



**Sundays River Valley**  
**Municipality**

# **COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN**

**(2026-2031)**

**(DRAFT)**



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**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

<b>Constitutional &amp; Legislative Framework</b>	Supreme law mandating local government to promote a safe and healthy environment.
	Regulates municipal administration, planning, and service delivery.
	Defines municipal governance structures and roles.
	Establishes and regulates the South African Police Service.
	Governs criminal justice procedures including arrest, prosecution, and trials.
<b>National Development &amp; Safety Frameworks</b>	Long-term national vision aimed at reducing crime and building safer communities.
	Promotes inclusive, safe, and well-managed urban spaces.
<b>Core Safety &amp; Crime Prevention Policies</b>	Advocates a whole-of-government and community-based approach to safety.
	Focuses on prevention, coordination, and reducing violence.
	Addresses root causes of crime such as poverty and inequality.
	Promotes professional, accountable policing and community partnerships.
<b>Community-Based Safety Frameworks</b>	Establishes local forums for multi-stakeholder safety coordination.
	Enable cooperation between communities and police.
<b>Gender-Based Violence &amp; Vulnerable Groups</b>	National framework addressing GBV through prevention, support, and justice measures.
	Guides social protection and support for vulnerable populations.
<b>Sector-Specific Safety Strategies</b>	Focuses on safety in rural and farming communities.
	Addresses substance abuse and drug-related crime.
	Provincial implementation plans aligned with the NDMP.
<b>Policing &amp; Justice Strategies</b>	Guides policing priorities including crime prevention and investigation.
	Outlines SAPS operational priorities including community safety.
<b>Local Government Planning Instruments</b>	Municipality’s main strategic planning and budgeting document.
	Guides land use and spatial planning for sustainable communities.
	Local safety strategies aligned with national policies and evidence-based.

## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>Abbreviation / Policy</b>	<b>Full Name</b>
Constitution (1996)	Constitution of the Republic of South Africa
MSA	Municipal Systems Act (2000)
MSA (Structures)	Municipal Structures Act (1998)
SAPS Act	South African Police Service Act (1995)
CPA	Criminal Procedure Act (1977)
NDP 2030	National Development Plan 2030
IUDF	Integrated Urban Development Framework (2016)
WPSS	White Paper on Safety and Security (2016)
ICVPS	Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy (2021)
ISCPS	Integrated Social Crime Prevention Strategy
WPP	White Paper on Policing (2016)
CSFP	Community Safety Forum Policy
CPFs	Community Policing Forums
NSP GBVF	National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (2020)
WPSW	White Paper for Social Welfare (1997)
NRSS	National Rural Safety Strategy
NDMP	National Drug Master Plan
PDMPs	Provincial Drug Master Plans
NPS	National Policing Strategy (2022–2025)
SAPS Strategic Plan	South African Police Service Strategic Plan (e.g., 2025–2030)
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
CSPs	Community Safety Plans



### Acknowledgement

The Sundays River Valley Municipal Council and its stakeholders within and outside of government respectfully acknowledge the communities of SRVM, their views and concerns regarding safety and the prioritization thereof. We pay our respects to all stakeholders in the government and business sectors who entrust our council with their investments for the betterment of our communities' lives. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship

to this land.

### Mayor's Message

I am proud to present the Draft Sundays River Valley Municipality Community Safety Plan (2026-2031), which identifies strategies to improve safety for all who live, work, and visit our wonderful area. Community safety is a foundational requirement for social development, economic growth, and social cohesion. In rural and small-town municipalities such as the Sundays River Valley, persistent crime and violence undermine service delivery, investment, and quality of life.

The draft plan has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders in safety and security, with SAPS forming the core Policy Task Team. While partly the responsibility of the South African Police Service, the latest IDP assessment report reflected regression on service delivery and the absence of a consolidated plan contributed to that gap. Additionally, ensuring a safe and healthy environment is entrenched in the key strategic priorities of local government.

The Sundays River Valley Municipality loves to share its places of national importance with visitors. We are committed to ensuring that all enjoy our space in safety. Safety and feelings of safety have significant impacts on our health, well-being, and motivation to participate in community life. For this reason, it is a key priority in the Vision 2030 Provincial Development Plan and Eastern Cape Provincial Safety Strategy (2022-2027).

The World Health Organisation describes safety as an 'essential resource for everyday life, needed by individuals and communities to realise their aspirations. Safety is a fundamental human right and, along with shelter and food, it is considered a basic precondition for health.

Council understands that safety is reflected differently for particular groups in our community, depending on age, gender, cultural background, abilities and past experiences. Council and our stakeholders will work to ensure we consider everyone's well-being. A Community Safety Plan is an important way of identifying those issues that matter to the Sundays River Valley Municipality. It brings together the work of the Council and key partners in coordinating and implementing actions and initiatives that will maintain and progress safety in the community. We all have a role to play. You can play your part by calling 082 111 if you see someone who is clearly unwell or any kind of illegal

behaviour.

## 1. Introduction

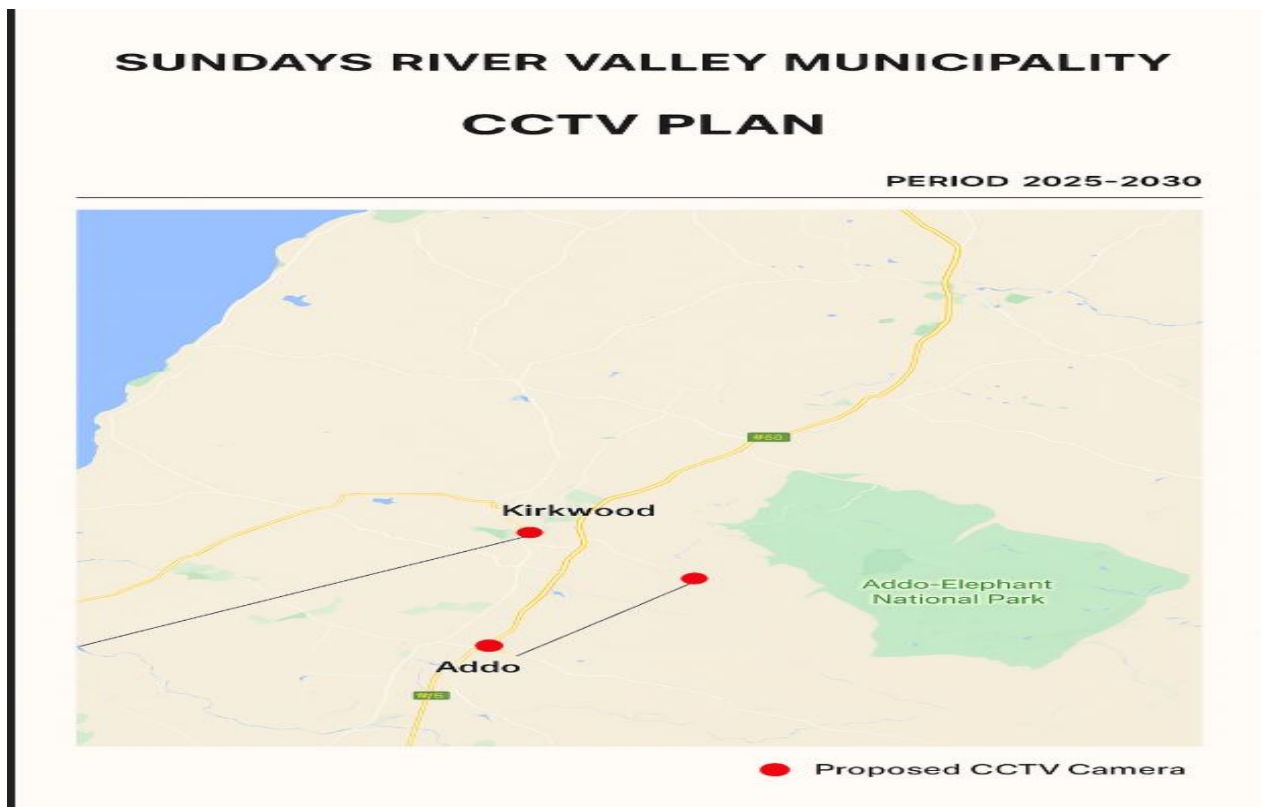
The SRVM Integrated Development Plan recognises safety, youth development, economic inclusion, and good governance as cross-cutting priorities. This report analyses community-generated data to support evidence-based planning and to ensure that the IDP remains responsive to lived realities. The draft plan adopted a qualitative thematic analysis approach to foreground community voices and perceptions as critical inputs into local governance and development planning.

SRVM is a predominantly agricultural region with a growing tourism sector, centred around the Addo Elephant National Park. The municipality experiences seasonal migration and fluctuating population densities. Safety challenges affect economic development, labour stability, tourism, and community wellbeing.

The purpose of the CSP is to:

- Coordinate safety interventions across government, SAPS, civil society and private stakeholders.
- Integrate safety into planning, service delivery and infrastructure development.
- Create safer communities through crime prevention, social prevention, and environmental design.

### Map



## 1.1 UNDERSTANDING OF COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community safety in SRVM includes:

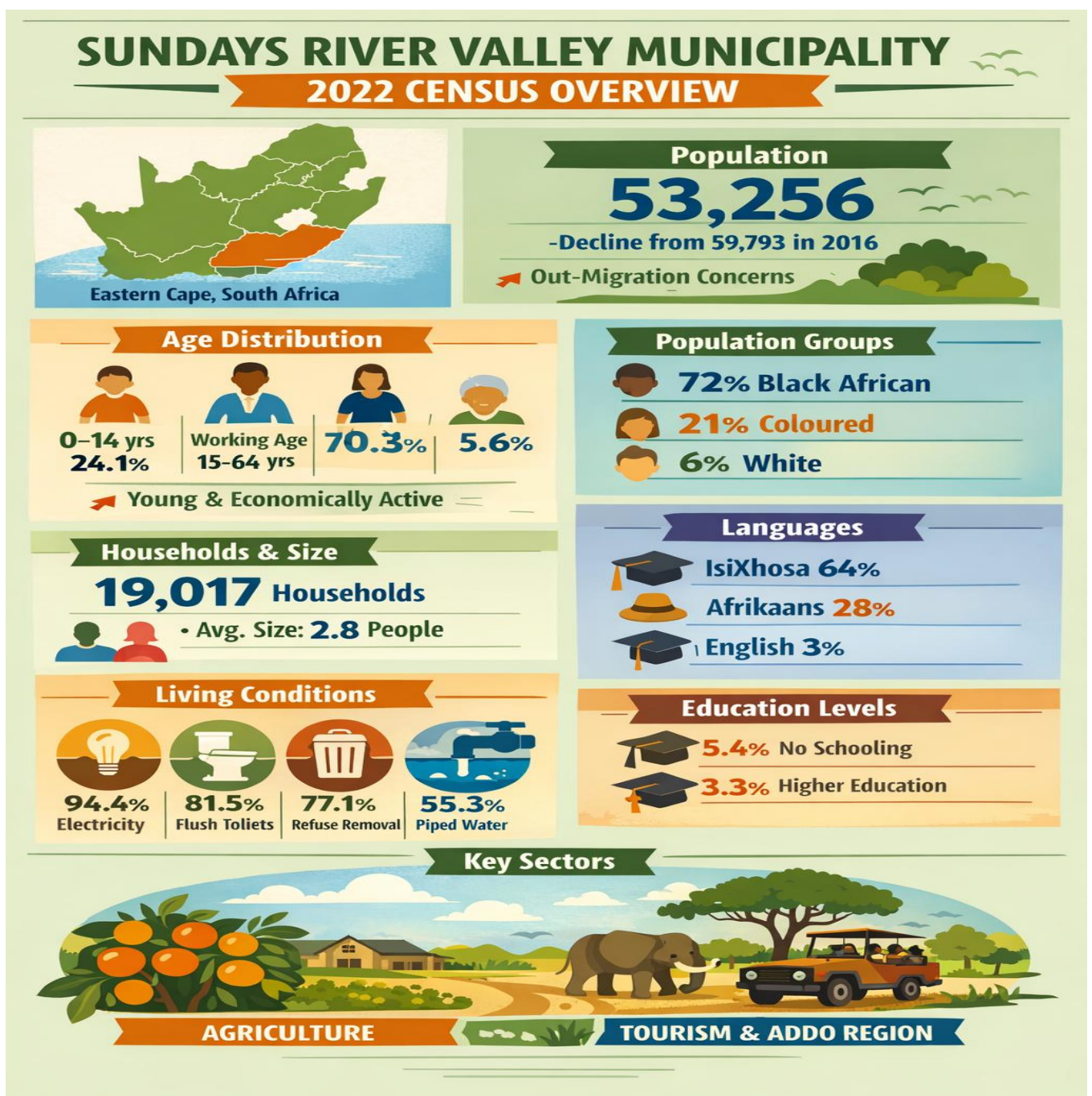
- Preventing crime and violence (policing, by-law enforcement).
  - Reducing social risks (youth vulnerability, GBV, substance abuse).
  - Ensuring safe mobility and traffic management.
  - Designing safer environments (lighting, CCTV, public space design).
  - Strengthening emergency services (fire, disaster, EMS).
  - Enhancing community participation and accountability (CPFs, ward committees).
-

1.2 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY PROVISIONS



### 1.3 People of the Valley

The 2022 Census provides an important overview of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the Sundays River Valley Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. According to the latest data, the municipality has a total population of 53,256 people, reflecting a slight decline from 59,793 in 2016. This negative growth trend suggests that the area may be experiencing out-migration, possibly due to limited economic opportunities or slow local economic development. While this is noted, it doesn't reflect a true picture of the prevailing population dynamic. Seasonally, the Sundays River Valley becomes home to thousands of workers in the citrus industry, most of whom do not leave and opt to wait for the next season. This depletes services and further stretches the budget allocated according to the population.



In terms of age structure, the population is largely composed of individuals within the working-age group (15–64 years), which accounts for 70.3% of the population. Children aged 0–14 years make up 24.1%, while the elderly population (65 years and older) represents only 5.6%. The most prominent age groups are those between 20–29 years and 30–39 years, indicating a relatively young and economically active population.

This demographic profile suggests a strong potential labour force that could contribute to economic growth if sufficient employment opportunities are available.

The municipality recorded 19,017 households in 2022, showing a significant increase from 14,749 households in 2011 and 17,221 in 2016. Despite this growth, the average household size has decreased to 2.8 persons per household, compared to higher figures in previous years. This decline may reflect broader social changes such as urbanisation, migration, or a shift towards smaller family units.

Gender distribution in the municipality shows a slight female majority, with 27,099 females compared to 26,157 males, resulting in a sex ratio of approximately 96 males per 100 females. This pattern is consistent with many regions where female populations slightly outnumber males.

Concerning population groups, the municipality is predominantly Black African (approximately 72%), followed by a significant Coloured population (around 21%), while White residents account for about 6%, and other groups make up less than 1%. Linguistically, IsiXhosa is the most widely spoken language (about 64%), followed by Afrikaans (28%) and a smaller proportion speaking English (3%), reflecting typical language patterns in the Eastern Cape.

In terms of living conditions and service delivery, the data indicates notable progress in access to basic services. Approximately 94.4% of households have access to electricity for lighting, 81.5% have flush toilets, and 77.1% receive weekly refuse removal services. However, access to piped water inside dwellings stands at 55.3%, suggesting that while improvements have been made, there is still room for development, particularly in water provision.

Housing conditions are relatively stable, with 87.8% of households living in formal dwellings. This suggests that the majority of residents have access to adequate housing infrastructure, which is an important indicator of overall living standards.

Education levels in the municipality reveal certain challenges. Among adults aged 20 and older, approximately 5.4% have no formal schooling, while only about 3.3% have attained higher education qualifications. This low level of tertiary education highlights a potential skills gap, which may limit employment opportunities and economic advancement within the municipality.

Economically, the Sundays River Valley Municipality is largely driven by agriculture, particularly citrus farming, as well as tourism, especially in areas surrounding Addo. These sectors play a crucial role in sustaining local livelihoods, although the limited diversification of the economy may contribute to the observed population decline.

Overall, the 2022 Census data paints a picture of a municipality with a moderate population size and a predominantly young, working-age population, which presents opportunities for economic growth. However, challenges such as population decline, limited higher education levels, and uneven service delivery remain significant.

The increase in the number of households alongside a decrease in household size reflects changing social dynamics, while the reliance on agriculture and tourism underscores the need for broader economic development strategies.

The area attracts large numbers from other provinces and neighbouring African countries due to the seasonal employment opportunities provided by the citrus industry. As a result, it is possible that these new residents will not be familiar with the area compared to those who have lived in the area for many years and who are familiar with where they can access services and amenities. This may lead to a perception of feeling unsure about safety by new people.

### **1.4 Community safety is a priority**

Community safety is not just about recorded crime it is also about how safe people feel in our municipality. Feeling safe is key to positive health and wellbeing. Overall, community members across wards report high levels of crime and concerns about community safety. Community safety is a foundational requirement for social development, economic growth, and social cohesion. In rural and small-town municipalities such as Sundays River Valley, persistent crime and violence undermine service delivery, investment, and quality of life.

The SRVM Integrated Development Plan recognises safety, youth development, economic inclusion, and good governance as cross-cutting priorities. This report analyses community-generated data to support evidence-based planning and to ensure that the IDP remains responsive to lived realities. The study adopts a qualitative thematic analysis approach to foreground community voices and perceptions as critical inputs into local governance and development planning.

### **Influencing perceptions of safety**

The safety and security cluster in SRV is committed to working to address neighbourhood factors that influence perceptions of safety. Research identifies a range of ‘incivilities’ that make people feel unsafe, including litter, graffiti, vandalism, poor lighting and environmental disrepair. There is widespread recognition of the influence of design on perceptions of safety. People who perceive their neighbourhood has high levels of disorder are inclined to be ‘more anxious about crime, fearful and mistrustful of their neighbors. Lack of neighbourhood cohesion is a recurring theme across the literature, with research identifying fear associated with changing populations and the presence of new social groups.

### **Evidenced approach: engaged communities are safer communities**

Less cohesive neighbourhoods, where people are disconnected, show higher levels of fear. There is strong evidence that engaged communities are more resilient and less fearful. In Sundays River Valley, local communities are encouraged to gather socially for a range of activities. These activities create an atmosphere of trust, safety, belonging and social cohesion in the local community and improve community health and wellbeing.

### **1.5 Theory underpinning development of the Community Safety Plan: Theory of Change**

Persistent crime and violence in SRVM are driven by socio-economic exclusion, weak governance, substance abuse, and limited youth opportunities. If SRVM strengthens accountable law enforcement, expands youth and economic opportunities, enforces bylaws consistently, and empowers community safety structures, then community trust, social cohesion, and collective efficacy will improve, leading to reduced crime, safer public spaces, and inclusive local development.

#### **1.5.1 Results Framework**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Description</b>
Impact	Reduced crime and violence; Improved community safety and social cohesion
Outcomes	Increased trust in SAPS and municipal institutions; Improved youth employment and engagement; Stronger community participation in safety initiatives
Outputs	Functional community safety forums in all wards; Youth centres and skills programmes established; Regular bylaw enforcement operations
Activities	Crime mapping and hotspot policing; Youth skills training and sports programmes; Community dialogues and safety campaigns
Inputs	Municipal budget allocations; SAPS and municipal staff; Community volunteers and private sector partnerships

## 1.5.2 Our priority areas for the Sundays River Valley

The Community Safety Plan (the plan) sets out the Sundays River Valley's contribution to making our community a safe and resilient place to live, visit, work and study. It describes our commitment to safety and our areas of focus for the next four years. The South African government is responsible for law and order, public housing, health and public transport amongst others. This plan therefore seeks to lead a response to these issues in the Sundays River Valley.



In responding to the framework above, the plan sets out six priority areas for action:

### Safer places, streets and activity centres

- Working with partners to increase actual and perceived public safety in our streets and spaces as well as management of lighting, CCTV, parks, footpaths, graffiti and waste management.
- Implement design principles to balance the liveability of an area by using appropriate plantings of shrubs and trees and attractive lighting to encourage place users
- Promote a creative and vibrant night life to reduce alcohol related anti-social behaviour as part of Placemaking initiatives with the community and traders
- Working with partners to improve road, public transport and pedestrian safety

## Crime prevention and harm minimisation

- Contributing to reducing local crime by supporting initiatives that address domestic and family violence, sexual assault and safeguarding children from abuse including online abuse and cyberbullying.
- Reduce the opportunities for crime to occur, e.g. advice about scams, property safety and fraud.
- Working with police and emergency services where crimes are observed taking place in public spaces.

## A welcoming, inclusive and resilient community

- Build resilient and connected communities to increase safety
- Working together to better prepare for and respond to emergencies that may arise, and strengthening community resilience.
- Ensure visitors feel safe and welcome in Sundays River Valley
- Working together to increase affordable housing and reduce homelessness and rough sleeping

## 2. Our role and approach to community safety

While the Government is responsible for law and order, public housing, health, including municipal environmental health services and public transport, we contribute to the safety of the community in a number of ways led by a set of key principles that guide how we work. The following describes the SRV's operating principles for community safety:

### a) Safety is central to our approach

Safety is fundamental to how we approach our work and how we deliver our services. Under the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996, the municipal bylaws and in line with the Provincial Community Safety Strategy, the District Development Model can influence some of the drivers of crime and public safety issues in the city through:

- using our planning controls to specify the design quality and safety of new buildings and infrastructure, and regulate their usage (for example, licensed premises)
- directly managing the public domain, including waste, street lighting, public events, public art and community recreational spaces
- using our regulatory functions to promote safety, including outdoor alcohol restrictions and our animals policy
- maintaining a high standard of governance to ensure policy and procedures contribute to a safe organisation and community.

### **b) We work together for collective impact**

No one organisation can solve complex safety issues in isolation. The Council works with a range of partners – including community members, government agencies, non-governmental organisations, institutions of higher learning and businesses to identify agreed solutions and share resources to respond to priority issues.

Community feedback plays a key part in developing our priorities. Our residents, visitors and businesses are essential partners in making our community safer. We recognise the valuable skills, experience and knowledge they hold and create the conditions for them to collaborate and contribute to decision making.

### **c) We co-design solutions with community members**

Where possible, we seek to co-produce our programs with community members. Co-production means delivering programs through an equal and reciprocal relationship between professionals, people using services, their families and their neighbours. This involves both designing and delivering initiatives with those who are likely to be impacted the most by the changes implemented. Where activities are co-produced in this way, both services and neighbourhoods can become far more effective agents of change.

Some of the ways we do this are through our involvement in community-led working groups, our safety audits and our participation in place-based initiatives.

### **d) We take a proactive and informed approach**

Changes in infrastructure and technology; shifts in patterns of behaviour; and broader social, economic, and environmental factors can affect community safety and crime patterns. To keep informed, we work closely with our partners and draw on available evidence to identify and understand emerging risks to community safety and, where possible, put pre-emptive measures in place to mitigate risks.

We recognise the need for flexibility and will adjust our areas of focus and activities in the plan as required to reflect local, regional, and even global changes affecting our urban environment over the next four years.

## **3. Key Role Players in Safety & Security function Management**

### **a) The role of National and Provincial Government**

The South African Government creates and maintains legislation that provides an overall system and framework for laws that govern appropriate conduct and behaviour for a well-regulated and fair society. The national department oversees and is responsible for:

- i. funding the legal system which upholds the law
- ii. national security, including through espionage and counter-terrorism activities

- iii. national crimes that include money laundering, human trafficking, cyber-crime and drugtrafficking
- iv. coordinating and funding national emergency management programs;
- v. the South African Police
- vi. support for people with disabilities via the National Disability Grant
- vii. the National Parliament, Provincial Safety & Security Cluster, are a key vehicle for the coordination of law enforcement and crime reduction
- viii. supporting community safety at the local level by funding local crime prevention and security infrastructure programs.

### **b) The role of Provincial Government**

The Provincial government develops provincial safety strategies, provides resources and supporting guidelines and engages in a range of other activities and functions that impact on safety and security, including:

- i. funding and supporting the legal system including prisons, youth justice, and rehabilitation centres
- ii. responsibility for Police who respond to crime such as traffic offences, theft, online abuse, assault, property damage, family violence and antisocial behaviour
- iii. supporting communities through delivering a wide range of health, wellbeing and safety programs and funding emergency and social housing
- iv. leading on issues that affect safety such as family violence and overseeing the control of alcohol and gambling
- v. Funding of the provision of mental health and alcohol and other drug treatment and support services
- vi. coordinating the Provincial Disaster Management Framework.

### **c.) The role of Local Government/Council**

Council, as the local level of government, has a critical role in ensuring safety, peace and order in its municipal jurisdiction through many functions, services and activities including:

- i. ensure collaboration and partnership with all state law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime and all atrocities facing communities
- ii. develop and enforce municipal bylaws prohibiting illegal business, alcohol and drug abuse, safety and security of people, infrastructure and property
- iii. creating and enforcing local bylaws including those that regulate animal management, parking, and planning for new developments.

- iv. Council also has responsibility to enforce some government legislation within its delegation framework, such as food safety inspections and building controls
- v. providing and maintaining public places for community that are safe and support community development, sporting, leisure, social and business activities
- vi. supporting safe travel and transport through planning, road and footpath design and maintenance; bicycle paths and walking tracks; contributing to local road safety programs; working with public transport providers; and ensuring adequate levels of street lighting
- vii. delivering a range of community services for family, children and youth services, older people and people with a disability and working to build social cohesion and harmony
- viii. supporting programs and community approaches to crime prevention
- ix. providing safety information and raising awareness on safety issues including through libraries, online, community groups and community programs.
- x. forming partnerships with strategic stakeholders and/or community to improve safety

### **d.) The role of partners**

Partnerships are key to achieving community safety. A number of other key agencies and stakeholders that work towards community safety and/or with mandated responsibilities include:

- i. South African Police is the key agency for law enforcement however also has a strong focus on preventative programs and on engagement with the community, for example, CCTV and its monitoring and evaluation.
- ii. The Department of Education plays a strong role in maintaining connections to school and providing support services for young people who may be at risk.
- iii. The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development provides crime prevention programs and grants through the Community Crime Prevention Unit, protects children and youth that may be vulnerable, supports road safety cameras, and delivers emergency services.
- iv. The Department of Health provides health, mental health and alcohol and other drug treatment and support and services
- v. Community health and other support agencies funded by the government provide important assistance and advice to families and individuals when at risk.

- vi. Department of Transport plays an important role in maintaining major roads and footpaths within our community. Council generally has responsibility for local roads and footpaths.
- vii. Road Transport agencies provide funding to address road safety blackspots. They are evolving this program to provide better funding and supports to meet local governments transport safety needs.
- viii. Safety on public transport (taxis, buses and trains and buses) is the responsibility of the public transport providers, the Police and Municipal traffic department Officers and the Department of Transport and the Department of Community Safety.
- ix. The Emergency Medical Services plays an important role in restoring and maintaining safety following significant natural weather or emergency events and also assists in community preparedness, in partnership with Government and Local Councils.
- x. Other key partners include Life Saving, Ambulance and Fire Brigade and Disaster Management unit in SRVM

### **e) The role of the community**

The community is fundamental to the successful implementation of community safety initiatives and are key to achieving community safety. Council, the provincial government and other agencies work in partnership with the community through avenues such as:

- i. Working with neighbourhood groups on community safety audits and other initiatives
- ii. Participating in keeping our streets clean
- iii. Working with traders, traders associations and businesses around the economic impacts of community safety
- iv. Continuing to assist in the education of licensed premises operating in SRVM around things such as responsible sale of alcohol.

The council of SRVM recognises that young people are citizens that will become adults of our community.

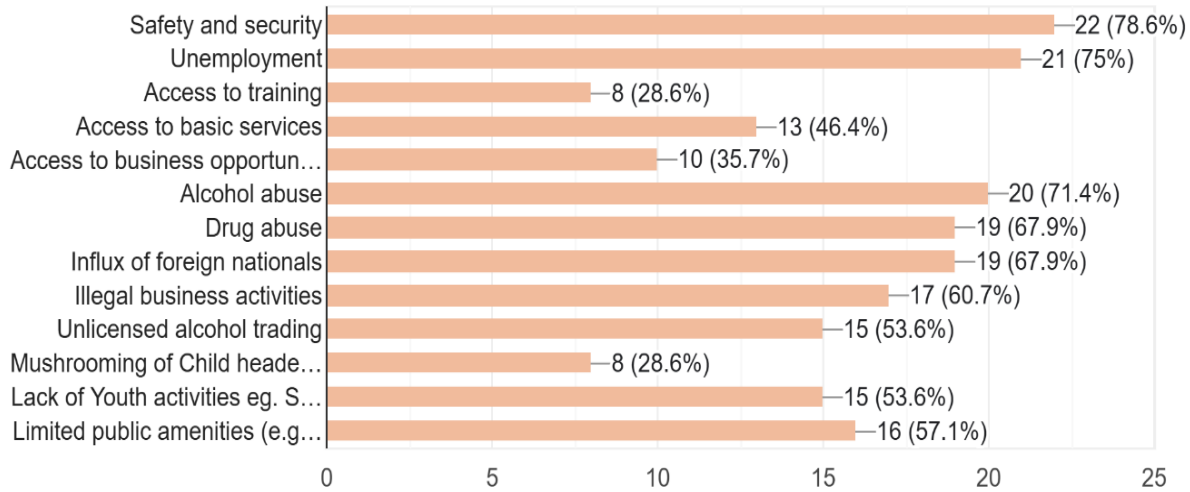
## **4. KEY STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES**

Key strengths for young people included a sense of family belonging, good physical health, positive engagement in education and a strong demonstration of positive values. Key challenges for young people included bullying, mental health, particularly from being under strain, lack of community

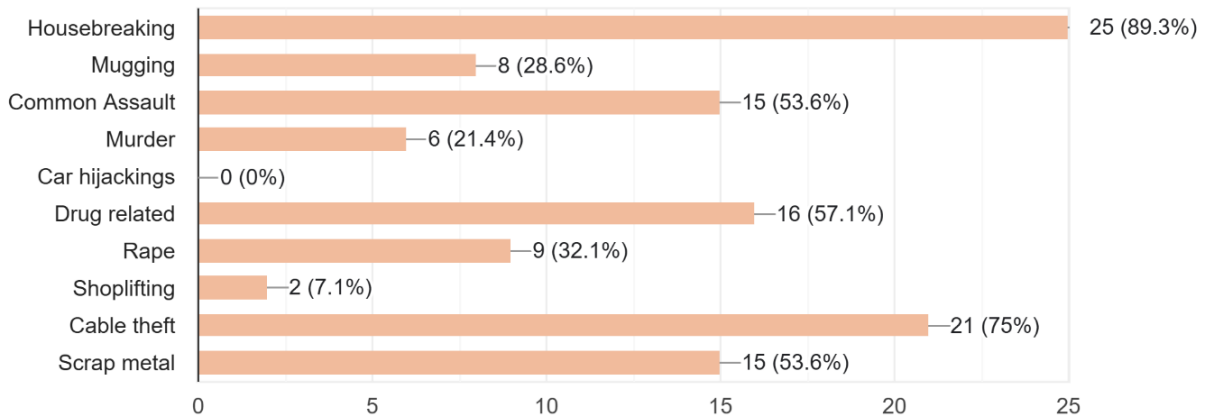
# Sundays River Valley Draft Community Safety Plan

belonging, unemployment, limited access to skills development and lack of positive identity.

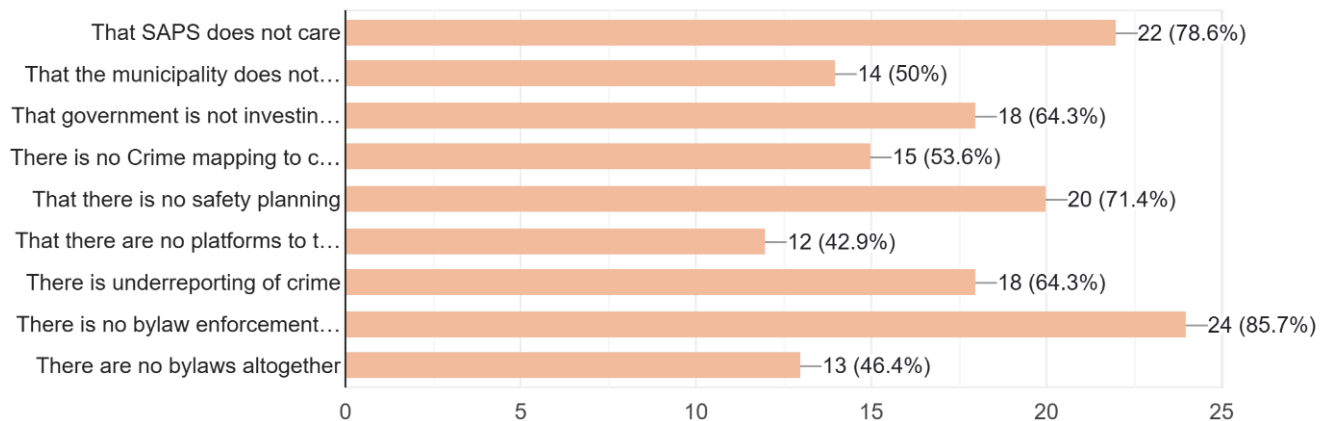
## KEY COMMUNITY CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED



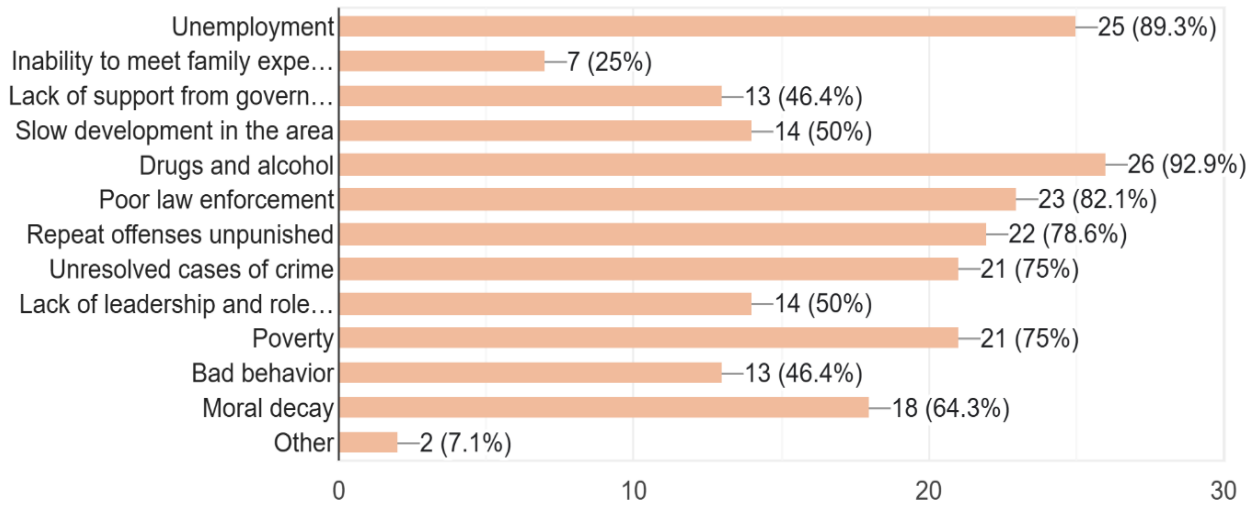
## MOST PREVALENT CRIMES IN SRV



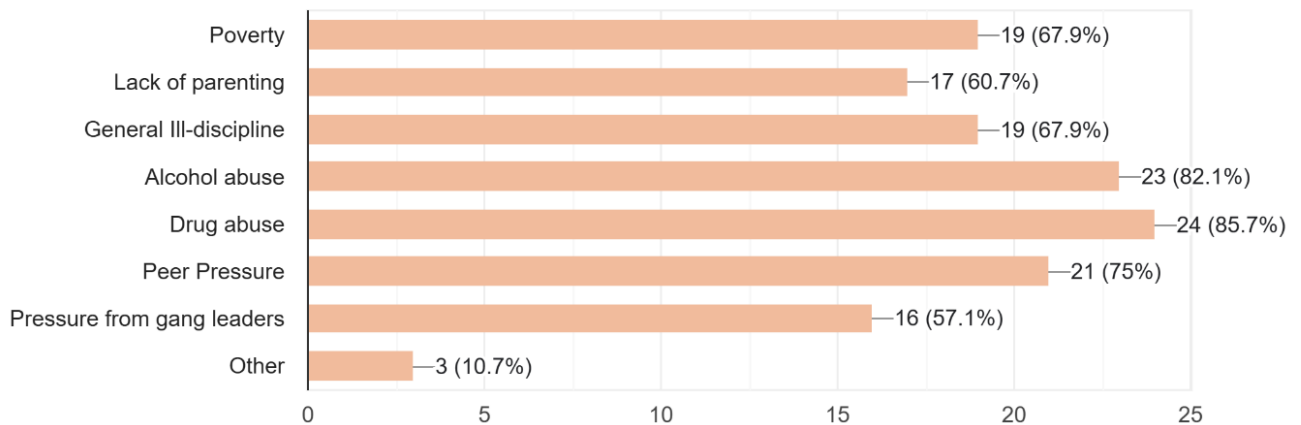
## COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS OF VIOLENCE AND SAFETY



## RISK FACTORS AT COMMUNITY LEVEL



## DRIVERS OF YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN CRIME



## 5. Alignment with SRVM Integrated Development Plan

The findings align closely with the following SRVM IDP strategic focus areas:

- Good Governance and Public Participation
- Community Safety and Disaster Management
- Local Economic Development
- Youth Development and Social Services
- Spatial Development and Service Delivery

Community safety emerges as a transversal issue affecting all IDP pillars rather than a standalone concern.

### **6. Thematic Findings and Discussion**

This draft Community Safety Plan presents a consolidated analysis based strictly on the findings and recommendations identified under each thematic area. Survey data and responses from the SRV community inform the foregoing analysis. This approach sought to ensure a realistic picture and forward plan rather than idealistic. The discussion does not introduce new data or interpretations beyond what is contained in the themes, but instead synthesises the findings and translates the recommendations into coherent, actionable focus areas aligned to the Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

#### **Theme 1: Pervasive Insecurity and Normalisation of Crime**

Crime is experienced as a persistent and everyday reality across all wards in Sundays River Valley Municipality, indicating that insecurity has become normalised within communities.

Residents report a high prevalence of housebreaking, assault, drug-related crime, and cable theft. These crimes affect daily life directly and disproportionately impact vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and tourists.

Fear of crime significantly constrains mobility, limits participation in economic activity, and reduces social interaction. The cumulative effect is a weakened sense of public life and reduced use of communal and economic spaces, reinforcing cycles of isolation and vulnerability.

#### **Theme 2: Institutional Failure and Erosion of Trust**

Residents consistently express low confidence in the responsiveness, effectiveness, and accountability of the South African Police Service (SAPS) and municipal authorities. This perception reflects a broader legitimacy crisis rather than isolated dissatisfaction. Weak enforcement of municipal bylaws, particularly those regulating alcohol trading, further undermines trust in institutions responsible for public safety and governance.

The erosion of trust discourages crime reporting, weakens cooperation between communities and authorities, and contributes to a perception of impunity.

#### **Theme 3: Socio-Economic Drivers of Violence**

Crime is widely understood by residents as being rooted in unemployment, poverty, and slow or uneven development. Youth unemployment is identified as the most significant driver of criminal activity.

Economic exclusion creates conditions in which both opportunistic and organised crime can flourish, including the growth of illegal businesses in marginalised areas. These socio-economic pressures reinforce cycles of crime by limiting legitimate income opportunities and normalising informal and illegal survival strategies.

### **Theme 4: Alcohol, Drugs, and Moral Decay**

Alcohol and drug abuse are consistently identified as key enablers of violence and social breakdown. Substance abuse is directly linked to domestic violence, sexual offences, and broader community instability. The operation of unlicensed taverns and weak enforcement of liquor regulations exacerbate these challenges and contribute to unsafe social environments.

The combined effect is a deterioration of social norms and increased exposure to violent behaviour, particularly for women and children.

### **Theme 5: Youth Marginalisation and Gang Involvement**

Youth are identified as both the most at-risk group and the most likely perpetrators of crime. Limited access to recreational, cultural, and skills-development infrastructure leaves many young people disengaged and vulnerable. In this context, gangs exploit boredom, poverty, and lack of opportunity to recruit youth into criminal activities.

The absence of positive alternatives reinforces cycles of violence and entrenches long-term insecurity within communities.

### **Theme 6: Fragmented Community Responses and Weak Social Cohesion**

While community safety forums and neighbourhood watches exist, they are under-resourced, poorly coordinated, and lack consistent institutional support. Despite a high willingness among residents to participate in safety initiatives, social divisions and mistrust undermine collective action and weaken social cohesion.

This fragmentation reduces the effectiveness of community-based crime prevention and limits the sustainability of local safety efforts.

### 7. Priority Area 1 : Safer places, streets and activity centres

Safe streets and spaces are clean, active, inviting, well designed and cared for, and welcoming for everyone. The positive 'look and feel' of our streets and spaces can contribute to reducing crime and increase feelings of safety. A priority of the SRVM is to ensure our streets, network of walking paths and cycleways, entertainment precincts, parks and outdoor spaces provide a vibrant, safe and welcoming environment that can be enjoyed by all both day and night.

#### **Increasing actual and perceived public safety**

Perceptions of safety often come from how people feel about an area or place. These fears can impact people's quality of life and the social and economic wellbeing of communities.

Perceptions can be influenced by environmental and design factors such as poor lighting; lack of clear sight lines; the presence of graffiti, damaged property or rubbish; an absence of other people; or a lack of seating or recreational spaces. They can also be influenced by social factors including the behaviour of other people – for example, alcohol or drug consumption in public places, dogs off-leash, or unsafe road and cycling behaviour.

Making changes to the environment through designing, activating and managing the city's streets and public places can reduce fear of crime and opportunities for actual crime to occur.

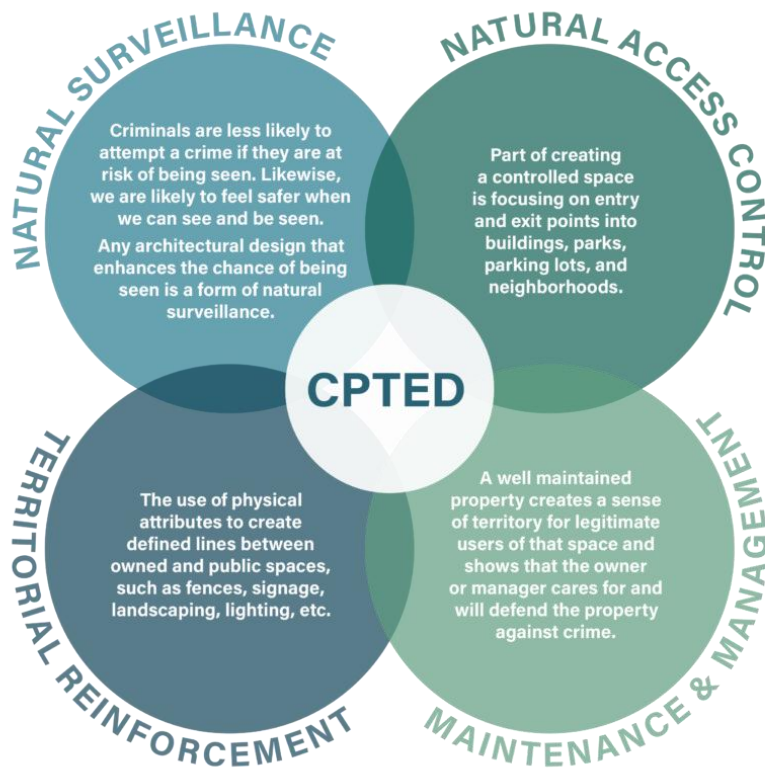
#### **Safe streets and welcoming public spaces**

Council is responsible for our streets and public spaces. One of our key responsibilities is to ensure our local areas are designed and planned to minimise the potential for crime to occur – an approach known as 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

Design techniques to improve safety include implementing ample lighting, clear sight lines, space activation and the use of physical barriers to control access. Council is committed to improving safety of all road users on the transport network with the aim to eliminate fatalities and reduce the risk and severity of injuries on our roads, allowing people of all ages and abilities to travel on our road network safely and with confidence. The number of road injuries has significantly reduced, with serious injuries to pedestrians throughout the municipal jurisdiction, particularly during holidays as SRVM law enforcement officials are on our roads. The Constitutional responsibility placed on the local municipality and expressed in its IDP identifies safety as a key outcome over the life of the plan and details a range of actions that Council will take in partnership with others to achieve this.

## Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

If people are using the public domain confidently, safely and into the evening this is an effective component of a safe public domain. The domain can also be designed to discourage criminal activity by ensuring there is more chance for offenders to be seen, challenged or caught; reducing opportunities for criminal activity; and creating the impression that more effort is required to commit a crime, with limited rewards.



This approach is referred to as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, CPTED. Aspects such as poor lighting, amenity, visibility and wayfinding, and limited natural surveillance and patronage, may present greater opportunities for crimes to occur. CPTED provides strategies for urban designers and planners to contribute to local crime prevention and increase perceptions of safety.

### Our street safety camera program

The private security industry operating in Sundays River Valley has installed closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras from Paterson, Addo, and the adjoining route to R75. CCTV cameras are also installed in town (Nqweba). The presence of these cameras increases public perceptions of safety and so in the long term, council will be developing a policy to guide its thinking about where and how CCTV can contribute to respond to government offers of partial funding.

### Managing and maintaining our streets and spaces

A cared-for environment can also give the impression that greater effort is required to commit a crime, with heightened risks of being seen or caught.

The ongoing process of maintaining, cleansing and removing waste from our streets and spaces contributes to enhancing actual and perceived safety for members of the public. Our work includes upgrading our infrastructure, such as cycleways, road infrastructure, footpaths, parks and signage. We also have a focus on improving and maintaining a high standard of lighting.

As part of managing our streets and spaces, Council aims to ensure that pets and people live together harmoniously. Our Keeping of Animals Bylaw balances the rights of animals and their owners with the needs of the wider community and environment and encourages responsible animal ownership. We also promote community connection through a shared love of animals through many of our community events. The municipality still struggles to have an animal pound; however, the conversation is being led by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs for the establishment of a regional animal pound.

### Placemaking

Placemaking is an action learning process that enables all parts of the community and Council to work together to create great places. This is further inspired by the cross learning emanating from the partnership between Sundays River Valley Municipality and Falkenberg Municipality in Sweden.

Through placemaking, Council will be seeking to increase the place capital of the designated placemaking precincts. Place capital is multi-faceted and includes: -

- i. Social elements, for example, community leadership, participation, volunteering, inclusion, and wellbeing;
- ii. Cultural elements for example, street life activation, innovation, creative and artistic expression as well as attachment to, and significance of the place;
- iii. Economic elements for example, entrepreneurship, business growth and sustainability, accessibility and affordability;
- iv. Physical elements for example, accessibility, connectivity, safety, comfort, attractiveness;
- v. Environmental elements for example environmental sustainability, awareness and participation.

### **Promote a creative and vibrant night life to reduce alcohol related anti-social behaviour**

Another key focus for the municipality is to work with our partners to continue to promote a creative and vibrant nightlife. This involves our work with traders and traders' associations, our cultural and creative sectors and promoting a vibrant nightlife.

This requires participation and involvement of all stakeholders, key to which is the Eastern Cape Liquor Board that is responsible for licensing and regulation of liquor traders.

### **Outdoor alcohol restrictions**

Alcohol restrictions in public places can help prevent alcohol-related antisocial behaviour, including offensive behaviour, littering and excessive noise, and help mitigate crimes such as malicious damage and acts of violence. Upon request, the municipality assists the police to intervene early by confiscating alcohol within designated areas. The Council considers outdoor alcohol restrictions in certain areas at regular intervals by analysing applications, submissions, and current crime statistics.

### **Safer places, streets and activity centres**

#### **Increase actual and perceived public safety in city streets and spaces to ensure they are well-lit and attractive**

- i. Continue to deliver high-quality cleansing and waste services to the community
- ii. Continue to support implementation of the Street Safety Camera Program operated and managed by the private sector. Develop a policy or MOU data sharing to inform policy development, crime prevention and policing in SRV. Source funding from government or other partners for additional security measure covering the whole of SRVM.
- iii. Continue to use CPTED principles in the design of human settlements including urban and semi-urban properties (public domain).
- iv. Activate spaces in the public domain through events and programs to enhance safety
- v. Continue to implement a range of activities and actions in our designated Placemaking areas
- vi. Promote responsible pet management and safety in the public domain
- vii. Continue to implement holiday programmes
- viii. Continue to work with partners to minimise safety impacts arising from unlicensed street trading

### **Promote a creative and vibrant nightlife to reduce alcohol related anti-social behaviour**

- i. Continue to support responsible social gathering through engagement with social gathering facility owners and operators, joining law enforcement

- operations, ongoing stint operations and business license verifications.
- ii. Manage outdoor alcohol restriction compliance
- iii. Create a positive social and physical environment around licensed premises and events to attract patrons and help people to feel and be safe
- iv. Support initiatives to deliver safety interventions for people who are intoxicated at night

### **Improve road, public transport and pedestrian safety**

- i. Continue to improve safety for people walking, using cycling through the design and renewal of footpaths and cycleways across our towns and the use of accessible way finding as part of being an age friendly municipal area.
- ii. Partner and work with government stakeholders to improve road and pedestrian safety through behaviour change and education
- iii. Work with the business, national and provincial government to ensure safety at high-use or late-night transport departure points. Additionally, promoting SRVM to the E-hailing industry (Bolt, Uber, Shesha, InDrive).

### 7.2 Priority Area 2 : Crime Prevention and Harm Minimisation

Crime prevention refers to the range of strategies that are implemented by individuals, communities, businesses, non-government organisations and all levels of government to target the various social and environmental factors that increase the risk of crime, disorder and victimisation.

The social approach to crime prevention focuses on addressing the underlying social and economic causes of crime in the community (such as a lack of social cohesion, and limited access to affordable and secure housing, employment, education and health services) and the motivations for people to commit offences.

The environmental approach to crime prevention aims to modify the physical environment to reduce opportunities for crimes to occur. This includes situational crime prevention techniques and broader urban planning initiatives. This approach is referred to as 'crime prevention through environmental design' (CPTED), and is discussed under Safer places, streets and activity centres.

Our focus areas are determined by an analysis of crime problems affecting our local area. To inform our work and respond to changing patterns of crime, we:

- i. identify crime hotspots in the local area and continually monitor crime trends using data from SAPS
- ii. regularly consult with stakeholders, such as South African Police, community members, businesses and other levels of government
- iii. conduct surveys with residents, businesses and visitors on their perceptions of safety and get insights from members of the public on an ongoing basis through our customer service channels.

We can also direct people impacted by crimes – including bystanders, victims and survivors of crime to relevant information and support services.

#### **Reducing opportunities for crime to occur**

Certain types of crime are often opportunistic. Situational crime prevention aims to change contextual factors to reduce opportunities for offenders to engage in criminal behaviour. An example would be locking windows and doors when leaving your home or not leaving valuables in plain sight in an unattended vehicle to reduce the risk of burglary or theft.

The SRV Council operates in close proximity to its businesses, visitors and residents. This level of community engagement positions us well to support local preventive activities that reduce the opportunities for crime to occur, such as raising awareness, providing information and building skills and knowledge. An example of collaborative work with the community is the neighbourhood safety audits we conduct to identify and reduce crime and safety risks in local neighbourhoods.

## Safety Audits

The Council of SRVM – in partnership the local community and South African Police, Council undertook a safety audit of its municipal area.

This involved a collaborative approach, using CPTED principles to:

- i. identify possible safety concerns and community perceptions of safety using group ‘walkthroughs’ in a local area
- ii. make recommendations to appropriate agencies to respond to safety concerns such as maintenance issues, lighting etc
- iii. enable the community to monitor the implementation of recommendations.

“Well-planned crime prevention strategies not only prevent crime and victimisation but also promote community safety and contribute to the sustainable development of countries. Effective, responsible crime prevention enhances the quality of life of all citizens. It has long-term benefits in terms of reducing the costs associated with the justice system, as well as other social costs that result from crime.”

## Protection against cybercrime

Cybercrime is defined as a crime in which a computer is the object of the crime (for example, hacking, phishing and spamming) or is used as a tool to commit an offence electronically (for example, theft, fraud, distribution of child pornography, online abuse and hate crimes).

As technologies and online behaviours rapidly evolve, so do the risks of crime that can be associated with digital technologies for organisations, businesses and members of the public. Fraud is an ongoing problem and is constantly changing as new technologies and payment options are introduced. Crime statistics show that 35 per cent of fraud crimes are related to credit cards, which is a provincial measure.

The provision of access to free public wi-fi and digital facilities at our libraries and community centres provides an opportunity to promote awareness of safer internet use for residents, workers, and visitors, including reducing the risks of identity fraud, scams, exploitation, and online abuse of children and young people.

For our organisation, we have protections in place to safeguard our digital infrastructure and the data we hold that has been provided to us by the public and local organisations, and we continue to assess risks and upgrade protections regularly. The Sundays River Valley Municipality will work with Police and others to reduce these risks for residents and businesses.



# Contributing to Reducing Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault in Sundays River Valley Municipality

## South Africa – National Crime Context

South Africa continues to experience high levels of violent crime. According to the latest official South African Police Service (SAPS) crime statistics for the 2023/2024 reporting period:



## South Africa – National Crime Context

- **Murder:** 27 494 cases nationally – an average of 76 per day.
- **Common assault:** 155 296 reported incidents.



## Eastern Cape Province



## Sarah Baartman District Municipality

Historical SAPS data (2016–2019) shows the district:

- **Sexual offences:** fluctuation between 2 and 31 incidents. **1,191** **17** **154**
- **Assault GBH:** **Rape: 14, 17, 97**

Some of SAL hives being significant relative to totals

## Sundays River Valley Local Municipality

SAPS precinct data annual rate per 1,000 people

- Addo Police Station
- Sexual offences; ranged from ~184 to ~148 per 1,000 (2026–2023).
- Rape: ~168 to ~104 per 1,000 (2020–2025).
- Sexual assault; up to ~28 per 1,000



## Sarah Baartman District Municipality

Historical SAPS data (2016–2019) shows the district experienced:

- **Sexual offences:** fluctuation between 2 and 31 incidents per year **200+**
- **Murder:** roughly 200 plus incidents annually. **200**

Districts w/ crime significant relative to provincial totals

## Sundays River Valley Local Municipality

SAPS precinct data annual rate: per 1,000 people (2020–2025):

- Addo Police Station ~184 to ~148
- Rape: ~168 to ~104
- Sexual assault; up to ~28 per 1,000 in 2023



### 8. Statistics of Crime and Violence

Data-grounded overview of crime statistics related to domestic and family violence, sexual assault, and broader violent crime contextualised for South Africa, the Eastern Cape Province, the Sarah Baartman District, and the Sundays River Valley Municipality. This information provides evidence for the social planning, community safety initiatives, and crime-prevention strategies that can contribute to reducing domestic and family violence and sexual assault in the area.

Contributing to Reducing Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault in Sundays River Valley Municipality

#### South Africa — National Crime Context

South Africa continues to experience high levels of violent crime. According to the latest official South African Police Service (SAPS) crime statistics for the 2023/2024 reporting period:

- Murder: 27 494 cases nationally — an average of 76 per day.
- Common assault: 155 296 reported incidents.

These figures include a range of violence-related and interpersonal crimes relevant to domestic and family violence contexts.

Provincial breakdown (Jan–Mar 2025) further shows in the Eastern Cape:

- Rape: 154 reported cases.
- Sexual assault: 17 reported cases.
- Assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm: 1 191 incidents. These figures are part of national SAPS quarterly crime counts and encompass several categories linked with domestic and gender-based violence.

#### Eastern Cape Province

The Eastern Cape historically records some of the country's highest violent crime rates, including murder, assault and other serious contact crimes. While provincial reporting aggregates broad categories of violence, trends indicate persistent challenges with interpersonal and family-related violence across the region.

#### Sarah Baartman District Municipality

Historical SAPS data (2016–2019) shows the district experienced:

- Sexual offences: fluctuation between 2 and 31 incidents per year.
- Murder: roughly 200-plus incidents annually.

While this is older data, it still shows violent crime significantly present in the district relative to provincial totals, with sexual offences representing a recurring recorded category. More recent SAPS quarterly crime data indicates crime trends in the Eastern Cape Province (when comparing precinct data region-wide) are close to or recovering to pre-COVID levels, particularly for violent crime categories.

## Sundays River Valley Local Municipality

There is a limited centralised SAPS “crime rate per capita” source publicly released for every category, but precinct-level data from multiple police stations within Sundays River Valley reflects consistent reporting across the municipality:

Crime statistics by SAPS precinct (2020–2025) — annual and rate per 1 000 people

*(Figures approximate reported incidence rates per 1 000, across various stations within the municipality):*

### Addo Police Station

- *Sexual offences*: ranged from 184 to 148 per 1 000 (2020–2023).
- *Rape*: 168 to 104 per 1 000 (2020–2023).
- *Sexual assault*: up to 28 per 1 000 in 2023.

### Alexandria Police Station

- *Sexual offences*: 117–69 per 1 000 over recent years.
- *Rape*: 74–63 per 1 000 (2020–2023).
- *Sexual assault*: up to 37 per 1 000 in 2024.

### Paterson Police Station

- *Sexual offences*: 76 per 1 000 (2020, 2025).
- *Rape*: similar range, with some reported sexual assaults in recent years.

### Kinkelbos (small population precinct)

- showed episodic sexual offence reporting which varies year-to-year due to small population and low absolute counts.
- These precinct figures represent reported crime levels, not the total prevalence of unreported violence, which broader research consistently shows is significant in the South African context.

## Key Insights for Sundays River Valley

### 1. Violent crimes including sexual offences remain a significant issue

- Multiple SAPS precincts within the Sundays River Valley report ongoing incidents of sexual offences, rape, and assault.
- Per capita rates can be high in smaller communities (where even a few cases significantly influence the rate).

### 2. Reporting varies across time and location

- Differences in reported rates between precincts like Addo, Alexandria, and Paterson show local variation in crime patterns, which requires tailored community safety strategies.

### 3. Local nuance matters

- Rural and agricultural municipalities such as Sundays River Valley face additional structural challenges such as limited police resourcing, under-reporting, and barriers to accessing support services, which can affect both crime rates and response effectiveness.

In summary, the evidence above underscores a multi-layered violence challenge that affects communities from the national to the municipal level. For us as Sundays River Valley, this means combining data-informed strategy, community engagement, victim support services, and prevention programming aligned with policing and social development, which is essential to help reduce domestic and family violence, sexual assault, and related harms.

## 9. Root causes and prevalent crimes and violence in Sundays River Valley

Millions of South Africans are harmed in alcohol-related incidents each year. Almost five million people in South Africa (26 %) aged 14 and over reported being a victim of an alcohol-related incident in the preceding 12 months, and the number of South Africans who experienced physical abuse in an alcohol-related incident increased.

The SRV has the second highest rate of alcohol related hospitalisations and the highest alcohol-related ambulance attendances in the Region. SRV has the second-highest rate of alcohol related assault in the Sarah Baartman Region. During high alcohol hours (Fridays or Saturdays between 8 pm and 6 am).

Although major alcohol control policies are the responsibility of the Eastern Cape Liquor Board and SAPS, the municipality will strive to reduce residents' risk of harm from alcohol by:

- strategic plans and policies that explicitly aim to reduce alcohol-related harm
- designing environments that reduce alcohol-related harm
- implementing strategic approaches that change alcohol cultures by changing social norms, attitudes and beliefs about alcohol consumption and intoxication
- building local partnerships that reduce alcohol-related harm.

The alcohol abuse challenge has deepened in the community and results have spilled over to the schooling system where children who suffer from Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, resulting in their mental capacity not being fully developed, are unable to complete their education. This indirectly pushes the government to invest immensely in alternative skills development.

### 9.1 Reducing access to drugs

Illicit drug use has both short-term and long-term health effects, which may include poisoning, mental illness, self-harm, suicide and death. The social impacts of illicit drug use include stressed family relationships, family breakdown, domestic violence, child abuse, assaults and crime.

Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Harm Reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs. Harm reduction incorporates a spectrum of strategies from safer use, to managed use to abstinence addressing the conditions of use along with the use itself.

The following principles are central to harm reduction practice:

- Drug use is a complex, multi-faceted phenomenon that encompasses a continuum of behaviors from severe abuse to total abstinence, and acknowledges that some ways of using drugs are clearly safer than others. This is stated against the use of dagga for medicinal purposes and commercialization thereof at a large scale within the ECRDA regulations.
- The quality of individual and community life and well-being—not necessarily cessation of all drug use—is the criteria for successful interventions and policies.
- Non-judgmental, non-coercive provision of services and resources to people who use drugs and the communities in which they live in order to assist them in reducing harms.
- Drug users and those with a history of drug use routinely have a real voice in the creation of programs and policies designed to serve them.
- Drug users themselves are the primary agents of reducing the harms of their drug use, and seeks to empower users to share information and support each other in strategies which meet their actual conditions of use.
- Recognises that the realities of poverty, class, racism, social isolation, past trauma, sex-based discrimination and other social inequalities affect both people's vulnerability to and capacity for effectively dealing with drug-related harm.

### **9.2 Contributing to preventing child abuse and supporting effective responses**

The National and Provincial government has invested significantly in ensuring the safety of children who are under our duty of care or who engage with the municipality, Department of Social Development, Nongovernmental Organisations, South African Police Services (for example, through childcare facilities, early childhood development centres (ECDs), community programs, and sport and recreational venues). This includes developing and implementing revised child protection policies and procedures that reflect current child protection legislation, and compulsory tailored training for staff.

The following information outlines the key actions that SRVM will undertake over the next three years to contribute to crime prevention and harm minimisation.

### **Reduce the opportunities for crime to occur**

- i. Build the capacity of businesses and the community to prevent crime
- ii. Conduct safety audits with South African Police, businesses and residents to reduce the risk and impact of crime
- iii. Track crime trends and community perceptions of crime and safety to identify priorities and emerging risks

### **Contribute to reducing domestic and family violence, and sexual assault**

- i. Increase collaboration across agencies to reduce domestic and family violence
- ii. Partner with SAPS and other agencies to encourage bystanders to support victims and increase reporting of domestic and family violence
- iii. Support prevention strategies to reduce violence against women
- iv. Partner with government and non-government agencies to provide information and support for victims of sexual assault and harassment

### **Contribute to preventing child abuse and supporting effective responses**

- i. Continue to embed and promote child-safe standards across our organisation
- ii. Support local child-related businesses and organisations to be child-safe
- iii. Support community initiatives to prevent child abuse including online abuse

### **Reduce harm from drugs and alcohol**

- i. Provide support for targeted harm minimisation initiatives in SRV
- ii. Increase community awareness of where to get help and support with drug and alcohol issues
- iii. Continuing to implement awareness and support programs

## **10. Priority Area 3: A welcoming, inclusive and resilient community**

### **Creating culturally safe and welcoming spaces**

An important aspect of feeling safe is for people to feel welcome and respected for who they are. To create and champion safe and welcoming spaces for all, we use inclusive language, signage and cultural symbols in Council facilities, venues and parks. This includes recognised symbols such as flags, artwork, multilingual resources and place names. Symbols of recognition can contribute to people feeling safer. Council partners with our community to create welcoming and inclusive spaces.

## Acknowledgement and celebration of significant Calendar Days

Across South Africa, significant calendar days are commemorated through a diverse range of events that reflect the country's history, constitutional values, and cultural richness. These occasions are not only symbolic but serve as platforms for education, dialogue, and community engagement, often organised through a combination of government initiatives, civil society efforts, and grassroots participation.

### Human Rights Day (21 March)





Observed in remembrance of the Sharpeville Massacre, Human Rights Day is marked by events that promote constitutional rights and social justice. Typical activities include:

- Public lectures and panel discussions on human rights issues
- Community outreach and legal awareness campaigns
- School programmes focusing on the Constitution of the Republic
- Memorial services and marches advocating equality and dignity

These events reinforce democratic values while encouraging active citizenship.

## Youth Day (16 June)



Commemorating the Soweto Uprising, Youth Day highlights the role of young people in shaping the nation. Events typically include:

- Youth empowerment workshops and leadership seminars
- Career expos and skills development initiatives
- Cultural performances, poetry, and music showcases
- Community dialogues addressing youth unemployment and education

The day balances remembrance with forward-looking investment in youth development.

### Heritage Day (24 September)





Widely known as “Braai Day,” Heritage Day celebrates the country’s diverse cultures and traditions. Common events include:

- Cultural festivals showcasing music, dance, and traditional attire
- Community braais bringing people together across backgrounds
- Exhibitions highlighting indigenous heritage and history
- School and municipal events promoting cultural awareness

It is a vibrant expression of unity in diversity.

National Women's Day (9 August)





Marking the historic 1956 Women's March to the Union Buildings, this day celebrates the strength and contributions of women. Events include:

- Women's empowerment conferences and networking forums
- Campaigns addressing gender-based violence and equality
- Recognition ceremonies honoring women leaders
- Wellness events and community support initiatives

The focus is both celebratory and advocacy-driven.

Child Protection Week (Late May – Early June)





Led by the Department of Social Development, this march sought to emphasise children's rights and safety.

Annual Activities often include:

- Awareness campaigns on child abuse prevention
- School visits and educational workshops
- Community marches advocating child safety
- Collaboration between NGOs, law enforcement, and social services

The initiative aims to mobilize communities to protect and nurture children.

### **11. Cross-Cutting Considerations: Funding & Sustainability**

While these events are nationally recognized, many—particularly at community level—face significant funding constraints. A large proportion are:

- Supported by limited government budgets
- Dependent on voluntary contributions from local communities
- Supplemented by sporadic sponsorship from small businesses and NGOs

This reliance on inconsistent funding often affects the scale, reach, and sustainability of programmes. Despite these challenges, communities continue to organise impactful events through collective effort, reinforcing social cohesion and national identity.

These commemorative days remain vital to South Africa's social fabric—serving not only as moments of reflection, but as active platforms for education, empowerment, and unity across diverse communities.

The Council of Sundays River Valley Municipality is committed to acknowledging, sharing and celebrating a living culture in our municipality.

***Council respectfully acknowledges the Xhothova & Tyhamka  
home-coming celebration of the 2 communities in Sundays  
River Valley. We pay our respect to their Elders, both past and  
present.***

***We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship with us.***

Council works with all its communities and stakeholders to provide a safe, respectful and welcoming environment for the people living, working, studying, visiting and accessing services in the SRV municipal area.

Our people are a vital presence in the Valley. Through our engagement and partnership work, we know community aspirations include resilience and prosperity. We are also keenly aware that the wellbeing of our communities is developed from within, through empowerment and self-determination. As a local council that governs an area which has a strong community culture, we also have a special role in

## Sundays River Valley Draft Community Safety Plan

supporting our communities towards prosperity.

Local communities can play a role in strengthening connections to culture by getting involved in local events that showcase the work of our creative sector including local artists. These initiatives can connect people to each other through culture and foster greater understanding. They will also provide more business, employment and leadership opportunities.

SRV showcases a progressive and inclusive society by celebrating all of its citizens, with special recognition of the resilience and strength of the living and diverse cultures of communities.

### SRV ANNUAL CRICKET MANIA



Source: [www.karoospace.co.za](http://www.karoospace.co.za)

The Sundays River Valley Annual Cricket Mania Social Gathering stands as a compelling expression of community spirit, where sport, culture, and social connection converge in one of South Africa's most picturesque rural landscapes. More than a cricket event, it is a unifying occasion that reflects the identity, resilience, and shared pride of the people of Sundays River Valley.

Set against a backdrop of expansive citrus farms and gently undulating terrain, the event unfolds in an atmosphere that is both relaxed and deeply communal. The natural beauty of the region enhances the experience, offering attendees not only a sporting spectacle but also a meaningful escape into a setting defined by warmth and hospitality.

At its core, Cricket Mania is anchored in a dynamic programme of friendly yet competitive matches. Local teams, social clubs, and visiting players come together on the field, embodying both sportsmanship and passion for the game. Off the pitch, the event transforms into a lively social hub where families, friends, and supporters gather, fostering an inclusive and celebratory environment. The day is enriched by traditional South African braais, local food stalls, and refreshments that showcase regional flavours, while music and entertainment—often featuring DJs or live performances—sustain an energetic and festive ambiance well beyond the boundary lines. Equally significant is the opportunity for networking and social engagement, as attendees reconnect with familiar faces and forge new relationships within a shared cultural space. What makes this gathering particularly remarkable, however, is not only its atmosphere but the way it is sustained. The event is largely funded through voluntary contributions from local residents and the support of a handful of community-minded businesses.

This grassroots funding model underscores both the dedication of the community and the ongoing challenges faced in ensuring the event's continuity and growth. Limited financial resources place constraints on infrastructure, expansion, and long-term planning, making sustained support and sponsorship a critical need for the future of Cricket Mania.

Despite these challenges, the event continues to thrive as a celebration of unity, local culture, and outdoor recreation. It offers a unique blend of competition and relaxation, drawing cricket enthusiasts, families, social groups, and visitors seeking an authentic experience of Eastern Cape community life.

In essence, the Sundays River Valley Annual Cricket Mania is not merely an event—it is a testament to what a community can achieve through collective effort, shared passion, and an enduring commitment to togetherness.

### **Xhothova & Tyhamka home-coming celebration**

The Sundays River Valley Xhothova & Tyhamka Initiates Home-Coming Celebration is a culturally significant community event held in the Sundays River Valley in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. Unlike the larger Kirkwood Wildsfees, this celebration is deeply rooted in traditional Xhosa customs and local heritage.

#### **Overview**

The event is organized to welcome back young men from the initiation (ulwaluko) process, a traditional rite of passage marking the transition from boyhood to manhood in Xhosa culture. After spending time in seclusion undergoing initiation, the initiates return home, and their communities gather to celebrate their new status.

### Cultural Significance

- **Rite of passage:** The ceremony symbolizes maturity, responsibility, and acceptance into manhood.
- **Community unity:** Families, elders, and community members come together to honor the initiates and reinforce cultural values.
- **Preservation of tradition:** The event helps maintain and pass down Xhosa customs, beliefs, and identity to younger generations.

### Key Features of the Celebration

- **Traditional attire:** Initiates often wear distinctive clothing, such as blankets and headgear, representing their transition.
- **Music and dance:** The celebration includes traditional singing, drumming, and dancing.
- **Feasting:** Families prepare and share food as part of the festivities.
- **Speeches and guidance:** Elders provide advice and teachings to the initiates about adulthood and social responsibilities.

### Role in the Community

In areas like Xhothova and Tyhamka, the home-coming celebration is more than just a festivity—it is a vital cultural event that strengthens identity, respect for tradition, and social cohesion within the community. The Xhothova & Tyhamka Initiates Home-Coming Celebration reflects the rich cultural heritage of the Sundays River Valley, emphasizing respect, tradition, and community pride while marking an important milestone in the lives of young men.

### Wildsfees (Annual Wildlife Festival)

The Sundays River Valley Wildlife Festival, commonly known as the Kirkwood Wildsfees, is a popular annual event held in late June in the town of Kirkwood in South Africa's Eastern Cape. It takes place in the scenic Sundays River Valley, an area renowned for its rich biodiversity and proximity to the Addo Elephant National Park.

#### Overview of the Festival

The festival is a vibrant celebration of wildlife, nature, local culture, and community life. It attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year and has grown into one of South Africa's most well-known family-friendly events.

#### Key Features

- **Wildlife focus:** The festival highlights conservation and wildlife through exhibitions, educational displays, and activities such as game auctions and interactions.
- **Entertainment:** Visitors enjoy live music performances by well-known South African artists, along with shows and competitions.

## Sundays River Valley Draft Community Safety Plan

- Food and markets: There are hundreds of stalls offering local food, wine, crafts, and agricultural products, showcasing the region's farming heritage.
- Family activities: The event includes funfair rides, children's entertainment, and interactive exhibits like the "Walk on the Wildside" display.

### Significance

The festival plays an important role in promoting tourism, environmental awareness, and local economic development. It also reflects the identity of the Sundays River Valley as a region rich in wildlife, agriculture, and natural beauty.

Overall, the Sundays River Valley Wildlife Festival is a lively and educational event that combines nature, entertainment, and community spirit, making it a highlight of the Eastern Cape's annual events calendar.

### Social Support in SRV

The government's Social Support Programs provide older residents, particularly children below the age of 18, those who are socially isolated, chronically ill and people with disabilities the opportunity to participate in the economy and enjoy normal livelihoods through social grants. Additionally, the municipality has an indigent register for those living below the poverty line to have access to electricity and water at no cost. The Social Support Programs are extended to recreational activities for young and older community members, promoting health and wellness. The municipality partners with Community groups, to leverage social inclusion opportunities for its most vulnerable residents.

### Recommendations

**Theme 1:** To address pervasive insecurity, ward-level crime mapping should be implemented to identify hotspots and guide targeted interventions. Improvements in street lighting and broader environmental design measures are necessary to reduce opportunities for crime and increase passive surveillance. In addition, the expansion of victim support services is recommended to mitigate the social and psychological impacts of crime and to support recovery and reporting.

**Theme 2:** Strengthening Community Policing Forums (CPF's) with clearly defined oversight authority is recommended to improve accountability and rebuild trust. Regular public reporting on crime response times and case outcomes should be instituted to enhance transparency. In parallel, municipal bylaw enforcement requires targeted capacity building to ensure consistent and visible enforcement, particularly in high-risk areas.

**Theme 3:** Labour-intensive municipal projects should be expanded and designed to prioritise local youth employment. Such projects can provide short-term income while building skills and work experience. In addition, targeted support for small enterprise development and the formalisation of informal businesses is recommended to create sustainable livelihoods and reduce reliance on illegal economic activities.

**Theme 4:** Joint compliance operations between SAPS and municipal authorities are recommended to strengthen enforcement of liquor regulations and close unlicensed establishments. Complementary to enforcement, community-based prevention and rehabilitation programmes should be expanded to address substance abuse as a public health and social development issue, rather than relying solely on punitive measures.

**Theme 5:** The establishment of youth centres and structured after-school programmes is recommended to provide safe spaces, mentorship, and constructive activities. Skills development initiatives should be aligned with local economic opportunities to ensure that training translates into employability and income generation, reducing the appeal of gang involvement.

**Theme 6:** Formalising multi-stakeholder safety partnerships is recommended to improve coordination between communities, SAPS, municipal departments, and civil society. Regular ward-based safety dialogues and social cohesion initiatives should be implemented to build trust, address divisions, and strengthen collective responsibility for community safety.

### 12. Shifting SRVM to the desired state

A resilient region is prepared and connected. It has networks primed and ready to act together in an emergency or in response to chronic issues. The systems and infrastructure that support how it functions are diversified to enable essential businesses and institutions to keep running during shock emergency events. Strong connections between organisations, governments and communities help them to recover from shocks and to deal with longer-term stresses together. People participate in decision-making and are agents of change, contributing to shared solutions.

Sudden shocks that cause short-term, acute disruptions include emergencies such as extreme weather events (heatwaves and storms), water supply issues, infrastructure failures (for example, power outages or building collapses), digital network failures, terror attacks, cyber attacks and disease pandemics.

Examples of stresses that weaken the fabric of a city over the longer term include high unemployment, an overtaxed or inefficient public transportation system, a lack of affordable and secure housing, increasing rates of chronic disease, diminishing social cohesion, drug and alcohol abuse, high crime rates, and increased inequality across communities.

With strong connections and a commitment to sharing knowledge and creating opportunities for diverse perspectives, we can better prevent or mitigate such stresses and shocks, adapt to situations, and rapidly recover and thrive after disruptions.

### **12.1 SYSTEMS THINKING TOWARDS AN AGILE SERVICE DELIVERY FRAMEWORK: ENSURING SRV KNOWS HOW TO PREVENT, PREPARE FOR, RESPOND TO, AND RECOVER FROM EMERGENCIES**

In resilient cities, communities are aware and prepared. They know how they can prepare and equip themselves in the event of a major shock, both as individuals and as members of their local neighbourhoods and communities.

Certain emergencies in the area require a significant coordinated response from emergency services and other government agencies, such as those responsible for health and transport. To manage a coordinated response, emergency service agencies in the local area work with us to develop our local emergency management plan, which describes the local arrangements to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies. As part of this, we also have ancillary plans to address differing contexts. This includes plans for vulnerable communities – for example, people sleeping rough who are at risk from the adverse effects of extreme weather events.

We also work in partnership to protect crowded places (such as major events) against planned, deliberate acts of harm. Council works in partnership with government and the private sector to better protect people, property and the environment in our local area.

Owners and operators have the primary responsibility for protecting their sites, including a duty of care to take steps to protect people that work, use or visit their site. By working together to implement this strategy, owners and operators are in a better position to protect crowded places.

#### **i) Building resilient and connected communities to increase safety**

A strong community has the capacity to cope with change or challenges. It fosters connections between people which helps to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour. A sense of belonging, social cohesion and purpose in life are the foundations that support a safe community. Individuals and families connected to others and to the broader community, young people involved in activities and education, neighbours knowing and supporting one another, and people having meaningful activities and purpose in life are all factors that help to create a safer community and help people to feel safe within their community. These factors contribute to personal attitudes and social capital essential for safety: respectful relationships, pride of place, caring for others, tolerance, inclusiveness and understanding, and a lack of discrimination

### **ii) Appropriate housing contributes to safer communities**

Access to safe and sustainable housing is fundamental to increasing safety and building community resilience.

Homelessness can be both a cause and a consequence of being a victim or an offender of crime. Some people in the community report feeling unsafe as a result of confusing rough sleeping with antisocial behaviour.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of homelessness in SRV. Victims fleeing an unsafe home environment are often left without the resources to access alternative accommodation. There are also well-documented links between homelessness, offending and reoffending. There is insufficient rental housing across the Valley available for people and families on low incomes.

The Department of Human Settlements has a dedicated team to help people experiencing homelessness access long-term housing with support.

To increase opportunities to access housing that is affordable, Council continues to advocate for investment in a range of initiatives, due to growing backyard house occupation in SRV as well as investor interest in developing the property industry in the area.

The strategy builds on the successful partnership with the Department of human settlements, Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, Citrus Growers Association, and the private security industry operating in SRV, and maintains our longstanding leadership in affordable housing. This is central to our commitment to maintaining a diverse, inclusive and equitable city, especially for those who are disadvantaged and marginalised.

Over the next 10 years to 2036, we will continue to grow the supply and diversity of affordable housing in the area to address priority local housing needs. This will include facilitating new community housing projects through property and cash contributions to local housing organisations and advocating for an affordable housing planning mechanism that will incentivise private sector delivery of new affordable housing, particularly for the middle to high income group. A community safety plan therefore, will help in providing investor assurance of the key drivers of disinvestment in smaller municipalities, which is safety.

### **iii) Ensuring visitors feel safe and welcome**

People visiting Sundays River Valley make a significant contribution to our local economy. The Valley in its dominant tourism and agricultural sectors is a popular destination for tourists and job seekers. It is important to point out that this data refers to visitors from more than 50kms outside the municipality, so in theory these figures are likely to be greater.

We have a number of initiatives in place to welcome visitors and to help them familiarise themselves with and contribute to our local area. We manage a meet-and-greet program of volunteer ambassadors at the passenger ship terminal in Port Melbourne. We provide effective signage and wayfinding tools to help visitors easily and safely navigate to popular destinations.

Our vibrant late-night entertainment areas attract both locals and visitors, and the experiences they offer shapes their impressions of the Valley and its reputation.

The following outlines the key actions the SRVM with its stakeholders will undertake over the next five years to contribute to ensuring the city is a welcoming, inclusive and resilient community.

### **Ensure that the fire, disaster and emergency services knows how to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies**

- i. Work with emergency services, relevant agencies and the community to build resilience in communities to prevent, respond to and recover from emergencies
- ii. Implement the recommended approach of Australia's Strategy for Protecting Crowded Places from violence

### **Build resilient and connected communities to increase safety**

- i. Collaborate with the national and provincial Government, non-government agencies and residents to address safety and amenity issues for social housing residents
- ii. Provide and support community capacity – building initiatives in social housing neighbourhoods to increase tenant participation in increasing safety
- iii. Coordinate community events to increase opportunities to meet with police, neighbours and local services, and increase knowledge about safety
- iv. Support people sleeping rough to access safe and sustainable housing and health services
- v. Work with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to promote and celebrate the continuing culture of the local Boon Wurrung people

### **Ensure visitors feel safe and welcome**

- a. Continue to implement programs to welcome visitors as they familiarise themselves with the City of Port Phillip
- b. Use culturally inclusive language, signage and symbols in Council facilities, venues and parks to create and champion safe and welcoming spaces for all

### 13. Developing the draft action plan

The draft plan builds on the Sunday River Valley's current strategies, plans and policies, and draws on our day-to-day experience working with our many partners, networks and community members to address safety.

To identify immediate and longer-term priorities and desired outcomes for the action plan, the Council of Sundays River Valley Municipality:

- c. engaged with community members, South African Police Service, non-governmental organisations, academic institutions, government agencies and peak bodies and networks
- d. drew on outcomes from extensive community and stakeholder engagement undertaken for the development of the IDP, Municipal Health Services Bylaws, Disaster Management Plan, Fire Safety Bylaws to ensure a realistic Community Safety Plan
- e. analysed long-term trends in local crime data and community indicators to identify risks and areas of resilience and strength to build on
- f. Conducted action research projects, such as community safety audits with community members and agencies, traders and Police.
- g. reviewed community safety and crime reduction initiatives from comparable municipalities.

### 14. Conclusion

The Draft Community Safety Plan followed a systematic approach in collecting data from the various wards and communities of SRVM. This was done to ensure a realistic picture rather than an idealistic image of the current state of safety. The resultant plan therefore, in following a thematic analysis, came up with 6 key themes / focus areas in improving safety in SRVM. Key to these themes is dealing with the root causes rather than symptoms. This report presents a qualitative thematic analysis of community safety perceptions in Sundays River Valley Municipality (SRVM), based on survey data collected across multiple wards. The purpose of the study is to understand lived experiences of crime, violence, and safety, identify systemic drivers of insecurity, and align community-identified priorities with the strategic objectives of the SRVM Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

The analysis identified six critical thematic focus areas: (1) pervasive insecurity and normalisation of crime; (2) institutional failure and erosion of trust in law enforcement and governance; (3) socio-economic drivers of violence; (4) alcohol, drug abuse, and moral decay; (5) youth marginalisation and gang involvement; and (6) fragmented community responses and weakened social cohesion.

These themes strongly intersect with IDP priority areas, particularly those related to community safety, local economic development, youth development, social services, and good governance.

Findings reveal that crime in SRVM is perceived not as isolated incidents but as a chronic, structural condition shaped by unemployment, poverty, ineffective law enforcement, inadequate bylaw enforcement, and limited youth opportunities.

Residents express deep mistrust in SAPS and municipal responsiveness, while simultaneously demonstrating willingness to participate in community-led safety initiatives if adequately supported.

The report concludes with a Theory of Change and a Results Framework that provide a strategic, evidence-based pathway for translating community insights into actionable IDP-aligned interventions. The overall recommendation is the adoption of an Integrated Community Safety and Social Cohesion Programme embedded within the IDP and implemented through multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Across all themes, the findings highlight the interconnected nature of insecurity, institutional weakness, socio-economic exclusion, and social fragmentation. The recommendations collectively emphasise targeted enforcement, institutional accountability, economic inclusion, youth development, and strengthened community partnerships as critical pillars for improving safety and social cohesion. Implementing these recommendations in an integrated manner will be essential to achieving sustainable community safety outcomes

This study demonstrates that community safety in Sundays River Valley Municipality is inseparable from broader development challenges. Addressing crime requires an integrated, IDP-aligned approach that combines enforcement, prevention, socio-economic inclusion, and participatory governance. Embedding the proposed Theory of Change and Results Framework into the IDP will enhance responsiveness, accountability, and long-term impact.

### **Contributing to the Sundays River Valley's Council Plan 2026-2031**

Public safety influences many different aspects of our municipality's quality of life and sustainability for its growing population of residents, workers and visitors. Consequently, the areas for action in this plan contribute broadly to overarching vision for SRV set out in its Integrated Development Plan 2025-2026.

Council, in adopting the Council Plan 2026– 2031, is committed to the delivery of actions across the six strategic directions.

## 16. CIMO LOGIC FRAMEWORK: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

THEME	IDP LINKAGE	CONTEXT (C) <i>(Problem Environment)</i>	INTERVENTION (I) <i>(What the Municipality &amp; Partners should Do)</i>	MECHANISM (M) <i>(How Change Happens)</i>	OUTCOMES (O) <i>(Expected Results)</i>	Timeframe	Responsibility
<b>Theme 1: Pervasive Insecurity and Normalisation of Crime</b>	Community Safety; Spatial Planning; Infrastructure and Basic Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High levels of violent and property crime across wards.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ward-level crime mapping using SAPS data, community reports, and municipal GIS systems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data-driven deployment to improve response efficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced incidence of opportunistic crime.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	SAPS  Safety & Security cluster (SAPS, Private security), Dept of Human Settlements, IPD Directorate (SRVM), Dept of Social Development
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crime exposure has become routine, reducing shock and reporting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hotspot-based interventions (lighting, CCTV where feasible, visible policing support).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental improvements to increase natural surveillance and guardianship.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved community trust in safety interventions.</li> </ul>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poorly lit streets, informal layouts, and neglected public spaces increase opportunity for crime.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) embedded in spatial planning approvals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Targeted interventions to reduce anonymity and opportunity for crime.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased sense of safety and mobility.</li> </ul>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vulnerable groups (women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities, tourists) face disproportionate risk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expansion of victim support desks and referral pathways through Thusong / Thuthuzela Centres and NGOs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Victim support to restore confidence in reporting and cooperation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stabilisation of service delivery and local economic activity.</li> </ul>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cable theft and vandalism undermine basic services and economic activity.</li> </ul>					

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<b>Theme 2: Institutional Failure and Erosion of Trust</b>	Good Governance and Public Participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widespread perception of SAPS and municipal ineffectiveness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish municipal-SAPS safety dashboards with quarterly public reporting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversight increases accountability of enforcement agencies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved public confidence in institutions.</li> </ul>	2026/2027	Station Commander SAPS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slow response times and poor communication on case outcomes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce service charters and complaint escalation mechanisms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transparency improves perceived legitimacy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher crime reporting and cooperation with law enforcement.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Mayor
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weak enforcement of municipal by-laws, especially liquor trading.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build municipal by-law enforcement capacity (training, equipment, joint operations).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent enforcement reduces selective compliance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced by-law violations.</li> </ul>		EC Liquor Board, SAPS, SRVM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPF structures do not exist and need capacitation on formalisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen Community Policing Forums through formal MOUs, clear mandates, and training.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structured participation restores citizen voice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthened governance and public participation outcomes.</li> </ul>		Director Community Services
<b>Theme 3: Socio-Economic Drivers of Violence</b>	Local Economic Development; Poverty Alleviation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High unemployment, particularly among youth.</li> <li>• Persistent poverty and slow local economic development.</li> <li>• Informal and illegal businesses fill economic gaps.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement labour-intensive municipal projects (EPWP, CWP, infrastructure maintenance) prioritising local youth.</li> <li>• Support SMME development through formalisation, trading spaces, and procurement set-asides.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Income generation reduces economic desperation.</li> <li>• Inclusion builds stakeholding in community stability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced economic-motivated crime.</li> <li>• Growth of lawful local enterprises.</li> </ul>		Office of the MM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime becomes a survival strategy in marginalised areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Align LED strategies with ward-level economic realities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formalisation reduces criminal economies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved socio-economic resilience.</li> </ul>		Office of the MM

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited access to skills training linked to local demand.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with TVET colleges and SETAs for demand-driven skills training.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skills alignment improves employability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased youth employment and livelihoods.</li> </ul>	2026/2027	Director Corporate Services
<b>Theme 4: Alcohol, Drugs, and Moral Decay</b>	Social Development; Health and Community Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High density of unlicensed taverns and drug outlets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint SAPS–Municipal–Liquor Authority compliance operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visible enforcement increases deterrence.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decline in alcohol- and drug-related crime.</li> </ul>		SAPS, Chief Traffic Officer
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alcohol and drugs linked to domestic violence, sexual offences, and assaults.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular by-law inspections and closure of illegal taverns.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced availability lowers consumption-related violence.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved family and community stability.</li> </ul>	Quarterly	Chief Traffic Officer
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weak coordination between SAPS, municipality, and Liquor Authority.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community-based prevention programmes (faith-based, NGOs, clinics).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevention shifts social norms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safer public and domestic spaces.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Civil Society & SRVM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited access to rehabilitation and prevention services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referral pathways for rehabilitation and psychosocial support.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitation reduces repeat offending.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthened social health outcomes.</li> </ul>	2028/29	Department of Social Development – District Director
<b>Theme 5: Youth Marginalisation and Gang Involvement</b>	Youth Development; Education and Skills Development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth face exclusion from education, employment, and decision-making.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish multi-purpose youth centres and after-school programmes.</li> <li>Skills training aligned with local economic opportunities (construction, services, green economy).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skills pathways create legitimate futures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term crime prevention impact.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Office of the MM

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of recreational, cultural, and skills infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports, arts, and cultural programmes linked to mentorship.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentorship builds resilience and identity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stronger community leadership pipeline.</li> </ul>	2027/28	Office of the MM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gangs lure young people promising them identity, income, and protection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides youth support and engagement programmes, alternative skills development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive alternatives reduce gang appeal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced youth involvement in gangs and crime.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Office of the MM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools and families are overstretched</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth participation in ward committees and safety forums.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation fosters ownership and responsibility.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved youth development indicators.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Office of the MM
<b>Theme 6: Fragmented Community Responses and Weak Social Cohesion</b>	Social Cohesion; Public Participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighbourhood watches and safety forums exist but are under-resourced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formalise multi-stakeholder safety partnerships at ward and municipal level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutionalisation ensures sustainability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stronger social cohesion and collective efficacy</li> </ul>	2026/27 FY	Director Community Services
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor coordination between community structures, SAPS, and municipality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular ward-based safety dialogues and social cohesion initiatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination improves effectiveness and morale.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More effective community crime prevention.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	SAPS Station Commander, Councillors
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social divisions, mistrust, and fatigue undermine collective action.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide training, equipment, and recognition for community safety volunteers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognition sustains volunteer participation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable, locally owned safety solutions.</li> </ul>	2026/27;2027/28	SAPS, SRVM, SPU
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High willingness to participate without institutional support.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate safety into ward planning and IDP reviews.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dialogue rebuilds trust and shared norms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved state-community relations.</li> </ul>		Speaker

### Key Strengths of the CIMO LOGIC Implementation Framework

- (a) Fully aligned to South African municipal governance and IDP logic
- (b) Integrates SAPS, municipal powers, community structures, and socio-economic drivers
- (c) Suitable for policy, planning, monitoring & evaluation, and academic use
- (d) Moves beyond policing to developmental and preventative safety

### 1. References

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## Have your say

To help finalise the Community Safety Plan, we welcome you to have your say and provide feedback on this draft plan.

This document will be on public exhibition in all our libraries through to 23 June 2026. You can provide comments & submissions via:

**Email:** Community Services Team via [Msondezik@srvm.gov.za](mailto:Msondezik@srvm.gov.za) / [andiswam@srvm.gov.za](mailto:andiswam@srvm.gov.za)

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**6120**

## Need help providing feedback?

We want to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to provide ideas and feedback

- i. If you or someone you know would like to talk to us in person about the Community Safety Plan, please phone our ASSIST Customer Service Centre on **(0) 42 230 7737/14** to connect with the HOD and Safety & Security personnel
- ii. An accessible version of the action plan suitable for screen readers can be downloaded from the website
- iii. Printed versions of the draft Plan are also available upon request.

