

CCTV POLICY

FACT SHEET

Community safety is a high priority for Council, and CCTV systems are one of a variety of responses utilised to improve perceptions of safety, deter anti-social and criminal behaviour and to equip law enforcement agencies with intelligence they otherwise would not have.

Council receives a large number of requests to install CCTV cameras from community members, business groups and Victoria Police. The CCTV Policy will provide increased rigour and consistency when considering these requests.

Why does Council use CCTV?

The primary security use of CCTV is to discourage and/or detect unlawful behaviour. CCTV can also help to improve perceptions of safety within the community.

Councils commonly use CCTV as an asset protection measure, with the presence of operative cameras helping to prevent damage to property and deter anti-social behavior and inappropriate activity in settings such as libraries and leisure centres.

What is the purpose of the CCTV Policy?

The purpose of the policy is to provide direction and guidance to the Council and Council officers when considering the introduction, revision or significant maintenance to CCTV cameras and systems in public places or on council managed property.

The policy does not propose an expansion of the existing CCTV Public System but rather a policy position and robust framework for the operation of the current system; as well as established processes for assessment and decision-making if there were to be a proposed expansion (or reduction) of the existing CCTV public system in the future.

What is the policy's scope? What does it do?

The policy applies to all Council owned CCTV systems installed in public places that have the purpose of surveillance.

This policy outlines how and when Council will employ CCTV and the procedures that will ensure personal privacy is maintained.

What are the implications for new CCTV requests?

The policy provides for a centrally managed point of decision-making, a rigorous process for managing CCTV requests and clear governance arrangements.

When does the policy apply?

Following the public consultation period, the policy will be reviewed and changes made as appropriate. The policy will then be presented to Council for endorsement and made publically available on our website.

How do I view the Draft Policy and have my say?

View the Draft Policy and Background Paper at yourcityyourvoice.com.au. You can also provide feedback on the Draft Policy on the website from 24 March to 5 May 2017.

Timeline

- ✓ Council prepares background paper
- ✓ CCTV Project Control Group develops Draft CCTV Policy
- March – May 2017: Feedback on draft policy sought from traders, residents and interest groups
- May 2017 – Feedback considered by Council
- Mid 2017 – Council considers adoption of the Policy

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