

GREY STREET CRIMINALS NOW IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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Brighter streetlights have been installed in the Grey Street area in an effort to control crime in Durban's central business district.

This is one of the areas hardest hit by rampant crime and therefore a starting point for the project mooted by the Inner City Police Forum.

Sayed-Iqbal Mohamed, chairman of the forum and Durban Metro councillor, said he believed the new lights would help eradicate crime in the Grey Street area.

"Criminals are wary of operating where they will be very easily visible."

The lights have made a significant difference to the area which no longer looked "seedy", he said.

The lights have been installed in Grey Street and Bond Street and there are plans to put up new lights in Prince Edward, Short and Victoria streets.

Mohamed said the installation of lights was part of a programme to "light up the city".

"The forum, which includes representatives of the police, business community and residents of the area, is committed to reclaiming the city from criminals," he said.

"We see the installation of the lights as a major victory for the community."

Mohamed urged businesses and residents in Grey Street to report crime.

"While the crime rate in the area is high, the number of crimes reported is very low. We are also encouraging businesses in the area to leave their lights on at night, although we are aware this will be costly."

Vish Naidoo, SAPS spokesman, said the police welcomed the anti-crime initiative.