The conference in pictures
The Western Cape Department of Community Safety hosted the *Safer Western Cape* conference on 13 and 14 November in collaboration with the Institute for Security Studies (ISS).

The event aimed to build knowledge on reducing violence and building community safety through professional policing, evidence-based policy and best-practice interventions. It brought together crime, safety and governance experts to identify innovative and practical ways to build a safer and more prosperous province, through enhanced collaboration between government, business and communities.

High-profile speakers at *Safer Western Cape* included Western Cape Premier Helen Zille, Police Minister Bheki Cele, Head of the Bavarian State Police Prof Dr Wilhelm Schmidbauer, National Secretary of the Civilian Secretariat for Police Alvin Rapea, and Provincial Minister for Community Safety Alan Winde.

**This is the report on the conference.**
On 13 and 14 November 2018, the Department of Community Safety hosted the Safer Western Cape Conference, which saw the active participation of role-players from across the sector, including representatives from Neighbourhood Watches and Community Police Forums, from non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations, activists, academics, experts, government and the business community.

A total of 250 participants attended the conference, and 57 speakers provided input. I firstly want to thank each and every one of them for having contributed to the success of the conference. Their insights, and the discussions generated by the panels, provided the value of the Safer Western Cape Conference.

The main objective of the conference was to share knowledge on existing and possible evidence-led solutions to reduce violence and crime in the Western Cape. I strongly believe that we achieved this. The conference emphasised the complexity of the challenges we face in our quest to become the safest province in South Africa. The diverse backgrounds of the people who interacted at the conference reflect the diversity and complexity of crime and violence.

The conference made it evident that if the Western Cape is to see a decline in crime levels, and especially levels of violent contact crime, our dedicated men and women in the South African Police Service need to be supported. However, the knowledge shared at the conference made it also clear that we cannot police our way out of the problem of crime and violence. For example, the evidence from South Africa and other countries has systematically shown that carefully designed and planned interventions early in life reap the most rewards in the long run. A focus on children and families under the lens of violence prevention appears to be the most effective way to reduce crime and violence in the long term.

Addressing the multiple contributors to crime and violence will only be achieved if we enhance collaboration between all stakeholders. It is for this reason that the Western Cape Government, including the Department of Community Safety, is pursuing a Whole-of-Society Approach (WoSA), marked by critical and strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders, including public, private and civil society.

At the core of our collaborative approach are the communities we serve. We can only be successful in achieving our goals if we aim to build strong relationships with all those who are playing their part in making our communities safer.

An overall focus on prevention, while possibly more complex and time-consuming, is necessary. The Department of Community Safety could play a key role in becoming a central node of prevention-focused government interventions.

I also acknowledge and want to give my full support to the need for strong, capable and supported safety and security partners, be it the South African Police Service, the City of Cape Town law enforcement and metro police, private security, Community Police Forums, Neighbourhood Watches and all those who are working hard at making this the safest province in the country. They are an essential part of the larger eco-system of a violence prevention model that would have a real impact on crime and safety in the Western Cape.

This conference report highlights some of the extensive evidence on crime and violence that was shared at the Safer Western Cape conference. It is available for use by the activists, the community members, the government officials, the academics and the businesses who need to collaborate and work Better Together at making the Western Cape the safest province in the country.

Alan Winde
Western Cape Minister of Community Safety
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• Parents must receive targeted support during the first 1000 days of a child’s life. This period is key to establishing healthy, well-functioning brains in infants, and relationships between them and their care givers. Authorities should prioritise intervention and support during this period.

• Authorities should promote positive, equitable gender norms in homes, schools and workplaces. The socialisation of boys and girls, men and women, impacts how they interact with others and their risk of victimisation and perpetration of violence.

• We must strengthen firearm control but also make better use of firearm amnesties and destruction. Firearm related murders have increased over the last five years. There is evidence that murder goes down when firearms are removed from communities. Taking firearms out of the equation does not necessarily reduce the amount of violence, but it impacts the lethality of violence.

• Authorities must study the social dynamics of murder hotspots, for example through station-level docket analysis and victim surveys. A large portion of murder occurs in very particular places. To address murder we must understand the dynamics of violence in murder hotspots and address them through localised interventions.

• Policing must emphasise problem solving guided by evidence and local data in violence hotspots.

• Authorities should ascertain accurate population data in high-murder station areas. This will help to make sense of victimisation data and rates. We should also align municipal and police station boundaries for this reason.

• Authorities should treat drugs and alcohol as public health challenges rather than as crimes. This includes not policing drugs unless asked to by communities, and working with communities to change the way ‘drugs’ and drug users are commonly understood. Failing to do so, not only fails to address the problems caused by these substances but often results in other harms being caused by the state.

• Authorities should invest in smart, technology-based solutions to tackle illegal fishing and poaching, and strengthen the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing. There should be better collaboration between different levels of government to address illegal fishing.

• Government must find alternative income streams for coastal communities where illegal fishing is one of the only ways to earn a living.

• Authorities must improve CCTV and lighting infrastructure at transport hubs and deploy visible security staff on trains.

• The taxi industry must be part of finding solutions to taxi-related violence. Authorities should incentivise taxi owners to cooperate, not only threaten them with punishment.
The role of civilian oversight in a professional police force

Alvin Rapea – National Secretary, Civilian Secretariat for Police Services

Mr Rapea spoke about the importance of professional, democratic policing. He said that the South African Police Service (SAPS) is the most visible authority of the democratic government and therefore has great responsibility. Unlike the former South African Police force (SAP), which was used as an instrument of oppression by the apartheid regime, he said that the SAPS must pursue an accountable service-oriented approach to policing that upholds the rule of law and is procedurally fair. This kind of policing would be the opposite of apartheid’s regime-style which served only the government and elite, and which controlled rather than protected most people. He said that the role of civilian oversight is to ensure that the SAPS adheres to its mandate, with clear command and control structures. However, he also raised concern about the wellbeing of police officials, drawing attention to the high suicide rate among members of the SAPS.

Policing in partnership: reflections from Bavaria

Prof Dr Wilhelm Schmidbauer, head of the Bavarian State Police, Germany

Prof Schmidbauer described policing in Germany and Bavaria, and how police collaborate with others to fulfil their mandate there. He said that by exchanging knowledge and experiences at an international level, such as at the conference, police should improve the ways they work.

Prof Dr Schmidbauer explained that Germany has a federal system where each state has its own police force. The Bavarian State Police recognise that safety and security are key to social and economic prosperity, and that without one there will not be the others. As a result, Bavarian police officers invest heavily in school, teacher and child-engagement. This is both to teach violence prevention and conflict resolution skills, and to build trust between the public and police.

Volunteers in Bavaria undergo specialised training to support police in a system intended to see civilians protecting civilians. They patrol streets, pedestrian zones and parks as members of a neighbourhood watch. Other stakeholders with whom the police regularly work include private security companies and civil society organisations.

Building a safer Western Cape

Alan Winde, MEC for Community Safety, Western Cape

Minister Winde spoke about how there is a need to reduce serious crime and create a province where people feel safe. He said that to do this, crime prevention partnerships and cooperation between all spheres of government are needed. He said that the real heroes in the province’s crime prevention and safety initiatives are the public who dedicate their lives to fighting crime.

Bheki Cele, Minister of Police

Minister Cele spoke about the link between structural violence and crime. He said that the priority of the police is to make people feel safe. However, safety and security is dependent on people living in acceptable socio-economic conditions. He said that if the SAPS were working in a ‘normal’ society like Bavaria, things would be different. But where people live without street lights, houses or roads, some will behave in a way that is hopeless. Where people cannot differentiate between the day and the night because there is no hope, employment, food, or schooling, many will feel oppressed. He said that police must be part of the development of ‘the overall human being’, including through effective interventions in environmental and spatial design.

Minister Cele said that citizens, communities and civil society need to work with police – that they can’t do their work alone. He also said that national government must work to make the Western Cape safer, and that government ministers should make their cell phone numbers public so that people can contact them directly.

He spoke about how police are killed every week in South Africa and how they need to match the tactics used by suspects.

A Western Cape vision for safer communities

Helen Zille, Western Cape Premier

Premier Zille responded to Minister Cele in her address, defending the Western Cape’s track record and suggesting that the SAPS should be doing more.

She said that the state’s first priority is to secure the safety of its citizens. If the police have the monopoly of force they must be the most trusted people in society.

She said that South Africa’s brutal society is the legacy of apartheid. The constitution gives provincial governments only limited community safety powers. This means that provincial authorities do not have powers to have their own police.

Premier Zille said that Cape Town has experienced huge population increases in the last 15 years as people have migrated to the City, which has posed significant challenges in terms of service provision, including policing. But she said that informal residential areas do not necessarily generate criminality, saying that many poor and informal areas exist in other countries but are safe.

She said that unemployment is a form of brutality. South Africa has seven million registered tax payers, 17 million recipients of social grants and 9,5 million unemployed people. It is critical to create jobs to reduce crime.

A functional criminal justice system requires accountability and ending corruption. Partnerships between police, communities and other role players are essential for the success of policing and police oversight.
Safety and violence challenges in the Western Cape

Lt-Gen Khombinkosi Jula, provincial commissioner, SAPS Western Cape

Lt-Gen Jula gave an overview of the Western Cape’s crime situation from the perspective of the SAPS. In the Western Cape the SAPS is policing just over 6.5m people in an area of 130,684 square kilometres. It has an unemployment rate of 20.75%. Recruitment into gangs is seen as a form of employment to some, he said.

Police in the province enact an average of 7,000 arrests each week. As a result, courts and prisons are clogged. This is especially due to habitual offenders and those arrested for drug use.

The proliferation of firearms in the province is also a serious problem, as is taxi violence. The latter is caused by ineffective industry regulation, encroachment on routes, and conflict between My Citi buses and taxis. Railways also pose challenges due to insufficient security and access control at railway stations.

The ‘mushrooming’ of informal settlements is a problem in the province, with 349 informal settlements contributing 21% of all priority crimes. The resultant lack of spatial planning, access and public services makes policing very difficult in informal settlements.

Lt-Gen Jula said that dealing effectively with crime and violence requires an understanding and addressing of their causes.

A Western Cape injury mortality profile

Dr Juliet Evans, deputy director, Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance, Western Cape Department of Health

Dr Evans’ presentation was based on a new report by the Western Cape Department of Health, outlining the province’s injury mortality profile based on an analysis of data from 2010-2016.

Dr Evans said that the Western Cape has one of the country’s highest mortality burdens, where health services are on the receiving end of the province’s high rates of crime and violence.

The Western Cape Pathology Services are responsible for determining the cause of injury and deaths in the province. Analysis of this data suggests that there has been a steady increase in homicide in the Western Cape from 2010 to 2016, and firearm homicides doubled. Alcohol is associated with 50% of homicides.

In 2016 there were just under 7,000 deaths in the province, 80% of which were men. Dr Evans said that 51% of unnatural deaths were due to homicide and 11% to suicide.

Suicide rates did not change between 2010 and 2016. Suicide is more common among men, especially those aged 25-35. It was also common for children aged ten to 14 years. At least one nine-year-old commits suicide every year, which Dr Evans said is part of a growing mental health burden in the province.

Pedestrian fatalities are mostly due to alcohol and intoxication. Men are more prone to this cause of death than women. Other causes of unintentional deaths include fires, road accidents, choking and poisoning. Drownings occur mostly at weekends and half of victims test positive for alcohol. Alcohol also plays a role in deaths from fire.

Best practice and the role of evidence in policy and implementation of violence-reduction programmes and interventions

Matodzi Amisi, senior M&E specialist, Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results, Wits University

Ms Amisi spoke about the need for evidence in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating policies, programmes and interventions. She spoke about the challenges of policy implementation in the public sector, largely due to a lack of financial resources and scepticism about whether something will have the intended outcome. She reflected on the inner constraints of public policy making, such as complex policy cycles or competing actors, demands and interests. She said that the public service is not designed to be innovative or to encourage creativity, and that there are challenges in the use of scientific evidence and systematic reviews of interventions in the public sector as policies work differently in different places. As a result, public servants often can’t use research to improve their work because the system in which they operate doesn’t allow for creativity and innovation. She said that these challenges come up a lot in violence prevention efforts.

Because violence prevention is a complex problem the notion of ‘best practice’ can be misleading. This is because there is no simple cause and effect when it comes to overall crime, so if something has worked in Johannesburg it doesn’t mean it will work in Khayelitsha. We need to know why things work and whether they would work in different contexts in order to effectively use evidence for violence prevention. This is especially so for preventing violence in communities.

Ms Amisi said that research does not always answer the questions most pertinent to policy makers. Similarly, cause and effect relationships are not established in the field of social problems and what we think we know is not always enough to effectively address challenges. For example, three children can be raised with the same experiences and opportunities but still turn out very differently.

Context matters a lot in violence prevention, she said. This is why we need to invest in research and analysis in different places and spaces. In the absence of such research we will make policy and develop interventions that will not work where intended. We need to study many cases and patterns that can give us predictability across a range of contexts and problems. We also need to build better research capacity in government departments.

Ms Amisi also spoke about how children are facing new pressures and stresses because of social media. As such, for example, our interventions with children today cannot be the same as those of 10 years ago. We must adapt. And if adaptation negatively affects an existing programme, we have to adapt again.

Responding to problems needs partnerships and collaboration but even within government it is hard for departments to agree on what is needed. This prevents resources being combined in a way to increase impact most effectively and efficiently.

There also need to be better relationships between policy think tanks, researchers and policy makers. In order to have the necessary impact, researchers need a better understanding of the policy environment, too.

Ms Amisi said that we need to learn and think together and to try new things, but we also need to fail so that we can adapt and address things that are not working.
Applying public health principles to violence prevention: revisiting the Western Cape government’s Integrated Provincial Violence Prevention Policy Framework

Dr Richard Matzopolous, Medical Research Council and University of Cape Town

In 2013 the provincial cabinet adopted the Integrated Provincial Violence Prevention Policy Framework and it has not been overwhelmingly positive. Dr Matzopolous said that this is because evidence is not being used provincially or nationally. For example, the Western Cape Liquor Act extended hours for selling alcohol, and boxing (the sport) was promoted as a social diversion strategy in one area despite the health and safety concerns associated with both.

Dr Matzopolous said that epidemiological evidence is different from the kind of evidence used in court or by politicians. Rather, in epidemiology a hierarchy of knowledge leads to replicable results. These, in turn, can be re-evaluated by others. Although there is a violence prevention evidence base internationally, much of this focuses on programmes and individual behaviour because these are easier to evaluate than more complex interventions.

The World Health Organization has identified six key intervention areas. Criminal justice is just one of the six and yet that is where much attention is focused when reductions in violence are sought. Other strategies, like strengthening communities, require long term investment and patience but can be effective. The Provincial Violence Prevention Policy Framework tries to reduce long-term risks while providing some quick wins.

Dr Matzopolous said evidence suggests that taking away guns does not make people less violent – it just reduces fatalities caused by violence. He said where gains have been made in gun control these have been undermined by police fast-tracking licence renewals from 2010 to clear a backlog. And when a syndicate within the SAPS sold guns from a police armoury to criminals, the market was flooded with illegal firearms. By 2013 an extra one thousand gun deaths were recorded due to lapses in gun control. Returning to alcohol, he said that the increase in 2014-2016 firearm and non-firearm homicides may be explained by the rolling back of bylaws around alcohol sales that made alcohol more widely and legally available in Cape Town. Alcohol is a known risk factor for violence.

Dr Matzopolous warned that ignoring good evidence can turn quick wins into quick losses and compromise the efficacy of interventions. Where there is good evidence, for example in early childhood development, interventions must be implemented properly. We need to evaluate current interventions in relation to evidence and we need to know how policy makers understand what ‘evidence’ is and what exists. Although societal and structural interventions would benefit from evidence-based violence prevention, evidence-based practice remains limited.

He said that there is a need for a whole of society approach to violence prevention.

Reducing violence and building safety begins with care for young people

Prof Rajan Govender, associate professor of sociology, University of Cape Town, chief specialist scientist, Medical Research Council

Prof Govender’s presentation explored predictors of violence based on data from the Cape Area Panel Study (CAPS) - a longitudinal study of approximately 5 000 adolescents (12-18 years) carried out from 2002 to 2009. The goal of the analysis is to understand why children become victims and perpetrators of violence. If we want to know why adults do certain things we need to know what happened to them as children.

The study looked at a range of childhood experiences, including those of emotional and physical violence. The predictive models which it used derive from the Socio-Ecological Framework approach, which examines the inter-relationship amongst variables within four spheres: individual, relationship, community, and societal.

Findings include that girls are more likely to be victims of emotional violence than boys, and that this is exacerbated by family conflict, alcohol and drugs. Physical violence also often begins with emotional abuse and bullying. In general, children committing violence as adolescents is explained by a range of contextual experiences, current experiences, family experiences and what happened to and around them when they were younger.

Key messages from the research include that poverty is not the reason for violence, but it does increase the conditions in which violent behaviour can be learned, experienced and reinforced, and that families in conflict produce children in conflict. For this reason, programmes that help families resolve conflict in their homes without using violence are important. Domestic violence leads to other forms of interpersonal violence. Also, gender socialisation has a strong independent and constant effect on violence, regardless of all other factors.

Prof Govender said that there is a need to understand and address violent behaviour, policing and gun control, and that understanding poverty assists our understanding of violence. He said it is problematic to look at events after they have happened rather than ask what we can do to prevent them happening in the first place.
A public health approach to crime and harm prevention

Superintendent Stan Gilmour, Thames Valley Police

Supt Gilmour is police commander in Reading in the UK where unarmed officers police around 200,000 people. Nobody has been murdered in Reading for three years.

In exploring a public health approach to harm prevention, he described the myriad of activities that he and his officers participate in, and the numerous partners they work with to solve the problems that lead to various types of harm. This approach is part of the UK’s national crime prevention strategy, which covers everything from early prevention to case management.

Supt Gilmour said that evidence based policing is very strong in the UK and recognises that violence breeds violence. He said that violence and neglect in childhood make it up to 16 times more likely that children in the UK will become future victims or perpetrators of violence. As a result, police should take a public health approach to safety. They should also, through their enforcement work, creating the breathing space for other stakeholders to work to address problems. Because police are always on duty, they are best placed to coordinate the work of other partners in collaborative problem solving.

Primary prevention is important and police must collaborate with others to promote it. But primary and evidence-based policing require access to data. Police need data to understand the issues in the area where they are working. For example, where is the poverty, neglect and violent crime? How are schools, family workers, councillors and police involved?

He also talked about the Police and Public Health Consensus in the UK, which sees police and health practitioners committing to ‘work together and intervening early to address the common factors that bring people into contact with the police and criminal justice system and lead to poor health [to] improve public safety, prevent offending and reoffending, reduce crime and help to improve outcomes for individuals and the wider community’.

Supt Gilmour summed up his presentation by saying, ‘It’s not just my job to go out and kick a door in. It’s to ensure the health and wellbeing of people in my communities.’

Building safe communities from the inside out – the importance of the first thousand days programme

Dr Elmarie Malek, paediatrician, Western Cape Department of Health

Dr Malek spoke about how the conference provides a safe space to reflect and share our understanding of ways of bringing healing to the brokenness of which we are all a part in the Western Cape.

Her presentation focused on the importance of building emotionally and physically healthy children through attention to their first thousand days from conception to two years old. She said that early experience really matters in terms of outcomes later in life, and that individual and societal safety begins in the womb. This is because this period is when peak growth and development occurs, when adverse exposures exert the greatest harm, and when effective interventions offer the greatest benefits. Children are also most susceptible to environmental influences in this period.

As a result, violence prevention interventions must also be directed at support for parents and the family unit, especially during the first 1000 days of a child’s life. Where children experience homes as safe spaces they will build trust, allowing them to establish relationships with parents and others.

However, too many mothers feel isolated and depressed, making it hard for them to care for their children. 47% of pregnant women suffer depression, 60% lack financial support and 40% experience violence. She said that environmental influences, including parental stress, have a profound effect on child brain development.

Dr Malek said that 100,000 babies are born in the province each year. These babies are profoundly affected by the social context they experience. Implementing interventions in homes is vital and requires partnerships with NGOs – government can’t do this alone. But she also said that the Western Cape needs to improve its community health worker support for pregnant women.

She said it is vital that we understand that stunting reduces human capital and potential. As such, we must work to rebuild a culture of care and of respect for the pregnant and breastfeeding woman and the importance of caregiving relationships within family and community contexts. Government must play their part by investing, and strengthening services for pregnant women, caregivers and children.

The necessity and complexities of delivering parenting programmes in high-risk violent communities

Venecia Barries, director, The Parent Centre

Ms Barries discussed the challenges of delivering parenting programmes in violent communities. She said that one of the risk factors for violence is poor parenting, parental neglect, family violence and conflict, making intervention in such areas particularly important. Factors that protect children from harm and perpetration later in life include positive parent-child attachment, loving interaction between parent and child, parental attention and supervision, and parental support for school performance. However, many parents seen by The Parent Centre come from high-risk communities where poverty, violence, and gangsterism are rife.

Ms Barries said that parents access services from The Parent Centre for a number of complex reasons. These include wanting to be a better parent, their relationships with their children having broken down, or that their children are using drugs or joining gangs. She said that supporting such parents and care givers can make a huge difference to both the lives of the parents and their children.

The Parent Centre’s approach is to listen to parents’ difficulties but not to judge or criticize them. It then strives to equip parents with the knowledge and skills required to manage relationships and communicate with their children. She said that they have had some great successes.

Violence prevention through evidence-based parenting programmes

Anna Booi, technical programme specialist, Clowns Without Borders

Ms Booi’s presentation covered the importance of parenting interventions for violence prevention, based on the Parenting for Lifelong Health programme.
She said that South Africa has very high rates of child maltreatment, with 56% of children experiencing physical abuse and 35% emotional abuse. Caregivers are the main source of maltreatment. This high level of violence in homes impacts nutrition and physical health and cognitive stimulation, which in turn delays development and creates behavioural problems and poor educational performance. In the long-term, childhoods like these can lead to juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, crime, mental health problems, and intimate partner violence – effectively creating an intergenerational cycle of violence.

The good news, according to Ms Booi, is that parenting interventions have been shown to reduce risk of abuse, behaviour problems, and maternal depression. They have been shown to work across a range of contexts, including poor families and with depressed parents. As a result, parenting interventions are on the global agenda and there is funding for strengthening families and preventing violence.

The most effective interventions not only change parents’ knowledge and attitudes but provide them with skills. These include non-violent discipline, sensitive communication, self-care and collaborative problem-solving.

However, parenting interventions can be hard to implement. The costs of established programmes can be prohibitive (licensing fees) and capacity to deliver programmes outside of wealthy country settings often lacks. Parenting for Lifelong Health hopes to overcome these by adapting existing programmes to low- and middle-income settings, making them affordable, scalable and freely available, and supporting quality implementation and evaluation.

Potential strategies to prevent sexual victimisation among women and girls

Dr Nwabisa Shai, senior scientist, Gender and Health Research Unit, Medical Research Council

Dr Shai said that rape and sexual assault are major problems that relate to male behaviour and how society constructs gender for men and women. Violence is learnt from society. Poor and marginalised young men make sense of the world through gang-related masculinities. As a result, sexual abuse is rife.

Reflecting on research, Dr Shai said that 24.6-37.7% of adult women experience physical and/or sexual abuse from intimate partners in their lifetime, and that 31% of these are in their most recent marriage or cohabiting relationships. 25% of women in Gauteng have been raped in their lifetime, while 39.1% of young women experienced sexual abuse in childhood. Exposure to sexual abuse in childhood increases the risk of intimate partner violence (IPV) in adulthood.

We must work to empower women and change gender relations and patriarchal norms; prevent the use of violence and change violence-related social norms; reduce structural inequalities; improve mental health and reduce substance abuse; change parenting to strengthen relationships between parents and children, and protect women and girls. Interventions should be tailored for early childhood development, adolescence, adulthood, and maternity.

Awareness programmes are not enough to change these trends. We need an intersectoral violence prevention fund overseen by service providers, academics, activists and civil society through which violence prevention interventions can be tested, scaled up and reviewed.
SAPS murder reduction strategy in the Western Cape

Lt-Gen Khombinkosi Jula, provincial commissioner, SAPS Western Cape

In 2017/18 the Western Cape recorded the 4th most murders of all the provinces in South Africa and the second highest murder rate per 100,000 people. The number of murders increased by 12.6%, with the largest portion of murders for which a motivation could be identified, 22%, attributed to gang violence. Another 13.2% were attributed to arguments and 8.1% to robbery. Other causes of murder were domestic violence, vigilante justice, revenge and taxi violence.

Lt-Gen Jula said that most murders were committed using firearms (42.3%) followed by knives (25.3%) and other sharp instruments (8.6%). Fifty-three percent occurred on weekends and 54.3% between 18h00 and 00h59. Ninety-five percent of victims were male and 196 were children.

Outlining the SAPS’ murder reduction initiatives for the province, he said police would use targeted, rapid, multi-disciplinary interventions in gang violence; target repeat robbery offenders, dangerous weapons and hotspots; provide education around domestic violence; strengthen community forums to reduce vigilantism; and, address crime, drugs, liquor, firearms and people of interest.

He said that although policing domestic violence is difficult, the SAPS must ensure that its members comply with instructions and regulations that have been developed in terms of the Domestic Violence Act of 1998.

Data-led policing and murder prevention

Anine Kriegler, crime analyst, Centre of Criminology, University of Cape Town

Ms Kriegler began by asking what the problem is that we are trying to address. She said we have inadequate tools to accurately measure crime prevalence; police station boundaries don’t match other data, so it’s hard to overlay and integrate different spatial datasets for comparison; and there is an absence of detailed data on crime (e.g. GIS location, weapons, time).

She then asked what existing research teaches us, answering that: murder is the most reliable crime statistic; rates per capita are important for accurately understanding risks and trends; murder is a reliable statistic because there is a legal requirement to report it and it is clearly defined in law; long-term trend indicates potential changes in structural factors contributing to the murder rate; very localised data is needed to understand specific factors that drive violence in particular communities; and we need much more detail about the circumstances in which murder takes place (e.g. place, time, day, method, relationship between parties, etc.).

Ms Kriegler then asked, ‘What needs to be done to improve our ability to understand and reduce murder?’ She said that we need regular, accurate, detailed information that is presentable in maps and graphs; more up to date and localised population data to accurately estimate murder rates; and, docket analyses and victim surveys to provide more information on the circumstances in which murder takes place.

She said that although SAPS data is valuable it must be interpreted in context. For example, 87% of white households report housebreakings to police compared to only 46% of black households. This does not mean that more white households are broken into than black households, but that white households are more likely to possess insurance motivating them to report.

Since 1994 there have been significant reductions in murder in every province, though some have increased in recent years, including in the Western Cape. There have also been significant declines in every municipality in the Western Cape since 1994. At a provincial district level, murder per capita has disproportionately increased in Cape Town since 2011/12.

Ms Kriegler said that when murder is calculated at the police station level the population data for each precinct is based on 2011 census data, so the wrong denominator is being used. This means the local murder rates are inaccurate. So while Philippi East is reported to have the highest murder rate in the City of Cape Town at about 165 per 100,000, this may not be accurate since it is based on 2011 population data. The actual rate could be significantly lower because the population has increased substantially since 2011.

Even within high-murder precincts like Nyanga, residents report that some areas are less dangerous than others, indicating that violence is very concentrated to specific locations.

A highly targeted problem-solving approach is needed to effectively reduce and prevent murder. Clear targets related to murder are needed but targets for other crimes should be dropped. There is a need to give priority attention to the police precincts with the highest murder rate. She said that the police should not try and reduce murders on their own but should coordinate their efforts with other state and non-state agencies, and that crime statistics should not be used to assess station commanders’ performance but rather to identify emerging public safety problems.

Policing gun violence

Dr Guy Lamb, director of the Safety and Violence Initiative, University of Cape Town

Dr Lamb talked about how there has been a significant reduction in firearm murder across South Africa and asked what role the police may have played in this. He said that in 1990s there was a lot of myth-making about firearms flowing into South Africa. Today, fewer firearms are coming into South Africa from outside the borders because many are already in the country.

He said that murder is very concentrated in particular places and that it had increased in the Western Cape. We need to understand what is happening in these places.

Murder has declined when the SAPS has used high-density operations to target firearms in murder hot spots, but within a few months murder begins to increase as weapons flow back into these communities. There is a major problem with the regulation of the 188,000 firearms in police stores, with police officers convicted for selling firearms to criminal groups. Dr Lamb said that this is the main reason for the spike in murders in the Western Cape - firearms stolen from SAPS stores have made their way into criminal hands. As such, the SAPS must improve its arms stockpile management.

Can police intelligence and amenities still save lives? Examining interventions to reduce gun murders

Adèle Kirsten, Gun Free South Africa

Ms Kirsten said that South Africa needs to learn from international experience but not necessarily to replicate it. Twenty-five years
ago three massacres shocked countries into saying ‘this is not who we are’: Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, Dunblane in Scotland, and Port Arthur in Australia. As a result, these countries all introduced strong gun laws.

Since 1994 South Africa has passed 900 laws, only one of which was a gun law. Today, 23 people are killed and 138 injured with guns each day in the country.

She said that in addressing firearm violence, we should not be limited to regulating firearms licences. The Firearms Control Act of 2000 gives the government the power to hold amnesties and undertake search and seizure operations to identify and remove illegal firearms. Evidence suggests that reduced gun availability reduces the number of murders. Firearm availability can be reduced by seizing or buying back weapons, destroying them, and stopping the flow of weapons stolen from SAPS stores. She said that 25 guns are lost or stolen from civilians every day, while handguns are most commonly used in murders.

Ms Kirsten said that in the past six months South Africa has seen a dramatic increase in illegal weapons recovery but that the country still needs stricter gun license laws.

**Recommendations**

- A large portion of murder occurs in very particular places. To address murder we must understand the dynamics of violence in murder hotspots and address them through localised interventions;
- Authorities must study the social dynamics of murder hotspots, for example through station-level docket analysis and victim surveys;
- Authorities should ascertain accurate population data in high-murder station areas. This will help to make sense of victimisation data and rates. We should also align municipal and police station boundaries for this reason;
- There is a need for rapid, highly localised intervention strategies where notable increases in murder rates are detected;
- Intelligence driven policing must focus on the recovery of illegal firearms;
- The SAPS needs better firearm stockpile management;
- There should be greater use of national firearm amnesties & destructions to reduce firearm availability;
- The state should strengthen gun laws to restrict access to handguns.
Panel discussion - Drugs and alcohol

Data and trends on the policing of drugs: implications for future policing

Jean Redpath, Africa Criminal Justice Reform, Dullah Omar Institute, University of the Western Cape

Ms Redpath said that one of the problems posed by drugs is that there are users, misusers, abusers and traders. Of these, some harms affect only the individual and some impact on whole communities. She said that responses to drug harms need to come from individuals, families, communities, social development and health departments, and law enforcement.

She spoke about how the policing of drugs can have both benefits and disadvantages. Removing dealers and problematic users from the community disrupts supply and drug harms, but arrests can undermine trust in the police, particularly when serious crimes and perceived as being unpoliced. Similarly, jailing drug users consumes public resources while fear of arrest prevents at-risk users from seeking help. When non-problematic users are jailed, this negatively and unnecessarily impacts families/incomes, and exposes drug users to criminal networks. The disruption of drug supply networks can lead to the proliferation of corruption and violence.

Exploring the relationship between drug policing and violence is complicated by population growth. The Western Cape population grew by 74% between 1995-2017. As a result, rates per 100 000 must be used in analysis of drug related crime, harm and enforcement.

Ms Redpath said that the measurement of crime is heavily influenced by reporting - with evidence that reporting has declined in recent years. There was a reduction in the Western Cape murder rate until 2009/10, then an increase beginning two years earlier than the national trend. At the same time there was an exponential increase in drug policing rates. She said that while drug policing is a proxy indicator for proactive policing the harms of drug policing have overtaken its benefits.

Drug policing consumes disproportionate amounts of criminal justice system resources, with arrests for cannabis accounting for 99% of drug arrests. 35%-45% of reported drug crimes in South Africa are in the Western Cape. The province contains only 11% of South Africa's population but contributes 19% to remand and 16% of crime, destruction of families, young lives, misery, lost lives, and more crime, are often the result of drugs and those that sell them. He said that something must be done about this.

Inconsistent drug policing is likely to exacerbate inequality and undermine trust in police. 80% of people in custody at Pollsmoor for drug possession are from just six police stations: Cape Town, Mitchells Plain, Manenberg, Woodstock, Grassy Park and Philippi. Instead of arrest and punishment, there should be a whole of society response, including a recognition of the difference between drug users, abusers and traders, and an emphasis on treatment for abusers. There is currently a lack of treatment spaces, which should be addressed. It must also be recognised that different drug categories cause different harms, with some harms affecting only individuals and others impacting on society through violence.

Ms Redpath said that there is a statistical relationship between drug policing and the murder rate. The more we police drugs, the more the murder rate increases. This suggests that the state’s current approach is not the right one.

Alcohol Harms Reduction Game Changer - what have we learned?

Sanele Gaqa, head of the Alcohol Harms Reduction Game Changer, Western Cape Delivery Support Unit

Mr Gaqa spoke about the province’s premier alcohol-related policy, the Alcohol Harms Reduction Game Changer. He said that South Africa has significant rule of law problems across the alcohol value chain, which is comprised of the consumer, distributor, manufacturer, and trader. There has been a 70% increase in the Western Cape Liquor Authority’s revenue since 2016, from R26m to R44m, and a 188% increase in value of fines issued from 2016/17-2017/18. He said that legal retail space has not transformed since 1994 with just 950 of 8,615 licences are in black hands. As a result, illegal shebeens remain a source of family income of many.

The Alcohol Harms Reduction game changer places emphasis on harm reduction initiatives and their impact. The goal is to reduce alcohol harms with interventions in target/pilot areas including Khayelitsha, Nyanga, Gugulethu, Gunya, and Drakenstein. The idea was to test concepts and interventions, focusing on what works best and whether scalability can be achieved. The project focused on identifying priorities, ensuring it is people driven, problem-oriented and focused on results.

Some of the priority needs which were identified include: addressing zoning law legacies and providing an enhanced sense of safety in communities. The latter can be achieved, in part, by installing CCTV cameras, deploying law enforcement officers, enhancing health and social services, and developing recreational alternatives to drinking.

Discussing what has been learned thus far, Mr Gaqa said that the delivery of government initiatives has been poor, that policy and research do not speak to the reality on the ground, and that alcohol price increases have aimed to reduce harms. There is a need for institutional changes - location specific and focused on high-risk areas, and community engagement is important to reducing alcohol harms.

Some of the initiatives introduced in Khayelitsha Town 2 as part of the strategy include: installing eight high-mast cameras linked to immediate response units, deploying 12 law enforcement officers to the area, introducing hefty fines for those who break the law, and recreational initiatives, e.g. digital gaming and four-a-side soccer coaching as an alternative to drinking.

Mr Gaqa said that 74% of respondents in a recent survey said their neighbourhood was a better place to live than it was a year before.

Evidence-based approach to drugs

Shaun Shelly, Founder of South Africa Drug Policy Week

Mr Shelly said that the problems we face in communities such as crime, destruction of families, young lives, misery, lost lives, and more crime, are often the result of drugs and those that sell them. He said that something must be done about this.

When evaluated, evidence-based interventions related to drug harms should show measurable outcomes and must be financially viable and not cause undue harm. Problematic drug and alcohol use can start before birth and continue through life. However, in the right environment some people can stop abusing drugs without formal treatment.
Mr Shelly said that we have a ‘drug policy problem’ which ignores existing evidence and marginalises some communities. Sometimes interventions do more harm than doing nothing at all. The adoption of a war on drugs type approach by the state has resulted in the escalation of violence, a loss of faith in police, and the manipulation of statistics by police.

Implementing UN/foreign policies in South Africa is perceived by some to be a failure. What is needed are African interventions. Strategies must be based on harm reduction. Drugs and harm reduction are not police problems but rather social problems. There is a need to seek more information as to why people are using drugs in order to prevent them from using them and offer them treatment. The belief that people can recover from substance abuse helps people recover faster.

**Recommendations**

- Policy should be guided by evidence and data, within a whole of society approach to safety;
- Authorities should establish a multi-sectoral task team made up of experts who can work with and educate politicians about drug and alcohol-related harms;
- Strategies should be based on harm reduction, not punitive measures like arrest targets;
- Drug and alcohol abuse should be prioritised and treated as a social and health problem – not a criminal justice or policing issue. Emphasis should be placed on treatment, including through the development of more treatment centres and criminal justice alternatives;
- Police should target serious crimes rather than arrest drug users for possession of small quantities of illegal substances;
- Policing should target drug use predominantly when requested by communities (i.e. not if communities do not perceive it as problematic);
- Authorities should create safe spaces and alternatives to gang activity/membership for young people;
- Substance abuse interventions should be initiated as early as possible;
- Authorises should make use of advocacy and media campaigns that change the language, attitude and narrative around drug use, encouraging sympathetic rather than punitive attitudes. This includes stopping the dehumanisation of drug users.
A framework for professional policing in the Western Cape

Prof Lukas Muntingh, Dullah Omar Institute, UWC

Prof Muntingh began by describing the problem. The phrase ‘democratic policing’ is used 11 times in the White Paper on Policing but is not defined. It is not clear what the SAPS understands by democratic or professional policing. The positive impact of basic training is lost to negative station sub-cultures when recruits graduate. Rank-promotion examinations were abolished in 1995, and trust; empathy and fair treatment of police are not featured in the SAPS’ Strategic Plan.

Prof Muntingh outlined a framework for democratic policing. This was composed of five input variables: knowledge, effectiveness and efficiency, ethics and accountability, rights-based, and police as citizens. These led to three output variables: objectivity, responsivity, empathy. These should result in the outcome, trust, and the result being police legitimacy. Put another way, public trust in the police is the desirable outcome; police must be fair and responsive to public needs; police must be effective and efficient and sufficiently resourced; police behaviour should be focused at upholding peoples’ Human Rights.

He said that police ethics and accountability are a major problem and as a result millions of Rands are being paid out in civil claims against the police each year. Police suicides are also common and concerning.

Professionals is defined by the UK Independent Police Commission as having high expectations with self-regulating expertise and internalised norms. The SAPS’ research agenda is not focused on what works in policing, which must be addressed. Strategic plans need to focus on what works too. Ultimately, policy must be led by evidence.

Building trust - the best police strategy to reduce crime

Gareth Newham, head of justice and violence prevention, ISS

Mr Newham said that in a democracy the police face a double demand, firstly to enforce law and secondly to treat all people fairly. As a result, police need to build public trust in order to effectively improve public safety. Without public trust people do not report crime and the ability of the police to identify and arrest perpetrators is severely compromised.

In South Africa the police are under pressure to reduce crime. However, without additional resources and improvements in public trust, the most likely outcome is the manipulation of the crime statistics. The focus on crime means that the police focus on irrelevant targets such as increasing the number of arrests. While this gives the impression that police are working, very few arrests result in criminal prosecution. The focus on mass arrests has had no positive impact on public safety.

In South Africa as public approval in the police has declined so has reporting rates giving the false impression that we are making headway in reducing certain crime types such as rape and assault. The decline in public trust is also a reflection on the negative way in which the police generally treat civilians. High levels of police brutality and corruption undermine trust in the SAPS and results in rise in civil claims.

Poor and ineffective internal accountability mechanisms are the reason for widespread misconduct. The number of disciplinary hearings against problematic police officials decreased by 54% in the past year. Almost half of all hearings end in no sanction against the police official. The least likely outcome for an officer being found guilty of misconduct is to be fired.

As a result of poor policing, South Africa’s levels of murder and robbery have been increasing for the past six years. Police leadership is at the heart of South Africa’s policing problem. Political interference in the SAPS is the reason why too many unethical and incompetent people are appointed to the senior echelons of the SAPS while many of the most skilled and honest police officers are not in the senior ranks. The fundamental solution to fixing the police is to implement the National Development Plan recommendations for improving what is termed the “serial crises of top management.” Detailed performance assessments and life style audits need to be undertaken of all Lt-Generals, Major-Generals and Brigadiers. Only once the SAPS has a team of high experienced and honest top commanders, can the long and difficult road to police professionalism have any chance of succeeding.

The role of the Western Cape Police Ombudsman in advancing professional policing

Johan Brand, Western Cape Police Ombudsman

Mr Brand began by saying that there is a challenge in policing with powers being increasingly abused, resulting in police brutality, misconduct, corruption and maladministration. This erodes faith in police.

Civilian oversight in the WC includes: Parliament, the Civilian Secretariat for Police Services, the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) and the Western Cape Police Ombudsman (WCPO). The WCPO is the first office of its kind in South Africa. Its mandate is to investigate complaints of policing inefficiencies in the Western Cape. It is also expected to monitor police conduct, oversee the effectiveness and efficiency of the police service, promote good relations between the police and the community, assess the effectiveness of visible policing, investigate, or appoint a commission of inquiry into, any complaint of police inefficiency or a breakdown in relations between the police and any community.

The WCPO is empowered to gain reasonable access to any building, premises, vehicle, property, information or document under the control of the Organ of State concerned; direct any person to submit an affidavit, or affirmed declaration or to appear before him, or to give evidence, or to produce any documentation that is in a person’s possession or under his control, and may question that person, and; request an explanation from any person whom he reasonably suspects of having information which has a bearing on the matter being investigated or to be investigated.

He said the WCPO may refer a complaint to another competent authority, if the complaint can be more appropriately dealt with by that authority. Similarly, complaints of a serious nature which may be more appropriately dealt with by a Commission of Inquiry, may be referred to the Premier with a recommendation for a Commission of inquiry to be held into the complaint. Mr Brand raised the possibility of amending the Community Safety Act (Act 3 of 2013) so that the Ombudsman has the power to initiate inquiries itself.
Mr Brand said that the crux of professionalism comes from trust in SAPS and the Metro Police Services and that the WCPO has a good relationship with the SAPS. Nevertheless, he queried whether the WCPO’s recommendations are complied with by police.

He said that one concern is that there is no evidence of refresher training taking place in the police and many detectives have not attended detective support training.

**Recommendations**

- Authorities should improve the criteria required for recruitment to the SAPS;
- We need to revise and improve performance measurement and accountability mechanisms for police, so that they emphasise trust and problem-solving rather than reported crime;
- Authorities should promote and ensure evidence-based policing based on ‘what works’ to tackle particular challenges;
- We should support police officials who demonstrate that they adhere to the SAPS codes of ethics and conduct;
- Authorities should create and promote greater transparency in police planning processes;
- Authorities should establish an independent panel to assess the performance and appointment of senior police officers as recommended by the NDP;
- The SAPS should redeploy police officials from Head Office to more suitable, service-oriented posts;
- The SAPS must promote and encourage psychosocial support for its officers. If police feel appreciated and cared for they are more likely to appreciate and care for the public;
- The Western Cape Government should amend the Community Safety Act 3 of 2013 so the Ombudsman has the power to initiate inquiries;
- The Western Cape Government and police authorities should ensure implementation of WCPO recommendations.
The importance of collaboration in building a safe and prosperous province

Alan Winde, MEC for Community Safety, Western Cape

MEC Winde said that safety and security needs vision, planning and partnerships with multiple stakeholders. He discussed some of the Western Capes’ initiatives introduced to drive economic growth and said that lessons could be learned from them. He said that partnerships are required with metro police, SAPS, all spheres of government, civil society, religious organisations, education and health departments, correctional services, the justice system, community policing forums and neighbourhood watches. The Western Cape wants to play its role in making all of South Africa safe and will share lessons of its successes with other partners. He said that the economy benefits from a safer province with reduced crime, which in turn benefits all inhabitants.

A whole of society approach to a safer Western Cape

Estelle Cloete, operations executive, Western Cape Economic Development Partnership

Ms Cloete explained that safety is complex and systemic with no single organisation in charge of provision. She said that there is a lot of blame and disagreement with competing data and unknown variables when it comes to understanding and promoting safety. She said that government targets are not being met, for example in reducing infant mortality, drug-related crime, child abuse, and road fatalities. As a result, there is a need for greater collaboration.

Traditional planning and solutions don’t work so the province is experimenting with new ways of doing things. Drakenstein, Manenberg, Khayelitsha and Saldana. The WoSA (Whole of Society Approach) calls for collaboration, shared purpose, and meaningful impact in peoples’ lives. It is not intended to replace existing projects but rather to enhance them. It begins with building relationships, learning from experience and being agile and adaptable.

Ms Cloete spoke of some of the lessons learned from WoSA thus far. These included: That context is important – solutions from other places can’t be imposed; we need to leverage what is already happening; collaboration is essential; it is important to develop staff and get them out of their offices to see what’s happening on the ground; we have to listen to communities; we must learn by doing and provide ongoing support. She said that for WoSA to succeed, leadership is required from different layers of society.

City of Cape Town perspectives on collaboration

Alderman JP Smith, mayoral committee member for safety and security, City of Cape Town

Alderman Smith said that the City of Cape Town’s police resources aren’t sufficient to address the crime and safety challenges it faces. He said there is a mismatch between responsibilities and resources between the SAPS and the City. The City is adding R66m to policing resources but the problem needs intelligent solutions and not just more money.

He said that the City has introduced 40 special rating areas for economic development and job creation and that a lot of money is being invested in neighbourhood watches. The City has introduced a system whereby additional law enforcement officers are recruited through a ‘rent-a-cop programme’ which allow improvement districts to fund the salaries for additional officers in their area. This has created 570 extra law enforcement posts funded by the private sector and allows the City to focus its core resources where violent crime and loss of life is most severe.

Alderman Smith spoke about how technology brings a competitive advantage to the City’s safety initiatives. This includes a large CCTV network and gunshot detection technology. He said that civil society needs to help with information sharing and collaboration and spoke about how a neighbourhood safety experiment in Delft brought together social development investments, additional policing and infrastructure development – including school resource officers and violence interruption officers. The City hopes to take the programme to another ten areas in mid-2019.

Collaboration and coordination is being developed between private security companies, metro police and emergency services but the City would like the SAPS to participate more. He said that neighbourhood safety teams bring together social development, civil society, policing and infrastructure.

Collaborative approaches to violence prevention

Seth Reynolds, programme lead, Safer Communities Programme, Fight for Peace

Mr Reynolds presented on a process Fight For Peace (FFP) has started to implement – which is coordinating collaborative working structures for youth crime and violence prevention in two Cape Town communities.

He said that FFP was created in Brazil in response to the deaths of young people in a gang-controlled favela of Rio de Janeiro. It uses combat sports to attract and engage with young people. They use a theory of change that combines boxing, education, employability, social support and youth leadership. FFP believes that combat sports are effective for teaching young people self-regulation, social and emotional skills.

Mr Reynolds explained that FFP embraces a whole of community approach to safety. It recognises that success requires a response to the causes of gang recruitment and gang violence. A package of programmes can give young people the status, recognition and belonging that they find in gangs. Solutions require a common agenda for change with mutually-reinforcing activities, open and continuous communication, and a robust measurement system. He said that collaboration is about partnerships – not minutes and meetings.

He discussed the two-year SAFECOM Cape Town project. This involved convening and establishing collectives of youth service delivery organisations in two Cape Town communities. They then mapped services and assets. Multi-partner projects were piloted in a range of spaces and sites – combining skills, resources and expertise.
Multi-partner, multi-level, cross-community youth violence reduction models were implemented. Referral pathways and resource sharing systems were established across partners, together with a shared measurements system. Training and support were also provided.

Lessons learned thus far include: that coordination is about people and relationships; that collaboration is not always easy; that it’s best to proceed with a framework rather than a firm plan; to be prepared to change the strategy along the way; to focus on doing, not talking; to act, reflect and learn; to work in stages; to look for quick wins; to build skills for collaboration. In addition, he said they learned that that communities are not single, homogenous entities, and that one must work transparently and with humility.

**SAPS perspective on collaboration**

**Maj-Gen Manci, deputy provincial commissioner, SAPS Visible Policing, Western Cape**

Maj-Gen Manci explained that community policing recognises that collaboration and shared responsibility are at the heart of policing, while being responsive to community needs. Everything police do must be based on community interest and benefitting the community, and should be problem-oriented. Ideally, everyone in the country would be involved. Community policing is at the heart of the SAPS turnaround strategy.

He explained that dedicated teams of police are supporting a provincial intervention in those parts of the Western Cape that have the highest murder rates – Nyanga, Khayelitsha, Philippi East, Kraaifontein and Delft. The strategy is to stabilise and then normalise areas of criminality. Stabilisation involves high density operations and specialised investigation teams, while normalisation involves basic policing and crime prevention initiatives.

Priorities for the WC SAPS include: crimes against women and children, trio crimes, murder, and the proliferation of firearms, liquor, drugs and gangsterism. He said that most killings in the province followed arguments between people who know each other.

Maj-Gen Manci concluded by saying that safety and security also require job creation, poverty alleviation, human rights education and moral regeneration, which is why partnerships are so important.

**The importance of partnerships and collaboration in the creation of safe communities**

**Cheryl Britz, Knysna CPF chair**

The Knysna Community Police Forum (CPF) was voted best CPF in the province and its chairperson, Ms Britz, spoke about some of the work it does.

She said that overcoming security problems requires strong relationships, and holding ‘conversations that matter’ so as to build community support and trust in the police. She said that the Knysna CPF focuses on partnerships, communication and visibility, and showed various photographs of CPF members and SAPS officials working together in a range of contexts.

The Knysna CPF and SAPS have a joint investment in collaboration and partnerships with local government, private security and other government agencies like SanParks. Weekly meetings look at crime trends and share plans for the week, and the SAPS and CPF members ensure high visibility and good use of social media.

Ms Britz said that in their experience, crime goes down when neighbourhood watches are established. Some of the other interventions introduced in Knysna include the installation of CCTV and registered parking attendants. She said that the Knysna CPF is an example of what can be achieved by community collaboration with SAPS.
Panel discussion - Gender-based violence - what needs to be done

The prevalence of violence against women and children

Prof Lilly Artz, Gender, Health and Justice Research Unit, Faculty of Health Sciences, UCT

Prof Artz focused on what existing data reveal about violence against women and children. She said that South Africa is number 13 out of 20 hotspots that account for 77% of gender-based homicides globally. It also has the highest rate of reported rape in the world, with approximately 50,000 cases reported each year. She noted that the MRC suggested in 2013 and 2014 that an average of three women are killed every day at the hands of their intimate partners, while Africa Check reported in 2017 that six are killed each day.

More than half of murders of women were at the hands of an intimate partner. There are about 220,000 applications for protection orders each year, and 25% of granted orders are breached. SAPS 2018 statistics show that the murder, attempted murder, rape and sexual assault of women is increasing. Murder of women increased by 6.9% from 2016/2017 to 2017/2018, with 291 more women murdered in this period. Additionally, 117 more boys and 29 more girls were murdered year-on-year.

Of the average of 56 people killed every day in South Africa, 46 are men, eight are women and two are children. Interviews with young people found that one in three had experienced some form of sexual abuse or exposure, with one in four reporting being exposed to family violence. Another survey found that 784,967 young people in South Africa have been victims of sexual abuse by the age of 17, which is equal to filling up the Cape Town Stadium 14 times.

Prof Artz said that there are differences between male and female reported rates of abuse but that they are not as stark as anticipated. Citing data from surveys, she said that the first experiences of and exposure to sexual abuse occurred between ages one and 17, with one in five cases of sexual abuse occurring at the hands of someone the victim knew. In a school survey, boys (36.8%) were found to be slightly more likely than girls (35.9%) to report some form of sexual abuse. Girls were more likely than boys to experience forced and penetrative sexual abuse, and sexual abuse involving contact with the abuser (contact abuse), while boys were more likely to report forced exposure to sexual acts and material (non-contact abuse).

In order to address violence against women and children we must establish a monitoring team of senior police officers and citizens to focus on related crimes, increase and upskill investigating officers, train officers to deal with domestic violence. In addition, we should conduct targeted research into domestic violence. An MoU between DoCS and SAPS should be signed to continue police oversight, and address the backlog of medico-legal (forensic) sample analysis.

Understanding and preventing men’s violence - research on the drivers of violence and enablers of change

Dean Peacock, co-executive director, Sonke Gender Justice

Mr Peacock began by outlining the evidence for optimism that drives Sonke’s work. He said that there is a strong body of local and international evidence supporting reductions in violence against women: Stepping Stones, Sinovuyo, One Man Can, IMAGE Micro-Finance, Seven Passes Initiative, etc. There was a 64% reduction of domestic violence in the US between 1994-2010 and reductions in female genital mutilation of 60-74% in East, West and North Africa between 1990-2017. The challenge, however, is achieving scale, sustaining impact and securing political will. He referred to the recent #TotalShutdown campaign, the GBV Summit and Presidential commitments and said that they represent a breakthrough in the field - as does the Safer Western Cape event.

Mr Peacock explained that men’s violence against women needs to be explicitly named so it can be addressed. Prevention of GBV is more effective when men and women work together. He said that we need to ensure services are in place for survivors, that perpetrators are held to account and that effective prevention strategies are adopted and taken to scale by local and national government.

He said that there are multiple ways of being a man. Key characteristics of socially dominant masculinities are found cross-culturally in more patriarchal countries. These include: heterosexuality (and demonstrably virile), dominance and control over women including sexual entitlement and use of violence, physical strength and toughness, and invulnerability or lack of fear of risk.

Other less accepted masculinities exist in societies and often are much less violent and more gender equitable. Mr Peacock said that men’s attitudes about manhood matter for nearly every health and violence issue: having sought HIV testing; number of sexual partners; rates of self-reported STI symptoms; condom use; substance and alcohol use; couple communication about reproduction; use of physical and sexual violence against female partners; and, participation in care work.

Sonke and Wits conducted a baseline study in Diepsloot, Gauteng in 2016 involving 2,603 men with a median age of 27. 49.7% were employed in the past three months, the median monthly income was R500, 38.6% had passed matric, and 56% had enacted violence against women in the past 12 months - more than double the rest of South Africa.

The survey revealed a number of lessons about the impact of patriarchal norms: men who see women as unequal or believe men should make decisions had a higher chance of committing violence against women; men with seven or more partners in the past year had double the chance of using violence; men who paid for sex had triple the chance of having committed violence against women. 84% of men who used violence had been physically abused or neglected in childhood, 39% and been sexually abused and 60% had been exposed to trauma as adults.

Many studies show that witnessing interpersonal violence as a child is the strongest single factor associated with men’s use of violence against women later in life. Men in crowded households, living apart from partners and without a matric were more likely to use violence against women.

Income did not appear to be a predictor of violence but food security reduced the odds of using violence by 40%. Other related drivers and enablers of men’s violence against women and girls are: depression, post-traumatic stress, problem drinking, inequitable gender norms, child abuse, patriarchal gender norms, sense of impunity, childhood exposure to domestic and sexual violence and harsh physical punishment, alcohol abuse, access to guns and poor enforcement of gun laws and regulations, as well as economic inequalities, employment or unemployment related stress, and low educational outcomes.

Mr Peacock said that there is lots of programmatic and data evidence to show that violence can be reduced. Success requires political will, adequate and sustained resources, citizen oversight and accountability. Preliminary analysis of data from a Sonke Change Trial found significant reductions in reported violence among low and moderate users of violence but not among high users.

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The Birds and Bees Model - preventing gender-based violence in schools through partnering with learners

Kathleen Dey, director at Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust

Ms Dey explained The Birds and Bees Model of preventing sexual violence. She said it is an ‘old-school’ model that is effective. It is delivered in schools with a high-risk of sexual violence.

After identifying schools and meetings with the principal and key staff, information sessions are held for staff, learners and parents. Learners are invited to apply and then undertake a screening. As part of the programme, Rape Crisis conducts a minimum of 12 three-hour sessions after school where learners discuss a range of subjects and design and implement a safety plan. The first six sessions focus on personal growth – getting to know each other and bonding with one another in the group, orientation, acceptance and trust building. The final six sessions are about topics related to rape, power within, power over and power together. The sessions involve small groups, seated in a circle. Relatable facilitators are used and boys and girls are mixed.

Rape Crisis talks about sex from the point of view of abuse of power. An HIV prevention NGO will talk about sex from the point of view of the transmission of disease. A nurse at the Reproductive Health Clinic will talk from the point of view of potential pregnancy. None of these perspectives is likely to be the viewpoint of the target group in the moment when sex is imminent.

Participants are told that sex is often impulsive and spontaneous, driven by internal forces like hormones, instincts and deep emotions, and fuelled by alcohol and drugs. It is influenced by powerful external forces like relationships, peer pressure, social norms, culture and religion.

Sex is discussed as a transaction, as a form of exchange, work, within marriage, in the media, in popular culture, in religion, as procreation, sex and HIV and other STIs, sex and drugs and alcohol and pornography. The abuse of power is also extensively discussed, including: myths and stereotypes about what it means to be a woman, a man and a gender non-conforming person; heterosexuality and homosexuality; rape and what causes rape; rape victims and rape survivors.

Finally, learners conduct a safety audit, map physical danger points and identify problems with the rape culture at their school. They map potential assets and resources, draw up a plan to improve safety at the school, and present the plan to the principal and key staff. They implement a programme aimed at building a culture of respect for consent and act as a resource to learners in need of support or advice.

Community Responses to Gender-based violence

Lucinda Evans, Director of Philisa Abafazi Bethu

Ms Evans explained that Philisa Abafazi Bethu started as a non-profit organisation in Lavender Hill ten years ago to provide services to victims of gender-based violence. It has opened 500 cases against police officers over the years. She said that the local SAPS station commander understood his station needed empowering and was very cooperative in training of staff to handle, report and provide service to victims of crime.

She said that there is a need for victim support rooms and funding or expertise to train victim support volunteers. Community policing forums also need capacity to include a gender desk to run projects with partners. Government needs to provide services to male rape survivors.

Ms Evans explained that there is no current after-hours service for GBV victims - SAPS must have a dedicated GBV officer on 24-hour standby. She said it is unacceptable for SAPS to take up to 48 hours before protection orders are delivered. She felt strongly that government and other stakeholders need to stop talking and start taking action and making necessary budgets available. She said that government should think of reinstating the death penalty.

Building a safer South Africa through partnerships and collaboration

Dr Chandre Gould, senior research fellow, ISS

Dr Gould discussed a range of projects which she’s been involved in, saying that success depends on relationships. In one project she conducted interviews with violent offenders in prison, which showed that childhood experiences of violence put them on a violent path. Relationships with peers, parents and teacher, employers and the criminal justice system alienated them from adults when they were young. What started out as petty crime or bunking school ended up as rape and murder. She then discussed The Seven Passes Initiative in Hoekwil, near George, demonstrating the impact of parenting programmes and other community interventions there. As a result, parents hit their children far less, there’s been a 50% drop in corporal punishment, and parents are less stressed and are starting to talk to other parents about parenting.

Scaling up programmes like this requires relationships of trust between practitioners, researchers and government. For this reason, Dr Gould is involved in the national Dialogue Forum, which brings people together to share experiences and strategy. Dr Gould said that one of the reasons South Africa is struggling with unacceptably high levels of crime is that we have excellent policy makers but researchers, NGOs and government are not planning together, not asking research questions together and not forming solutions together. The Dialogue Forum hopes to change this.

Recommendations

- Authorities should establish a team of senior police officers and civilians to monitor GBV and guide interventions;
- The SAPS should increase and upskill officers investigating GBV cases;
- The SAPS should improve the training of officers in relation to domestic violence;
- Authorities should target research into domestic violence and use the knowledge to enhance responses;
- DoCS and the SAPS should sign an MoU to continue police oversight;
- Address the backlog of medico-legal (forensic) samples;
- Ensure services are in place for survivors, that perpetrators are held to account and that effective prevention strategies are adopted and taken to scale;
- There is a need for better victim support at police stations, including for male rape victims;
- Need for 24 hour GBV support desk;
- Protection order must be served much faster than is currently occurring.
Setting up violence prevention observatories – an international case study

Dr Ariane De Palacio, senior analyst, International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (CIPC)

Dr De Palacio explained that the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime Prevention (CIPC) focuses on prevention by building bridges between researchers and practitioners to form a worldwide network of partners. This includes working with partners to design, implement and evaluate crime observatories.

She said that an observatory is a useful instrument to collect, measure, analyse and disseminate quantitative and qualitative information and evidence. It is helpful for people on the ground and speaks to local realities. It is transparent and reliable in the production and dissemination of data and information. It helps inform the public with quality information and ensures confidentiality and provides support to inform decisions and policy-making.

An observatory promotes the improvement of data quality by providing counsel and technical support to data providers. It is an innovative tool and a laboratory to test new practices. It can also act as a platform to create, stimulate and entertain a broad and diverse network of stakeholders, and can foster international partnerships and collaboration.

The next step for CIPC is building an international norms and standards toolkit of indicators for crime observatories.

Collaboration on a spatial data observatory to inform decision making and planning

Jacques du Preez, director, Provincial Spatial Information, Department of the Premier, Western Cape

Mr du Preez spoke about the Western Cape’s Spatial Data Observatory (WCSDO). He said that everything happens ‘somewhere’, so it’s important to think about space.

The National Development Plan which defines national observatories as being able to collect, update and analyse data and other relevant information. They enable the collection, integration and management of information from various sector departments and agencies. The NDP also prescribes the establishment of a national Observatory for spatial data assembly and analysis, development of a spatial framework, integrated system of spatial data, mobile governance and the use of ICT to engage with and provide services to citizens by 2030.

Mr du Preez said that the WCSDO focuses on governance, functionality, features and delivery. It is not just focused on crime but also looks at how spatial data is used to answer other performance questions. He said that that it is essential to have relevant accurate and timely information for the WCSDO to be effective.

There is not much data publicly available on the WCSDO site yet because of the need to go through a rigorous process of review first. Most data tends to be secondary data provided by others. The WCSDO uses City of Cape Town High resolution aerial imagery. He said that the predictive analytics for policing that one sees on TV shows mostly exist, but you need good data to get anything of value out of them. Data quality is a huge problem for the WCSDO. He said the goal is to get to a point where people can create and use the maps they need for their own analysis. But there are lots of technical challenges and things that still need to be configured.

Acoustic technology for violence detection and reduction

Robbie Robberts, director, Traffic, Law Enforcement, and Coordination, City of Cape Town

Director Robberts said that only local government currently measures firearm violence specifically, despite it being one of the City’s biggest problems. He said the approach remains reactive.

He said there is a loss of trust in policing due to the daily trauma of firearm violence, the ready availability of firearms, and the difficulty of linking perpetrators to crimes. Police crime statistics are not available daily which is a challenge for police deployment.

He said we must move from a safe city to smart city approach. Shotspotter technology, which uses acoustics to pinpoint the location from which gunshots are fired, can do that, but it currently only covers two areas at the moment – Manenberg and Hannover Park. It provides precise geographical information on gunshots (including number of shots and guns involved) within seconds and allows for rapid deployment and response.

Investments in technology will improve real-time monitoring and help to create a safe city, but the City struggles to get the SAPS to respond to shootings.

Alcohol harms mapping in Paarl East and Khayelitsha

Chris Berens, lead: social technology, Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU)

Mr Berens discussed the VPUU’s use of mapping in its work, particularly the Paarl East Alcohol Harms Reduction Programme 2015-2017. This involved engagement with communities regarding crime and harm linked to alcohol. These conversations alone improved feelings of safety. It included training for neighbourhood watches and household surveys measuring perceptions of safety. Owners of alcohol sales outlets were engaged regarding regulation and operating rules agreed with community stakeholders. An alcohol exposure index in Khayelitsha involved the development of coherent land use map linked to the 2011 census and a survey of alcohol outlets. Heat map methodology combined this with murder data to measure people’s exposure to potential alcohol harms. It found about 1000 outlets for a population of about 400 000 people.

Mr Berens said that one can show the cumulative impact of alcohol exposure through heat maps. Lots of alcohol consumption is found in highly populated areas. He said VPUU does not make a judgement about whether that is necessarily a bad thing and that they are still working on tracking that relationship with UCT public health.

Recommendations

- We should recognise the potential for, and pursue the development of observatories to aid the management and analysis of data related to violence and crime prevention. This includes spatial analysis. Where possible, such observatories should involve a range of stakeholders, including the Province, City, academics, researchers and others.
- Authorities should use spatial data to make informed policy and practical violence prevention decisions, and to guide interventions. As much as possible, data should be shared.
- There is a great need for better collaboration between the SAPS and City of Cape Town to better respond to gun data generated by ShotSpotter.
Challenges and solutions: a provincial response to the National Anti-Gangsterism Strategy

Gwen Dereymaeker, deputy director of policy and research, Department of Community Safety

Ms Dereymaeker explained that the Western Cape has extreme levels of gang violence. Murder increased by 17.5% in 2016/17-2017/18 at gang stations (areas where gangs are established and common) compared to 12.6% in the province as a whole. 83% of all gang murders in South Africa occurred in the Western Cape last year, and 45% of all murders in the Western Cape occurred in gang station areas.

Data suggests that the gang economy is highly reliant on the drug and gun trade in the province. 44% of all drug offences occurred in gang station areas, 57% of illegal possession of firearms and ammunition offences occurred in gang station areas, and there are high levels of drug and alcohol misuse in communities affected by gang violence.

Ms Dereymaeker said that there is no current provincial response or strategy for gangs and that solutions can’t be quick or isolated but need to take account of the complexity of the gang ecosystem. She said that the causes of gangs and gang violence include high unemployment, poverty and inequality, absent or poor role models, abused or neglected children, and the legacy of apartheid planning.

The school environment is also highly affected by gang violence in the province. There are shootings when learners walk to and from school, bullying and violence at school, poor academic performance and absenteeism in affected areas, and trauma experienced by learners, educators and staff.

Interventions should target high-risk areas, she said. Youths join gangs for a sense of belonging and the ‘cool factor’ and gangs play a social role in providing security and necessities. There is also a link between high violence and low trust in state institutions.

The Safety and Violence Policy Framework/National strategy acknowledges the need for a holistic and interdepartmental approach with collaboration, coordination, partnerships and community-centres. The National Anti-Gangsterism Strategy was adopted by Cabinet in June 2016 and the Western Cape cabinet has since adopted the strategy, replacing the Western Cape Social Transformation, Gang Prevention and Intervention Strategic Framework (2008).

The national anti-gang strategy has four pillars: Human development; Social partnerships; Spatial planning; Criminal justice. It’s strategic objectives are: a coordinated interdepartmental approach guided by government policies and strategies; a community-centred approach that emphasises dialogue, accountability to communities, and addressing root causes and enabling factors; partnerships between government, the private sector, civil society and communities; and; mitigating the risks posed by gang-related activities through implementation of prevention, containment, management and mitigation mechanisms.

Fifty experts and other stakeholders are developing a provincial response, which is due in early 2019. It is informed by a recognition that the six main contributors to the gang ecosystem are: the criminal justice system, education, families, neighbourhoods, health, and peers.

Key levers of the gang prevention framework include: building family resilience, parenting support, building safe schools, reinforced criminal capacity, supporting community cohesion through the built environment, reducing drug and alcohol-related harms.

Its key principles are: evidence-based, a targeted whole of society approach, the violence risk scorecard, the adverse childhood scorecard, collaboration, accountability, monitoring and evaluation, building trust and providing support.

Working with youth in the mayoral urban renewal programme

Alistair Graham, City of Cape Town

Mr Graham explained the City’s urban regeneration programme based on a violence prevention methodology. It is working in high-crime areas and focused on hotspots where youth are vulnerable to violence due to absent fathers, dysfunctional families, negative role models, child-headed households, gang recruitment, truancy, teenage pregnancy, absence of facilities and socio-economic challenges.

The methodology involves community participation and strives to create trust and accountability. It begins by identifying target areas, auditing community dynamics, and carrying out baseline surveys. Intervention needs are then prioritised, strategies developed, interventions designed and then implemented. These are monitored and evaluated throughout.

Community action plans focus on investment in people and infrastructure: returning parolees go back to communities and get involved in gangs or violence and struggle to find work. Youth are trapped and find it hard to move to safer areas.

Mr Graham discussed a number of project steps and findings and illustrated these with photographs and maps of project sites. One related project mapped crime and gang-activity to correspond with street lighting. It found ineffective lighting in Gugulethu and that open spaces and schools are not well lit – making them vulnerable to crime.

Outreach work in Hanover Park has seen 300 high-risk gang members and 600 at-risk individuals participate in programmes including carpentry, behaviour modification and driver training. Some participants went back to gangs and others did not. This shows that it is possible to bring about change with a balanced approach including social crime prevention, environmental design and criminal justice procedures.
Conflict to cooperation - a gang mediation process in Avian Park in Worcester

Stef Snel, independent mediator

Mr Snel explained that he is trying to professionalise interventions in social conflicts through an organisation called IR Change. He said they get involved where government has failed, generally in gang-affected communities without services or where officials can’t operate.

He discussed an intervention in Avian Park (crisis intervention for DoCS) and said that it shows how the IR Change programme operates. The suburb has private housing, low-income state-funded housing and informal settlements. The population is 15,965 in 3,893 homes. About half of Avian Park is affected by gangs. The area is dominated by the Junior Cisco Yakkies Gang. Gang fights are common in Worcester and lead to violence in the community. The community responded to attacks on their families by forming the Uitbyters group. Violence between gangs and Uitbyters then escalated, with 16 murders and many homes damaged or destroyed. Territories emerged and government services stopped, except for policing. An informal network of citizens (pastors, officials and community leaders) intervened to restore the peace between gangs.

A social conflict intervention methodology was then employed. This started with crisis intervention and mediators building links to people in conflict. It then encouraged parties to understand one another and develop their own solutions to the problems. IR Change’s programme and mediator authority and influence is achieved through authenticity, respect, not judging, honouring commitments and being persistent. Communities are encouraged to engage in lawful confrontation and disruption of gangsterism.

Some of processes and results of the intervention included: that mediators carefully talked their way through the community to hear protagonists’ stories of loss and pain, that mediation parties agreed to a ceasefire, and that parents played a constructive role. There was a six-week break with telephonic monitoring and retaliation prevention, then a return to mediation. An intergovernmental mechanism was established in the area and a police operation, Operation Thunder, led to the arrests of gang leaders. The Uitbyters collapsed and JCYs went to ground. Focus then shifted to the intergovernmental support and community resilience-building.

Mr Snel said that the lessons learned from the process included that community responses to gangsterism are a fast-growing phenomenon which presents an opportunity and a threat. In Avian Park the opportunity was lost - with disastrous consequences. They found that communities are the key to moderating or where officials can’t operate.

Unleashing Potential - Chrysalis youth development programme

Lucille Meyer, Chrysalis Academy

Ms Meyer explained that her presentation reflects on insights gleaned from the Chrysalis Academy’s work over 18 years with over 9,000 youth, and on her own experiences working directly with 3,931 young people across the Western Cape, who are largely Black, from urban and rural communities characterised by high crime rates, violence and poverty, and generally described as NEET. The Chrysalis Academy is an eighteen-year-old youth development organisation based in Tokai.

She said we must not ask how to address the risk factors that lead young people to violence, but rather what happens to young people who are subjected to ongoing structural, psychological, symbolic and physical violence and what can be done to disrupt the trauma? Many people face a continuum of risks, which leads to trauma.

The young people who enrol with the Chrysalis Academy are usually aged 18-25 and face complex multi-layered trauma. They often feel disconnected from others, angry, suffer low self-esteem, have little hope, and are wired for fight or flight. Chrysalis Academy provides them a three-month residential programme offering life skills, wilderness work, technical and vocational training, and more. This is followed by a year internship and five years aftercare. Participation is voluntary and competitive, with three cohorts of approximately 200 young people accepted each per year. The Chrysalis Academy actively disrupts trauma and creates a sense of belonging (as gangs do) in the youth.

Ms Meyer said that in light of the Chrysalis Academy’s experience, schools should move away from punishment towards promoting belonging, connection and love. Families and communities should be actively involved in developing healthy young people.

Understanding gang violence

Major General Jeremy Vearey, SAPS deputy commissioner, Detectives, Western Cape

Maj-Gen Vearey said that gangs are a source of social power and criminal governance. Their economic activity includes robbery, selling drugs and illegal alcohol.

He said that township gangs have a shorter life span than the Cape Flats’ older gangs. The former work in smaller groups, come together for a specific crime, and have identity markers but aren’t territory based. In contrast, Cape Flats gangs have names, are based in a specific territory, and are embedded in communities where they monopolise business and fight competition.

Prison gangs represent normative criminal governance in South Africa and have a subcultural influence on street gangs.
Maj-Gen Vearey explained that the SAPS has a four-pillar approach to gangsterism in the province: 1) Threat-focused crime information and intelligence management; 2) Target-focused specialised gang investigations; 3) Target-focused visible policing interventions; 4) Community mobilisation.

The approach intends to disrupt gangs, target key role players and revenue streams, construct prosecution-ready POCA cases (Prevention of Organised Crime Act), disrupt prison gangs' influence over street gangs, and combat gang corruption of the criminal justice system. He said the disruption of prison gangs must take place in partnership with the Department of Correctional Services.

He said that conflict occurs when gangs expand into each other's territory. When gangs are removed by SAPS they are replaced by other gangs if there is a failure to provide alternate activities.

**Recommendations**

- Authorities should prioritise action rather than policy alignment. There needs to be a mechanism that extends beyond Prov-Joints to include external stakeholders;
- DoCS should campaign to encourage communities to take collective action against gangsterism. It should establish a hub to collate information and experience sharing, networking and resource management, and use advanced data analytics to monitor social media to anticipate community action and promote constructive dialogue;
- Authorities should set up or support intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder mechanisms to support or initiate intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder mechanisms at local level to address gangsterism, taxi violence and service delivery conflict;
- Data management and sharing is key to tackling gangsterism and should be promoted by authorities;
- Authorities should recognise that dialogue is a first and preferred response to gangsterism. They should deploy third party mediators where government is perceived as a problem. They must invest in and secure resources for dialogical interventions.
Safety for farmworkers and the rural poor

Rita Andreas, founder and chair, Adama Trust

Ms Andreas said that although there are national laws on rural safety they are not a priority for government. As a result, farm workers do not feel safe as they get limited attention and protection.

She said that producers and farm workers do not have control over who can live on the farms, which creates problems and insecurity. Rural safety should be based on a shared vision and resources with strategies that include farmers and farmworkers.

Farmworker training should be a priority with attention given to social development. Community safety forums should include private companies, security providers and other businesses as well as farmers and workers with an emphasis on the ‘non-stranger policy’ on farms. Workers should be able to report strangers to police.

She also said that police resources must be deployed to farms, there should be more patrols on rural roads, and more perpetrators should be prosecuted. The SAPS rural safety plan does not work due to a lack of resources (vehicles, cell phones, manpower). Police speak well at high level events but there is limited delivery on the ground.

She said farm workers must be taught to protect themselves and farm watches should be reintroduced.

Working together: collaboration for rural safety

Johandré van Zyl, regional head of community safety: Northern, Eastern and Western Cape, AfriForum

Rural safety is a unique challenge and requires unique strategies, explained Mr van Zyl. The SAPS needs to declare rural violence as a priority crime.

Rural crimes are exacerbated by distance from police and neighbours. Police do not always have adequate resources to protect the rural sector, making it a soft target for criminals. Similarly, numerous roleplayers are operating in silos and failing to collaborate.

Many things can be done to bring safety to rural communities: raise awareness that police can’t do it alone; promoting more neighbourhood and farm watches, and ensuring a whole of society approach to safety through collaboration and continuous engagement. New support and funding models must be developed too.

Reactive measures being used by some include emergency applications, CCTV, drones, helicopters and response vehicles. But lack of employment opportunities leads to economic demise of the countryside, which promotes insecurity.

According to Mr van Zyl, the average farmer feeds 2,000 South Africans, meaning each farm murder potentially costs the economy R2 million.

AfriForum encourages communities to organise and take responsibility for their own safety, and to assist the police within the framework of the law. Elliot in the Eastern Cape provides an excellent example of collaboration, with AfriForum having established a neighbourhood watch and it collaborated with the Elliot taxi association, resulting in many arrests for stock theft.

Challenges faced by workers in the agricultural sector

Antonia Xaba: chief director, rural development, Department of Agriculture

The Western Cape’s rural challenges are complex and include migration, xenophobia, unemployment and population growth which create pressure and growing demands. A household census of agricultural workers explored employment, housing, access to services, land tenure, access to vital documents and household characteristics. It revealed numerous vulnerabilities among the province’s rural poor. These included challenges of poor health, teen pregnancy, child neglect, domestic violence, crime, alcoholism, gambling, gangsterism and drug abuse. Alcohol, unemployment and drug abuse were the most concerning issues respectively. 81% of workers lived in brick houses, 79% had access to piped water in their dwelling, 97% had electricity and 89% had flush toilets. Workers living on farms generally had better access to services than those living off farms.

Ms Xaba said that to address workers’ vulnerabilities the provincial government has a number of plans in place. These include: farmer support and development – building the economy to grow jobs; increasing export and market access; human capital development; substance abuse prevention and awareness; early childhood development; youth development and more.

A whole of society approach to crime and safety: collaboration between SAPS, private security, business and other partners

Quintin Smit, Member of the Mayoral Committee for community protection services, Stellenbosch

Mr Smit began with an overview of the Stellenbosch municipality, which covers 980 square kilometres, and has a population of 173,419 across 52,374 households. It contains 15 informal settlements and each year receives an additional 30,000 students during the academic year. Stellenbosch University is at the heart of the town.

He then explained the Stellenbosch Safety Initiative (SSI), which brings together a range of stakeholders, including private security, CPFs, NHW, the SAPS, municipality and more. Through the SSI the municipality has added 25 patrol vehicles on top of the SAPS and Law Enforcement vehicles, has employed 80 new personnel and introduced a radio network and night parking attendant system. Future plans include establishing a control room, introducing number plate recognition cameras and a new emergency number. The approach is one of people-driven development.

Challenges and opportunities for responding to gender-based violence in the rural and peri-urban areas of the Western Cape

Mzukisi Gaba, director: social crime prevention, Western Cape government

Mr Gaba began by explaining the Victim Empowerment Programme (VEP), which he said comes from the National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) and advocates for a victim centered, restorative justice approach to crime prevention. The programme is led by the Department of Social Development (DSD) and is premised on strong partnerships with government, civil society organisations, volunteers, academics and research institutions.
DSD has the responsibility to co-ordinate, manage and facilitate the development and implementation of victim empowerment policies, Mr Gaba said, as well as services and programmes. A national management team is responsible for providing strategic direction to programmes and provinces facilitate interaction through local forums.

The VEP has a number of objectives, including: developing policy to guide the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in the victim empowerment sector; establishing and sustaining effective VEP governance and management systems across government; enhancing the scope and quality of services to victims; to facilitate training and capacity building of victim empowerment service providers; and to monitor and evaluate the impact of projects.

Recommendations

• The SAPS should insure that CPFs in rural/farming areas include farm workers;
• The SAPS should bring back the Reservist system – just eight years ago the country had access to more than 60 000 reservist in South Africa and currently we have access to about 11 000;
• Authorities should declare farm murders and rural safety priorities;
• Authorities should support community mobilisation that promotes safety in rural areas;
• Authorities should strive to involve all roleplayers in a whole of society approach to safety generation in rural areas;
• Communities should keep their own statistics and compare them with SAPS and DoCS to support joint planning.
Illegal fishing challenges

Adv Shaheen Moola, MD of Feike Natural Resource Management

Advocate Moola described the context in which illegal fishing takes place: South Africa has 1.5 million square kilometres of territorial water and 22 commercial fisheries contributing R5-6bn to the economy. The regulatory and legislative framework is outdated and there is a need to review the Marine Living Resources Act. Regulation is the responsibility of the national Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) but its capacity is undermined by infighting, allegations of corruption and maladministration. Furthermore, compliance management is weak and fragmented.

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing takes place on an industrial scale, with an estimated 400 Chinese trawlers operating off the coast of Africa. Coastal poaching is also a problem, including fishing without a permit or a catch that exceeds the permitted amount. The most significant resources fished illegally off the South African and Western Cape coast are abalone, lobsters and various line fishes such as Steenbras.

Adv Moola said that the poaching of high-value resources such as abalone is run by criminal syndicates. Regulation and monitoring of these resources and crimes are poor and fines are insufficient to discourage poachers. He said that it is important to understand the key drivers of illegal fishing, which he believes are organised crime, coastal poverty, unemployment, easy money through poaching, and a lack of ownership of rights to resources.

To address illegal fishing we must: grant fishing rights for long periods; create policy certainty; devolve enforcement and co-management of resources to local authority level; identify realistic alternatives to fishing; and reduce the number of unviable fishing quotas.

Poaching of marine resources as a component of organised crime

Professor Hennie Van As, director of the Centre for Law Enforcement in Action and director of FishFORCE Law Enforcement Academy at Nelson Mandela University

Prof van As said the problem we face is that we are dealing with organised crime, but we look at it through an lens of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. This is more aligned to fishery management and compliance than organised crime, and so attracts low penalties. South Africa needs to shift its approach to maritime crime law enforcement.

Poaching of marine resources is an organised crime which includes fraud, corruption, money laundering, human trafficking and drug trafficking, but sentences are so minimal they are seen by syndicates as a running cost. Syndicates have infiltrated small towns and reach far beyond South Africa’s borders.

He said that law enforcement should not just see illegal fishing as a conservation or fisheries management problem but rather acknowledge that marine poaching includes a range of illegal activities, serious offences and economic crimes.

The UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and Prevention of Organised Crime Act provides a framework for maritime offences. Fisheries management falls under the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishers (DAFF) but organised crime falls under SAPS who should use the POCA Act to guide investigations and prosecutions. We must shift responsibility to SAPS organised crime. We need lengthy sentences to remove offenders from society. It’s not the in-agency cooperation that’s a problem, it’s the inter-agency cooperation.

South African courts are recognising that we’re dealing with a big problem, said Prof van As. Most people are willing to do the right thing so we must help them to do the right thing.

The fight against wildlife crime: abalone poaching, links to organised crime, the value of the illegal trade, and successes and failures of policy interventions

Markus Burgener, senior researcher from TRAFFIC

Mr Burgener said that there is a profitable legal fishing industry in South Africa which generates a large number of jobs, but which is threatened by the illegal poaching and export of abalone. Syndicated Asian criminal networks are involved with links to the drug trade. South African gangs, tax evasion, corruption and money laundering. It is estimated that the value of illegally traded abalone is between R500 million to R1 billion (USD 60 -120 million) per annum and growing. This far exceeds the Total Allowable Catch (TAC).

South Africa abalone (Haliotis midae) is an endemic species and easy to access. It is exported from countries in Africa without a coast line, like Lesotho, but clearly originates in South Africa.

In coastal communities characterised by poverty, unemployment and high levels of crime, involvement in illegal marine harvesting and trade is almost institutionalised. This causes terrible social problems within coastal communities, despite the economic benefits to some. People trading illegal marine resources often trade all sorts of other illegal commodities too.

South Africa has invested a lot of resources in combatting poaching but to little effect because the benefits outweigh the deterrent. To disrupt these practices, we need to provide alternative economic options for poor coastal communities.

At the same time, syndicates need to be targeted by law enforcement. We need a better multi-agency approach to tackling organised crime, while lawful abalone traders should develop traceability systems for all abalone products to prove their legality. There is also a need to collaborate with other states to avoid export of South Africa abalone via transit countries.

Panel discussion - Environmental crime
Recommendations

- South Africa needs a compliance strategy based on SMART principles, more technology-based solutions, and a properly resourced and capable DAFF;
- There is a need to strengthen DAFF and to have a more balanced approach and coordination between monitoring and regulation and law enforcement;
- We need incorruptible leaders in the fisheries department - they need to lead from the front;
- Authorities must ensure that fishery compliance strategies are aligned with community needs;
- We must recognise that communities live off of illegal fishing economies. To support them we need long term, meaningful solutions and programmes;
- Better collaboration is needed between national, provincial and local government;
- More resources are needed from SAPS and crime intelligence - not just DAFF;
- Authorities need to address corruption in the DAFF. Communities don't trust authorities;
- Authorities must integrate enforcement with co-management and devolve it to the local authority level;
- Authorities should reduce the number of fishing rights and small unviable quotas currently allocated;
- Authorities should consider a CITES listing and develop a traceability system to monitor the legal/illegal trade;
- Authorities should focus on the prosecution of syndicate leaders and operators;
- Public education is needed to change community tolerance or support for poaching;
- Government should collaborate with neighbouring states to avoid export of South African abalone via transit countries.
Captive Riders: crime at the Cape Town transport Interchange

Mathew Skade, senior researcher, Centre of Criminology, University of Cape Town

Mr Skade began with some transport statistics for Cape Town, saying that 53% of Capetonians use personal cars and 95% of public transport users come from low to middle income homes. 80% of public transport users use trains. Most people who use public transport are black and coloured and are aged 18-45. Most earn less than R6,000 a month.

Mr Skade’s presentation was based on his research at Cape Town public transport interchange. This aimed to understand commuter perceptions of safety, understand crime patterns and illicit activities at the interchange, and identify the forms of security governance and management being used. It was based on a survey of 104 commuters, 26% of whom had experienced crime while commuting.

The survey found that commuters feel most unsafe on the way to catching their transport (38%), outside the station (19%) and inside the transport vehicle (3%). Their biggest fears are violence, muggings and assault. Respondents felt safest at the train station and least safe at the minibus taxi rank. They were most fearful of being mugged or attacked before they got to work, with 35% of commuters fearful of their trip to the transport node. Of these, 19% were scared walking to the station, 17% were scared in the train, 14% were scared in the taxi, and 4.8% were scared within the station.

Women and men are scared of different things and witness different crimes. People feel safer around the station concourses but mostly feel unsafe around the perimeter where there are no guards. Other factors that make people feel unsafe included a perceived influx of vagrants, the invisibility of police, and drug dealing and drug use in the area.

Tackling the root causes of crime and violence in the public transport sector

Yasir Ahmed, chief director for Transport Regulation, Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works

The public transport sector has a huge problem. Understanding the root causes will allow targeting of limited resources for maximum impact. This can be achieved by working together.

Mr Ahmed said that there was a massive increase in taxi-related murders and attempted murders in the province in 2018. He said the root causes of taxi violence include: weak or out-dated planning and regulation, over-trading, reactive regulation, weak data, corruption and interference, flawed enforcement, police corruption (SAPS officers who own taxis), greed – gatekeeping by taxi owners, taxation by taxi industry, leadership battles in the industry, and a culture of lawlessness.

In response the province has introduced legislation to fill gaps in national legislation; integrated its planning, survey and operational data; introduced a range of technology such as automatic number plate recognition cameras to aid enforcement; tackled organised crime through a joint task team on taxi-related crimes; and stopping patrol vehicles that are owned by the taxi associations.

The role of taxi associations as agents of social control and community policing

Azwi Netshikulwe

Mr Netshikulwe presented the findings of research looking at what he described as the positive side of the taxi industry - the role taxi associations play in communities.

Fieldwork was carried out in Dunoon and Khayelitsha, where Mr Netshikulwe spoke to neighbourhood watches, community members, taxi associations, SAPS and others about the taxi industry in the community. He found that there is a shift from formal community regulation to informal non-state social control in the two areas, including enforcement by taxi drivers.

Most taxi associations operate within communities and exert some social control - they do this unilaterally and without consultation or cooperation with SAPS – sometimes operating outside the law. Taxi drivers are invited to play a community policing role by the communities themselves. This can undermine or promote safety in the community.

Communities look to taxi associations for community policing because the relationship between them and SAPS has deteriorated, when the CPF no longer functions, or when they feel taxi associations are more effective and reliable than police. For example, in cases of gangsterism or phone theft a taxi association returns the stolen phone while police can’t. Taxi associations also have more resources than community members.

The research found no formal collaboration between taxi associations and police or other community structures. Mr Netshikulwe said that there is a need for a regulatory framework that responds to community needs in these areas.

Safety on trains

Dineo Mogotsi, researcher, #Unite Behind

Ms Mogotsi said that poor and working-class people are affected daily by an overcrowded, dangerous and dysfunctional train system which has led to loss of productive time, jobs and lives. Women and children are most vulnerable, unsafe and fearful.

The Rapid Rail Unit in the Western, Eastern and Northern Cape reported that in the 2017/2018 there were 1,385 incidents of contact crimes reported on trains but only 139 arrests. There were also 82 reported incidents of theft but only 10 arrests. CCTV cameras at train stations have not been working since 2015. The Railway Safety Regulator (RSR) refused to issue PRASA with a Safety Permit after it did not comply with safety standards.

Ms Mogotsi said that commuters no longer report crimes because robbery has become normalised. She described the #FixOurTrains Campaign which she said advocates for PRASA to provide safe, reliable and efficient trains for commuters.

She said that challenges needing to be addressed include that: most security personnel are not registered, qualified or allowed to handle firearms; CCTV and lighting inside and outside trains is poor; there is no commuter–centred safety plan accommodating people with disabilities, children, elderly people and women; the Rail Safety Regulator can’t hold PRASA to account; PRASA has an interim board which has led to instability, low morale and poor leadership, and has held up the signing of an MoU with the SAPS.
How commuter (un)safety affects business

Ryan Ravens, CEO of Accelerate Cape Town

Economic development requires safe and affordable mobility. Unreliable or unsafe public transport affects business as people can’t get to work. In Cape Town, the threat of robbery around the Grand Parade traumatises commuters. Many businesses are withdrawing from Cape Town and from South Africa because of a lack of safety.

Mr Ravens said that business has lots of energy and willingness to improve commuter safety. He asked if government is willing to work with business by, for example, allowing business to ‘adopt a station’ or ‘adopt a train’ and so help to keep it safe.

Recommendations

- National, provincial and local government need to work together;
- Authorities should develop a commuter-centred safety plan;
- PRASA needs to appoint a permanent board;
- Authorities should install and maintain CCTV camera systems and improve lighting on trains and at stations;
- Authorities should deploy visible and qualified security guards at stations and on trains. They should also be trained in crowd management;
- We must promote continuous collaboration between PRASA, City of Cape Town, SAPS and communities;
- Taxi associations must be part of the solutions to transport-related harms;
- Authorities should develop reward system for good taxi conduct – not just punish law-breakers.
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<td>09h00</td>
<td>Welcome and introductory remarks</td>
<td>Gideon Morris, head of Western Cape Department of Community Safety</td>
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<td>The role of civilian oversight in a professional police force</td>
<td>Alvin Rapea, national secretary, Civilian Secretariat for Police</td>
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<td>Policing in partnership: reflections from Bavaria</td>
<td>Prof Dr Wilhelm Schmidbauer, head of the Bavarian State Police, Germany</td>
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<td>Building a safer Western Cape</td>
<td>Alan Winde, Western Cape Minister of Community Safety</td>
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<td>Priorities for professional policing</td>
<td>Bheki Cele, South African Minister of Police</td>
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<td>A Western Cape vision for safer communities</td>
<td>Helen Zille, Western Cape Premier</td>
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<td>09h45</td>
<td>Safety and violence challenges in the Western Cape</td>
<td>Lt-Gen Khombinkosi Jula, Western Cape Provincial Commissioner, South African Police Service</td>
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<td>A Western Cape injury mortality profile</td>
<td>Dr Juliet Evans, deputy director, Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance, Western Cape Department of Health</td>
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<td>Best practice and the role of evidence in policy and implementation of violence-reduction programmes and interventions</td>
<td>Matodzi Amisi, Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results, Wits University</td>
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<td>Applying public health principles to violence prevention: revisiting the Western Cape Government’s Integrated Provincial Violence Prevention Policy Framework</td>
<td>Dr Richard Matzopoulos, Medical Research Council and public health research associate, University of Cape Town</td>
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<td>Reducing violence and building safety begins with care for young people</td>
<td>Prof Rajen Govender, associate professor of Sociology, University of Cape Town; chief specialist scientist, Medical Research Council</td>
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<td>10h35</td>
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<td>PLENARY 2: EVIDENCE OF WHAT WORKS IN VIOLENCE PREVENTION</td>
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<td>A public health approach to crime and harm prevention</td>
<td>Superintendent Stan Gilmour, Thames Valley Police</td>
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<td>Building safe communities from the inside out – the importance of the first 1000 days programme</td>
<td>Dr Elmarie Malek, paediatrician, Western Cape Department of Health</td>
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<td>The necessity and complexities of delivering parenting programmes in high-risk violent communities</td>
<td>Venecia Barries, director, The Parent Centre</td>
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<td>Violence prevention through evidence-based parenting programmes</td>
<td>Anna Booij, technical programme specialist, Clowns Without Borders</td>
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<td>Potential strategies to prevent sexual victimisation among women and girls</td>
<td>Dr Nwabisa Shai, senior scientist, Gender and Health Research Unit, Medical Research Council</td>
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<td>12h35</td>
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<td>SAPS murder reduction strategy in the Western Cape</td>
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<td>Data-led policing and murder prevention</td>
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<td>Policing gun violence</td>
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<td>Can police intelligence and amnesties still save lives? Examining interventions to reduce gun murders today.</td>
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**PARALLEL SESSION – DRUGS & ALCOHOL**  
**Venue:** Liesbeek Room  
**Moderator:** Adv Thembalihle Sidaki

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<td>14h15</td>
<td>Data and trends on the policing of drugs: implications for future policing</td>
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<td>Jean Redpath, Africa Criminal Justice Reform, Dullah Omar Institute, University of the Western Cape</td>
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<td>Alcohol Harms Reduction Game Changer - what have we learned?</td>
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<td>Sanele Gaqa, head of the Alcohol Harms Reduction Game Changer, Delivery Support Unit, Western Cape</td>
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<td>Evidence-based approach to drugs</td>
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<td>Shaun Shelly, founder of SA Drug Policy Week</td>
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**PARALLEL SESSION – PROFESSIONAL POLICING**  
**Venue:** Orange Room  
**Moderator:** Clare Ballard

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<td>14h15</td>
<td>A framework for professional policing in the Western Cape</td>
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<td>Prof Lukas Muntingh, African Criminal Justice Reform Initiative, University of the Western Cape</td>
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<td>Building trust - the best police strategy to reduce crime</td>
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<td>Gareth Newham, justice and violence prevention head, Institute for Security Studies</td>
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<td>The role of the Western Cape Police Ombudsman in advancing professional policing</td>
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<td>Johan Brand, Western Cape police ombudsman</td>
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<td>PLENARY - Report back and summary of Day 1 sessions</td>
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## DAY 2 – 14 November 2018

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<td>Introduction and summary of Day 1</td>
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<td><strong>Gideon Morris</strong>, head of Western Cape Department of Community Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>09h10</td>
<td><strong>PLENARY: COLLABORATION TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AND BUILD SAFER COMMUNITIES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Venue:</strong> Congo Room <strong>Moderator:</strong> Judge James Yekiso</td>
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<td><strong>The importance of collaboration in building a safe and prosperous province</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Alan Winde</strong>, Western Cape Minister of Community Safety</td>
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<td><strong>A whole of society approach to a safer Western Cape</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Estelle Cloete</strong>, operations executive, Western Cape Economic Development Partnership</td>
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<td><strong>The City of Cape Town’s perspectives on collaboration</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Alderman JP Smith</strong>, mayoral committee member for safety and security, City of Cape Town</td>
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<td><strong>Collaborative approaches to violence prevention</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Seth Reynolds</strong>, programme lead, Safer Communities Programme, Fight for Peace</td>
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<td><strong>SAPS perspectives on collaboration</strong></td>
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<td><strong>South African Police Service (SAPS)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The importance of partnerships and collaboration in the creation of safe communities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cheryl Britz</strong>, Knysna CPF chairperson</td>
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<td><strong>PARALLEL SESSION – GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The birds and bees: preventing gender-based violence in schools through partnering with learners</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Kathleen Dey</strong>, director, Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust</td>
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<td><strong>Building a safer SA through partnerships and collaboration</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dr Chandré Gould</strong>, senior research fellow, Institute for Security Studies</td>
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<td><strong>Prevalence of violence against women and children: what the data tells us about law and policy reform.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Prof Lilly Artz</strong>, Gender Health and Justice Research Unit, University of Cape Town</td>
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<td><strong>Community responses to gender-based violence</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lucinda Evans</strong>, director, Philisa Abafazi Bethu</td>
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<td><strong>Understanding and preventing men’s violence: Sonke’s research on the drivers of violence and enablers of change</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dean Peacock</strong>, Sonke Gender Justice</td>
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<td><strong>Setting up violence prevention observatories – an international case study</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dr Ariane De Palacio</strong>, senior analyst, International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (CIPC)</td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating on a Spatial Data Observatory to inform decision-making and planning</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Jacques du Preez</strong>, director, Provincial Spatial Information, Department of the Premier</td>
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<td><strong>Acoustic technology for violence detection and reduction</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Director Robbie Roberts</strong>, Traffic, Law Enforcement, and Coordination, City of Cape Town</td>
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<td><strong>Alcohol harms mapping in Paarl East and Khayelitsha</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chris Berens</strong>, lead: social technology, Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU)</td>
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**PARALLEL SESSION – PREVENTING GANG VIOLENCE**  
**Venue:** Orange Room  
**Moderator:** Dr Don Pinnock

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<td>Challenges and solutions – a provincial response to the national anti-gangsterism strategy</td>
<td>Gwen Dereymaeker, deputy director of Policy and Research, Western Cape Department of Community Safety</td>
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<td>Working with youth in the mayoral urban renewal programme</td>
<td>Alistair Graham, City of Cape Town</td>
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<td>Gang mediation process in Avian Park in Worcester</td>
<td>Stefan Snel, independent mediator</td>
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<td>Some reflections from the Chrysalis Academy on Youth Development through a Holistic approach: Disrupting disconnection, disengagement and exclusion</td>
<td>Dr Lucille Meyer, Chrysalis Academy, youth development programme</td>
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**PARALLEL SESSION – RURAL SAFETY**  
**Venue:** Liesbeek Room  
**Moderator:** Adv Han-Marié Marshall-Van Zyl

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<td>Safety for farmworkers and the rural poor</td>
<td>Rita Andreas, founder and chair, Adama Trust</td>
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<td>Working together: collaboration for rural safety</td>
<td>Johandré van Zyl, regional head of community safety: Northern, Eastern and Western Cape, Afriforum</td>
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<td>Challenges faced by workers in the agricultural sector</td>
<td>Antonia Xaba, Department of Agriculture</td>
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<td>A whole of society approach to crime and safely: collaboration between SAPS, private security, business and other partners</td>
<td>Quintin Smit, mayoral committee member for community protection services, Stellenbosch Municipality</td>
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<td>Challenges and opportunities for responding to gender-based violence in the rural and peri-urban areas of the Western Cape</td>
<td>Mzukisi Gaba, director: Social Crime Prevention, Western Cape government</td>
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<td>15h00</td>
<td>Discussion and Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Moderator</td>
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**PARALLEL SESSION – ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME**  
**Venue:** Congo Room  
**Moderator:** Dr Annette Hübschle

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Speaker/Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>14h00</td>
<td>Illegal fishing challenges</td>
<td>Adv Shaheen Moola, managing director, Feike Natural Resource Management Advisors</td>
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<td>Poaching of marine resources as a component of organised crime</td>
<td>Prof Hennie van As, director of the Centre for Law in Action and Director of FishFORCE Law Enforcement Academy, Nelson Mandela University</td>
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<td>The fight against wildlife crime: abalone poaching, links to organised crime, the value of the illegal trade, and successes and failures of policy interventions</td>
<td>Markus Burgener, senior researcher, TRAFFIC</td>
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<td>15h00</td>
<td>Discussion and Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Moderator</td>
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**PARALLEL SESSION – SAFETY ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT**  
**Venue:** Orange Room  
**Moderator:** Crispin Sonn

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>14h00</td>
<td>Captive Riders: Crime at the Cape Town Transport Interchange</td>
<td>Matthew Skade, senior research officer, Centre of Criminology, University of Cape Town</td>
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<td>Tackling the root causes of crime and violence in the public transport sector</td>
<td>Yasir Ahmed, chief director for Transport Regulation, Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works</td>
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<td>How commuter (un)safety affects business</td>
<td>Ryan Ravens, CEO of Accelerate Western Cape</td>
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<td>The role of taxi associations as agents of social control and community policing</td>
<td>Azwi Netshikulwe, Safety and Violence Initiative, University of Cape Town</td>
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<td>Safety on trains</td>
<td>Dineo Mogotsi, Unite Behind</td>
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<tr>
<td>15h00</td>
<td>Discussion and Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Moderator</td>
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<tr>
<td>16h00</td>
<td><strong>PLENARY - Report back and summary of Day 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>16h30</td>
<td><strong>END OF CONFERENCE</strong></td>
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</table>
SPEAKER PROFILES

YASIR AHMED
Yasir Ahmed is the chief director for Transport Regulation in the Western Cape’s Department of Transport and Public Works, and co-chairman of the SAPS ProvJoints’ Transport Priority Committee. He is a registered engineer with more than 25 years’ experience in roads and transport planning.

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MATODZI AMISI
Matodzi Amisi is a senior monitoring and evaluation specialist at the Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results at Wits University. She has more than 13 years’ experience as a researcher and evaluator in government. Her expertise includes providing technical expertise in the design and management of evaluations and implementation programmes. In 2017 she was one of the 25 emerging leaders across Africa who participated in the Building Bridges programme at the University of Cape Town.

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RITA ANDREAS
Rita Andreas is the founder and chairperson of the Adama Workers Trust. She lived the first 26 years of her life on a Western Cape farm, where she also worked as a general farmworker, a graft storehouse hand, an administrative officer, and a personnel manager. She founded the Adama Worker’s Committee to support farmworker livelihoods and was instrumental in bringing about a major land reform that benefited 260 farmworkers.

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PROF LILLIAN ARTZ
Lillian Artz is director of the Gender, Health & Justice Research Unit in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Cape Town. She has published widely on domestic violence and sexual offences, and on women in prisons and psychiatric settings. She works on issues of violence and torture prevention in conflict-affected, post-conflict and transitional states throughout Africa.

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VENECIA BARRIES
Venecia Barries is director of The Parent Centre, a non-profit organisation which for 35 years has focused on preventing child maltreatment by providing parents and caregivers with support and positive parenting training. Venecia has a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from the University of Cape Town and a postgraduate qualification in Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Pretoria’s Gordon Institute of Business Science. She has worked in the child care and protection field for more than 20 years.

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CHRIS BERENS
Chris Berens is a geographic information scientist with more than 20 years’ experience in spatial data management. He works for the Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU) programme, where he places special emphasis on the appropriate use of technology to support projects and processes within community and organisational workflows.

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ANNA BOOIJ
Anna Booij is a technical programme specialist at Clowns Without Borders South Africa (CWBSA). She supports the dissemination of the Parenting for Lifelong Health programmes, which aim to strengthen families and reduce maltreatment of children. She has a Master’s degree in Humanitarian Action and worked as a development consultant in Liberia; and for Médecins Sans Frontières in Pakistan, South Sudan and South Africa.

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JOHAN BRAND
Johan Brand is the new Western Cape police ombudsman. He served in the police for 33 years and has been a key partner in implementing the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry recommendations. Prior to leaving the South African Police Service, Johan held the position of Cluster Commander for the Khayelitsha Cluster, at the rank of a Major General. He is an experienced manager, with legal qualifications and investigation skills, and has a Master’s degree in Public Administration.

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CHERYL BRITZ
Cheryl Britz is the Knysna Community Policing Forum (CPF) chairperson. She won the Knysna Sanlam Community Leader award in 2016 and has been recognized by the Knysna Rotary Club for her dedication and commitment to the community. During her tenure the Knysna CPF volunteers were in 2016 and 2017 named as provincial CPF of the year at the SAPS Western Cape Prestige Awards. In 2017 the Knysna CPF won the SAPS National Service Excellence Award at Sun City. Partnership and communications are cornerstones of her leadership in the fight against crime.

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MARKUS BURGENER
Markus is a senior programme officer with wildlife trade monitoring organization TRAFFIC. His work is based in East and Southern Africa where he has done research and run advocacy and training initiatives focusing on illegal and unsustainable fisheries. Markus is a qualified attorney and has a Master’s Degree in International Environmental Law from London University.

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ESTELLE CLOETE
Estelle Cloete is operations executive for the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership.

DR ARIANE DE PALACIO
Ariane de Palacio is a senior analyst at the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime in Montreal, Canada. She has a PhD in Political Geography from Laval University and specialises in governance and public policy. She works in the fields of security and justice, and the development of international standards for the design and evaluation of crime and violence observatories.

Gwen Dereymaeker
Gwen Dereymaeker is a deputy director for Policy and Research at the Western Cape Department of Community Safety. She seeks to encourage spaces for building bridges between evidence-based policy thinking and its implementation. Before joining the Western Cape government, Gwen was a researcher at Africa Criminal Justice Reform, focusing on enhancing accountability and governance in the criminal justice system in Africa. Gwen holds an LLB equivalent from the Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium) and an LLM from the University of Cape Town. She is a 2018/19 Apolitical Academy public service fellow.

KATHLEEN DEY
Kathleen Dey is director of the Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust. She joined Rape Crisis as a counselling coordinator in 1995 and has gained tremendous experience in the field of rape counselling, volunteer training, service coordination, community development work and the development of government and civil society partnerships. Kathleen was appointed as director in 2008. In this role she ensures continuous and ongoing institutional capacity building for Rape Crisis as part of growing and sustaining a vigorous and active civil society in South Africa.

JACQUES DU PREEZ
Jacques du Preez is the director for Provincial Spatial Information in the Western Cape Department of the Premier. He drives the institutionalisation of spatial information in the provincial government. Jacques is at the forefront of provincial business intelligence and data governance initiatives. He is a member of the national committee for spatial information and chairs the Western Cape Spatial Information Forum.

DR JULIET EVANS
Dr Juliet Evans is deputy director for Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance in the Western Cape Department of Health.

DR ANDREW FAULL
Dr Andrew Faull is a consultant at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), an independent criminologist, and a research associate at the University of Cape Town’s Centre of Criminology. He is the author of the books ‘Police Work and Identity: a South African ethnography’ and ‘Behind the Badge: the untold stories of South Africa’s Police Service members’.

MZWAKI DIPLIKA
Mzwak Dipiika is a policy fellow and lawyer at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), an independent criminologist, and a research associate at the University of Cape Town’s Centre of Criminology.

SUPT STAN GILMOUR
Stan Gilmour is a visiting policy fellow at the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Bath, and Commander of the Reading Local Policing Area in the UK. He is a detective with a strong academic background in criminology and an MSc from the University of Oxford. Stan is an advisory board member on the neighbourhood policing guidelines committee and a member of CAPRICORN, a public health board identifying new methods to keep children out of the criminal justice system.
**DR CHANDRÉ GOULD**

Dr Chandré Gould is a senior research fellow at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), with a PhD in History from Rhodes University. Her work focuses on violence prevention and criminal justice. Since 2008 she has worked in the community-based Seven Passes Initiative that provides after-school programs, youth development and parenting programs. Chandré is active in the National Dialogue Forum, which convenes government, academics and civil society in a long-term collaboration to understand and address violence against women and children. She was an investigator and evidence analyst for South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

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**PROF RAJEN GOVENDER**

Rajen Govender is a researcher and teacher specializing in political psychology, qualitative and quantitative research methods, advanced quantitative modelling and social justice topics. He is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Cape Town (UCT), chief specialist scientist at the Violence Injury and Peace Research Unit at the Medical Research Council, senior research fellow at the Institute of Justice and Reconciliation and key expert to the Department of Justice on methods of information and data on discrimination. His research covers social cohesion, violence and injury, discrimination and intolerance, HIV and AIDS, child vulnerability and community safety.

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**ALISTAIR GRAHAM**

Alistair Graham is manager of the Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading programme in the City of Cape Town.

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**DR ANNETTE HÜBSCHLE**

Dr Annette Hübschle is a senior research fellow with the Global Risk Governance programme at the University of Cape Town (UCT). She has a PhD in Social Sciences and Economics from the International Max Planck Research School and a Master of Philosophy in Criminology from UCT. She is affiliated with the UCT Centre of Criminology, the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research and the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime. Annette previously worked as a senior researcher in the Cape Town office of the Institute for Security Studies (ISS).

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**DR NWABISA JAMA-SHAI**

Dr Nwabisa Jama-Shai is a senior scientist in the Gender and Health Research Unit at the South African Medical Research Council. She is a technical advisor in the What Works to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls (VWG) initiative, and honorary senior lecturer at the Wits School of Public Health. She has worked in the gender-based violence (GBV) and HIV prevention field for almost 20 years. Nwabisa has a special interest in femininities, particularly understanding how notions of womanhood influence women’s vulnerability to GBV.

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**LT-GEN KHOmbinkOSI JULa**

Lt-Gen Khombinkosi Jula is Western Cape provincial commissioner in the South African Police Service.

**ANINE KRIEGLER**

Anine Kriegler is a crime analyst and PhD fellow at the Centre of Criminology at the University of Cape Town (UCT). Her research interests include crime statistics and drug policy. Anine is co-author of A Citizen’s Guide to Crime Trends in South Africa, which aims to inform and empower ordinary people to have productive conversations about crime statistics.

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**DR RICHARD MATZOPOULOS**

Richard Matzopoulos is a chief specialist scientist and deputy director of the South African Medical Research Council’s Burden of Disease Research Unit. He is an honorary research associate at the University of Cape Town’s School of Public Health and Family Medicine, where he co-ordinates its violence and injury research programme. Richard’s research centers on measuring the health and social burden of violence and injury, and evaluating interventions and policies that target upstream determinants. He advises the Western Cape government on alcohol harm reduction, and interpersonal violence and injury prevention and surveillance.

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**ADÈLE KIRSTEN**

Adèle Kirsten is the director of Gun Free South Africa (GFSA) and has worked in the community peace-building and violence prevention field for more than 30 years. She is the author of A Nation Without Guns? The Story of GFSA; and research director and co-author of The Smoke that Calls: Insurgent citizenship, collective violence and the struggle for a place in the new South Africa. She has served as an advisor on several international panels, notably the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) advisory panel on armed violence reduction.

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**DR ELMARIE MALEK**

Dr Elmarie Malek qualified as a paediatrician in 1990 and completed her M Phil in Maternal and Child Health at the University of Cape Town. She serves as co-chair of the Provincial Clinical Governance Committee for Paediatrics and new born, child health and as lead clinician for the Provincial 1st 1000 Days Initiative.

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**LUCILLE MEYER**

Lucille Meyer is the chief executive officer of Chrysalis Academy, a non-profit initiative of the Western Cape Government. The Academy offers a three-month residential programme for youths aged 18-25, aimed at fostering connection and personal mastery. Lucille is currently a post-doctoral fellow at the University of the Western Cape. Her organisational experiences include being Deputy Director General in the Office of President Thabo Mbeki and Chief Executive Officer of Cape Nature. She is a yoga therapy teacher and a Trauma Release Exercise Facilitator (TRE)

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DINEO MOGOTSI
Dineo Mogotsi is social justice activist who works as a researcher at #UniteBehind. She holds a BA Honours in Development Studies from Wits University. Her passion lies in rural development, governance, development planning, education, public policy, human rights, and bridging the digital divide through increased access to technology.
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ADV SHAHEEN MOOLLA
Shaheen Moolla is a lawyer and managing director of Feike, a natural resource management advisory firm. He was previously the head of fisheries compliance at South Africa’s Marine and Coastal Management Branch. He is currently an advisor to South Africa’s Fisheries Minister, focusing on legal and litigation strategy and fishing quota allocations. Shaheen has provided legal, environmental, regulatory, policy, management and institutional systems advice to organizations including the African Union (AU), New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the European Union EU and commercial companies.
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PROF LUKAS MUNTINGH
Lukas Muntingh is co-founder and project coordinator of Africa Criminal Justice Reform (ACJR), formerly the Civil Society Prison Reform Initiative (CSPRI), at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). He has been involved in criminal justice reform since 1992 and was deputy executive director of the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro). He holds a PhD (Law) from UWC and an MA (Sociology) from Stellenbosch University. His focus is on the prevention and combating of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners and detainees.
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AZWI NETSHIKULWE
Azwi Netshikalwe is a project researcher at the Safety and Violence Initiative (SaVI). He holds a Master’s degree in Sociology and is working on his PhD in industrial sociology. He is interested in issues related to the labour market and migration in South Africa and is conducting research on the occupational/ethnic niches of African migrants in South Africa, focusing on informal Congolese car-guards.
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NCEDO MNGQIBISA
Ncedo Mngqibisa is an ethnographer with psychology and human geography qualifications, and an interest in how grassroots structures can combat violence and crime. He works as a project researcher and manager at the University of Cape Town’s Safety and Violence Initiative (SaVI), and is board chairman of community-based NGO Isibane. Ncedo has worked with NGOs and research and academic institutions on issues including local government, street committees, xenophobia, housing, social cohesion, accountability of NGOs in SA, taxi violence and political killings in KZN.
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GARETH NEWHAM
Gareth Newham is head of the Justice and Violence Prevention Programme at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). He has a Master’s degree in Public and Development Management from Wits University, and a post graduate diploma in applied research methodology from the University of Stellenbosch. Before working for the ISS, Gareth worked in the Criminal Justice Programme at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSVR).
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GIDEON MORRIS
Gideon Morris is head of the Western Cape Department of Community Safety (DoCS). He has 34 years’ experience in the criminal justice system. Gideon worked in national government for 12 years followed by two years at Parliament and 12 years as the director of the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services. He joined the Western Cape Government in 2010 and became the head of department in 2015. His highest qualification is an MBA from the University of Cape Town.
DoCS achievements include nine consecutive clean audits and “Best in the Country” Management Performance Assessment Scores, as adjudicated by the Office of the President, for three consecutive years. His department has been nominated for three consecutive years by the National Department of Public Administration as the best run provincial department in South Africa, during which time it received two gold and one bronze award. Gideon leads the Alcohol Harms Reduction Game Changer programme of the Western Cape government.
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DEAN PEACOCK
Dean Peacock is co-founder and co-executive director of Sonke Gender Justice, a multi-award-winning NGO headquartered in South Africa. He is an honorary senior lecturer at the University of Cape Town’s School of Public Health. He is an Ashoka Fellow, an advisor to many UN agencies and a member of the jury of the Finnish government’s International Gender Equality Prize. He has published widely on gender equality, GBV and HIV.
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ALVIN RAPEA
Alvin Phumudzo Rapea is the secretary for Police Services. He has a BCom degree from the University of Limpopo, a Postgraduate Diploma in Management from Wits Business School, and a Diploma in Labour Law. He has worked for Eskom, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, Business Against Crime SA, and government’s Department of Public Service and Administration. He has served on the boards of the Mvula Trust, the National Home Builders Registration Council, the Public Service Sector Education Training Authority, and the Gautrain Management Agency.
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NCEDO MNGQIBISA
Ncedo Mngqibisa is an ethnographer with psychology and human geography qualifications, and an interest in how grassroots structures can combat violence and crime. He works as a project researcher and manager at the University of Cape Town’s Safety and Violence Initiative (SaVI), and is board chairman of community-based NGO Isibane. Ncedo has worked with NGOs and research and academic institutions on issues including local government, street committees, xenophobia, housing, social cohesion, accountability of NGOs in SA, taxi violence and political killings in KZN.
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JEAN REDPATH

Jean Redpath is a researcher for Africa Criminal Justice Reform at the Dullah Omar Institute, University of the Western Cape. Her specialty is data analysis which informs policy development. She carries out research in criminal justice systems which informs reform in African countries and Eastern Europe. Jean has a BSc and an LLB from the University of Cape Town, and is admitted as an attorney. She is working on her PhD.

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Seth Reynolds is the programme lead for the Cape Town Safer Communities Programme, an initiative started in Cape Town and Kingston, Jamaica, by the international youth violence prevention NGO Fight for Peace. The programme uses the collective impact approach to reduce youth violence through multi-agency collaborative working. Seth has worked supporting, training and developing youth organizations in London and Latin America for 15 years. He brings knowledge and experience of process facilitation, systems thinking, and conflict transformation to his collaboration practice.

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DIRECTION ROBBIE ROBERTS

Robbie Robberts is director in the City of Cape Town’s Safety and Security Directorate, with responsibility for traffic, law enforcement and operational coordination. He has a Diploma in Police Administration and served for 32 years in the South African Police Service. Robbie plays a major role in developing an integrated approach to relations between the city and other state agencies.

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PROF DR WILHELM SCHMIDBAUER

Prof Dr Schmidbauer is the chief of the Bavarian State Police (Landespolizeipräsident). He served as Police Commissioner of the Munich Police and as chief for police operations at the Bavarian State Ministry of Interior and Integration. He is a professor for public law and administrative law, and lectures at the University of Regensburg in Germany.

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SHAUN SHELLY

Shaun Shelly is TB HIV Care’s policy, advocacy and human rights manager for people who use drugs. He is the founder of SA Drug Policy Week. Shaun works for the University of Pretoria in the Department of Family Medicine. He is the deputy secretary of the United Nations Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs and he has sat on a number of boards and advisory groups, including the South African Network for People Using Drugs (SANPUD). He has written a number of academic articles, opinion pieces, book chapters, and presented on international platforms.

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ALDERMAN JP SMITH

Jean-Pierre (JP) Smith is mayoral committee member for Safety and Social Services with oversight of the metro police, traffic, law enforcement, fire and emergency rescue services, disaster risk management; public emergency call centre, events, social development, city health, recreation and parks, and libraries. He is also Proportional Councillor assigned to Langa and serves on the Provincial Executive and Metro Regional Council of the Democratic Alliance. Jean-Pierre has an English Honours degree from Stellenbosch University.

MATTHEW SKADE

Matthew Skade is a senior research officer with the University of Cape Town’s (UCT) Centre of Criminology. He is completing an MPhil in Criminology at the UCT Faculty of Law, looking at the role that crime and governance plays in the safety and security of commuters at public transport interchanges. His other research interests include safety governance, protection economies, township violence and urban safety, public transportation, youth safety and entrepreneurship, and migrants’ safety and security.

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QUINTIN SMIT

Quintin Smit is the mayoral committee member for safety and security in the Stellenbosch Municipality. He is the chairman of the Stellenbosch Safety Initiative.

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CRISPIN SONN

Crispin Sonn is a businessman and member of the Western Cape Provincial Safety Advisory Committee. He is an advocate for socially-responsible and ethical business practices. Crispin has a BA in social science and humanities from the University of Cape Town, and an Honours degree in business and administration from Stellenbosch Business School.

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STEFAN SNEL

Stefan Snel is leading a gang mediation process in the Avian Park suburb of Worcester. He works as a facilitator in the public, business and non-government sector, specializing in social safety strategies, multiparty mediation, conflict handling, policing, peace building and organizational problem solving.

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PROF HENNIE VAN AS

Hennie Van As is a professor of Public Law and Director of the Centre for Law in Action and the FishFORCE Academy at Nelson Mandela University. He has a doctorate in public law. He is an admitted advocate and focuses on the implementation, enforcement and administration of legislation, including municipal health law, by-laws and environmental law. He established the Fisheries Crime Law Enforcement Academy (FishFORCE) to combat sea fisheries crime (including poaching) and related criminal activities such as human trafficking, tax evasion, money laundering and drug trafficking.

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JOHANDRÉ VAN ZYL

Johandré van Zyl is AfriForum’s regional head of Community Safety in the Northern, Eastern and Western Cape. He holds an LLB degree from the University of South Africa and is an admitted Attorney of the High Court of South Africa.

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ALAN WINDE

After a ten-year stretch in the economic portfolios, Alan Winde was recently selected to serve as the Western Cape Minister of Community Safety. He is also the Democratic Alliance candidate for Premiership in the province, following the 2019 elections.

“For the past decade, our number one focus has been to create growth and jobs in the Western Cape, to make this a better place for all the people living here. We have worked hard to achieve this goal, adding the most jobs to the economy of any province in South Africa. It is now time to build on the successes of the past, and address the key issues facing our communities. This includes crime. In my new portfolio, I will be driving innovative approaches to increasing safety in our province, working in partnership with stakeholders across the sector.”

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ANTONIA XABA

Antonia Xaba is chief director for Rural Development at the Western Cape Department of Agriculture.

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HELEN ZILLE

Helen Zille is the Premier of the Western Cape. She was elected to office by the provincial parliament on 6 May 2009, and re-elected after the May 2014 general elections. She was educated at Johannesburg’s St Mary’s School, Waverley, and at Wits University, where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree. Before her career in politics she worked as a political correspondent for the Rand Daily Mail, where she covered key political stories, such as the death in police custody of black consciousness activist Steve Biko. In 1977 she was able to prove that Biko had been tortured to death and that the official version of the story, which claimed he had died of natural causes, was false. From the 1980s onward, she became involved in NGOs and activist organizations, including the Open Society Foundation, the Independent Media Diversity Trust, and the Black Sash. She also campaigned against vigilantism and repression in Cape Town townships, and was part of the peace movement that worked to bring warring factions in Crossroads together. She joined the former Democratic Party in the mid 1990s, where she was asked to reformulate the party’s education policy and stand as a candidate on its election list for the Western Cape legislature. She also acted as Technical Adviser to the party at CODESA in the early 1990s. Helen was elected to the provincial parliament in the 1999 general election under the banner of the Democratic Alliance. From 1999 to 2001 she served as Minister of Education in the Western Cape Province. When the ANC gained power in 2001 she became Leader of the Opposition in the Western Cape legislature, where she remained until she was elected as a member of the National Parliament in 2004. As a Democratic Alliance MP she served on the Portfolio Committee on Education, and acted as the DA’s national spokesperson. Her constituency included Langa, Gugulethu and Khayelitsha. On 15 March 2006 she was elected Mayor of Cape Town, and resigned from parliament. Two years later, in 2008, she was voted World Mayor in a poll of over 800 cities around the world conducted by global think tank World Mayors. On 6 May 2007 she was elected as the Leader of the Democratic Alliance, and was re-elected in 2012. Her term as DA leader ended in May 2015. In 2016, Helen released her autobiography Not Without A Fight. The City Press described it as the ‘Nonfiction book of the year’.

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