

## **Revised Brief: CCTV Working Group**

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### **Background**

The following objective was adopted as part of Council's 2013/14 Operational Plan: C5a, Investigate options to develop closed circuit TV in key Waverley locations, and report to the Community Safety Advisory Committee by November 2013.

In early December 2013, Council's Community Safety Advisory Committee considered a draft report on CCTV as a mechanism for the prevention and investigation of crime, including: a summary of relevant laws, review of the research literature on effectiveness, overview of what other councils are doing, and overview of the systems available and their costs.

Many of the questions that arose during discussion related to the technology now available, and the interaction between law, crime prevention, and technical capability. The Committee resolved to establish a working group to investigate the CCTV further and report back.

### **Proposed Brief**

As indicated by the discussion at the Community Safety Advisory Committee meeting, the questions to be addressed by the Working Group contain a raft of interacting variables. To contain the scale of the investigation, and ensure it delivers useful information, is proposed that the working group approaches its work through exploration of three specific scenarios, and reports back to the Committee on:

- **Crime prevention/ detection**  
What aims would the installation of CCTV have in that scenario? How would CCTV interact with other crime prevention strategies in place? What would be the minimum requirements of video evidence to deter or apprehend perpetrators – what do we want CCTV to achieve there?
- **Technology**  
What technology is available that would maximise crime deterrence or apprehension? What supports are needed to ensure its benefit is achieved? How much would it cost to install, operate, and maintain?
- **Public Perception**  
What is the balance for users of public open space between feeling safer and feeling watched?
- **System Sharing**  
What opportunities exist for sharing of assets and costs between organisations, including private business? What are appropriate mechanisms for including different agencies? What are the legal implications and what are the governance mechanisms that need to be put in place? What have other agencies that utilise CCTV learned from their experience that they can share – include: Bus/ Rail interchange; Westfield; pubs and clubs.

### **Proposed Scenarios**

1. Management of crime and anti-social behaviour in public open space at peak times or when a crime spike has been identified eg: beach theft (summer); drunken parties (summer); break and enter motor vehicle (periodic different locations); theft of bicycles (periodic different locations); hot spot for rubbish dumping (periodic different locations); setting fires (common in Parks summer)
2. Aid to identification of perpetrators of serious crime such as assault on the street – investigate fixed system for a street or streets in Bondi Junction or Bondi Beach

3. Deterrent to vandalism of public assets and other anti-social behaviour in locations that are isolated at night eg new facilities at Waverley Park; and existing facilities that are often vandalised, such as bush care sites.

### **Membership**

Invite representation from:

Community – Ron Nothman, Community Representative, CSAC has volunteered  
Waverley Local Area Command  
Events and Business Development Division  
Public Works – Resource Recovery  
Business Services and Property.  
Compliance Division

### **Objective:**

To prepare a brief report for the Community Safety Advisory Committee for each of at least three identified locations representing one of the scenarios specified, and containing:

- Evidence of value of crime prevention/ detection – evidence of crime at that location; nature of crime; description of other crime prevention strategies in place
- What technology is available that would maximise crime deterrence or apprehension? What supports are needed at that location to ensure benefits are achieved (eg lighting). How much would it cost to install operate and maintain?
- What are the governance requirements for implementation of this strategy?
- What is the balance for users of this space between feeling safer and feeling watched?

### **Proposed that Process for Working Group should include:**

- A consultancy to provide the working group with the technical expertise required to enable recommendations about appropriate CCTV technology, and an estimate of the cost
- Meet and undertake site visits as necessary to develop a brief for expert advice on the technical questions – what technology is available in the market, what can it do, what does it need to work well?
- Arrange a meeting with other agencies using CCTV in the area to discuss what they have learned from their experience of using CCTV, and whether they identify any issues, gaps or potential improvements.