



Cameras installed at Vinnies Margate

Vinnies Queensland can redirect thousands of dollars toward helping locals in need in the Margate area after installing CCTV cameras in its Oxley Avenue shop and securing a Federal Government grant to help fund it.

The cameras help the charity save money by preventing illegal dumping, vandalism and theft, and were in part funded by their successful application in securing \$5,500 (inclusive of GST) as part of the third round of the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Programme.

Vinnies Northern Diocese Executive Officer Donna Georgeson said money saved by the increased security would be put back into the local area.

"These cameras are not only a visual deterrent to criminal activity but they will help us create a safer environment for our wonderful volunteers and valued customers," she said.

"Ultimately the CCTV will help us cut down on theft, illegal dumping and vandalism, which we have to pay to remove or clean, the money that we save from their reduction we can then put toward people in need in the community," she said.

Vinnies has already had success in creating not only a safer shop, but a safer community, by installing CCTV at their Grovely location through a previous grant according to Mrs Georgeson.

"Installing the CCTV at Grovely has resulted in a decrease in crime in the immediate area, with theft, illegal dumping and vandalism all reducing," she said.

"We are confident that alongside volunteer training, public education and improved lighting the CCTV at Margate will help us deliver similar results for the community."

Vinnies Queensland has made a co-contribution towards the installation of the CCTV at Margate as the Stronger Communities Programme is a matched funding initiative.

In 2017 Vinnies Queensland assisted 306,831 Queenslanders and provided \$191 million in services and support to people in need.

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