Preventing Violent Crime

Community harmony, crime prevention through environmental design and intelligence led policing are just a handful of topics to be discussed at a two day workshop on crime prevention this week.

Reducing Violence – A Crime Prevention Forum is a meeting of Regional and Indigenous Crime Prevention Councils and relevant non-government organisations. There will be discussions on a wide range of issues, looking at the big picture of preventing violent crime in the community.

The forum was officially opened today by Justice Minister Dr Peter Toyne.

“It’s heartening to see all these bodies coming together to share information on crime prevention strategies to reduce violence in our community,” Dr Toyne said.

“There were 4% less reported assaults in the Northern Territory in the 12 months to 30 June 2004 compared to the 12 months ending 30 June 2003 .

“But there are still too many assaults.

“The forum will discuss many important issues surrounding violence in our community and showcase the work being done by our Crime Prevention Councils across the Territory.

“It is a great example of government and the community working in partnership on these vital issues.”

The forum is an initiative of the Building Safer Communities framework for crime prevention and community safety, and is being hosted by the Office of Crime Prevention in partnership with NT Police.

The keynote address will be by Dr Judy Putt, Research Manager, from the Australian Institute of Criminology.

Dr Putt specialises in Indigenous justice, drugs and crime and crime prevention.

She is currently managing a national project, Policing Implications of Illicit Drug Use in Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Communities.