



**Western Cape  
Government**  
Community Safety

**BETTER TOGETHER.**

## **KHAYELITSHA COMMUNITY SAFETY SUMMIT**

**Cape Town, South Africa  
Khayelitsha, O.R Tambo Community Hall**

**Safety: 21 October 2011**

**Co-organizers:** Department of Community Safety, VPUU, KDF, URP

## Executive Summary

The Khayelitsha Community Safety Summit held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2011 was the first of a series of summits led by the Minister for Community Safety, Mr. Dan Plato. The summit was hosted by the Western Cape Government, Department of Community Safety in partnership with the City of Cape Town: Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU), Urban Renewal Project (URP) and Khayelitsha Development Forum (KDF).

The summit attracted 334 attendees of which 84 were the School Safety volunteers from Khayelitsha based schools. These volunteers were recognized by the MEC for Community Safety for their contribution in promoting safety at identified schools. All of the 84 volunteers have undergone a week-long training on Citizenry, Communication and Conflict resolution, Crime prevention and Safety awareness. There were 7 active participants who made presentations at the summit particularly during the plenary session.

Amongst others, dignitaries included the Western Cape Premier, Ms. Helen Zille, MEC for Community Safety, Mr. Dan Plato, Dr Gilbert Lawrence (Head of Department of Community Safety), Rev. T. Mbekwa (Multi-Disciplinary Committee), Bishop Vellem, representing the local religious fraternity, Mr. Michael Benu (Khayelitsha Development Forum). The following National, Western Cape and local Government Departments were represented in the summit. South African Police Service (SAPS), Department of Correctional Services, National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD), Department of Social Development, Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and City of Cape Town . The Western Cape Provincial Community Police Board and the Khayelitsha CPF Cluster were also represented. Following the objective of the summit, those who attended were afforded the opportunity to participate in the plenary session discussions and in the commissions. More importantly, the summit attendees had an opportunity to listen to the

keynote address by the Western Cape Premier, Helen Zille and contribution by the MEC for Community Safety.

The SAPS, NPA, DCS, DSD, DOJ&DC, DoCS and Western Cape Traditional Leaders Association made presentations on their work in Khayelitsha. The summit had five commissions facilitated by representatives from the VPUU, KDF, URP and DOCS. These commissions were:

- Social cohesion conducive for economic development,
- Effective policing and oversight,
- Towards an effective criminal justices system for Khayelitsha,
- Towards an effective action plan to reduce youth alcohol and drugs abuse, and gangsterism
- Towards an integrated social crime and violence prevention action plan with a focus on women and children.

Each plenary session, had resource person/s who provided an overview of the theme of that commission. It was expected that each commission identified names of people to form the Khayelitsha integrated structure to advance the deliberations of the summit.

The five commissions had discussions and gave reports. These reports identified child abuse, violent crime and sexual offences, substance abuse, police conduct, unemployment, poverty and an ineffective criminal justice system. These are key issues that warrant attention from both the Government and the communities. In brief, the summit successfully accommodated the interest of the participants and the Khayelitsha structures that deal with development, safety and security and government departments. Overall, it would appear that communities are eager to participate in any endeavor aimed at reducing crime and increase safety.

## **1. Introduction**

The Khayelitsha community summit was a result of a concerted effort by the Khayelitsha civil society groups to promote and increase safety in the area through strong partnerships. The key issues, which eventually formed the crux of the Khayelitsha summit, were identified during earlier engagements. These issues translated to key themes for discussions in the five commissions for the summit. The current report presents the salient issues raised and discussed at the summit and outlines recommendations that emanated from the different commissions.

## **2. Background**

'You must be blind not to see the need for unity. We must work together to fight against crime', Rev. T Mbekwa, 21 October 2011, Khayelitsha Summit.

The need for a Khayelitsha Community Safety summit emerged during the Minister of Community Safety's oversight visits at the three police precincts in Khayelitsha. The MEC for Community Safety's visit was predicated and grounded on oversight and the need to engage community structures in the bid to advance the whole-of-society approach to safety and security. Although the focus of the oversight was on the police, there was a need to engage the community on policing and community safety. Subsequently, a series of interactions between the civil society structures and the MEC for Community Safety confirmed that Khayelitsha is under the scourge of crime particularly violent and sexual offenses crime. It was then resolved that a need to map out solutions to this challenge was inevitable. The question posed then was: What could be a plausible solution to this challenge? Partnership between, the Western Cape Government, the SAPS, and community structures was seen as a potential panacea to the challenge.

The partnership was premised on the understanding that the Criminal Justice Cluster alone has little chance of succeeding in dealing with crime in South Africa, let alone in Khayelitsha. The Criminal Justice Cluster, needs assistance from everybody. The SAPS is a national

competency, hence the national government accounts on its operational responsibility. The Western Cape Government, Department of Community Safety has an oversight mandate over the SAPS and keeps the SAPS accountable for their activities in the province. An oversight function that is done correctly and adequately carries the potential solution to increasing safety. Against this background, the MEC for Community Safety, Mr. Dan Plato organized the Khayelitsha summit to address these vexing questions and concerns on why perpetrators are released on bail, why offenders are given parole because it has been evident that these offenders continue to commit the same crime within a short period of time after they have been released.

Evidently, in this context, the Criminal Justice System has a huge role to play, but as stated before assistance is needed because safety is everybody's responsibility the solution lies with everyone. Crime and criminality cannot be eradicated without the support of all residents of the community. Safety and security come as a result of a concerted effort and partnership. In this light, the existing partnerships must be strengthened and new partnerships must be formed to support the Criminal Justice Cluster, but more importantly to realize that safety is everyone's responsibility. The SAPS alone would not do justice to crime. Amongst other organizations, the Multi-Disciplinary Committee (MDC) in conjunction with the Khayelitsha Development Forum requested that affected Western Cape Government, National and City of Cape Town Stakeholders attend the Khayelitsha Community Safety Summit. In this light all affected departments were invited to participate in this initiative to support the Khayelitsha Community to **INCREASE SAFETY** in the area over a longer period.

### **3. Motivation for the summit**

Khayelitsha, like any other police precinct in the Province, has a number of community structures and organizations that deal with development, safety and security explicitly and implicitly. However, these organizations do not have a common vision and a synchronized strategic intent to address safety and security thus decreasing the fear of crime especially in Khayelitsha.

The lack of a concerted course of action served as a motivation for a platform where issues of safety and policing can be discussed and a comprehensive Khayelitsha Community Safety Plan be developed and implemented by the local structures alongside the relevant Western Cape and National government departments.

It must be stressed that although the oversight role of the Department of Community Safety only extends to the police, through the interaction with the community, it became clear that there was a need for the community to engage with other national government departments. In this context, the Department of Community Safety played a facilitation role in getting these departments together to converse with the Khayelitsha community. The objectives of the summit were determined on the basis of the above mentioned context.

#### **4. Objectives of the summit,**

The objectives of the Khayelitsha summit were as follows:

- 4.1 To provide a platform for all Khayelitsha based community structures to discuss community safety and map out a process on increasing safety in the area.
- 4.2 To establish a Khayelitsha integrated structure aimed at advancing community safety issues in a collective manner for the residents of Khayelitsha.
- 4.3 Provide the platform for the community to engage with Criminal Justice roleplayers

#### **5 Outcomes of the summit**

The outcome of the summit can be summarized as follows:

- 5.1 Department of Community Safety's mandate clearly defined (Civilian Oversight/SO5),

- 5.2 Role of stakeholders operating within Khayelitsha (short, medium & long term),
- 5.3 Integrated Safety Leadership Workshop (Stakeholder Forum)  
  
SAPS & Metro police partnership on policing and,
- 5.4 Agreement on Identification of Safety Priorities.

## **5. Summit Attendance**

The summit attracted 334 registrations of which 84 were School Safety Programme volunteers from Khayelitsha based schools. The dignitaries of the summit included the Premier of the Western Cape Ms. Helen Zille, MEC for Community Safety, Mr. Dan Plato, Dr. Gilbert Lawrence (Head of Department – Community Safety), Rev. T. Mbekwa (Multi-Disciplinary Committee), Bishop Velle, Mr. Michael Benu (Khayelitsha Development Forum) and Major-General Ndlovu from the South African Police Service. There were officials from the Western Cape Government and National Government Departments: Community Safety, Economic Development and Tourism (DEDAT), City of Cape Town (CCT), Independent Complaints Directorate, Correctional Services, Justice and Constitutional Development, South African Police Service (SAPS) and Department of Home Affairs). In addition, the Western Cape Provincial Community Police Board and the Khayelitsha CPF Cluster representatives attended the summit.

## **6. MEC for Community Safety Opening remarks**

‘What happened to ‘my child is your child and your child is my child philosophy?’ MEC for Community Safety, Mr. Plato, 21, October 2011.

- 7.1 The MEC for Community Safety, Mr Plato stressed that the constitutional mandate of the Department of Community Safety is to exercise civilian oversight over the police service in the Western Cape. He further placed emphasis on the understanding that an effective civilian oversight has the potential to translate to an increase in safety in Khayelitsha and beyond.

- 7.2 He highlighted the need to strengthen existing partnerships in dealing with crime and criminality in Khayelitsha and forge new partnerships. According to the MEC for Community Safety, an increase in safety is a result of concerted effort and partnership. The Criminal Justice Cluster alone cannot effectively address crime in the country, everyone must be willing to render assistance because safety is everybody responsibility. Safety is a result of collective consensus and continuous participation.
- 7.3 According to the MEC, the Khayelitsha community summit had to help participants and local people understand how the criminal justice system functions if criminals commit a serious crime, get arrested today, and tomorrow are given bail to roam the streets?
- 7.4 Mr. Plato expressed serious concerns about the safety of women and children. He asked a rhetoric question. 'What happened to 'my child is your child and your child is my child philosophy? He said women and children remain at risk in our society.
- 7.5 He further acknowledged that there is a myriad and a combination of social ills that either generate or facilitate crime in Khayelitsha. The need to focus on the role of society to increase safety in Khayelitsha in partnership with other stakeholders was therefore seen as a short, medium and long term solution. Government, civil society and communities must always strive to work together to increase safety in Khayelitsha.

## **8. Mr Bheja : Khayelitsha Development Forum (KDF)**

- 8.1 Mr. Bheja speaking on behalf of Khayelitsha Development Forum (KDF), made reference to a summit held in August 2011 where the need for fighting crime was mooted with vigor by stakeholders. He noted the minimal role played by the Khayelitsha SAPS to involve the youth in crime prevention initiatives. He stressed the need to involve the youth and increase police visibility in Khayelitsha and surrounds.

8.2 According to Khayelitsha Development Forum (KDF), the Criminal Justice System needs to focus on child abuse and domestic violence in Khayelitsha. He expressed confidence in the young people of Khayelitsha to fight crime. Mr. Bheja urged all the community structures in Khayelitsha to play their part in crime prevention and promoting safety.

## 9 **Multi – Disciplinary Committee Rev. T Mbekwa**

‘You must be blind not to see the need for unity. We must work together to fight against crime’, Rev. T Mbekwa, 21 October 2011, Khayelitsha Summit.

9.1 Reverend Mbekwa, spoke on behalf of the Multi –Disciplinary Committee (MDC). The MDC was established in 2008 in response to the xenophobic attacks to foreign nationals. It however, continued since then with specific focus on civil cases in Khayelitsha. He cited two recent cases that involved children that MDC dealt with in the Khayelitsha. Reverend Mbekwa, like the previous speakers, emphasized the need for unison to fight against crime. In his own words he stated that: ‘You must be blind not to see the need for unit in the fight against crime. We must work together’

9.2 He stressed the need to strengthen the partnership between Neighbourhood Watch (NHWs) volunteers and government. He cautioned that there were programmes that are working which need to be strengthened. He further warned the summit participants of the latest tactics used by criminals in the area in hijacking vehicles. According to Rev Mbekwa ‘they follow you to your destination and then asked for the car keys and tell you that from now on, the car belongs to us, give us the keys’.

## **10. Western Cape Traditional Leaders Association**

10.1 Mr. Simon, representing the Western Cape Traditional Leaders Association stressed the need to have a NHW in Khayelitsha. He acknowledged the MEC for Community Safety Mr. Dan Plato for his commitment to establish Neighbourhood Watches in Khayelitsha. He further emphasized the safety of women and children. He mapped a scenario where a child was raped, but was scared to identify the rapist despite knowing him. He argued that such cases need the intervention of NHW structures. The above scenario suggests fear of appraisal from the child. In his view, had the NHW structures been widely established in Khayelitsha, the likelihood of the child disclosing the name of the perpetrator to the neighbourhood watches was going to be high.

He cited a second scenario which seems to question police effectiveness and efficiency in dealing with reported cases:

A complainant went to the police to report a house burglary and police turn him away stating that he must bring evidence. The complainant resorted to use local 'skolies' to trace the thief. The skolies found the offender with some of the items that were stolen. The complainant took the offender to the police stations. On arrival at the police station, the offender claimed the complainant assaulted him. The police threatened to open a case against the former complainant.

## **11 Neighbourhood Watch Certification**

The MEC for Community Safety, Mr. Dan Plato handed over certificates of recognition to 84 School Safety Programme volunteers from Lingeletu West, Khayelitsha and Harare Neighbourhood Watch structures. These volunteers are allocated to Khayelitsha based schools. In addition to school patrol during the day, some of them conduct night patrols in their communities. The MEC for Community Safety acknowledged the role played by the volunteers in increasing safety and indicated that the certificate ceremony attests to such recognition.

## 12 Key note address

“Approximately 85% of crime in the Western Cape occurs because of alcohol and drug abuse. Therefore, parents have the responsibility to ensure that their children are disciplined and have something to do to keep them busy”, Western Cape Premier of the Ms, Helen Zille, 21 October 2011.

- 12.1 The Western Cape Premier of the Ms. Helen Zille delivered a keynote address at the summit. She mentioned that her speech has both good and bad news for the people of Khayelitsha. The bad news was that Cape Town has worse murder rate in the country- for the previous financial year. Khayelitsha and Nyanga are at the top of the list and are worse off.
- 12.2 The Premier expressed serious concerns about the safety of children. She mentioned that the assault, killing and rape of children is fairly new. It has never been seen before in the Province and solutions are needed very fast. She defined the crime against children as the worse evil that can be committed by an adult to children and must be stopped. At worse, known family members commit these crimes in the privacy of their homes. The Premier stressed that enough is enough. Reiterating what the MEC for Community Safety said, she asked what happened to the saying that “my child is your child and your child is my child” She urged every person to take responsibility to increase safety in South Africa.
- 12.3 The Western Cape Premier, Ms. Helen Zille expressed her satisfaction with the work of NHW structures in general. She emphasized that every person in South Africa has a duty to increase safety. She described a situation where an argument ends up in a fight or violence as abnormal.
- 12.4 On the positive side, the Western Cape Premier said the good news is that interventions do make a difference and can decrease the terrible scourge of violent crime. She emphasized the role of the Western Cape Government to exercise oversight over the police in an attempt to increase safety in the province.

- 12.5 Furthermore, she cited substance abuse particularly alcohol as the main generator of crime. She linked the rape of children with alcohol, saying that in most cases the perpetrators are under the influence of alcohol. She cautioned that alcohol affects the ability of human beings to think and make correct judgment. In the Western Cape, there are approximately 30 000 illegal shebeens and violent crimes occur in close proximity of these shebeens.
- 12.6 She raised a need to address proliferation and sprawling of shebeens. According to the Premier, the Western Cape introduced legislation to regulate the zoning of liquor outlets across the province. The same zoning standards and norms must be followed in all residential areas. It is against this background that the Province would be piloting a project aimed at removing shebeens from the residential areas. Khayelitsha is one area earmarked for the pilot. A penalty would be meted against any person found to be running a shebeen in residential areas.
- 12.7 TIK – the drug of choice in the Western Cape - is a major challenge in Khayelitsha as well. The premier said. 'Approximately 85% of crime in the Western Cape occurs because of alcohol and drug abuse. Therefore, parents have the responsibility to ensure that their children are disciplined and have something to do to keep them busy. Crime occurs because children have nothing to do particularly after school'. Against this backdrop, three schools in the Province have been targeted for after school programmes. The after school programme would amongst other things have teachers assisting learners with their studies and extra mural activities. Two of these schools are based in Khayelitsha namely Encotsheni High School and Sikhokhelo Primary Schools and third school, Masiphumelele High School is based in Ocean View.
- 12.8 The Western Cape Government is working in partnership with Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU) to change the landscape for public infrastructure in Khayelitsha. She praised the VPUU project as it contributed significantly to the decrease of crime in Harare over its life span.

- 12.9 The Premier mentioned that a group of people recently complained about police activities and behavior. This group of people made allegations of corruption against the police. In response the Premier ensured the gathering that the Western Cape Government would endeavor to take the rotten apples out of the police service.
- 12.10 According to the Premier, unemployment is the biggest problem in the country and the Western Cape is no exception. However, the relationship between unemployment, poverty and crime is not a straightforward one. There are poorest countries that have the lowest rate of crime. Low crime rate attract investors to the country, which eventually lead to job creation. Unemployment does not always lead to criminal activity, but can contribute to crime. Attempts to deal with crime therefore calls for an integrated and concerted effort - partnership to address crime alongside poverty and unemployment.

### **13. Key Presentations**

The summit afforded a number of organizations an opportunity to deliver a presentation on their work particularly in relation to Khayelitsha. The aim of this arrangement was to ensure that the Khayelitsha residents have an understanding of what these institutions are doing and how can they (residents) get help. These organizations are: Department of Community Safety ([Annexure A](#)), Department of Correctional Services ([Annexure B](#)), South African Police Service (SAPS) ([Annexure C](#)), National Prosecuting Authority ([Annexure D](#)), Western Cape Traditional Leaders Association, Department of Social Development ([Annexure E](#)) and Independent Complaints Directorate ([Annexure F](#)). These organizations outlined the process they follow in dealing with crime and criminality in Khayelitsha and beyond. The presentations are attached.

## 14. OUTCOME OF THE COMMISSIONS

The Khayelitsha Summit had five commissions. These commissions discussed specific themes and reported to the plenary session. The section that follows below highlights the discussions and feedback given by these commissions. In each commission, there was a resource person – senior government official - who set the pace for the discussion by making input in relation to the theme at hand and then allow the discussion to continue.

### 14.1 Commission One (1): social cohesion,

Commission one dealt with social cohesion and economic development in Khayelitsha. It addressed mechanisms to stimulate social cohesion to enhance economic climate in Khayelitsha and measures to sustain the economic climate.

KEY ISSUE	RESOLUTION	ACTION/ MONITORING	RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME
1. Economic challenges: Poverty, service delivery	1.1 Information sharing, shared vision by departments, NGO's, Community to realize the social cohesion. 1.2 Provide resources to address socio economic situation. 1.3 Create partnership so that information can be shared.	1.1 Develop a project aimed projects 1.2 Increase the ownership of the project	Community Structures like KDF	-----
2.1 Linkages between social cohesion and Local Economic Development (LED) 2.2 The link is to uplift the community	2.1 There is need for skills development to enable community members to be marketable and participate in the economy 2.2 There is a need to uplift the community through Human Capital Development initiatives	-----	Community Structures like KDF	-----
3. Competing for scarce resources.	3.1 (CPT ACTIVA) is the new system specialized to address the small and upcoming needs. 3.2 Local authorities needs to prioritize the sharing of resources	-----	-----	-----
4.1 Lack of business infrastructure/system (Funding) 4.2 Unfair competition between local and foreign business.	4 Need to have a safe, clean and enhanced environment. 4.1 Have a social development park that is sustainable. 4.3 Have short, medium & long term project to realize the social cohesion vision	-----	-----	-----

### 14.1.2 COMMISSION ONE: CHALLENGES

The commission raised the following challenges during its deliberations:

- The unemployment and poverty is a huge challenge in Khayelitsha,
- Lack of upliftment of the community and social cohesion,
- Competition for scarce resources thus leading to social conflict,
- Business competition, thus leading to negative attitudes towards foreigners,
- Lack of proper guidance to youth to determine what they want to do in life,
- Lack of prioritization and unequal allocation of resources,
- Lack of strategic approach to safety, security and crime prevention,
- Lack of business facilities and business opportunities for residents,
- Lack of funding for business and community development projects,
- Prevalence of corruption or perception thereof.

### 14.1.3 COMMISSION ONE: RECOMMENDATIONS

Commission one advanced the following recommendations as part of the solution

- There is a need for information sharing,
- There is a need for intergovernmental approach to safety and security,
- There is a need for shared vision – cohesion, transparency and resources,
- There is a need to promote safe, clean, enhance the environment,
- There is a need to strengthen existing partnerships & form others with private sector,
- There is a need for massive skills development project in Khayelitsha,
- There is a need for human capital development in order to deal with L.E.D.
- There is a need to strengthen the monitoring of community projects and structures,
- There is a need for communities to own community based projects,
- There is a need to define the role of private sector in implementation of local projects,
- There is a need for community readiness to drive local safety interventions,
- There is a need to develop community projects that focus on social cohesion,

- There is a need for communities projects to enjoy support from both government and private sector,
- There is a need for alignment between National, Provincial, Local government to help the Khayelitsha community,
- There is a need to ensure that community development is not over politicising as this becomes an obstacle.

Overall the commission acknowledged the problem of social conflict and advanced measures to migrate from conflict situation to social cohesion. Furthermore, the commission acknowledged that such migration is a long-term goal, which should develop methodologically over time. However, the need to act immediately was raised.

#### **14.2 COMMISSION TWO (2): EFFECTIVE POLICING**

The second commission dealt with effective policing in Khayelitsha. Effective policing in the context of this commission includes all law enforcement agencies namely the South African Police Service, the Metro Police, etc. Furthermore, effective policing includes the work that is being done by the community safety structures like the CPFs and NHW in the area. The commission had to find ways to improve policing in Khayelitsha and what role the community should play in the process of improving policing. Key issues on this matter were discussed and are presented in the table below.

KEY ISSUE	RESOLUTION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	TIME FRAME
1 Lack of coordinated Police Forums	1.The cluster chairperson should strive to promote coordination of the CPFs	1.Conduct joint projects covering different areas per cluster,	1. CPF & Custer chairperson,	-----
2. Lack of representation of Local Community Safety Structures (CPF / Community driven)	2 The CPF must strive to broaden its base by ensuring that Local Community Safety Structures amongst are represented in the CPFs.	2. The CPFs must improve their recruitment drive & recruit members from the community safety structures amongst others,	2.CPFs and the SAPS	-----
3.Poor police performance	3. The SAPS must always enhance their performance in service of their clients.	3. The SAPS must be trained to perform their activities better.	3. SAPS	-----
4. Clarification of the role and duties of the Metro Police	4.The CCT particularly Metro police must increase awareness amongst the community about their work	4. Conduct workshops and awareness programme about the role and function of the Metro Police.	4. CCT	-----
5.Safety of patrollers,	5. The safety of patroller must be a priority in the area	5. Educate communities about the role of safety patrollers.	5.-----	-----
6. Lack of understanding of the police work	6. The SAPS must assist in increasing community awareness of their roles,	6.Educate the communities about the duties of the SAPS and limitations	6.The SAPS and the CPFs	-----

#### 14.2.1 COMMISSION TWO: KEY ON ISSUES POLICING

The commissions raised the following key issues as solutions to promote effective policing.

- The Criminal Justice Sector (CJS) must be better coordinated,
- Community Police Forums (CPF) must put politics aside and communicate with the public on safety issues,
- The police and CPFs must be given sufficient space to do their job,
- Close Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV) must be installed in Khayelitsha to monitor the public areas,
- Targeted police patrols must be increased in crime hotspots,
- Police officials in Khayelitsha must be rotated frequently,

- Khayelitsha must have a satellite police station,
- Metro Police must improve their approach to community members and police to be trained on policing in the community.
- The number of NHW allocated to Khayelitsha schools must be increased, similarly their stipend must be increased,
- Improve the perception of NHW at schools, define the role of NHW and ensure that they are clear on their roles,
- The SAPS & CPF must organize, community meetings / gatherings with stakeholders to address safety issues and educate communities about crime, and encourage the Khayelitsha community to take responsibility for safety and security,
- The relationship between children & police needs to enable children to trust the police and thus report crime committed against them,
- There is a need to limit foreign nationals in the community,
- The relationship between the police and the community needs to be improved,
- Government bodies must be trained on leadership skills,
- The unkempt bushes are a threat to the safety of the Khayelitsha community,
- There is a need to strengthen partnership with the Depart. of Correctional Services,
- Department of Community Safety needs to clarify its role,

The centerpiece for this commission was the need to improve policing by the relevant stakeholders namely the SAPS, Metro police, NHW, CPF and communities. The police approach to safety in Khayelitsha has been raised as an issue that warrants attention. The existence of the community safety structures like the CPFs and NHW is acknowledged,

however, role clarification seem to be an issue that deserves attention in Khayelitsha.

### 14.3 COMMISSION THREE (3): EFFECTIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Commission three dealt with Criminal Justice System. The commission adopted a broader perspective on safety and security and addressed the effectiveness of all role players in discharging effective criminal justice in Khayelitsha in particular. More importantly, the commission had to outline challenges and constraints facing the CJS and what needs to be done to improve the system.

#### 14.3.1 Delayed cases and bail conditions

KEY ISSUE	RESOLUTION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME
<b>DELAYED CASES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outstanding investigations</li> </ul>	1. The statistics from these institutions must be aligned	1. Specific cases must be provided to NPA to be addressed.	1.National Prosecuting Authority (NPA)	-----
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bribery</li> <li>Dockets getting lost</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosecutors, Magistrates, off sick</li> </ul>	2. The Criminal Justice System must be improved			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosecutors taking sides</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delay in forensic evidence</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Witnesses not being attending to properly or protected</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interpreters not available</li> </ul>				
<b>BAIL CONDITIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bias by SAPS, Prosecutors, etc</li> <li>Sloppy investigation</li> </ul>	1 Officials must be professionals and the SAPS must improve their investigation capacity	1. Poor performance by any of these institution must be reported,	1.South African Police Service (SAPS) and National Prosecuting Authority (NPA)	-----

### 14.3.2 CASES NOT PROSECUTED

<p><u>CASES NOT PROSECUTED</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime scene not properly investigated</li> <li>• Insufficient of evidence</li> </ul>	<p>1.The SAPS must improve crime scene management and conduct proper investigation.</p>	<p>1. Train police officers that are dealing with crime scene management. 2.Train detectives on a continuous basis</p>	<p>1.South African Police Service (SAPS),</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p>Lack of cooperation between community and the CJS</p>	<p>1. There is a need to establish new forum should, 2. Justice forum with community structures to meet on regularly (outreach programmes).</p>	<p>1. Establish new forum,</p>	<p>1.Justice Manager to invite stakeholders</p>	<p>-----</p>

### 14.3.4 CHALLENGES

The Effective Criminal Justice System commission outlined the following challenges amongst that make the criminal justice not be effective:

- Delayed cases due to outstanding investigations, dockets getting lost, forensic evidence delayed, witnesses not protected, Lack of Interpreter, witnesses evading the court,
- Case backlogs,
- Bail conditions,
- Cases not prosecuted,
- Break-down of pending cases,
- Break-down of successful cases,
- Co-operation between community and the CJS components,

- **Pending cases:** Khayelitsha district court registered 1880 cases for the period January to October 2011 of which 97% were finalized and the perpetrators were found guilty. However, overall there are 1566 outstanding cases in Khayelitsha district court that needs to be attended to. At the regional court, there are 378 outstanding cases and a backlog of 105 cases. The conviction rate is 70%.

### 13.3.5 RECOMMENDATIONS

General recommendations, which cover the SAPS, NPA, and Department of Correctional Service, were made. These recommendations are presented below.

- The need to align the Department of Justice and Correctional Services activities and programmes was raised. These include the alignment of statistics from these institutions,
- The SAPS must constantly provide feedback to the community,
- The community must approach the station commissioner should they not be satisfied with the feedback received or if they do not get feedback at all,
- The SAPS must always ensure proper and thorough investigation to ensure successful prosecution,

The centrepiece for commission three was that co-operation between the relevant stakeholders from the Justice Cluster must be established to streamline activities and information flow. The cluster must strive to conduct outreach programmes jointly and involve the community at large. More importantly, the need to address the backlog was raised.

#### 14.4 COMMISSION FOUR (4): ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND GANGSTERISM

##### 14.4.1 PRESENTATIONS / INPUTS FROM VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS

**City of Cape Town:** The City of Cape Town reported that they developed a 3-year drug strategy based on the National Drug Master Plan to respond to substance abuse in the Western Cape Province. The objective of the strategy is to provide evidence-based drugs programmes. Thus far, four (4) clinics have been identified to run outpatient programmes with specific focus on drugs. Furthermore the City of Cape Town identified monthly programmes, which consist of individual and group sessions, for drug testing and monitoring.

**SANCA (South African National Council Against Drugs and Alcoholism):** The SANCA runs drugs and alcohol dependency programmes. SANCA works with schools, conducts drug awareness programmes at schools premises and community health centres in many areas in the Province. Khayelitsha is included in their programme.

**Department of Economic Development and Tourism (Western Cape Liquor Board):** According to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism (Western Cape Liquor Board) there are approximately 30 000 unlicensed shebeens in the Western Cape. In Khayelitsha, there are 174 known and licensed shebeen operators. Regulating shebeens and applying law enforcement remains a challenge, as people trade in their houses.

**South African Police Service (SAPS):** According to the South African Police Service (SAPS), substance abuse (Alcohol and drugs) is the main source of all social ills in the Province and Khayelitsha in no exception. To a large extent, alcohol is the cause of broken families, domestic violence and gang violence. Addressing substance abuse decisively is likely to yield an increase sense of safety for the Khayelitsha community.

#### 13.4.2 KEY ISSUES FROM COMMISSION FOUR

The salient issues raised and discussed in commission 4 are succinctly presented below.

- Khayelitsha has a proliferation of unlicensed shebeens making people vulnerable and susceptible to crime and criminality,
- There is high rate of youth alcohol consumption during the festive season in Khayelitsha. Commission's participants apportioned blame to liquor advertisements. The short and immediate impact of alcohol abuse is a high rate of school dropouts, unemployment, gangsterism, domestic violence etc,
- Children, youth and women – vulnerable group - were said to be the mostly affected social groups in the community,
- Adults are seen as perpetrators of the substance abuse problem because participants felt that children cannot do drugs on their own, there are adults who are engineering this tendency. There are allegations that foreigners are the suppliers of drugs to young people in the area,
- Participants also indicated that adults, particularly traditional healers are also indirectly involved in gangsterism because they sell 'amakhubalo' (traditional muthi) to gang members under the pretext that when using 'amakhubalo' gang members would constantly elude the police,
- The Criminal Justice System was blamed for granting bail to people who are accused of committing serious crimes,
- Lack of community resources like shelters, rehabilitation centres etc was mentioned as a huge challenge as it deprives the youth an opportunity to re-direct their energy.
- Lack of community cohesion and community leadership were two issues that were seen as inhibiting attempts to address criminality in the area,
- Lack of proper parenting skills was raised as a key issue. It was argued that parents give money to children, but fail to monitor how the money is spent.
- The youth in Khayelitsha found themselves under peer pressure and commit crime because they want to belong,

- Participants expressed the need for all the stakeholders to work together in the fight against crime

#### **14.4.2 COMMISSION FOUR SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The participants of commission four (4) had the following recommendations to make:**

- There is a need to work together and understand the referral system,
- There is a need for community resources like shelters, rehabilitation centres etc. These must be accessible to the community both physically and financially,
- There is a need for an intense awareness programme at schools, taxi ranks and bus terminus on the effect and impact of drugs to one's health system,
- There is a need to develop community leaders who understand the environment,
- There is a need to improve and broaden the networking of stakeholders that deals with crime. Furthermore, the relevant stakeholder must account to the community,
- There is need for community workshops on substance abuse in general and other aspects of the problem,
- There is a need to improve consultation, collaboration and cooperation with other stakeholders and strategic partners,
- There is need for Monitoring and Evaluation of programmes implemented to determine short medium and long-term outcome and impact.

#### **14.5. COMMISSION FIVE (5): WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

The safety of vulnerable groups - women and children- was the focus on this commission. The commission looked at the root cause of the problem and what could be done to strengthen the family value system. Key questions raised and responses are presented in this section

**QUESTION 1: What is the extent of the problem in the family that leads to violence?**

KEY ISSUE	RESOLUTION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	TIME FRAME
1. Parents should stick together	1. Support groups should be conducted in the area.	1. Community members, Social workers and SAPS should work together	1. Street Committees & families in the area	1. November 2011
2. Children and youth which includes educated and uneducated should work together	2. Workshops should be provided for the youth	2. Children should be collected from the community to form a progressive group.	2. Youth groups, Civic structures, Religious groups, Schools, and Social development	2. January 2012
3. Low level of cultural disciplines and humanity	3. Cultural disciplines should be kept	3. Educate community members and youth on a number of issues including cultural values	3. Community leaders, chiefs, Civic structures and youth, arts and culture groups	3. November 2011
4. Lack of respect between the youth and the elderly	4. Dancers group, Netball, soccer and rugby	4. Youth group and municipality must work together	4. Youth groups, Social Development and volunteers	4. January 2012
5. Alcohol and drugs	5. To educate teenagers and adults about the destruction that is caused by substance abuse	5. Workshops should be done to educate the entire community	5. The SAPS, communities and volunteers	5. November 2011
6. Reduce the number of shebeens and control shebeens	6.1 The number of shebeens must be reduced and the closing time for these shebeens should be determined and be adhered to. 6.2 Monitor the age group of people who are not supposed to take liquor/	6. The community structures must work together with the SAPS to address shebeen concerns	SAPS, Civic structures, Shebeen forums	6. November 2011

**Question 2: What are the contributing factors to social fabric crime?**

A number of factors were outlined as contributing to social fabric crime. These include unemployment, lack education and subsequently lack of skills, and employability of the people, scarce jobs that can absorb the less skilled. The lack of value system that motivates the youth in the community was also raised. In the main, alcohol was raised as the major contributing factor to social fabric crime. A need for short, medium and long term solutions was raised.

**Question 2 (a) What can be done to address social fabric crime?**

Time Frame	Resolution	Responsible	Key Issues	Action
Within 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased knowledge about social fabric crime,</li> <li>Minimise pregnancy</li> <li>Limit alcohol and drugs intake</li> <li>Job creation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Leaders,</li> <li>Social Development,</li> <li>Public Representatives,</li> <li>Members of Parliament, s</li> <li>Local Schools (Life Orientation)</li> <li>Community Leaders (Buyambo)</li> <li>Youth Clinics,</li> <li>Faith Based Organisations</li> <li>F.E.T Colleges, NGOs, Department of Labour.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of knowledge</li> <li>Teenage pregnancy</li> <li>Drug &amp; Alcohol Abuse (Shebeens)</li> <li>Unemployment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend training and workshop</li> <li>Sex education awareness programme</li> <li>Minimize the issuing of alcohol licences</li> <li>Limit alcohol selling hours</li> <li>Shebeens to be converted to other businesses</li> <li>Training (Skill Empowerment)</li> </ul>

**Question 3: How do the family and community strengthen the value system?**

Key Issues	Resolutions	Actions	Responsible Person	Time Frames
Lack of strong value system	The community challenges must be addressed completely	Partnership and togetherness of parents, youth, children and other community structures.	Community members in general and parents and families	-----

**Question 4: What can be done to improve the situation relation to the crimes affecting families?**

Key Issues	Resolutions	Actions	Responsible Person	Time Frames
1. Disintegration of traditional family systems,	1. Redefine Family Systems (Life Skills, Communication and Birth Control),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life Skills</li> <li>Mentoring and Coaching</li> <li>Traditional (Narration)</li> <li>Licencing / control</li> <li>Close Shebeens</li> <li>Start Community Gardens</li> <li>Employment Locally</li> <li>Prevention Programmes</li> <li>Life Skills</li> <li>Form street committees and business opportunities</li> <li>Provincial Internships (Internship strategy and Youth development)</li> <li>Training</li> <li>Local Employment</li> <li>Funding of projects/equipment</li> <li>Define Roles and train parents</li> <li>Support Mentoring (Boys to Men Strategy, family rules and assistance in church).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSD</li> <li>Families</li> <li>Universities</li> <li>Clinics</li> <li>Local Forums</li> <li>Churches</li> <li>NGOs</li> <li>Department of Agriculture</li> <li>City of Cape Town</li> <li>Parents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate</li> </ul>
2. Alcohol and Substance Abuse,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intervene on all levels (prevention and support clubs),</li> <li>Training low skilled youth for high skilled jobs, empower youth with farming skills,</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate</li> </ul>
3. Poverty Employment,				
4. Family Violence,				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate</li> </ul>
5. Disrespect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family rights to responsibilities</li> </ul>			
6. No rules in household.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fathers must fulfil their roles</li> </ul>		-----	

**Question 5 Identify short and long terms solutions / interventions**

Key Issues	Resolutions	Actions To be taken	Responsible Person	Time Frames Short, Medium and Long Term
1.Unemployment	1.Project / own businesses	1. Develop projects and cooperatives for the unemployed.	1.Government and Communities	1.Medium and Long Term
2.Poverty	2.Projects and employment programmes	2. Develop projects and the cooperatives for the unemployed.	2.Government and Communities	2.Short, medium and Long Term
3.Alcohol & Substance Abuse	3.Access to rehabilitation and counseling	3.Access to counseling facilities	3.NGOs, government, individuals and Communities	3.Short Term and medium Term
4.Loss of Dignity	4.Employment and reduction of Poverty	4.Access to counseling facilities	4.NGOs, government, individual and Communities	4.Short Term
5.Female headed families (divorced woman) are more vulnerable	5.Family support e.g. Uncles	5.Family and Community Support	5.Social Development	5.Medium and Long Term
6.Lack of open communication between child and parent	6. Families must be empowered.	6.Empowerment of parents	6.Social Development, families and NGOs	6.Short Term and Long Term
7.Lack of neighbourhood spirit	7.Community Support	7.Community Empowerment	7.Communities, NGOs, SANCO, etc.	7.Sort Term and Long Term
8.Lack of income	8.Employment	8.Projects	8.Government and Communities	8.Short Term, Medium Term and Medium Term
9.Media and television influence	9.Media restrictions	9.Media restriction laws	9.Government	9.Short Term, Medium Term and Medium Term

#### 14.5.1 COMMISSION FIVE KEY ISSUES

The prelude to the key issues in this commission was the question:

- What is Justice all about if children are raped and killed and the perpetrators are not given the punishment they deserve? The punishment meted against perpetrators who kill politicians is a heavy sentence however; the opposite is true regarding those perpetrators who kill children and woman. The punishment should be the same regardless of one status and position in the community safety,
- Domestic abuse of women and children must be reported to the police,
- Those individuals who ought to pay maintenance must be monitored,
- Corruption within government – Officials must not tamper with blood tests in relation to paternity tests,
- Government spheres must work together to fight social fabric crime,
- Involve NGO who are able to identify safety issues for woman and children,

#### 14.2 COMMISSION FIVE KEY ISSUES

The commission suggested these resolutions, which should be acted upon immediately

- There should be no bail given to perpetrators of crime against women and children,
- Should the offender be ready to be released on parole, the Department of Correctional Services must notify the community prior to its decision,
- Both parents must continue child maintenance to prevent children from opting for a life of prostitution,
- Government must constantly monitor maintenance payments, and make the necessary follow-up on maintenance recipients ,

- Blood tests must be done locally and not outside the province where affected the families are not residing,
- Government departments – Social developments, Justice, Correctional Services, Community Civic Structures and CPFs, NGOs and CBOs must work in unison to fight crime.

## 15. SYNOPSIS OF THE KHAYELITSHA COMMUNITY SAFETY SUMMIT

Overall the summit had the following salient issues that transpired from both the five commissions and the plenary session discussions.

**15.1 Safety of children:** The safety of children was raised as a critical issue and a major concern in Khayelitsha. Incidents of child rapes, assaults and killings were cited repeatedly at the summit and these are just the tip of the iceberg. The offenders are mainly family members, or people known to the perpetrators. In the main, these are people under the influence of alcohol and drugs. Crime against children was defined as the most evil crime. A need to revive 'My child is your child, and your child is my child' initiative was raised at the summit.

**15.2 Violent crime and sexual offenses:** Cape Town has the worst murder rate and Khayelitsha and Nyanga are worse off. The sexual offenses and assaults are even committed against children – the vulnerable population of the society. At worst these crimes happen behind closed doors where policing is difficult. However, it has been evident that interventions rendered work effectively. An intervention, which targeted closing shebeens in Nyanga, resulted to no murder for at least one corresponding weekend.

- 15.3 Alcohol and drugs:** The main cause of crime in the Western Cape is substance abuse (alcohol and drugs). The Western Cape Province has approximately 30 000 known illegal shebeens. Violent crime occurs in close proximity to these shebeens. A need to address proliferation and sprawling of shebeens was raised. The Liquor Act was cited as an attempt to regulate the zoning of liquor outlets across the province.
- TIK** – the drug of choice in the Western Cape is a major challenge in Khayelitsha as well. Approximately 85% of crime in the Western Cape occurs because of alcohol and drug abuse. Therefore parents have the responsibility to ensure that their children are disciplined and have something to do to keep them busy. Crime occurs because children have nothing to do particularly after school.
- 15.4 After school programmes:** There are three schools in Province that would be targeted for the after school programme. The after school programme would amongst other things have teachers assisting learners with their studies and extra mural activities. Two of these schools are based in Khayelitsha namely Encotsheni High School and Sikhokhelo Primary schools. The third school is Masiphumelele High School based in Ocean View.
- 15.5 Successful Interventions:** The Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading was cited as a wonderful project which has contributed to a decrease in murder rate at Harare. An intervention, which targeted closing shebeens in Nyanga, resulted to no murder for at least one corresponding weekend.
- 15.6 Safety Structures: Neighbourhood watches:** The need for Neighbourhood watches was echoed repeatedly at the summit. The participants expressed

concerns about the safety of children and women and argued that had there been NHW perhaps, children could liaise with these structures and not be afraid of reprisal. Furthermore, NHW may perhaps be in the position to minimize domestic violence and crimes that are committed against women in their houses. The Western Cape Premier expressed her satisfaction with the work of NHW structures in general, and stressed that every person in South Africa has a duty to increase safety. She described a situation where an argument ends up in a fight or violence as abnormal.

**15.7** **Police conduct:** The summit raised a concern around the conduct of certain police officers in Khayelitsha. The ICD confirmed that there are cases against the police in Khayelitsha that are under investigation. What is worth noting is that the SAPS management provides maximum support on these investigations. Furthermore, there is challenge in terms of Metro Police's conduct. It was presented as a concern at the summit. Community members feel discriminated against, particularly if the very same institution that needs to protect them seems to be abusing their powers.

**15.8** **Role clarification:** The role of the current NHW in Khayelitsha must be clearly stated. Thus far, there seems to be a lack of understanding the role of this structure. The same applies that to the role of the Department of Community Safety.

**15.9** **Unemployment and poverty:** The relationship between unemployment, poverty and crime is not a straightforward one. Unemployment does not always lead to criminal activity, but can contribute to crime. Attempts to deal with crime therefore calls for an integrated and concerted effort- partnership to address crime alongside poverty and unemployment.

**15.10 Protection of informers:** The summit noted that the fear from the community to give information to the SAPS, which could assist in addressing crime. The fear hampers attempts to reduce crime as police cannot successfully address crime without information. There is fear of reprisal, the police officials leak information to perpetrators, thus putting community members at risk, 'police informers' therefore withhold information,

## **16 GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

**16.1 Partnership:** The summit realized that partnership is a potential solution to challenges in the light of the **whole-of-society approach**. Existing partnership must be strengthened and new partnership must be formed to address crime effectively in Khayelitsha and other areas beyond Khayelitsha. Criminal Justice Cluster alone cannot be the solutions to crime, safety is everyone responsibility. Safety is an outcome of a concerted effort and partnership.

**16.2 Children Safety Awareness programme:** 'Your child is my child and my child is your child campaign' needs to be revived and strengthened to address the issue of children safety. This matter was raised in relation to the safety of children in the area.

**16.3 Anger management programme:** Most of the crimes occur in social settings which are not easily policeable. There is need to find ways to reduce the incidents of these crimes happening. One focus area should be anger management for instance, not all arguments must end up in violence or fight. There is therefore a need to empower people to know that there is other ways to resolving differences.

- 16.4 Awareness programmes and outreach programmes:** There is need for awareness programmes focusing on the role and activities of the SAPS, NPA, DCS, DOCS, DSD, CPF, ICD and DoJ. The summit provided an opportunity but there was limited time to explore this exhaustively.
- 16.5 Increase police patrol and visibility:** The number of police and policing structures i.e. CPF, NHW, Street Committee must be increased. Police must be more accessible to the public. Furthermore, the role of NHW in increasing police visibility was also stressed.
- 16.6 Community Safety Structure Audit:** The need to conduct an audit on community safety structures that are based in Khayelitsha to determine their health status was identified.
- 16.7 Resources:** *The number of police stations servicing the area must be increased. These police stations must be in close proximity to one another. Furthermore, these police stations must be well resourced both in terms of vehicle and human resources.*

## 17 CONCLUSION

The Khayelitsha summit managed to draw together local key role players in the field of community safety with the purpose of mapping a process that will contribute to increasing safety in Khayelitsha. The centerpiece of the summit was the unanimous recognition for the need for partnerships in the endeavour to increase safety in the area.

The key challenges were outlined ranging from safety of women and children, the role of substance abuse in facilitating and generating crime, inefficiencies with the criminal justice system, lack of awareness and education about the role of certain institutions to socio economic issues and lack of development in area. The long term solution to the issue of safety and security in Khayelitsha depends on the strength and strategic vision of the partners who need to work together in a synchronized manner.

### **Acknowledgements**

All stakeholders that participated and played a role in the summit are recognized. These include but not limited to the Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU), Khayelitsha Development Forum (KDF), MDC, Department of Home Affairs, Department of Economic development, City of Cape Town: Law Enforcement, South African Police Service (SAPS), Metro Police, Department of Community Safety, Community Police Forum (CPF), National prosecuting Authority (NPA), Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, Social Development: Probation Services, Department of Correctional Services, Department of Social Development, City of Cape Town: Health Department, ward councilors , Non-Government Organizations (NGO), Department of sports and culture. Western Cape Traditional leaders Association, South African National Council Against Drugs and Alcoholism), Department of Economic Development and Tourism (Western Cape Liquor Board)