Minister for Justice Dr Peter Toyne has urged community groups to apply for funding available under the $400,000 2004/5 round of the NT Crime Prevention Grant Scheme.

“It is extremely pleasing to fund these worthwhile crime prevention initiatives across the Territory,” Dr Toyne said.

The Crime Prevention NT Grant Scheme is composed of:

- $120,000 to fund small grants to community organisations for innovative one-off crime prevention programs that contribute to community safety
- $100,000 to support Regional Crime Prevention Councils and fund regional crime strategies
- $180,000 to fund targeted crime prevention projects developed through community and government partnerships.

Regional Crime Prevention Councils and local prevention councils have already received funding for locally based crime prevention projects that include development of crime prevention strategies and community and safety plans, anti-graffiti projects, and the development of a pilot early intervention project for families with children aged under five.

Several Indigenous Regional Crime Prevention Councils have also been established or recognised, and have received grant funding to develop innovative, culturally appropriate solutions to law and justice issues experienced in their communities.

Dr Toyne said Regional and Indigenous Regional Crime Prevention Councils and local crime prevention groups are playing vital role in keeping our communities safe and developing innovative local solutions.

“They ensure that Government remains in touch with community safety issues in regions and communities are being provided with funding to address those problems with the benefit of local knowledge,” Dr Toyne said.

“This Government recognises that to prevent crime, the causes of crime must be tackled.”

Applications for this round of funding will be accepted from 1 July this year. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the Office of Crime Prevention to discuss project proposals on 8999 6274. Funding proposals for targeted grants over $15,000 require an expression of interest due 22 July 2004. The closing date for all applications is 2 September 2004.

Grant application forms and guidelines are available from the Office of