

# **Security For The Citizens Of Bray**

A Survey into the Opinions  
of the People of Bray on  
C.C.T.V. Security Cameras



The introduction of a C.C.T.V. security camera system to Bray is long overdue. As the following survey proves there is a very high level of concern about crime amongst the people of Bray which is adversely affecting peoples lives in the town.

In reaction to a number of robberies we suffered in our business I established Bray Business Watch in July, 1997. The purpose of this committee is to pursue the installation of a C.C.T.V. security system in Bray as soon as possible.

Bray has a huge amount to offer businesses and tourists but its appeal is being hampered by the crime problem in the town. We believe that the installation of a C.C.T.V. security system in the town is essential to help stop this. This is not a negative reflection on the Gardai in Bray who are doing their best with very limited resources.

I would like to thank John Bristow (Professor, Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin) for his help in the construction and administration of this survey. Thanks also to the principal and transition year students of Colaiste Raithin for going out on the streets and doing the hard work of collecting the responses. A final thank you to Bray Chamber of Commerce for all their help with this project.

For further information please contact me at Arcade Jewellers, Village Gate Arcade, Bray, Co Wicklow. Phone 2828181.

Eoin Caffello

# Summary Of Findings

The overwhelming majority of people in Bray think that the town has a serious crime problem(47% of respondents said Bray has a fairly bad crime problem,43% of respondents thought Bray has a serious crime problem while only 9% thought Bray had a minor crime problem).

The survey is highly representative of Bray peoples attitudes as a large sample(354 people) was taken.

Nearly one in every two people questioned has first hand experience of crime in Bray with 43% of respondents suffering a criminal act in Bray in the recent past. An extraordinary 75% of people have friends and relatives who have suffered a crime in Bray.

There is huge support for the introduction of CCTV in Bray with 90% of people saying they would make the town safer. 90% of people support their immediate introduction.

70% of respondents think that the Gardai should control and monitor such a system when it is introduced. 58% of people think that the government should fully fund a CCTV system for Bray while a further 16% think that the government should help fund the system in conjunction with local interests.

## Detailed Analysis of Responses

The survey was designed by Eoin Costello (Bray Business Watch) and John Bristow (Professor, Department of Economics, Trinity College). The survey was conducted in December, 1997 by transition year students at Colaiste Raithin.

354 people were questioned in the survey which is a very large sample when you consider that national opinion polls for general elections only survey 1000 people nationwide.

The survey was carefully constructed to be as representative as possible with students asked to target an equal number of men and women and then to target an equal number of those above 40 years of age and below 40 years of age. Only residents of Bray and frequent visitors to Bray were selected for questioning. Therefore we believe that it is a very good representation of Bray citizens attitudes.

The detailed answers to the questions posed are as follows.

### *QUESTION 1*

#### *HOW BIG A CRIME PROBLEM DO YOU THINK BRAY HAS?*

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Minor      | 9% of responses  |
| 2. Fairly Bad | 47% of responses |
| 3. Serious    | 43% of responses |

*QUESTION 2*

*HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY FORM OF CRIME IN BRAY IN THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS?*

- |        |                  |
|--------|------------------|
| 1. Yes | 43% of responses |
| 2. No  | 57% of responses |

*IF YES, WHAT WAS THE CRIME?*

Respondents described crimes against property such as the following (in order of frequency);

Burglary (one person was burgled 5 times)

Car theft

Vandalism (one woman had stones thrown through her car window as she drove along the Bray bypass)

Handbag Snatching

Bank Robbery

Respondents described crimes against the person as follows (in order of frequency);

Mugging

Assault

Syringe Robberies

Five people who replied to the survey were stabbed in Bray

One person was robbed as he left a bank in the town

One woman was flashed by a sexual deviant

*QUESTION 3*

*HAVE ANY FRIENDS OR RELATIVES HAD EXPERIENCE OF CRIME IN THE BRAY AREA IN THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS?*

- |        |                  |
|--------|------------------|
| 1. Yes | 75% of responses |
| 2. No  | 25% of responses |

*QUESTION 4*

*DO YOU THINK THAT SECURITY CAMERAS WOULD HELP REDUCE CRIME AND VANDALISM AND GENERALLY MAKE THE STREETS SAFER?*

- |        |                  |
|--------|------------------|
| 1. Yes | 90% of responses |
| 2. No  | 10% of responses |

*QUESTION 5*

*WOULD YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF USING SECURITY CAMERAS?*

- |        |                  |
|--------|------------------|
| 1. Yes | 90% of responses |
| 2. No  | 10% of responses |

*QUESTION 6*

*IF THEY WERE INSTALLED WHO SHOULD CONTROL THEM?*

- |                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Gardai               | 70% of responses |
| 2. Local Council        | 13% of responses |
| 3. Private Security Co. | 17% of responses |

*QUESTION 7*

*WHO SHOULD PROVIDE THE FUNDING FOR SUCH A SYSTEM?*

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Government    | 58% of responses |
| 2. Local Council | 18% of responses |
| 3. Traders       | 9% of responses  |
| 4. A combination | 16% of responses |

## Details Of Breakdown of Respondents

72 males over the age of 40 replied

83 males under the age of 40 replied

98 females over the age of 40 were surveyed

101 females under the age of 40 were surveyed

From the survey data(see appendix) it is clear that women over 40 feel particularly vulnerable to crime in Bray. This is reflected in the fact that a higher percentage of this category thought Bray had a serious crime problem and were in favour of the introduction of CCTV. This has to be bad for the economic and social life of the town for this group often make the largest contribution to any town and if they are worried about going out it is bound to have negative knock-on effects.

Appendix

Survey Sheet

Analysis of Responses by Question

Analysis of Responses by Sex and Age

## SECURITY CAMERA SURVEY - BASICn DATA

### Notes

1. The first column is as on the survey form, with the addition of:
  - 2A Crime against property
  - 2B Crime against the person
  - 2C No
  - 7D Mixture of those mentioned
2. Figures in parentheses are percentages.

	Older male	Younger male	Older female	Younger female	TOTAL
Total	72 (100)	83 (100)	98 (100)	101 (100)	354 (100)
1A	8 (11)	11 (13)	3 (3)	9 (9)	31 (9)
1B	36 (50)	37 (45)	45 (46)	49 (49)	167 (47)
1C	28 (39)	35 (42)	50 (51)	43 (43)	153 (43)
2A	27 (38)	27 (33)	36 (37)	35 (35)	125 (35)
2B	3 (4)	11 (13)	6 (6)	9 (9)	29 (8)
2C	42 (58)	45 (54)	56 (57)	57 (56)	200 (57)
3A	45 (63)	58 (70)	81 (83)	80 (79)	264 (75)
3B	27 (38)	25 (30)	17 (17)	21 (21)	90 (25)
4A	64 (89)	69 (83)	94 (96)	91 (90)	318 (90)
4B	8 (11)	14 (17)	4 (4)	10 (10)	36 (10)
5A	64 (89)	70 (84)	94 (96)	90 (89)	318 (90)
5B	8 (11)	13 (16)	4 (4)	11 (11)	36 (10)
6A	56 (78)	56 (68)	72 (74)	64 (63)	248 (70)
6B	9 (13)	10 (12)	14 (14)	14 (14)	47 (13)
6C	7 (10)	17 (21)	12 (12)	23 (23)	59 (17)
7A	34 (47)	48 (57)	58 (59)	64 (63)	204 (58)
7B	15 (21)	13 (16)	17 (17)	20 (20)	65 (18)
7C	8 (11)	8 (10)	9 (9)	5 (5)	30 (9)
7D	15 (21)	14 (17)	14 (14)	12 (12)	55 (16)

	Male	Female	Older	Younger
Total	155 (100)	199(100)	170 (100)	184 (100)
1A	19 (12)	12 (6)	11 (7)	20 (11)
1B	73 (47)	94 (47)	81 (48)	86 (47)
1C	63 (41)	93 (47)	78 (46)	78 (42)
2A	54 (35)	71 (36)	63 (37)	62 (34)
2B	14 (9)	15 (8)	9 (5)	20 (11)
2C	87 (56)	113 (57)	98 (58)	102 (55)
3A	103 (67)	161 (81)	126 (74)	138 (75)
3B	52 (33)	38 (19)	44 (26)	46 (25)
4A	133 (86)	185 (93)	158 (93)	160 (87)
4B	22 (14)	14 (7)	12 (7)	24 (13)
5A	134 (86)	184 (93)	158 (93)	160 (87)
5B	21 (14)	14 (7)	12 (7)	24 (13)
6A	112 (72)	136 (68)	128 (75)	120 (65)
6B	19 (12)	28 (14)	23 (14)	24 (13)
6C	24 (16)	35 (18)	19 (11)	40 (22)
7A	82 (53)	122 (61)	92 (54)	112 (61)
7B	28 (18)	37 (19)	32 (19)	33 (18)
7C	16 (10)	14 (7)	17 (10)	13 (7)
7D	29 (19)	26 (13.1)	29 (17)	26 (14)

# BRAY BUSINESS WATCH COMMITTEE SECURITY CAMERA SURVEY

It is proposed that security cameras be installed throughout Bray to make the town safer. We would be grateful for your views. Please circle the responses.

Are you a frequent visitor to Bray ( at least once a month). If "yes" please continue.

1. How big a crime problem do you think Bray has?  
A. Minor            B. Fairly bad            C. Serious
2. Have you experienced any form of crime in the past couple of years in Bray.  
If "yes" what was it? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Have any friends or relatives had experience of crime in the past couple of years in the Bray area?  
A. yes            B. No
4. Do you think security cameras would help reduce crime and vandalism and generally make the streets safer?  
A. Yes            B. No
5. Would you support the idea of using security cameras?  
A. Yes            B. No
6. If they were to be installed who should control them?  
A. Gardai            B. Local Council    C. Private security company
7. Who should provide the funding for such a system?  
A. Government            B. Local Council    C. Traders

Details of respondent    Male            Female  
Age group            18-40            40 plus

THANK YOU