



## Community Safety & Well-Being Plan F.A.Q

### What is Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Planning

- An integrated approach to service delivery by working across a wide range of sectors, agencies and organizations to proactively develop and implement evidence-based strategies and programs to address local priorities related to crime and complex social issues on a sustainable basis.
- The implementation of CSWB plans will mark a shift in focus from a reactive, response-based approach to incidents to a more proactive, holistic approach to community safety. The direct result of this shift will see a reduction in pressures on first responders, as the CSWB plan will focus on social development, prevention, risk intervention and incident response.
- More detailed information is available in the [Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Service's CSWB framework\(External link\)](#).

### Why are we doing a CSWB Plan?

The *Safer Ontario Act, 2018*, requires that Ontario's single-tier and regional municipalities prepare and adopt a community safety and well-being plan. The County of Brant must prepare a draft Community Safety and Well-being Plan and seek Council approval before January 1, 2021.

The County of Brant's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan will enhance how we collaborate with community partners, strengthen relationships and look to strengthen how we collectively coordinate services on issues related to safety and well-being.

### What are the benefits of CSWB planning?

CSWB planning has a wide-range of positive impacts for local agencies/organizations and frontline service providers, as well as the broader community, including the general public. A few key benefits are highlighted below:

- Enhanced communication and collaboration among sectors, agencies and organizations;
- Transformation of service delivery, including realignment of resources and responsibilities to better respond to priorities and needs;

- Increased understanding of and focus on local risks and vulnerable groups;
- Ensuring the appropriate services are provided to those individuals with complex needs;
- Increased awareness, coordination of and access to services for community members and vulnerable groups;
- Healthier, more productive individuals that positively contribute to the community; and
- Reducing the financial burden of crime on society through cost-effective approaches with significant return on investments.

## **How is the County of Brant developing their CSWB Plan?**

The County is being guided by the Province's Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Framework.

### **Timeline**

#### **Fall 2019: Identify Risk Factors**

The Province defined risk factors as negative characteristics and/or conditions present in individuals, families, communities, or society that may increase social disorder, crime or fear of crime, or the likelihood of harm or victimization to persons or property in a community. We have used the Provincial Framework's definition of risks, along with the Ministry's list of risk and protective factors, to assist with the identification of risks and consulted with local stakeholder organizations to prioritize them.

#### **Spring 2020: Engage the Community & Data Analysis**

#### **Summer 2020: Develop the CSWB Plan**

#### **Fall 2020: Approve the CSWB Plan**

### **Why is the CSWB Plan being created?**

The implementation of CSWB plans will mark a shift in focus from a reactive, response-based approach to incidents to a more proactive, holistic approach to community safety. The direct result of this shift will see a reduction in pressures on first responders, as the CSWB plan will focus on social development, prevention, risk intervention and incident response.

### **What are the requirements for the CSWB planning process?**

A CSWB plan must include the following core information:

- Local priority risk factors that have been identified based on community consultations and multiple sources of data, such as Statistics Canada and local sector-specific data;
- Evidence-based programs and strategies to address those priority risk factors; and

- Measurable outcomes with associated performance measures to ensure that the strategies are effective and outcomes are being achieved.

### **Who is leading this work?**

The County of Brant has been designated to lead a collaborative planning process with an Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee brings various sectors' perspectives together to provide strategic advice and direction to the municipality on the development and implementation of the CSWB Plan.

### **Advisory Committee Membership**

County of Brant

Brant County O.P.P

County of Brant Public Library

Brant County Health Unit

St. Leonard's Community Services

County of Brant Council

Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board

City of Brantford – Ontario Works Program

Ontario Disability Support Program

### **Why is the Government of Ontario mandating CSWB planning to the municipality?**

CSWB planning is being mandated to municipalities to ensure a proactive and integrated approach to address local crime and complex social issues on a sustainable basis. Municipalities will have a leadership role in identifying their local priority risks in the community and addressing these risks through evidence-based programs and strategies, focusing on social development, prevention and risk intervention.

It is important to remember that while the municipality is designated the lead of CSWB planning, developing and implementing a CSWB plan requires engagement from all sectors.

## **What is the goal of the CSWB planning process?**

To achieve the ideal state of a sustainable community where everyone is safe, has a sense of belonging, access to services and where individuals and families are able to meet their needs for education, health care, food, housing, income, and social and cultural expression.

## **How will community input be used?**

- Insights and ideas shared by community members will inform the content of the plan and help identify any potential gaps.
- Input will help build the strategies and actions for the plan.

Note: Any identifying information will be removed through the data analysis process. Individual responses will not be shared. Responses will be combined to report statistics and/or common themes.