The people of Yuendemu have welcomed a delegation of Federal politicians who want to learn how the community has tackled local problems with local solutions.

Minister for Justice Dr Peter Toyne who also met the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit - which is inquiring into Indigenous Law and Justice said it’s an example of the Territory and Commonwealth working together.

“The Commonwealth representatives were eager to see the progress being made at Yuendemu – and how its initiatives could be used in other communities,” Dr Toyne said.

“Yuendemu has made significant inroads into substance abuse and violence through crime prevention initiatives – it’s been all about tackling the causes of crime.

“The Kurduju Regional Crime Prevention Committee has led the way following its formation by the Aboriginal Law and Justice Committees of Ali Curung, Lajamanu and Yuendumu.

“This Committee, the Territory’s first indigenous crime prevention regional council has encouraged community-based decision making and crime prevention measures targetted at local communities.

“This has included community patrols – men’s and women’s, which help to reduce alcohol abuse, petrol sniffing and property disputes between families.

“The Yuendemu community has much to be proud of through its record of crime prevention and the Northern Territory Government will continue to work with the community and support the endeavours of the Kurduju Committee,” Dr Toyne said.

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