Northern Territory projects have been honoured in the 2004 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards.

Minister for Justice Dr Peter Toyne congratulated the two Territory initiatives recognised in the national awards.

Mission Australia’s Darwin Youth Beat received $3000 and a Certificate of Merit and the Wagaman Residents Group received $1000 and a Certificate of Merit for its Amsterdam Circuit Trial Laneway Closures.

“These two projects show what can be done when the community works together to tackle local crime issues,” Dr Toyne said.

“One of the main areas of the recently launched Building Safer Communities – A Framework for Crime Prevention and Community Safety is getting everyone involved in preventing crime and violence.


The Department of Justice’s Office of Crime Prevention is a member of the awards committee.

“Darwin Youth Beat is a mobile outreach service employing four youth workers and a co-ordinator who engage with young people where they gather in the community.

“The youth workers operate from vehicles through Darwin’s northern suburbs between 4pm and 4am.

“They assist with crisis referrals, safety escorts, reconnection between young people and families and offer advice on employment and education.

“This is a nuts and bolts service that doesn’t wait for young people to come and get help, it delivers the help to them.”

“Last year about there were about 7000 contacts with young people, with 150 people using the service on a regular basis,” Dr Toyne added.

“The Amsterdam Circuit Trial Laneway Closures were started by the Wagaman Residents Group to curb anti-social behaviour and reduce crime in the suburb.

“The trial closure of the three laneways saw a marked reduction in the number of incidents in the surrounding areas and has now become permanent.

“The project was supported with a grant from the Crime Prevention NT
Community Grant Scheme for funding the installation of lighting at Amsterdam Park.

The Northern Territory Government supports crime initiatives through a $400,000 annual crime prevention scheme.

Dr Toyne handed representatives from the two winning Territory entrants their 2004 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards at an official ceremony at Parliament House.