

**I. Installation of closed-circuit television systems at Lan Kwai Fong**

- (a) whether it would be a policy to install CCTV systems on a permanent basis at locations/venues with significant movement of the crowds.**

Closed-circuit television (CCTV) has been increasingly used world-wide over the past decade by various agencies or organizations in order to help enhance public safety and to facilitate crime prevention and crime detection. For similar purposes, CCTV is already being used extensively and very successfully in privately owned buildings, housing estates, shopping arcades or in public amenities such as stadiums, KCR / MTR stations throughout Hong Kong.

2. Apart from the CCTV system installed at the land-border for security and anti-illegal immigration purposes, the Hong Kong Police Force has been using temporary CCTV to assist crowd control operations at selected locations in order to enhance public safety during major festivals and events. Most noticeably, temporary CCTV has been used with great success in Lan Kwai Fong for popular festivities over Halloween, Christmas and New Year.

3. In the light of the experience of many overseas cities in this area and the successful use of temporary CCTV during various festivities throughout Hong Kong, the Police are considering the installation of CCTV in a few public locations of the territory. The plan is part of the Police's public order and security management system for the purpose of sustaining Hong Kong as one of the world's safest and most stable societies. Such arrangements have long existed in other major metropolitan cities such as London and New York and have proven effective in enhancing public safety, crime reduction and prevention.

4. With the pedestrianisation of Lan Kwai Fong (LKF) at designated times since the end of 2001, and the successful experience gained with temporary CCTV in the area, this was seen as an appropriate opportunity to introduce a small scale permanent CCTV facility into the area as a pilot project to gauge response and its effectiveness with a view to introducing the system in a few other

similarly crowded public areas of Hong Kong. Consultation with the LKF Association regarding the pilot CCTV system suggested a very supportive response on this issue.

**(b) details of the trial scheme.**

5. The Police's tentative design of the pilot CCTV system in LKF is presently as follows:

- nine outdoor cameras with a central monitoring point (CMP) at Central Police Station;
- remote camera control functions in the CMP to allow camera movement, control and round the clock recording functions;
- use of broadband Internet Protocol service to support the application;
- upon completion of all the necessary preparatory arrangements including further consultation, tender arrangements etc., installation is tentatively scheduled to commence around August 2003; and
- the pilot scheme may operate for six months to allow sufficient time to evaluate the arrangements properly.

**(c) guidelines on the use of CCTV systems and storage of the videotapes.**

6. The Police attach great importance to the concerns from various sectors of the community regarding privacy matters relating to the use of CCTV in public places. Every step will be taken to ensure compliance with the Data Protection Principles of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (PDPO), Cap. 486. This will be achieved by developing detailed internal procedures and guidelines with regard to security, accessibility and duration of retention of the CCTV tapes as well as conducting further consultation with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data to ensure that personal data captured

by the CCTV would not be misused or compromised unless a justifiable exemption under Part VIII of the PDPO is applicable.

Security Bureau  
March 2002