



TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN COMMITTEE

PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES, EXT. 4421

SUBMITTED BY: D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That a Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee be established with the following agencies, boards and/or commissions selected to provide a representative on the Committee to represent a single or multiple of the following membership requirements in accordance with the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*:
 - a) Councillor _____
 - b) Councillor _____
 - c) _____ to represent Ontario Health or an entity that provides services to improve the physical or mental health of individuals in the community;
 - d) _____ to represent an entity that provides educational services in the municipality;
 - e) _____ to represent an entity that provides community or social services in the municipality;
 - f) _____ to represent an entity that provides community or social services to children or youth in the municipality;
 - g) _____ to represent an entity that provides custodial services to children or youth in the municipality;
 - h) A representative from the Barrie Police Services Board; and
 - i) Barrie Police Service’s Chief of Police R. Johnston or his designate.
2. That the draft Terms of Reference for the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee attached as Appendix “A” to Staff Report CCS002-24 be approved.
3. That Procedural By-law 2019-100 as amended be further amended in Schedule “B” as follows:
 - a) Add the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee to the list of Special and Advisory Committees with the following mandate:

To review to review the City of Barrie's 2021 to 2024 Community Safety and Well-being Plan: Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie and provide advice to City Council on any potential revisions to the Plan as well as reporting on the status of the Plan.

- b) Add to the chart contained in paragraph 14 of Schedule "B" the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee identifying that it reports to the Community Safety Committee.
4. That the Committee and staff be authorized to collaborate with the County of Simcoe to align Community Safety and Well-being Plans, where appropriate and feasible.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

Purpose

5. The purpose of this staff report is to seek Council direction with respect to the composition of a Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee to review and potentially revise the City of Barrie's 2021 to 2024 Community Safety and Well-being Plan: Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie.
6. In addition, a draft Terms of Reference for the Committee has been prepared for consideration that includes a recommendation that the Committee report through the Community Safety Committee to General Committee and Council.

Background

7. In January of 2019 the provincial government through the *Safer Ontario Act* required municipalities to develop and adopt a community safety and well-being (CSWB) plan. As part of the legislation municipalities were required to develop and adopt community safety and well-being plans working in partnership with a multi-sectoral advisory committee comprised of representation from the police service, police service board and other local service providers in health/mental health, education, community/social services, and children/youth services.
8. In February of 2019, Council established a Community Safety and Well-being Committee and selected agencies/organizations to provide representatives on the Committee. Due to subsequent changes to the legislation, the Committee composition was amended in April 2019 to increase the membership.
9. The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan was developed with significant community and stakeholder consultation including an on-line survey and stakeholder focus groups. An external consultant, MASS LBP, was contracted through a grant the Barrie Police Service was able to obtain, to work with the committee to help develop a comprehensive plan. This external consultant led the community stakeholder focus groups and reported back to the Committee.
10. The Committee identified important risk factors and action items for the community using the information collected from a broad cross-section of local organizations and community members.
11. In May of 2021, the [City of Barrie's 2021 to 2024 Community Safety and Well-being Plan: Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie](#), was approved Council for approval. The Plan has four areas of focus that cover 15 action items.
12. Since the approval of the Plan, the partner representatives have been working together on implementation of the action items. Action items are led by or supported by various local organizations.
13. A community survey was launched in December 2022 to gain feedback on how residents feel about safety and well-being in Barrie. The results of the survey were communicated in a memorandum dated April 5, 2023.

14. A partner survey was also sent to each of the organizations that had committed to leading or helping to implement one or more of the 15 Action Items in the Plan. The intent of this survey was to determine each organization's view of progress on the Action Items they were leading or helping to implement and provide related key performance indicators.
15. A significant number of the partner representatives have changed since the adoption of the plan, and new organizations or approaches to the action items continue to evolve. Representatives of the action partner organizations have met on more than one occasion to review the survey responses and are preparing a scorecard identifying the progress associated with the Plan and its impact, on reducing the prioritized risk factors. Once the information is finalized, a memo will be provided to City Council with the scorecard.

ANALYSIS

16. On April 1, 2024, the new Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 and Ontario Regulation 414/23 concerning Community Safety and Well-being Plans – Publication and Review, came into force. The new Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 replaces the Police Services Act
17. O. Reg 414/23 requires Barrie City Council to review and if appropriate, revise its Community Safety and Well-being Plan by July 1, 2025. Subsequent reviews and revisions must be completed within every four years thereafter.
18. The new Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 establishes a slight change to the required membership of Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committees when compared to the previous requirements. A member is now required related to represent Ontario Health (versus a Local Health Integration Network) or an entity that provides services to improve the physical or mental health of individuals in the community.
19. The following are the minimum membership requirements in accordance with the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*:
 - a) A person who represents Ontario Health or an entity that provides services to improve the physical or mental health of individuals in the community;
 - b) A person who represents an entity that provides educational services in the municipality;
 - c) A person who represents an entity that provides community or social services in the municipality;
 - d) A person who represents represent an entity that provides community or social services to children or youth in the municipality;
 - e) A person who represents an entity that provides custodial services to children or youth in the municipality;
 - f) An employee of the municipality or a member of the municipal council;
 - g) A representative from the Police Services Board; and
 - h) A chief of police that or designate.

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20. Similar to the previous legislation, a single individual may represent more than one of the required services. As an example, General Committee may wish to recommend identifying an oversight entity such as the County of Simcoe for the services identified in c) and d) above as the Provincially-designated service manager for Long Term Care facilities, Paramedic Services, and various social assistance programs (Ontario Works, Children and Community Services and Social Housing Services). This would allow for the County to provide updates on the services it is responsible for managing on behalf of the Province rather than a single one of the County's contracted service providers or another agency.
 21. Also, in appointing the members of the advisory committee, municipalities are required to consider the need to ensure that committee is representative of the municipality, having regard for the diversity of the population in the municipality.
 22. The membership requirements identified in paragraph 19 are the minimum requirements. Representatives of additional organizations or entities may be added to the committee composition. To ensure quorum can be achieved for meetings, General Committee may wish to recommend the Committee be established with the minimum required membership and invite or consult with other representatives on an as required basis. Broader consultation is required as part of the review and any revisions to the Plan.
 23. As part of the review of the Barrie's first Community Safety and Well-being Plan, the municipality is required to:
 - a) consult with the advisory community;
 - b) consult with members of the public, including youth, individuals who have received or are receiving mental health or addictions services, members of racialized groups and of First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities, in the municipality;
 - c) consult with community organizations, including First Nation, Inuit and Métis organizations and community organizations that represent youth or members of racialized groups, in the municipality; and
 - d) comply with any consultation requirements that may be prescribed by the Minister.
 24. In reviewing a community safety and well-being plan, the municipality is required to consider available information related to crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdose, suicide and any other risk factors prescribed by the Minister, including statistical information from Statistics Canada or other sources, in addition to the information obtained through its consultations.
 25. A community safety and well-being plan and any revision to the plan, shall,
 - a) identify risk factors in the municipality, including, without limitation, systemic discrimination and other social factors that contribute to crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdose and suicide and any other risk factors prescribed by the Minister;
 - b) identify which risk factors the municipality will treat as a priority to reduce;
 - c) identify strategies to reduce the prioritized risk factors, including providing new services, changing existing services, improving the integration of existing services or coordinating existing services in a different way;
 - d) set out measurable outcomes that the strategies are intended to produce;
 - e) address any other issues that may be prescribed by the Minister; and
 - f) contain any other information that may be prescribed by the Minister.

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26. The legislation includes a provision that requires a municipality that has adopted a community safety and well-being plan to monitor, evaluate and report on the effect the plan is having, if any, on reducing the prioritized risk factors, shall, in accordance with the regulations made by the Minister, if any. At this time there are no regulations identifying the monitoring, evaluating or reporting requirements.
 27. Staff have prepared a draft Terms of Reference for the Committee that incorporates the preceding information. The draft Terms of Reference is included as Appendix "A" to Staff Report CCS002-24.
 28. The draft Terms of Reference includes a recommendation that the Committee reports through the Community Safety Committee to General Committee and Council given the alignment with that Reference Committee's mandate.
 29. Given the deadline for the completion of a review of the current plan and any revisions, it is recommended that the Committee meet monthly while this work is being completed.
 30. In the past, after the Plan was adopted, the Committee ceased. Each of the action items in the current plan has been led or implemented by the various agencies or organizations working as smaller groups. City-specific efforts have been undertaken by staff with the resources available.
 31. To address any monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements that may be introduced by the Minister, it is recommended that the Committee continue to meet after the Plan revisions are adopted. However, the frequency is recommended to be reduced to semi-annually instead of monthly.
 32. Community Safety and Well-being Plans may be developed by a group of municipalities. In these cases, the members of the advisory committee are to be appointed by agreement of the participating municipalities.
 33. The County of Simcoe staff have offered support and assistance with Barrie's Community Safety and Well-being Plan. Currently, the County is one of the action partners identified in Barrie's Plan.
 34. The County has prepared five Community Safety and Well-being Plans on behalf of the lower tier municipalities within the County and the City of Orillia. The five plans are for South Georgian Bay and Springwater, Nottawasaga, North Simcoe, Couchiching and South Simcoe. Each of the five areas is represented by a local Community Safety and Well-being Plan Table that engages with the municipalities, local stakeholders and residents in the area.
 35. The City of Barrie had established its Committee and started its 2021 to 2024 Community Safety and Well-being Planning prior to the County's initial offer to include Barrie in the plans it was developing.
 36. Staff have met with the County to discuss options for the review and potential revisions to the Community Safety and Well-being Plan in light of a new offer from the County to combine or jointly undertake Community Safety and Well-being Planning. Through the staff discussions, alignment with County Community Safety and Well-being Plans was identified as a benefit given the County's role as the Provincially designated service manager for Community and Children's Services and linkages to health services. If the recommended motion in this report is approved, the Committee and staff would coordinate and ensure alignment between Barrie's plan and plans that have been prepared by the County.
 37. Staff are not recommending that Barrie's Community Safety and Well-being Plan be undertaken under the umbrella of the County, as a single tier municipality with differing actions that may be required due to its size and demographics compared to the lower tier municipalities within the County.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE MATTERS

38. There are no direct environmental or climate change matters related to the recommendation to establish the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee.

ALTERNATIVES

39. The following alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could appoint a single member of Council to the Committee

This alternative is available. Two representatives were recommended based on the past composition of the Committee.

Alternative #2

General Committee could recommend changes to the draft terms of reference.

This alternative is available. Staff provided a draft terms of reference that it believes addresses the Provincial legislation, aligns with the Reference Committee structure and reflects past experience with the committee.

Alternative #3

General Committee could recommend that the City's join or combine its Community Safety and Well-being Plan with the County.

This alternative is available but is not recommended. The legislated deadline for Barrie to update its plan is sooner than the County's timeline. In addition, as a medium sized urban community, Barrie's planning and strategies to address safety and well-being may be very different than the lower tier municipalities that surround it. Aligning Barrie and the County's planning is recommended instead.

FINANCIAL

40. There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendation to form the Committee. Indirectly, there will be some financial implications associated with the resources required to support the Committee meetings and preparation of a revised plan, if required.
41. In addition, the actions that are identified to implement the plan may require additional resources from the City and/or community partners. The implications would be identified as part of the reporting back on the review and any revisions to the plan.

LINKAGE TO 2022-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

42. The recommendations included in this Staff Report are related to the following goals contained in 2022-2026 Strategic Plan:
- ✓ Community Safety
43. Although Community Safety and Well-being Planning is related to all of Council's priorities, it is most closely related to Community Safety as one of the goals under this priority is to work with our partners to implement the community safety and well-being plan

APPENDIX "A"

TERMS OF REFERENCE – COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN COMMITTEE

1. Reporting Structure:

In accordance with the City of Barrie's Procedural By-law, as amended, the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee is a Committee authorized by City Council. The Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee has been established by City Council in accordance with the below Terms of Reference and shall report to City Council through the Community Safety Committee. Decisions of the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee are not final until approved by City Council unless delegated authority is granted by Council.

2. Mandate

To review the City of Barrie's 2021 to 2024 Community Safety and Well-being Plan: Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie and provide advice to City Council on any potential revisions to the Plan as well as reporting on the Plan.

3. Objectives

The following are the objectives of the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee:

- a) To review the current risk factors identified in the 2021 to 2024 Community Safety and Well-being Plan and identify any revisions to the risk factors in the municipality, including, without limitation, systemic discrimination and other social factors that contribute to crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdose and suicide and any other risk factors prescribed by the Minister;
- b) To review and identify any revisions related to which risk factors the municipality will treat as a priority to reduce;
- c) To review and identify any revisions related to strategies to reduce the prioritized risk factors, including providing new services, changing existing services, improving the integration of existing services or coordinating existing services in a different way;
- d) To review and identify any revisions related to measurable outcomes that the strategies are intended to produce;
- e) To address any other issues that may be prescribed by the Minister; and
- f) To produce a Plan that contains any other information that may be prescribed by the Minister

4. Composition

The Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee shall be composed of the following:

- a) Two (2) members of Council;
- b) A person who represents Ontario Health or an entity that provides services to improve the physical or mental health of individuals in the community;
- c) A person who represents an entity that provides educational services in the municipality;
- d) A person who represents an entity that provides community or social services in the municipality;

- e) A person who represents represent an entity that provides community or social services to children or youth in the municipality;
- f) A person who represents an entity that provides custodial services to children or youth in the municipality;
- g) A representative from the Barrie Police Services Board; and
- h) The Chief of Police or designate.

Note: a single individual may represent more than one of the required services

5. Term

Council and members of the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee shall be appointed for a term that coincides with the term of Council, expiring on November 14 of the year in which a municipal election is held unless otherwise provided by a resolution of City Council.

A member may resign from the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee at any time by advising of this intention in writing to the Chair of the Committee.

A member may be re-appointed by City Council for an additional term(s).

A member who is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without permission will be removed from the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee.

6. Meetings

The Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee meetings shall generally be scheduled monthly during the period of the review and any revisions to the Plan, and additional meetings may be scheduled at the call of the Chair. Once a plan is approved, Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee meetings may be scheduled semi-annually at the call of the Chair to report on the status of the Plan.

All meetings shall be open to the public in accordance with the City of Barrie's Procedural By-law and the Municipal Act. A meeting of the Committee may only be closed to the public, if the subject matter being considered meets the criteria established in Section 239 of the Municipal Act. The following are currently included as subject matters in Section 239 that may be discussed during a closed meeting:

- a) The security of the property of the City;
- b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City employees;
- c) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposal of land by the City;
- d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) Litigations or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the City;
- f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- g) A matter in respect of which the Committee or Council may hold a closed meeting under another Act.

- h) Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- i) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

7. Selection of the Chair and Vice-Chair

The selection of Chair shall be recommended by the Mayor. A Vice-Chair shall be selected at the first meeting.

8. Role of the Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chair shall preside over the meetings of the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee and assist in reaching a consensus on fundamental policy issues of concern. The Vice-Chair shall assume the authority and perform all the duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.

9. Roles and Responsibilities of Members

All members shall:

- a) Attend and actively participate in all meetings;
- b) Work with other members to attempt to reach a consensus on decisions before the Committee; and
- c) Adhere to the terms of reference, the City of Barrie's Procedural By-law, Purchasing By-law, the Council/Committee Code of Conduct, and any other by-laws, policies, or procedures that apply to the members.

10. Rules Governing the Proceedings of Council/Committee Meetings

The business of the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the City of Barrie's Procedural By-law.

11. Quorum

A quorum of the meeting shall be a majority of the members. The majority is defined as 50% plus one.

If the quorum for a Committee is not present within thirty (30) minutes of the time appointed for the meeting, the Committee Support Clerk shall record the names present and the meeting shall stand adjourned until the next scheduled meeting.

12. Voting

In accordance with the City of Barrie's Procedural By-law, when an issue arises, the members will attempt to reach a consensus on how to resolve the issue.

A question before the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee will be put to a vote and each member will be entitled to one vote.

A motion shall be carried when a majority of the members present and voting have expressed agreement with the question. Consequently, on a tie vote, the motion is lost.

13. Resources

Primary Staff

The staff resource for the Committee is the General Manager of Community and Corporate Services or designate.

A Committee Support Clerk is provided by the Legislative and Court Services Department. The Committee Support Clerk works with the Committee to co-ordinate the proceedings of the Committee, including the taking of minutes, the distribution of minutes and agendas and the general administrative coordination of meetings.

Advisory Staff

Staff shall provide advisory support to the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee, including background information, resources, and advice to members to assist them in their role.

From time to time, the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee may request the advice or participation (non-voting) of individuals or organizations/City Committees with a particular area of expertise. The Legislative Coordinator will coordinate the request through consultation with the Chair.

14. Application of the Code of Conduct

The Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee shall always follow the policies and procedures in the City of Barrie's Council/Committee Code of Conduct.

15. Other

Members must keep in mind that while they serve on the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee, it has specific goals and objectives, and the function is advisory in nature. The final decision on recommendations made will rest with City Council. City Council's responsibility is to the broad public and, as such, Council may consider other matters beyond those considered by the Community Safety and Well-being Plan Committee when making its final decision on the matter.