

Applying for Operational Areas Under the Children (Protection and Parental Responsibility) Act

Introduction

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) replaces the Children (Parental Responsibility) Act 1994. Part 3 of the Act provides for the removal of young people from public places by police. Such powers can only be exercised in a local government area, or part of a local government area, that has been declared as an operational area by the Attorney General.

Police in an operational area have the power to remove a young person when they believe, on reasonable grounds, that the young person:

- is not subject to the supervision or control of a responsible adult; and
- is in the public place in circumstances that place the person at risk.

A young person is considered at risk if:

- the person is in danger of being physically harmed or injured; or
- the person is in danger of abuse (including assault and sexual assault, ill treatment and exposure to behaviour that may cause psychological harm to the person); or
- the person is about to commit an offence.

The police officer can only do this when:

- the public place is in an operational area; and
- they believe, on reasonable grounds, that the young person is under the age of 16 years.

If it is possible or appropriate, the young person who is removed from a public place is taken, in the following order of preference, to:

- the home of a parent or carer of the person; or
- the home of a close relative they nominate.

If it is not possible or appropriate, they are placed in the care of:

- the Director-General of the Department of Community Services; or
- a person approved by the Director-General of the Department of Community Services.

Local councils can request the Attorney General to declare a local government area, or part thereof, to be an operational area under Part 3 of the Act. If the request is approved, local police will have the power to remove young people from a public place in the operational area, under the conditions outlined in this section.

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) also recognises the importance of locally based crime prevention activities. As a result, the Act promotes local crime prevention and crime prevention plans as key components in any local activity to reduce or prevent crime.

This will be achieved by:

- fostering community involvement in the development of local crime prevention plans, prepared on the initiative of local councils (with the assistance, at the request of the councils, of the Attorney General) for measures to be taken in the local area to reduce crime;
- establishing a means for the Attorney General's endorsement of local crime prevention plans as Safer Community Compacts; and
- assisting in the development of Safer Community Compacts, and of initiatives under Safer Community Compacts, through grants made by the Attorney General.

While the Act promotes the development of local crime prevention plans, councils can successfully apply for an operational area without having developed a local crime prevention plan or applied for a Safer Community Compact.

Traditionally we have relied upon the police and the justice system to prevent and reduce crime in the community. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that much of the work of the police and the criminal justice system is reactive, dealing with crime after the event. This does not mean that our police and law enforcement agencies are not doing a good job or that we need to simply increase resources. Rather it indicates that relying upon the criminal justice system as the only means of reducing crime is not effective. If we want to prevent crime and reduce its impact upon the community we have to intervene before it is committed.

There is ample research to indicate those factors which can contribute to the profiles of crime in the local community. These factors include: access to schooling and education; levels of employment and income; family

background; alcohol and other drug use; personal opportunities and incentives for crime; and other environmental factors.

Clearly most of these factors cannot be addressed solely by the criminal justice system. If communities want to prevent and reduce crime involving young (and other) people it is important to work together to address those factors which influence local crime.

Australian and overseas experience indicates that the most effective way to prevent crime locally is to develop detailed local crime profiles. When we are seeking to prevent crime we need to identify: the sites where crimes occur; the victims of crime; the circumstances or environments which encourage the occurrence of crime; the times of day when crimes occurs; and the incentives and opportunities for the commission of crime.

When we have good information about the circumstances in which crime occurs locally we can make good decisions about those activities which will minimise the influence of those circumstances and factors. No single organisation can focus upon all the factors which influence and contribute to local crime. Well targeted measures must focus on the range of factors and circumstances which influence the incidence of crime. Because of this, a range of stakeholders need to act co-operatively, together with the local community, to implement these measures. These agencies can include: the police service; health and community services; employment services; housing and accommodation services; schools; youth services; local government; community groups; and local business.

Partnerships need to be developed if we are to effectively reduce local crime. It is local people and local government that best understand local problems. As a representative body that co-ordinates a range of local services, local government is ideally placed to take a lead role in facilitating partnerships that encourage and support the development of a co-ordinated and systematic approach to local crime prevention.

Councils that have developed a local crime prevention plan can seek the Attorney General's endorsement of that plan as a Safer Community Compact. The development or finalisation of a Safer Community Compact enables councils to access the Safer Communities Development Fund (described below).

The process of seeking the Attorney General's endorsement of a local plan as a Safer Community Compact is different to the process of applying for an operational area. In addition, the Act does not require a local council to have a local crime prevention plan or Safer Community Compact before applying for an operational area. However, information about any local crime prevention initiatives or plans will lend significant support to an application for an operational area.

The Safer Communities Development Fund has been established to provide financial assistance to councils that have had their local crime prevention plans endorsed by the Attorney General as "Safer Community Compacts". Under this scheme councils will be able to apply to the Attorney General for funding to support the development and implementation of Safer Community Compacts.

The Attorney General is authorised to issue guidelines (such as Guide 1: "How to Develop Crime Prevention Plans") to assist local government in the development of local crime prevention plans. The Attorney General's Department's Crime Prevention Division can also provide information, advice and training to local government for the development of local crime prevention plans.

In addition to these strategies, a local community may consider it necessary to seek authorisation for police to have the powers to remove a young person (under the age of 16 years) from a public place. Such powers can only be exercised in a local government area, or part of a local government area, that has been declared as an operational area by the Attorney General.

Applying for an Operational Area

If you wish to have your Local Government Area, or part thereof, declared as an operational area you must prepare an application which includes information and supporting documentation about the following.

1. Local Consultation

You must demonstrate to the Attorney General that council has adequately informed and consulted with the local community, including young people and the Aboriginal community, about becoming an operational area. Information and supporting documentation that describes the consultation process and the outcomes of that process will assist your application.

2. The Extent and Nature of Crime in the Local Area

In considering the extent and nature of crime in the area, the Attorney General will principally rely on advice provided by the NSW Police Service. However councils can also inform the Attorney General about both council's and the community's perceptions of crime in the area. This information is best provided in the form of a crime profile report as described in the next section.

3. Nature of Local Crime Prevention Initiatives

Information and supporting documentation about any local crime prevention initiatives in your area should be provided. Any evidence that council has actively engaged existing resources, and initiated new strategies, in a co-ordinated manner that is likely to reduce those crimes that require the establishment of an operational area will assist your application.

In assessing the appropriateness of existing or new strategies the Attorney General will take into account the size and resources of a local council.

4. Nature of Local Youth Support Initiatives

Information and supporting documentation about any local youth support initiatives in your area should be provided. Any evidence that council has actively engaged existing resources, and initiated new strategies, in a co-ordinated manner that is likely to provide support and development opportunities for young people will assist your application.

In assessing the appropriateness of existing or new strategies the Attorney General will take into account the size and resources of a local council.

5. Complaints Monitoring

Complaints arising from the exercise of police powers under the Act will be dealt with by existing Police Service complaint mechanisms. However, councils may be required to monitor, identify and advise the Attorney General on trends in complaints relating to action taken in the operational area.

You should provide the Attorney General with information and supporting documentation about how the Council will monitor, identify and advise about trends in complaints relating to action taken in the local area.

6. Covering Letter

You should provide the Attorney General with a covering letter from the Mayor stating that your council wishes to have an operational area declared for the Local Government Area. This letter should specify whether an order for an operational area is being sought for all or part of the Local Government Area. The letter should include information about the council applying and nominate a contact person.

Applications should be sent to:

The NSW Attorney General
GPO Box 6
Sydney
NSW 2001

Working Towards an Operational Area

This section is designed to assist you in preparing a request to the Attorney General for an operational area.

Part 3 of the [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) provides for the removal of young people from public places by police. Such powers can only be exercised in a local government area, or part of a local government area, that has been declared as an operational area by the Attorney General.

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) requires the Attorney General to consider a number of issues before determining whether an operational area should be declared in a local government area, or a portion of a local government area. These issues include:

1. consultation with the local community;
2. the extent and nature of crime in the area;
3. the nature of crime prevention activities in the area;
4. the nature of youth support activities in the area; and
5. the monitoring of complaints in an operational area.

Councils are not required to establish a safe house or register of approved persons to cater for the needs of young people who are not able to be taken home. This is the responsibility of the Department of Community Services.

This section will provide you with background information about those issues which the Attorney General must consider and the actions you can take to provide adequate information in your application.

1. Consultation with the local community

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) says: "the Attorney General, when considering a request for the declaration of an operational area, will have regard to whether the council has adequately informed and consulted with the local community concerned including, young people and the Aboriginal community, and the views expressed." ([Section 14 \(4\)\(a\)](#))

Councils need to provide the Attorney General with sufficient information and documentation to demonstrate that all relevant sections of the community have been adequately consulted and informed about the Act and its operation. This can be achieved by describing:

- who has been informed and consulted in the local area; and
- how and why different sections of the community were supportive or unsupportive of the proposal for an operational area.

Who has been informed and consulted in the local area?

Councils should describe how people in the local community were informed about the [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act](#) and its operation. For example:

- articles in the local newspaper;
- community meetings;
- meetings with young people or youth sector representatives; or
- distribution of information from the Crime Prevention Division.

You should also describe how people in the local community were given an opportunity to comment on the advisability of having an operational area in the locality. For example:

- an invitation to present their views in written form to council;
- community meetings;
- distribution of a questionnaire requesting people's views about the establishment of an operational area.

You should describe which different groups or sections of the community (such as Aboriginal people, young people, non-English speaking background people, senior citizens or parents) have been consulted. You may also wish to describe different approaches that were used for particular groups. For example:

- documented discussions between a Police Specialist Youth Officer and young people;
- a questionnaire distributed to senior citizens;
- local Aboriginal community meetings;
- invitations to Parents and Citizens Association and/or the local Youth Advisory Council to provide a written response.

How and why were different sections of the community supportive or unsupportive of the proposal for an operational area?

The evidence, arguments and information put forward in support of an operational area by the different parts of the community should be provided in summarised form. Similarly the evidence, arguments and information put forward by those members of the community who did not support the creation of an operational area should be provided in a concise and summarised form. Include information about which sections of the community were supportive or non supportive of the proposal.

You may wish to discuss procedures you are planning to put in place to address disagreement about the creation of an operational area, such as a local evaluation of the impact of an operational area, the development of a crime prevention plan to address the causes of crime, etc.

Supporting documentation of your consultation with the local community may include:

- copies of any public notices regarding council's intention to apply for an operational area or copies of any articles published in local newspapers that inform the public about the council's intention to apply for an operational area;
- copies or summaries of the submissions received by Council in regard to the establishment of an operational area;
- records of meetings convened or letters received in regard to the establishment of an operational area or records of consultations with young people, the Aboriginal community and other specific local groups; and
- copies of any council resolutions in regard to the resolution of local conflict about the declaration of an operational area.

(NB. An application does not need to include all of this documentation.)

2. The extent and nature of crime in the area

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) says: "that the Attorney General, when considering a request for the declaration of an operational area, will have regard to the extent and nature of crime in the area." ([Section 14 \(4\)\(b\)](#))

In considering the extent and nature of crime in the area, the Attorney General will seek advice from the NSW Police Service. Such advice will be based on recorded criminal incidents in a particular area and police intelligence about crime in a particular area. Although the Attorney General will principally rely upon this advice, councils should also inform the Attorney General about council and community perceptions of the extent and nature of crime in the area. In providing such advice, a local council may wish to liaise with local or regional patrol commanders.

In providing this information councils should seek to provide information about local knowledge and perceptions of crime. This should be provided in the form of a crime profile report. A crime profile report should provide the following information in the format provided below.

Content of a crime profile report

1. Description of area (demographics, trends)
2. The local crime problem: ? recorded crime statistics (inc. rates for different crimes, trends over past two years, maps, hotspots and times) ? incidents of anti-social behaviour, disorder (recorded as incidents to which police are called rather than recorded as crimes) ? relative severity of crime problems compared to other areas (State average, other similar areas) ? crime information from any non-police sources (Local Council, Housing Department, Business organisations) ? impacts and costs of crime (estimated costs, impacts on residents, agencies, businesses) ? information about offenders (age, residence, risk factors linked to offending) ? results of consultations with residents, young people, businesses
3. Review of adequacy of current measures to prevent crime (mainstream services & crime prevention projects)
4. Summary and recommendations: priority issues and descriptions of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the sites where crimes occur • the victims of crime • the circumstances or environments which encourage the occurrence of crime • the time of days when crimes occur • the incentives and opportunities for the commission of crime

There are a number of sources of this information including:

- community crime surveys;
- consultation meetings or focus groups about crime in the local community;
- self completed questionnaires or telephone surveys; and
- safety audits or local mapping exercises.

For more information about how to determine and document the extent and nature of crime in the local area, refer to pages 11 - 13 of Guide 1: "How to Develop Local Crime Prevention Plans". This will provide you with a guide to the sources of information which can be accessed when developing a crime profile report.

3. The nature of crime prevention initiatives in the area

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) says: "The Attorney General, when considering a request for the declaration of an operational area, will have regard to the nature of any crime prevention initiatives that have been undertaken in the area; including whether any local crime prevention plan or safer community compact is in force for the area, or is in the process of being prepared by the council for the area, and the contents or proposed contents of that plan or compact." ([Section 14 \(4\)\(c\)](#)) "The Attorney General must not make an order declaring an area to be an operational area unless the Attorney General is satisfied that adequate crime prevention initiatives will be available in the area before the order takes effect." ([Section 14 \(3\)](#))

You should provide the Attorney General with information about local crime prevention initiatives in your local area and demonstrate how council has actively engaged existing resources, and initiated new strategies, in a co-ordinated manner that is likely to reduce those crimes that require the establishment of an operational area. Any strategies that have been engaged in a co-ordinated manner to prevent juvenile crime, should be documented. In assessing the appropriateness of these strategies the Attorney General will take into account the size and resources of a local council.

Your supporting documentation should include:

- documentation of current local activities that have been developed to prevent or reduce juvenile crime;
- documentation of any process that has been developed to produce a Local Crime Prevention Plan; and
- a copy of a Local Crime Prevention Plan (if developed).

Documentation of local juvenile crime prevention activities

There is a range of resources and services provided by government and non government agencies that can be employed to reduce and prevent crime. You should list those resources that are available locally.

These resources may include:

- activities that assist young people to remain in school, including literacy programs, home school liaison officer services and after school programs;
- activities which assist the police to work effectively with young people such as "Adopt a Cop" programs, Crime Prevention Workshops and other activities undertaken by Police Officers or Police and Community Youth Clubs;

- activities which support and develop particular sectors of the community, such as Aboriginal community development or non-English speaking background community development;
- activities which reduce the misuse of alcohol and other drugs by young people such as counselling or treatment services, drug education activities (school or community based), community based health promotion activities such as local “Drink Drunk the Difference is U” projects, parent education programs or programs to enhance young people’s capacity to make sensible choices about alcohol and other drug use such as the “Home Safely” Program;
- activities which reduce young people’s access to alcohol including Responsible Server Training for licensed premises and community action under “Peace and Good Order of the Neighbourhood” Provisions of the NSW Liquor Act;
- activities which support families to function more effectively including parent effectiveness training and support services for families;
- activities that reduce conflict and violence involving young people such as conflict resolution training, mediation services, school anti bullying programs, anti-violence education and other school based projects;
- youth support services (described in the following section); and
- programs that enhance the security and surveillance of public areas such as Neighbourhood Watch, Safety Audits, open space planning and management practices or Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design strategies.

You should provide the Attorney General with information about how you are using your available crime prevention resources, or intending to use your available resources, to address those problems that require the establishment of an operational area.

We know from Australian and overseas experience that successful crime prevention programs involve the employment of a number of different strategies to tackle the various factors which contribute to a local crime problem. You should inform the Attorney General of those resources and activities you are employing to tackle a particular problem.

For example: You may wish to describe how the activities of police youth liaison officers, home school liaison officers, drug and alcohol education, Neighbourhood Watch and family support services are being employed in a co-ordinated manner to reduce anti social behaviour in your town centre.

Another community may have a different set of problems which require the employment of different strategies to address those problems. That community’s solution may require the provision of Police and Community Youth Club services, the establishment of a Night Patrol, the development of vocational training opportunities for young people and action to reduce the availability of alcohol to young people.

You may also determine that your council or other agencies will need to provide additional services to prevent crime locally. You should inform the Attorney General of your intention to develop and implement such services to address crime involving young people.

The local crime prevention plan

If the local council has already developed a crime prevention plan you can:

- provide a copy of that plan to the Attorney General;
- describe how it was developed;
- describe how it is being implemented; and
- describe what has been achieved by the plan.

Development of a local crime prevention plan

In addition to any local crime prevention activities that you have described your council may be intending to develop a local crime prevention plan. There are a number of steps that most communities go through to develop a local crime prevention plan. These are described in Guide 1: “How to Develop Local Crime Prevention Plans”.

Your supporting documentation about the development of a local crime prevention plan can include some of the following:

- an inventory of local resources that can be employed to prevent or reduce juvenile crime;
- copies of any council resolutions to develop and implement a local crime prevention plan or seek endorsement of a plan as a Safer Community Compact in accordance with guidelines issued by the Attorney General; and
- documentation of any process and/or committee that has been established to produce a Local Crime Prevention Plan that conforms with guidelines issued by the Attorney General.

4. The nature of youth support initiatives in the area

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) says: “the Attorney General, when considering a request for the declaration of an operational area, will have regard to the nature of any youth support initiatives

that have been undertaken in the area; including whether any local crime prevention plan or safer community compact is in force for the area, or is in the process of being prepared by the council for the area, and the contents or proposed contents of that plan or compact.” ([Section 14 \(4\)\(c\)](#)) “The Attorney General must have regard to the effect of making a declaration on young people in the area, including the availability of safe and appropriate recreational activities for young people in the area.” ([Section 14\(4\)\(d\)](#)) “The Attorney General must have regard to whether the council has undertaken steps to include young people’s needs in its local planning processes. ([Section 14\(4\)\(g\)](#)) “The Attorney General must not make an order declaring an area to be an operational area unless the Attorney General is satisfied that adequate youth support initiatives will be available in the area before the order takes effect. ([Section 14 \(3\)](#))

You can provide the Attorney General with information about local youth initiatives in your local area and demonstrate how council has engaged existing resources and initiated new strategies in a co-ordinated manner that is likely to provide support and development opportunities for young people in the area. Any activities that have been engaged in a co-ordinated manner to support young people, should be documented. These activities may be designed to fulfil the requirements of the Act as outlined in the preceding paragraph.

In assessing the appropriateness of these strategies the Attorney General will take into account the size and resources of a local council.

Your supporting documentation can include:

- documentation of current local activities that have been developed to provide recreational, educational, developmental or employment opportunities for young people;
- documentation of any process that has been developed to produce a local youth plan; or
- a copy of a local youth plan (if developed).

Documentation of local youth support activities

There is a range of resources and services provided by government and non government agencies that can be employed to support young people. You can list those resources that are available locally. These resources may include:

- local youth workers; youth services or street based youth services;
- activities that assist young people to remain in school including literacy programs, home school liaison officer services and after school programs;
- activities which assist young people to gain employment including access to vocational training, the establishment of traineeships and apprenticeships for young people and work experience opportunities;
- activities which provide young people with opportunities to contribute to decisions which affect them and the local community including the establishment of local council youth advisory committees or the development of a planning process which consults young people and involves them in a variety of planning decisions;
- services which provide accommodation for young people;
- services which provide youth counselling, family counselling or family support services;
- activities which support the development of young people’s decision making skills, self esteem or living skills including mentoring programs, Big Brother/Sister programs, wilderness or similar programs and independent living skills programs; and
- activities which provide a variety of different recreational, civic or sporting opportunities for young people including Police and Community Youth Club activities, sport and recreation programs, youth clubs and youth action panels.

You should provide the Attorney General with information about how you are using your available youth support resources, or intending to use your available resources, to address those problems that require the establishment of an operational area.

We know from Australian and overseas experience that successful youth programs involve the employment of a number of different strategies to tackle the various factors which contribute to problems facing young people in a particular community. You should inform the Attorney General of those resources and activities you are employing to tackle a particular problem.

For example: You may wish to describe how the implementation of a work experience program sponsored by local business, the establishment of a Council sponsored youth advisory committee, the creation of sporting and recreational program and the provision of an intensive mentoring program is assisting young people to increase their self esteem and enhance their employability.

Another community may have different set of problems which require the employment of different strategies to address those problems. That community’s solution may require the provision of a living skills program, the establishment of apprenticeships for young people by council, the creation of a school based youth action panel and the implementation of a wilderness camping program.

You may also determine that the local council or other agencies will need to provide additional services to support youth locally. You should inform the Attorney General of your intention to develop and implement such services to provide ongoing support for young people.

The local youth plan

The Act does not require the development or implementation of a youth plan for a successful application for an operational area. However the Act does require the Attorney General to have regard to: whether there are adequate youth support initiatives in the local area; the availability of safe and appropriate recreational activities for young people in the area; and whether council has undertaken steps to include young people's needs in its local planning processes. A youth plan can be a simple way of addressing these issues.

If the local council has already developed a youth plan you should:

- provide a copy of that plan to the Attorney General;
- describe how it was developed;
- describe how it is being implemented; and
- describe what has been achieved by the plan.

Development of a local youth plan

In addition to any local youth activities that you nominate your council may be intending to develop a local youth plan. Your supporting documentation about the nature of local youth support initiatives in the area can include some of the following:

- documentation of current local activities that have been developed to provide recreational, educational, developmental, employment or civic opportunities for young people;
- an inventory of local resources that can be employed to support young people and provide opportunities for young people's development;
- recreational opportunities that are available for young people in the local area (particularly at those times and in those locations that require the establishment of an operational area);
- records of any other council activities which ensure that young people's needs are addressed through local planning processes including any terms of reference and membership of any local youth council or advisory committee; or
- documentation of any council resolutions, process or committee to develop or implement a local youth plan including a copy of a local youth plan (if developed). (As stated above, a local youth plan is not required for an application for an operational area to be successful.)

5. Monitoring of complaints in operational areas

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) says: "the council of an area or portion of an area that is declared to be an operational area or for which a safer community compact is in force is, if requested to do so by the Attorney General, to monitor, identify and advise the Attorney General on trends in complaints relating to action taken in the operational area under this Act or under the compact". ([Section 44](#))

Councils need to provide the Attorney General with information about how they intend to monitor, identify and advise the Attorney General on trends in complaints relating to action taken in the operational area. In providing this information councils may choose to:

- request an existing council committee to monitor trends in relation to action taken in the operational area;
- establish a formal means of liaising with local police;
- consult with the local community about action taken in the operational area;
- inform young people about the operational area and actively seek feedback from young people who may be affected by the Act; or
- maintain a register of complaints relating to action taken in the operational area.

Other matters for consideration

The [Children \(Protection and Parental Responsibility\) Act 1997](#) says: the Attorney General is to have regard to the following:

- advice given by the Commissioner of Police relating to the operational capacity of police to carry out functions relating to the removal of young people from public places in the area; ([Section 14 \(4\)\(e\)](#)) and
- whether appropriate arrangements have been made, or are able to be made, to cater for the needs of young people who are removed from public places in the area and who are not able to be taken home, including culturally appropriate arrangements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. ([Section 14 \(4\)\(f\)](#))

The Attorney General is to consult with the Minister for Community Services and the Minister for Police before declaring an area (or a portion of an area) to be an operational area. ([Section 14\(5\)](#))

Councils are not required to demonstrate the operational capacity of police to carry out functions under this Act in the area. This is the responsibility of the NSW Police Service. Councils are not required to establish a safe house

or register of approved persons to cater for the needs of young people who are not able to be taken home. This is the responsibility of the [Department of Community Services](#).

Checklist for an Operational Area Application

When you have completed your application you should ensure that you have provided information, which sufficiently addresses the six areas previously discussed. Following is a checklist to ensure that you have the required supporting documentation. Your application should include:

	A covering letter which includes information about the council and a contact person
	Information and supporting documentation about how the community was informed and consulted about council's intention to apply for an operational area and any feedback received from the local community in regard to council's intention to apply for an operational area
	A crime profile report
	Documentation of current local activities that have been developed to prevent or reduce juvenile crime
	Documentation of any process and/or committee that has been established to produce a Local Crime Prevention Plan or seek endorsement of that plan as a Safer Community Compact
	A copy of a Local Crime Prevention Plan (if developed)
	Documentation of current local activities that have been developed to provide recreational, educational, developmental, employment or civic opportunities for young people
	Documentation of any process and/or committee that has been established to produce a local youth plan or a copy of the plan (if developed)
	Records of any other Council activities that ensure that young people's needs and views are addressed through local planning processes
	Information and supporting documentation about how the council will monitor, identify and advise the Attorney General on trends in complaints relating to action taken in the operational area

Provision of the above information will support your application for an operational area. However you do not have to provide all of the above information to make an application.

Declaration and Revocation of Orders for an Operational Area

An order declaring an area or portion of an area to be an operational area takes effect on the day specified in the order. That day must be later than the date that the order is published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulating generally in the area.

Unless it is revoked the declaration of an operational area remains in force for the period specified in the order.

The declaration of an area as an operational area does not prevent the declaration of further portions of the same area as operational areas.

The Attorney General may, by order, amend or revoke an order declaring an area to be an operational area. Such an order may be made at the request of the council for the area or on the Attorney General's own initiative.

The Attorney General is to consult with the Minister for Community Services and the Minister for Police before revoking or amending an order declaring an area to be an operational area.

As soon as possible after amending or revoking an order declaring an area to be an operational area the Attorney General will publish a copy of the relevant order in the Gazette and a newspaper circulating generally in the area.