

11. CATHEDRAL SQUARE

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Corporate Plan Output: Various	

The purpose of this report is to report back to the Committee on issues raised during the tour of Cathedral Square on 3 May 2000.

AREA IN FRONT OF THE HERITAGE HOTEL

When the Committee toured the Square there were concerns raised about the vehicle dominance in this area. It was suggested that how this space was to be used should be reconsidered and more emphasis given to pedestrian needs.

A design for vehicle movement and parking in this area was prepared last year after consultation with the two hotels. It was trialed this year and approved by the Projects and Property Committee on 22 February. A contract for the supply and installation of the bollards and installing new cut downs was let to Calcon Asphalt for \$26,160. The contractor has been asked to stop work while this report is considered.

A plan showing the proposed bollard layout and how the area is to be used is attached.

The trials have shown that the bollard locations are the most appropriate to provide the bus and taxi drop off to the hotels and access to the Heritage car park behind the Old Government building. It is difficult to make the vehicle area any smaller given the size of tour buses. Possible changes that would keep the vehicle drop down area as shown and improve the area for pedestrians are:

1. Provide additional bollards (or planter boxes/tubs) from the corner of the Millennium Hotel to the proposed cutdown (shown as xxxxx on the plan). This would prevent vehicles moving from the drop off area onto the large open area outside the BNZ.
2. Remove the P5 Parking area from outside the Millennium hotel. This would provide a clear area for pedestrians to move from the square, in front of the hotel and into Worcester Street. It would also provide pedestrians with good access to the raised pedestrian crossing giving access to behind the Cathedral. The disadvantage of this is that it removes all general P5 parking from this side of the Square.
3. Make sure that the planter boxes in front of the Old Government building are located so there is room for pedestrians between them and the proposed bollards.

It should be noted that the area the buses are using in front of the hotels has not been designed for bus traffic and some of the pavers in this area may need to relaid.

The option of completely restricting access in front of the hotels is not considered practical given the need to provide access to the car parking behind the old government building.

It is suggested that the changes 1,2 and 3 above be incorporated into the proposals and the amended plan be discussed with the hotel managers before implementation.

RUBBISH DISPOSAL BINS

Discussions with the Waste Management Unit on the bin requirements for recyclables are proceeding. A trial installation outside the square is proposed before bins for recyclable material are introduced into the square.

PLANTING ISSUES

The City Streets Unit have commenced discussions with the Parks Unit over the most appropriate way to introduce colour using plants and flowers in planter boxes and hanging baskets. Issues that need to be considered include appropriate containers and plants, whether containers should be portable, how to prevent vandalism and how to minimise maintenance costs particularly watering costs. Once these issues are resolved then the location of planters can be considered. The use of planters to help with the delineation between the road and pedestrian areas could help solve two problems.

SQUARE MANAGEMENT

A proposal for appointing an Inner City Operational Co-ordinator will be sent to the Annual Plan Working Party.

TILE CLEANING

The cleaning methods and frequency of cleaning of the square are constantly being reviewed by the City Streets maintenance team and the contractor City Care. Different methods have been trialed to remove tyre marks and difficult stains. The majority of the stains can be removed. The challenge is to find cost effective methods that use environmentally acceptable cleaners.

SHUTTLE SIGNS

It is proposed to totally remove the words Shuttle from the signs and replace it with the Shuttle "S" symbol in a laminated form that cannot be picked off.

POLICE KIOSK

The Property Unit have advised that under the lease agreement the painting of the Police Kiosk is the responsibility of the Police. They have been asked to have the building painted.

CHIPPED PAVERS

The road pavers are regularly inspected to ensure the sand is adequate and to check for damage. Many of the chipped pavers are in the raised platform at the north of the Square. This area is likely to be altered when the buses leave the Square in April 2001 and any broken pavers could be repaired at that time.

OTHER MAINTENANCE ISSUES RAISED

Other maintenance issues raised are being addressed by including them in the appropriate maintenance contract. Once Works Infrastructure attend to the maintenance items in the stage 4 construction contract, and this should be in June 2000, then all maintenance in the square will be in maintenance contracts administered by the City Streets Unit.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the proposed changes in the Heritage Hotel Corner, Item 1, be approved for consultation with the Hotel Managers.

- Chairman's Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the proposed changes in the Heritage Hotel Corner, Item 1, be approved for consultation with the Hotel Managers.
 3. That a further report on the planting issues in the square be considered in August and appropriate funding be sought at the six monthly review of the year 2000.