

## 16. SECURITY CAMERAS FOR NEW BRIGHTON

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The purpose of this report is to request, on behalf of the New Brighton Commercial Ratepayers' and Retailers' Association Inc, approval for the installation of security cameras to cover the New Brighton Mall and areas adjacent to the New Brighton Library. Approval of the siting of the cameras is required from the Council. The Board is requested to contribute to the cost of the cameras.

The Association has sought the Board's support in the funding of four cameras in the area of the Library building and the clocktower at the Library entrance.

### BACKGROUND

The Association has taken the initiative and installed four security cameras under verandahs in the New Brighton Mall. Installation of the four cameras has been funded by the Association to the extent of approximately \$10,000.

The Association has now proposed that four additional security cameras be installed to cover the areas to the north, west and south of the Library building (see plan attached).

### COUNCIL APPROVALS

The Legal Services and Secretariat Services section has advised that the installation and operation of security cameras in the verandahs, over walkways and at the foreshore requires Council approval.

The areas where the cameras are operational are to be designated by signs, as in the Central City areas.

### BENEFITS TO COMMUNITY

The Association has kept records of crime reported by members since the installation of the cameras in the Mall area and has noted a 75 per cent drop in incidents in the Mall since early February when they were installed. This has been confirmed by the New Brighton Police. Glass breakage, anti-social behaviour and graffiti have been reduced in addition to burglaries.

Neville Hyland, Acting Area Controller, New Brighton Police comments:

*"I am aware that the New Brighton Commercial Ratepayers' and Retailers' Association is applying for funding to extend the coverage provided by their security cameras in the New Brighton Mall.*

*The New Brighton Police wholeheartedly support the project and believe that its expansion through the Mall will further enhance public safety and the security of business premises. Since the first cameras were installed in January 2003, Police have made use of video footage in the course of several investigations including serious assaults and property damage.*

*Police records indicate that for the period 1 January to 30 June 2002, 16 burglaries were reported in the New Brighton Mall area. For the same period in 2003, only four burglaries were reported. It is felt that the upgraded security measures taken by local businesses, including the cameras, have played a part in this significant reduction in reported crime.*

*The Police believe that the installation of additional cameras in the Mall area would have a further deterrent effect on potential offenders, as well as providing valuable resource to assist with investigations."*

### MONITORING

The cameras are not monitored continuously but digitally recorded video is available to Police if required. The video record is held under security at the offices of the Association.

### NEW BRIGHTON LIBRARY

An application has now been made by the Association to install additional cameras on/about the New Brighton Library and Pier Terminal building and on the clocktower. The Council has already installed security cameras in the foyer and within the Library.

The Property Manager comments on conditions for use of the Library and clocktower sites:

*“Conditions of Installation:*

1. *The camera is to be supplied and installed by a professional person.*
2. *The camera is to be placed in a position where it can be hooked into the power supply.*
3. *Once the camera is mounted, all care but no responsibility. The Council has the building washed and if the camera is damaged this is not the Council's responsibility. Any other damage arising from acts of vandalism etc to the camera Council is not responsible.*
4. *Maintenance is to be carried out at owner's cost.*
5. *Where any maintenance is carried out the Property Unit and the Library must be informed.*
6. *If there is a power failure within the Library the Council cannot be held responsible for this.*
7. *The Council is not responsible for any health and safety issues relating to the camera.”*

**FUNDING**

The Association has funded the four cameras within the Mall at a cost of approximately \$10,000 and to date has raised \$3,000 for the additional four cameras.

The Association has written seeking Council and Board support in meeting the shortfall of approximately \$6,000 for installing the additional cameras.

It should be noted that no financial provision has been made for signage, which will be required at the entrances to the Mall.

**Staff**

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Council approve the siting of eight security cameras at sites shown on the attached plan.
  2. That the Property Manager's conditions (1) to (7) above for the siting of the camera on/about the Library and clocktower be confirmed.
  3. That the monitoring of the cameras be restricted to designated officers of the New Brighton Commercial Ratepayers' and Retailers' Association Inc in association with the New Brighton Police.
  4. That a grant of \$4,000 be provided to the project from the Board's Discretionary funds for 2003/04.

**Chairperson's**

**Recommendation:** That the Board support the recommendations as a contribution to the safety of the community.