**KEY OPERATED PARKING BARRIERS**

**Description**

****

The fold down bollard is a product that allows easy control over vehicle access to an area. This hinged bollard can be locked in an upright position or folded flat to the ground.

Being a key lockable bollard meaning the functionality of locking the bollard into place can only be carried out by the key holder. When the bollard owner wants to restrict vehicle access, the bollards can be locked upright. When vehicle access is required the bollard can be unlocked and left flat on the ground allowing vehicles to easily drive over them.

**Operation**

The key operated parking barrier is fitted with a lock that is operated using the resident’s apartment door key. Generally, the barrier would remain in the upright position preventing unauthorised parking in the common car spaces. When a visitor requires a car park, the resident would find an empty car park and lower the barrier. When leaving the user would be required to raise the barrier to lock it in the upright position.

**Costs**

The barriers can be sourced from a number of suppliers and cost around $200 each for the item shown with some savings expected for a bulk order. Less robust bollards can be acquired at a lower cost. Installation can be undertaken by any competent tradesman. There would be an additional cost of supplying and fitting a common lock estimated to be $60 per lock. The total acquisition cost is estimated to be $8,500 covering supply of 31 barriers, the restricted lock installation and their installation.

**Positives and Negatives**

The key operated folddown barriers are a proactive means of controlling the car parking spaces without affecting use of the access roads. Their use requires the resident or commercial entity to either unlock the barrier or to provide the visitor or customer with the key to access the car space.

Minimal training would be required to ensure residents and other users are familiar with the operation of the system. In addition, protocols would be required to cover the allocaton and management of the car spaces. These would need to address:

* whether barriers are used to control all parking spaces or only selected spaces;
* whether bollards should be positioned in the two the disabled parking spaces; and
* whether there should be dedicated spaces for tradesmen, service providers and the commercial units.

The aesthetics of having bollards is perhaps a negative feature.

**Summary**

Key operated parking barriers are a relatively low cost means of managing the common car parking spaces, but their use requires residents and commercial entities to open or provide keys for visitors and clients to use the spaces.