

Young People's Safety in Cockburn

Community Insights Snapshot

The City of Cockburn wanted to hear from young people about how safe they feel in their local neighbourhoods and community spaces. Young people aged 24 years and under, along with parents, caregivers and other community members, were invited to share their experiences and perspectives. Using an interactive mapping tool, community members were able to identify places where young people feel safe, sometimes unsafe or unsafe, and share what contributes to those feelings. We also asked the community about their awareness of the CoSafe service and how confident they would feel reporting crime or antisocial behaviour.

How we promoted the consultation



Comment on Cockburn page with online survey and social map



Various social media channels



E-newsletters to Comment on Cockburn subscribers



Chatting to young people at the Cockburn Youth Centre

Participation at a glance



279

visits to Comment
on Cockburn



98

markers provided
on the social map



37

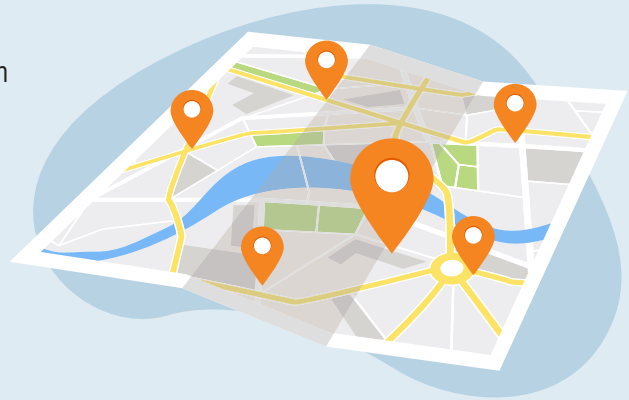
contributions
to the survey



Key Findings

Of the 98 markers pinned on the map:

- **51** map markers were placed by a young person aged 24 or under
- **27** map markers were placed by a parent or carer of a young person
- **17** map markers were placed by a general community member
- **3** markers did not include the age bracket.



Young people generally feel safe in well-used, welcoming community spaces, while perceptions of feeling unsafe concentrate around transport hubs, shopping centres, and isolated public spaces where anti-social behaviour, poor lighting, and limited passive surveillance intersect.



- The Cockburn Central Train Station and Cockburn Gateway precinct emerged as the locations most consistently identified as feeling unsafe, across both the survey and social mapping activities
- Cockburn Central received the highest number of first-place rankings when participants were asked to identify suburbs they consider unsafe
- Traffic and road safety concerns emerged as a separate recurring theme, particularly around major roads, intersections, pedestrian crossings and shared-use paths.

- Parks and reserves were the spaces most commonly identified as safe, particularly where they were welcoming, well maintained and well used by the community
- Local shopping centres were the spaces primarily marked as sometimes unsafe and unsafe, along with streets and laneways
- Community centres and libraries emerged as consistently positive environments, often described as welcoming places where young people felt supported and able to access help if required.





- Anti-social behaviour was the leading reason people feel sometimes unsafe or unsafe, with harassment or verbal abuse, drug or alcohol use in the area, and groups loitering also rating highly
- While antisocial behaviour was the dominant social concern, a separate and recurring theme related to traffic and road safety, particularly around major roads, intersections and pedestrian crossings
- Locations identified as sometimes unsafe or unsafe were most commonly perceived this way at all times, although concerns were particularly associated with evenings, after dark and late-night periods.

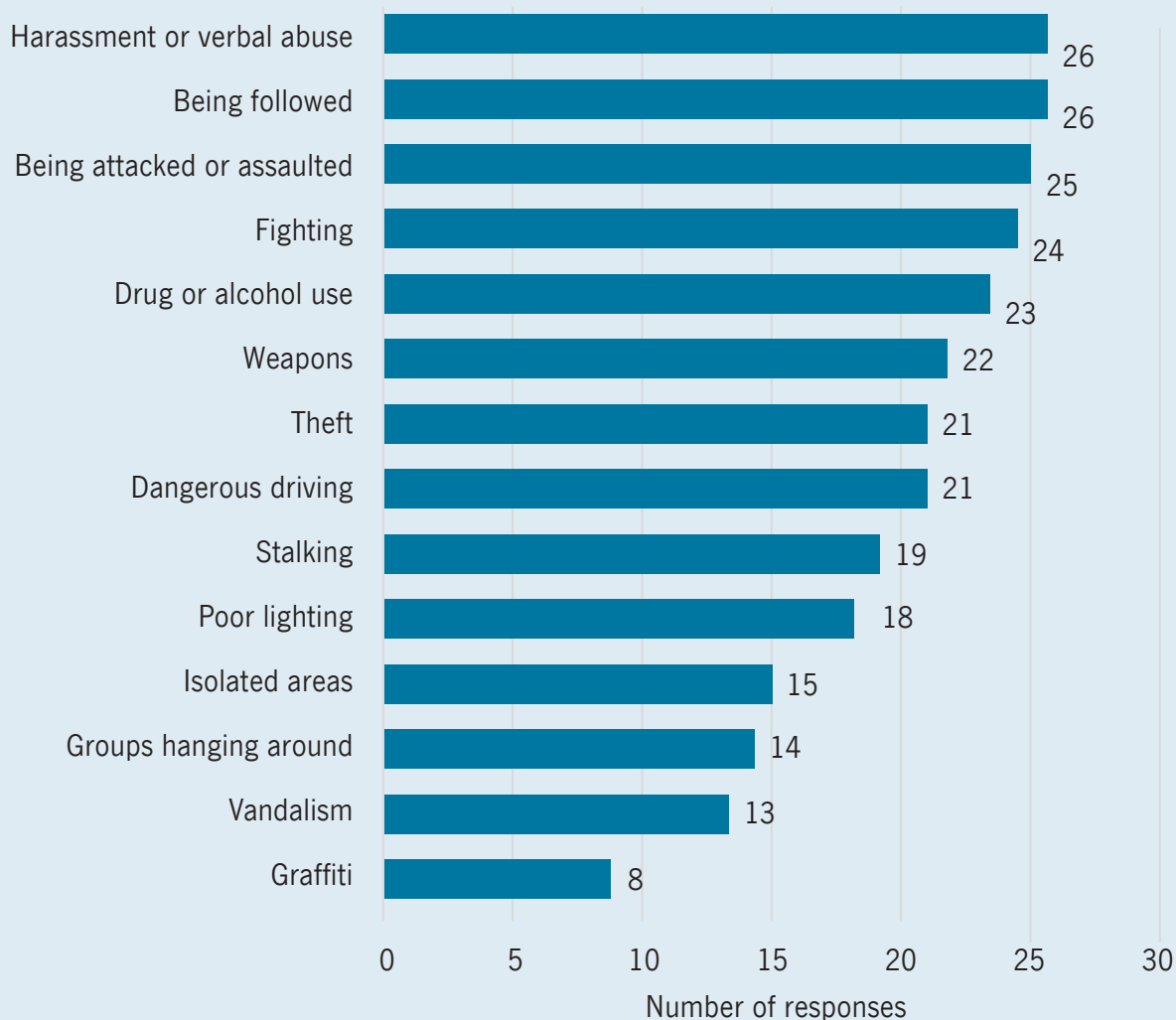
- **62** per cent of survey respondents had heard of CoSafe and had been in contact with them previously
- **77** per cent said they would or might feel comfortable contacting the service if they needed assistance
- **43** per cent of respondents indicated they feel CCTV does not make a difference, while 23 per cent noted CCTV cameras make them feel safer.



- Social media and news outlets were indicated as primary sources of information regarding crime and personal safety
- Family and friends were also frequently selected as important sources
- When asked what might prevent them from reporting an incident that made them feel unsafe, the most common reason was a belief that nothing would happen as a result, followed by not knowing who to contact.

Additionally, community told us

What kinds of things make you or your friends feel unsafe?



Next Steps

Thank you to community members who participated in our survey on young people's safety in Cockburn. The feedback received will help the City better understand the experiences of young people, identify opportunities to improve safety and wellbeing, and guide future community safety initiatives, youth engagement activities, and CoSafe services. Next steps, as well as any outcomes or decisions about this project will be published on the Comment on Cockburn website when available.

For further information, please contact the City of Cockburn **08 9411 3444** or email **comment@cockburn.wa.gov.au**

