



New South Wales Delfin Lend Lease Master Planned Safe Communities

Safe Communities is a call for action. Action is certainly required to address the injury burden. Injury is the leading cause of death in people younger than 45 years across Australia and in New South Wales (NSW). On average 8,000 Australians die from injury each year, with the NSW figures equating to an average of nine injury deaths each day. Injuries also result in around half a million episodes of in-patient hospital care each year in Australia with an average of just under 3,000 episodes per week throughout NSW.

On the 4th June, 2010 the New South Wales Delfin Lend Lease (DLL) master planned communities of **Bingara Gorge, Nelsons Ridge, Ropes Crossing** and **The New Rouse Hill** were accredited by Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ) as Pacific Safe Communities. To be accredited, DLL on behalf of its master planned communities submitted a written application addressing six criteria, received site visits from independent and trained reviewers, and was subject to an international peer-review. Briefly, the six criteria for designation involve the need to demonstrate: leadership and collaboration; programme reach; priority setting; evaluation; and effective communication and networking.



Being designated as a Safe Community (SC) does not mean that a community is perfectly safe, but rather that a community has systems and processes in place to address safety issues. SC accreditation by the SCFNZ formalises DLL's commitment to doing all they can to create the safest possible communities for those who live, work or visit their master planned communities. The review team was particularly impressed with the way in which the project teams work within their communities to identify and work with an appropriate local group of stakeholders that are able to provide ongoing support to building social capital and improving safety and security.

At local levels, the project teams have involved the participation of more than 60 organisations including local government, law enforcement, healthcare, emergency response and fire protection, traffic safety, schools, not-for profit organisations, neighbourhood associations and the private sector. Efforts to enhance collaboration and establish partnership models was well demonstrated during the application review and site visits.



Having a business take the lead in supporting communities to achieve the criteria for SC designation reflects the recognition of the changing shape of communities and the diverse ways in which they can achieve sustainable community safety outcomes. The site visit review team was pleased to observe first hand the strong level of collaboration that is occurring between the four master planned communities of Bingara Gorge, Nelsons Ridge, Ropes Crossing, the New Rouse Hill and the local Councils. DLL staff work comprehensively with Council staff to ensure residents and infrastructure are not only safe but are responsive to local needs.

Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ)

Hurstmere House, Suite 5A, 128 Hurstmere Road, Takapuna, PO Box 331399, Takapuna, North Shore 0740, New Zealand.

Tel: +64 9 488 7601 Fax: +64 9 488 7602 Email: contact@scfnz.org Web: www.safecommunities.org.nz

SCFNZ is an: Accrediting Centre for the Pacific Safe Community Programme &

ISC Certifying Centre & Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion.

Collectively across the four communities of **Bingara Gorge, Nelsons Ridge, Ropes Crossing** and **The New Rouse Hill**, 49 safety initiatives including child safety, home safety, road safety (especially pedestrian and cycle safety), elderly safety, workplace safety, water safety, personal safety, fire safety, disaster preparedness and response, are effectively operating. In addition to specific initiatives, all four master-planned communities have a number of communication and community engagement mechanisms that are implemented to ensure that all stakeholders (including local residents) are continually aware of safety issues and the various programmes and activities available to enhance individual, group and community safety.



Four particular strengths of these communities are: 1) the Risk and Opportunity at Design reviews which are conducted to assess their programmes, processes and the effects of change at each of the four master-planned communities; 2) the integration of workplace and community safety; 3) the comprehensive range of child safety initiatives; and 4) the large number of safe recreational, leisure and networking opportunities that exists for residents and visitors.

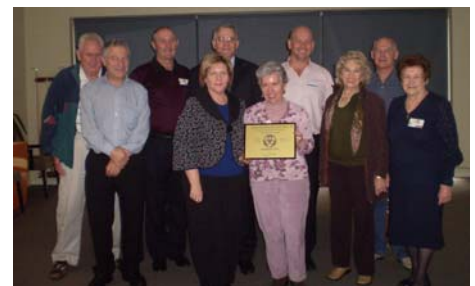


It has long been promoted that safety is good for business and community. Importantly, while DLL has facilitated this accreditation, it is owned by members of the community as everyone works together to improve safety and social capital. For example, Nelsons Ridge as a mixed use development has adopted good design principles to ensure that the 40 odd hectares of open space are accessible and safe for recreational active living. The Nelsons Grove retirement village is also a good example of encouraging mature residents to remain active and safe. At the New Rouse Hill the review team were particularly impressed with the safety features associated with the Town Centre, the effective use of the Green Travel Club and the Youth Engagement Strategy. At Bingara Gorge we observed the Kidsafe Display Home, and a comprehensive range of disaster preparedness and response initiatives. At Ropes Crossing, in addition to the considerable safety by design and fire safety initiatives, the review team were impressed by the comprehensive of safety initiatives for mature residents, including those living at the Rochford Place Retirement Village.

This designation was led by Dr Carolyn Coggan in her capacity as Director of Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand. SCFNZ encourages communities to view their accreditation as Pacific Safe Communities as a stepping-stone to International Safe Community (ISC) designation. This is already occurring within these four master-planned communities, for example, the DLL project team at Ropes Crossing is supportive of the pending application by Blacktown City Council for ISC designation.



Further information on the Pacific Safe Community application can be found at the SCFNZ web site www.safecommunities.org.nz/sc/nswdll



Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ)

Hurstmere House, Suite 5A, 128 Hurstmere Road, Takapuna, PO Box 331399, Takapuna, North Shore 0740, New Zealand.

Tel: +64 9 488 7601 Fax: +64 9 488 7602 Email: contact@scfnz.org Web: www.safecommunities.org.nz

SCFNZ is an: Accrediting Centre for the Pacific Safe Community Programme &

ISC Certifying Centre & Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion.