

OFFICERS REPORT**6.3 Race and Sex/Gender Impact Assessments of CCTV Surveillance**

Submitting Councillor: Dr Anjalee de Silva

MOTION

That Council:

1. *notes the motion titled 'Installation and Maintenance of CCTV Cameras in the Oakleigh Activity Centre for Victoria Police Surveillance' passed on 25 May 2021;*
2. *requests that officers prepare race and sex/gender impact assessments of the installation and use of CCTV cameras for the purposes of real-time police surveillance of the community in the Oakleigh Activity Centre that identify and discuss;*
 - a. *evidence relating to benefits to women and/or minorities of the use of CCTV cameras for the purposes of police surveillance, including real-time surveillance, in activity centres such as the Oakleigh Activity Centre, if any;*
 - b. *evidence relating to risks of discriminatory policing of women and/or minorities in the use of CCTV cameras for the purposes of police surveillance, including real-time surveillance, if any;*
 - c. *evidence relating to risks to the safety and privacy of women and/or minorities of the use of CCTV cameras for the purposes of police surveillance, including real-time surveillance, if any;*
 - d. *evidence relating to the perspectives of women and minorities on what are necessary and desirable uses of resources for the purposes of increasing public safety and perceptions of public safety;*

and that set out Officers' views as to the likely overall impact on women and minorities in the municipality of the potential installation and use of CCTV cameras in the Oakleigh Activity Centre for the purposes of Victoria Police surveillance, including real-time feeds into the Oakleigh Police Station.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The specific requirements outlined in this NOM are outside the scope of the current resolution of 'Installation and Maintenance of CCTV Cameras in the Oakleigh Activity Centre for Victoria Police Surveillance' passed on 25 May 2021 and the Gender Impact Assessment process. As a result additional resources would be required.

The Motion 2a, 2b and 2c would require an extensive literature review and 2d would be an additional community consultation. The budget implications to this Motion to gather the evidence outlined would require approximately \$25,000.

IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES

As of 31 March 2021, under the *Gender Equality Act (2020)* Monash Council is required to promote gender equality and undertake Gender Impact Assessments (GIAs) for all policies, programs and services that have a "direct and significant" impact on the public. A Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) will be undertaken on the 'Installation and Maintenance of CCTV Cameras in the Oakleigh Activity Centre for Victoria Police Surveillance' passed on 25 May 2021 as it does have direct and significant impact on the community. A gender impact assessment provides a way to assess the effects that a policy, program or service may have on people of different genders, and then enables opportunities to change that policy, program or service to better support people of all genders, and promote

gender equality. It also encourages consideration of other factors that might impact the way people access opportunities and resources such as Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion or sexual orientation.

The GIA will ensure that the community consultation adopted at the May Council Meeting will be accessible for all the affected stakeholders including people from different cultural identities, gender identities, sexual orientations or religions. The resourcing for the community consultation has already been endorsed in the 'Installation and Maintenance of CCTV Cameras in the Oakleigh Activity Centre for Victoria Police Surveillance' Council decision passed on 25 May 2021. The GIA will follow the guidelines outlined by the Victorian Gender Equality Commission. Officers will provide a summary of the evidence and literature in relation to this matter.

The specific requirements outlined in this NOM will be an additional Project as it would require additional resources outside the scope of the current resolution and the Gender Impact Assessment process. The Motion 2a, 2b and 2c would require an extensive literature review and 2d would be an additional community consultation. The budget implications to this Motion to gather the evidence outlined would require approximately \$25,000. Given the proposed extra work outlined within the NOM the original timelines adopted in the Council report would need to be extended.

COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

Council Plan 2017-2021

A Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan

Monash City Council CCTV Surveillance System Policy and privacy legislation

Community Safety Framework

RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES

In addition to previous community consultations and initiatives that have taken place on community safety, Monash Council is shortly implementing two community safety projects that will increase the evidence-base, particularly for women and migrant communities, in relation to safety. These include:

- *Feeling safe in public places: Co-designing community safety strategies in Local Government Areas funded by Department of Justice.* We have had favourable feedback on this grant application and that the announcement is imminent. This project will be led by Monash University in partnership with Council, Melton and Wyndham Councils. This co-design project will, following extensive research, develop innovative place-based strategies that enhance feelings of safety and inclusion and prevent crime and victimisation in public spaces for women and migrants in Victoria. The timeline for this project is July 2021 – June 2023.
- Monash Council has partnered with Monash University's gender, design and space specialists, XYX Lab and CrowdSpot, to gather perceptions of safety in public space. [YourGround](#) is an interactive map asking the community and in particular, women and gender-diverse people to highlight safe and unsafe spaces. It is a proactive tool to assist to make positive change in our shared public spaces – spaces that should be accessible to everyone. The map crowdsources data, allowing users to anonymously drop a pin, tell a story or share an experience while out for leisure, sport, exercise or play. When collated and analysed this data will provide insights that can assist in making spaces more inclusive and equitable across the Monash municipality. We anticipate that a report from Monash University will be available in August 2021.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

As part of the GIA process and broader consultation plan, all relevant Advisory Committees will be consulted on the 'Installation and Maintenance of CCTV Cameras in the Oakleigh Activity Centre for Victoria Police Surveillance.'