in ACT over the last four financial years.

While the ACT has remained below the national rate per 100,000 people for unlawful entry with intent, the actual number of offences increased by 39 between 2017-18 and 2018-19, after decreasing since 2015-16. However, as outlined above against the target, the ACT rate is stable at 60 in 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Although the ACT has remained above the national rate for motor vehicle theft, there was an encouraging decrease of 262 in 2018-19, after increases over the previous three years.



# Progress against the actions 2019

Objective 1 Community and neighbourhood connections are strengthened	
<p><b>1.1 Promote National Neighbour Day</b></p> <p>JACS continued its support of National Neighbour Day by providing funding to Relationships Australia for targeted ACT promotion. Building on the success and lessons learnt in 2017, in 2018 an ACT Neighbour Day Working Group was established with government and community agencies interested in the benefits of a strong connected community. With the help of the JACS funding and in-kind support from the ACT Suburban Land Agency an ACT specific social media campaign and promotional materials were developed to assist agencies promote the Neighbour Day message. Minister Stephen-Smith officially launched ACT National Neighbour Day at Gungahlin Library. There were 33 Neighbour Day event registrations in 2018 in addition to the official launch and working group run events. The social media campaign and promotional materials were again the focus for the ACT and with the momentum from the working group engagement, in 2019 increased to 368 registered Neighbour Day events and 15,111 participants.</p>	JACS
<p><b>1.2 Support existing events that promote neighbourhood connectedness</b></p> <p>Mingle is a community development program designed to build vibrant and sustainable communities within new estates in the ACT. Mingle works to identify community needs and interests, and with the help of residents, facilitates targeted events, activities and social interest groups. All activities aim to encourage new residents to get to know each other, feel part of their community and become involved in community life. Facilitated by the Suburban Land Agency, the Program aims to implement community activities which are ultimately owned and championed by local residents.</p> <p>JACS provides direct funding to ACT Policing to support crime prevention initiatives. Those that specifically promote neighbourhood connectedness include Neighbourhood Watch, Menslink, police engagement at key community events, Seniors, Indigenous and Multicultural Community Liaison.</p>	JACS
<p><b>1.3 Promote a sense of shared responsibility to protect community facilities</b></p> <p>EPSDD collaborated with the Dickson centre traders and community in a placemaking partnership to promote community ownership over public places and facilities in the Dickson centre in late 2017.</p> <p>In 2017-18, the Suburban Land Agency helped preserve cultural heritage by retaining Aboriginal scar trees in Taylor and Throsby. Place making was also an important component of designing new developments, with a sense of place created by using themes and public art. This included celebrating the Superb Parrot and other native fauna through the use of birds as entrance features and in the design of the neighbourhood playground in Throsby.</p> <p>The Education Directorate designs new school facilities to promote community use before and after school hours. A key aspect of designing facilities like this is to promote community ownership and responsibility of the school out of hours through use, as well as through passive security.</p> <p>All schools have an electronic security system that is monitored by a local monitoring company, and a contract is in place for the provision of planned and responsive security patrols. A targeted patrol program operates during every school vacation period for priority sites.</p> <p>Security fencing is now installed at 78 (of 92) school sites and external lighting is present in</p>	EPSD, ED, JACS

all schools particularly on access ways to community use spaces.	
The Directorate's Community Use of School Facilities policy encourages all ACT public schools to hire out facilities to the community when not in use by the school. This increases the hours schools are occupied, reducing the risk of vandalism to the school or surrounding community. Additionally, the Directorate works closely with Sports and Recreation to deliver and implement solutions to facilitate greater access to schools by the community.	
<b>Objective 2</b> <b>The community is educated about personal responsibility for preventing property crime</b>	
<b>2.1 Promote personal responsibility for preventing property crime</b>  ACT Policing Media, Neighbourhood Watch and Crimestoppers routinely conduct campaigns on personal security and residential security. In 2018-19 JACS and ACT Policing have been working collaboratively on a property crime prevention campaign that promotes personal responsibility for safeguarding motor vehicles, homes, tradie tools and small businesses. The campaign will be launched towards the end of 2019 with the support of Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Stoppers.  ACT Policing Senior Liaison Officers promote safety and security at nursing homes, residential villages and to individuals when issues are identified.  ACT Policing regularly distributes media releases and conducts stand ups on property crime which includes prevention messaging.	ACTP, JACS
<b>2.2 Provide practical workshops on how to secure property, including low cost and simple solutions</b>  SupportLink is funded to provide 12 practical workshops annually through the HomeSafe program (formerly the Home Safety Program) for at risk or vulnerable community groups. The workshop includes demonstrations of low cost and simple options for making homes more secure.	JACS
<b>Objective 3</b> <b>Useful data and information about property crime are more accessible to the community</b>	
<b>3.1 Identify gaps in property crime data and its accessibility</b>  ACT property crime related data is available to the public via the ACT Criminal Justice Profile and the ACT Policing Website Statistics. A number of enhancements, including additional sub-crime categories, are currently being implemented within the ACT Policing Website Statistics.  JACS has contracted the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to undertake a strategic review of the Criminal Justice Statistical Profile. This includes identifying gaps in crime data and how to make it more user friendly for stakeholders and the broader community. The review is due to be completed in early 2020.	ACTP, JACS
<b>3.2 Develop mechanisms to improve information sharing around crime activity and data</b>  ACT Policing works with the community to address emerging property crime trends by reminding the community through various media platforms about the importance of remaining vigilant about suspicious activity, for example, following an increase in burglaries and stolen motor vehicles in Gungahlin during December 2018.  One of the outcomes of the review of the Criminal Justice Statistical Profile outlined above (against Action 3.1) will be improved information sharing around crime activity and data.	ACTP, JACS



<p><b>3.3 Consider the feasibility of evaluating how the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) General Code has been applied</b></p> <p>The principles of CPTED are considered by EPSDD in preparing planning controls, master plans and planning frameworks, and as part of the assessment of development applications. All the Development Codes of the Territory Plan contain objectives, rules and criteria important to producing safer environments. The Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) General Code of the Territory Plan provides more explicit direction to ensure that issues of community safety are adequately addressed in decision-making for land use and development activities. The CPTED General Code applies to most types of development. The only developments to which the Code does not apply are proposals for single dwellings and development in rural and broadacre zones. An evaluation of how the CPTED General Code has been applied is still under consideration and subject to resourcing.</p>	<p>EPSD, JACS</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective 4</b>  <b>Collaborative responses are developed to address existing crime trends and changes in the crime environment</b></p>	
<p><b>4.1 Establish an interagency forum consisting of government, police, crime prevention and community organisations</b></p> <p>ACT Policing, Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Stoppers regular meet to discuss crime prevention initiatives. JACS is working with these agencies on the development of the property crime prevention campaign outlined under Action 2.1 above.</p> <p>After successful collaboration on promoting National Neighbour Day, the ACT Neighbour Day Working Group transitioned to an ongoing 'Neighbourly Network' of people who are interested in supporting strong neighbourhood relationships. Building on the increasing success of 'Neighbour Day', the network aims to implement practices to embed a culture of 'neighbour day every day' into the work we do, share resources, ideas, contacts, updates, successes, challenges about ways to establish and build meaningful relationships within the neighbourhoods around Canberra.</p> <p>To address antisocial and criminal behaviours identified through the Strong Connected Neighbourhoods Program (formerly the High Density Housing project), JACS, Housing ACT and ACT Policing have established a network which meets routinely to work collaboratively with Reclink to address concerns in these areas.</p>	<p>JACS</p>
<p><b>4.2 Identify and respond to emerging property crime issues</b></p> <p>ACT Policing regularly works with partner agencies, such as ACT Housing and Domestic Animal Services, to ensure that developing trends are identified early, and proactive measures are employed to ensure that our high-density housing areas remain engaging, safe, and community-oriented spaces. In June 2019, ACT Policing along with other ACT agencies conducted Operation 'Sun Streaker,' which targeted drug dealing and property crime offences at high density public housing complexes in the suburb of Reid, ACT.</p> <p>The spike in stolen motor vehicles and vehicle arsons during 2017-18 was identified as a Regional Operational priority for ACT Policing. The ACT Policing response to this emerging property crime trend was led by the Crime Disruption Team. The deployment of the Crime Disruption Team capability achieved a decrease in stolen motor vehicles through the arrest of recidivist offenders. While, the reasons behind increases in offences are often complex and difficult to attribute to a single cause, factors such as the time of year, availability of opportunistic targets and recidivist offenders being out in the community can contribute to fluctuations in offence rates.</p>	<p>All</p>

<p><b>4.3 Deliver initiatives to reduce bicycle theft</b></p> <p>An action in the Minister for Planning's 2015 Statement of Planning Intent was to review the Bike Parking General Code of the Territory Plan so that it will promote best practice bike parking and end-of-trip facilities (EOTF) for bike riders and those participating in active travel.</p> <p>A new end-of-trip facility general code was developed to implement the Government's vision for a healthy and active city. Better quality and more secure facilities in buildings for end-of-trip facilities that support active travel and active living are integral to this vision. EPSDD released the draft variation for statutory public consultation in 2017. The draft variation is being amended in response to community and industry submissions and several workshops, which were held to resolve the issues. Public comment will be invited again on the revised draft variation 357 End-of-Trip Facilities General Code in late 2019.</p> <p>The ACT Policing website includes safety and security advice for property crime including bicycle theft. Bicycle security information provided on the website includes simple steps to help reduce the chances of bicycles being stolen. It also includes a bike passport to help the community record important information about their bicycles if they are stolen and recovered.</p>	<p>EPSD, ACTP, JACS</p>
<p><b>4.4 Identify and respond to enablers for property crime in apartment buildings</b></p> <p>EPSDD is preparing a non-statutory design guide for apartment buildings which addresses issues of security in the design of public, semi-private and private spaces, such as car parks and open space in apartment buildings.</p>	<p>EPSD, JACS</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective 5</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Those who are more vulnerable to property crime are supported to safeguard their property</b></p>	
<p><b>5.1 Enhance the Home Safety Program to include practical support</b></p> <p>In 2018-19 the Home Safety Program ceased to make way for the new HomeSafe program with the primary focus being to provide home safety assessment and free of charge/low cost security improvements for those vulnerable to home burglary. ACT Policing are the main referring agency with others coming from community organisations or self-referral. In 2018-19 182 home safety assessments were undertaken and 37 properties were provided with minor modifications.</p>	<p>JACS</p>
<p><b>5.2 Implement findings on how to improve services and support provided to victims of property crime</b></p> <p>A Charter of Rights for Victims of Crime is under development and is due to be introduced in 2020. The Charter aims to improve outcomes for all victims of crime, including property crime.</p>	<p>CSD, JACS</p>
<p><b>5.3 Explore links and opportunities to enhance existing government initiatives to reduce property crime risks for vulnerable groups</b></p> <p><u>Age-Friendly Canberra</u></p> <p>Age-Friendly Canberra: a Vision for Our City was released in March 2019 to outline the Government's priorities to ensure, as our city grows, it continues to evolve as an age-friendly city. The protection of the human rights of older people, including their safety is identified as a priority area. Practical strategies are currently being identified against this and all priority areas for the development of an Age-Friendly City Plan.</p> <p><u>Strong Connected Neighbourhoods</u></p> <p>The Strong Connected Neighbourhood Program, formerly known as High Density Housing Program, is a multi-agency, collaborative initiative by JACS with Housing ACT, ACT Health and</p>	<p>CSD, JACS</p>

ACT Policing, run by Reclink Australia to improve the lives, and reduce recidivism rates of residents living in high density public housing sites along the Ainslie Avenue and Illawarra Court at Belconnen. The objective is to prevent or reduce opportunities of crime, promote community safety develop pro-social and law-abiding community engagement and facilitate access to services that are related to justice, health, mental health, education and employment.

The 2018 evaluation of the program by the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC),<sup>1</sup> reported that the program met its objectives by providing a realised saving to government (of police time alone) through reduced crimes of at least \$0.42 to \$0.51 for every \$1 invested.

The 2018-19 Budget provided recurrent funding and expanded the program to Illawarra Court at Belconnen, considering the recommendations provided by AIC in its recent evaluation. The name of the program was also changed to 'Strong Connected Neighbourhoods' to reflect the key outcomes sought and achieved by the program.

The quarterly report comparison from 2017 to 2018 shows a continued increase in occasions of participation of residents (936 – 1245) in the program. There has been consistent positive media coverage on ABC radio and in the Canberra Times about the program and its successes over the last 10 years.<sup>2</sup>

As outlined under Action 4.1, to address antisocial and criminal behaviours, Housing ACT, ACT Policing, JACS and ACT Health are working collaboratively to address concerns in these areas. A new MOU between Housing ACT and ACT Policing is in the final stages of completion.

To improve safety and liveability in our multi- unit properties, Housing ACT is developing a multi-unit property tenancy management strategy which will be trialled this financial year.

#### Victims of property crime as a result of domestic and family violence

Housing ACT has a number of initiatives/programs in place to reduce the risk of property crime to vulnerable groups, especially those experiencing and escaping domestic and family violence.

Housing ACT undertakes modifications to public housing properties for tenants experiencing and escaping domestic and family violence. These may include installation of window and door locks, security screen doors, security screens to sliding doors, lighting and landscape modifications and any site-specific alterations recommended by specialist domestic violence representatives.

Housing ACT administers the Safer Families Assistance program which is a new, tailored program of assistance designed to support people leaving domestic and family violence. The program provides \$2,000 to eligible people to help with a wide range of purposes relating to sustaining or re-establishing a family home following the experience of family violence.

Women with or without children escaping domestic violence are prioritised for public housing in the ACT. They are also a key priority group under the ACT Housing Strategy. In 2018-19, 39% of cases heard by the Multi-Disciplinary Panel cited domestic violence and the majority of these were supported by priority needs recommendations from a community organisation.

Addressing perpetrator behaviour is an important element of supporting victims of property crime as a result of domestic and family violence. Room4Change is a therapeutic, residential behaviour change program for men who use domestic and family violence against women and is funded by the ACT Government. The program which began on 1 April

<sup>1</sup><https://aic.gov.au/publications/rr/rr6>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/5999895/p50hh0/>

<p>2017 provides tailored case management and support to families, partners and children including assistance to stay safely at home. Since the program began to 30 June 2019, a total of 51 men, 45 partners (and/or ex-partners) and 101 children were supported, and no women had to leave their homes as a result of a participating partner's behaviour</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective 6</b></p> <p><b>The quality of data and intelligence to inform police driven crime prevention activities are improved</b></p>	
<p><b>6.1 Continue to promote reporting of crime or suspicious behavior</b></p> <p>ACT Policing continues to promote the reporting of crime and suspicious behavior through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media campaigns and the use of social media promoting reporting of crimes and suspicious behavior.</li> <li>• Promotion of reporting crime through Crime Stoppers.</li> <li>• Neighbourhood watch campaigns and information provided to Neighborhood Watch newsletters.</li> <li>• Providing feedback such as incidents that are resolved as a result of reporting to Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Stoppers.</li> <li>• Including reference to reporting suspicious activity to Crime Stoppers in media releases, in interviews and social media posts.</li> </ul>	<p>ACTP, JACS</p>
<p><b>6.2 Continue to develop and implement strategies to target recidivist property crime offenders</b></p> <p>ACT Policing established the Crime Disruption Team (CDT) in November 2017 with a primary focus on recidivist offending, including the disruption of robbery offences and ram raids across the ACT. The CDT is a flexible and established resource within ACT Policing that can be redirected to deal with emerging and priority issues for the Canberra community. The ACT community can be confident ACT Policing is well resourced to deliver a quality service through the flexible deployment of capabilities in response to changing demands. ACT Policing has seen a number of positive results from the team including arrests and the recovery of stolen property.</p> <p>Initiatives like the CCTV network expansion and increased funding for police can also help prevent theft of vehicles and enhance police capacity to investigate vehicle thefts and related arson.</p> <p>ACT Policing Intelligence has compiled a significant amount of data relating to these offences which indicates there is a core group of offenders responsible for the increase. The reasons behind increases in offences are often complex and difficult to attribute to a single cause. Factors such as the time of year, availability of opportunistic targets and recidivist offenders being out in the community can contribute to changes in offence rates.</p>	<p>ACTP</p>

**JACS** - Justice and Community Safety Directorate, **EPSD** – Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, **ED** – Education Directorate, **ACTP** – ACT Policing, **CSD** – Community Services Directorate