

Ms Freda Villella Coroners Registrar Coroners Court of Victoria Level 11, 222 Exhibition Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000





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Dear Ms Villella

FINDING INTO THE DEATH WITH INQUEST: SHANNON McCORMACK (COR 2007 002084)

Thank you for your letter dated 6 March 2014 regarding the coroner's recommendations concerning the City of Melbourne in relation to the death of Shannon McCormack. Our response to recommendations 1) and 3) is provided in accordance with the "Guidelines for Responding to Coroners' Recommendation(s)". Please note that Recommendation 2) will be responded to separately.

Coroner's Recommendation 1)

I recommend that the Melbourne City Council and the State of Victoria through VICPOL, maintain, and consider increasing the rate at which SAFE CITY cameras are installed, in our city area (and elsewhere) as maybe needed.

City of Melbourne Reply

The coroner's recommendation has been implemented as detailed below:

- a) Thirty one (31) additional Safe City cameras were installed in 2009 at locations recommended by Victoria Police. This increased the number of cameras from twenty three (23) to fifty four (54) cameras.
- b) Nine (9) additional Safe City cameras have been installed in the 2013/14 financial year at locations recommended by Victoria Police. Funding of \$250,000 for these cameras was provided by Victorian Department of Justice Crime Prevention Unit. This has increased the number of cameras to sixty three (63). A map showing the current camera network is attached for your information.
- c) Two (2) additional Safe City Taxi Rank cameras and emergency communication intercom equipment at four taxi ranks will be installed during 2014/15. Funding of \$200,000 to implement these initiatives has been provided by the Federal Government. These two taxi rank cameras will be managed from the Safe City Control Room.

Coroner's Recommendation 3)

I recommend that ongoing and additional publicity to do with improving potential for greater pictorial accuracy, be given to the SCCP initiative.

City of Melbourne Reply

The coroner's recommendation has been implemented as detailed below:

- a) The City of Melbourne installs high definition cameras at all new locations or when upgrading existing cameras in the network when they reach the end of their life cycle. There will be fifteen (15) high definition cameras in the network at the end of 2013/14.
- b) The City of Melbourne publicises the Safe City Camera program through our various communication channels, such as the website and the Melbourne News. We are currently updating a promotional video of the Safe City Camera program that is used to publicise

- the program at various forums and is also provided to television news programs when they request footage.
- c) The Crime Stoppers campaign that is run by Victoria Police indirectly publicises the Safe City Camera program when highlighting crimes that have been captured by our cameras.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Robinson

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