VOLUME CRIME STRATEGY
2008-2010
What is Volume Crime?

Volume crime offences are those which cause the greatest impact on the community. Districts will prioritise their resources to tackle volume crime through daily tactical meetings and in line with the Tasking and Coordination Group (T&CG) process. The offences WA Police currently classify as volume crime are:

- Burglary
- Robbery
- Steal Motor Vehicle
- Assault

The themes within this Strategy can also be applied to other local crime problems, identified as priorities through the T&CG process.

What We Will Do

This strategy has been formulated in line with the WA Police Strategic Plan 2007 – 2010, and aims to strengthen partnerships, enhance our investigative and intelligence processes, and identify innovative practices to reduce volume crime.

The WA Police Volume Crime Strategy is based on three themes and seven priority areas.

PREVENTION
- Crime Reduction
- Targeted Patrolling

INTELLIGENCE
- Tasking and Coordinating
- Tactical Briefings
- Scientific Investigation

ENFORCEMENT
- Offender Management
- Quality Investigations

Our Objectives
- Reduce volume crime offending
- Reduce repeat victimisation
- Increase the detection of volume crime offenders
- Improve our service delivery standards
How We Will Achieve Our Objectives

We will use the WA Police Intelligence Model and the tasking and coordination process to deploy resources targeting crime hot-spots. Our focus will be on reducing volume crime through the analysis of intelligence and contemporary investigative practices, aimed at preventing crime, gathering evidence and ensuring offenders are identified and dealt with in accordance with the law.

We will take a proactive, intelligence driven approach to targeting volume crime, focusing frontline activity and improving officer awareness, through:

- Improved service delivery
- Active and accountable supervision
- Timely supervision-led briefings
- Increased quality vehicle stops
- Intelligence submissions
- Enhanced investigative and interviewing skills

Through offender management, we will prioritise and actively target those prolific and priority offenders (PPO’s) who commit the disproportionate volume of offences and reduce the risk of those on bail committing further offences.

Partnerships will be enhanced with other agencies to collectively manage and supervise serious or persistent offenders during community programs or on release from prison. By sharing information and intelligence, we will enhance our understanding of the key issues and devise better solutions for the reduction of crime.

Sustainable crime reduction initiatives will be developed, in partnership with other agencies, aimed at reducing repeat victimisation and the growing demand on frontline reactive policing.

The Volume Crime Strategy will be implemented by all support portfolios and districts, through standardised action plans, detailing expectations on supervisors and frontline officers in delivering this Strategy. This Strategy will be subject to ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure its success.
What Are Our Priorities

PREVENTION

- **Crime Reduction**
  Police resources continually respond to the same locations to tackle the same policing problems, causing a drain on our resources.
  
  **AIM:** To reduce volume crime offences through sustainable crime reduction initiatives at repeat incident locations.

- **Targeted Patrolling**
  Leadership and active supervision is essential in preventing offending, increasing intelligence and improving detections; by directing resources to routinely stop vehicles and suspicious persons, particularly in volume crime hot-spots.
  
  **AIM:** To deter criminal behaviour, reduce volume crime offending and increase criminal intelligence, through active supervision and targeted patrols.

INTELLIGENCE

- **Tasking and Coordinating**
  Utilising the daily tactical meetings and the T&CG process will prioritise work and direct district and specialist resources to target volume crime hot-spots and prolific offenders.
  
  **AIM:** To target volume crime through the effective use of intelligence.

- **Tactical Briefings**
  Providing clear direction to frontline officers through standardised, intelligence-driven daily tactical briefings, will focus activity in volume crime hot spots.
  
  **AIM:** To maximise frontline activity on volume crime, through the effective use of regular intelligence-driven briefings.

- **Scientific Investigation**
  The collection and use of quality and defensible scientific evidence, identifying links between crime scenes, will maximise opportunities to reduce volume crime and increase clearance rates.
  
  **AIM:** To increase volume crime detections, through the collection and analysis of scientific evidence.

ENFORCEMENT

- **Offender Management**
  Identifying and coordinating activity against Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO’s), through the daily TAC and T&CG process, directing district and specialist resources towards proactive offender management will have an effect on reducing volume crime.
  
  **AIM:** To identify and target PPO’s responsible for volume crime offending.

- **Quality Investigations**
  Applying the Respond, Examine, Collect, Analyse, Resolve (RECAR) process, as a minimum standard and through the supervision and monitoring of investigations, will ensure all lines of enquiry have been pursued to link crimes and meet our service delivery standards.
  
  **AIM:** To improve investigations, increase clearance rates and enhance service delivery.
Research demonstrates that a relatively small percentage of the population commit a disproportionately large number of offences. Although the majority of these offences represent relatively small financial losses, the feeling of invasion of privacy and being a victim translates to very real feelings of fear of crime and perceptions of a lack of safety and security. Therefore it is incumbent upon me to implement strategies to target recidivist offenders and repeat crime locations.

The Volume Crime Strategy represents an agency-wide integrated approach to reducing volume crime. This approach will continue to be developed and consolidated, and will be integrated into our planning and reporting frameworks.

This Strategy complements other WA Police informing strategies relating to: crime prevention, alcohol-related crime, anti-social behaviour, traffic policing and the WA Police Intelligence Model.

In implementing these strategies we need to remain an organisation that is flexible, that can adapt to change and adopt new business methods as required. We must be open to learning new methods of policing and conducting investigations. In this we must be prepared to learn from others within and external to our agency and continue to adopt a willingness to constantly review and evaluate our methodologies.

In line with Frontline First, the intent is to implement a statewide collaborative approach to achieve a reduction in volume crime and improve our service delivery. This Strategy will be implemented through three main themes:

- Effective preventative strategies - aimed at reducing levels of volume crime
- Enhancing intelligence-driven policing - in line with the WA Police Intelligence Model
- Enforcement - using offender management and more effective targeted patrolling

By taking ownership of local policing problems, identifying sustainable crime prevention initiatives and targeting hot-spots and prolific offenders, we can focus our effort to:

- Reduce volume crime offending
- Reduce repeat victimisation
- Increase the detection of volume crime offenders
- Improve our service delivery standards

Karl O’Callaghan APM
Commissioner of Police