



Cop shop swap: Eltham's police station could be moving.

Photo: LAIRD HARPER/FAIRFAX NZ

Quake fears likely to force police move

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Uncertainty hangs over the future of Eltham's police station on State Highway 3 after it was identified as an earthquake risk.

Taranaki rural area police commander Inspector Frank Grant said operations would "almost certainly" be moved back to the old station in Burke St.

He said the lease of the SH3 building was up for renewal and the cost of bringing the building in line with earthquake measures was an issue.

"We might just have to dust the old station off and give it a bit of paint," he said. "Nothing will be

decided until August."

Eltham Community Board member Glen Hansen said although they wanted the station to stay in its "highly visible" location instead of the one proposed, their only concern was keeping it in Eltham.

However, it did raise a question over where their newly-installed \$29,000 security cameras would be monitored from, he said.

Currently the recordings are stored in a computer database at the station but the move would put the system out of range of its four cameras.

Mr Hansen said police monitored the cameras continuously and both groups would need to find a suitable new location.