

Date

24 August 2022

Email: democraticservicesteam@huttcity.govt.nz

Elected Members Request

CBD and Queensgate Safety Issues

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We received an email from Cr Brady Dyer on 14 August 2022 requesting the following information.

There's been an increase in safety issues around Queensgate lately - Both reported in the media and on Facebook. What can council do to help? Do we monitor or have CCTV in the area? Increase the safe city ambassadors?

The response from officers follows:

Community leaders and key partners met this week to agree next steps to increase public safety at the Bunny Street bus interchange following two assaults in two weeks.

The meeting was convened by Mayor Campbell Barry and was attended by local MPs Ginny Anderson and Chris Bishop, Police, Queensgate, Greater Wellington Regional Council (Metlink) and Hutt City Council officials.

At the meeting, parties agreed to progress short and medium term solutions to improve public safety.

The short term measures being progressed are:

- *Increase Police presence in the area*
- *Upgrade four existing CCTV cameras in the area to provide 360 degree range, 24/7*
- *Work with community organisations to increase presence the precinct*
- *Restricting access to free wifi from local businesses on Bunny Street as it is may be attracting people to congregate in the area*
- *Consider changes to relocate bus stop B or C to minimise congregation*

The medium term measure being progressed is:

- *Fast tracking the consideration of design changes to the bus interchange to increase safety*
- Ngā mihi nui,

Democratic Services Team