

SUBJECT:	<i>CCTV review</i>
REPORT OF:	<i>Cabinet Portfolio: Healthy Communities</i>
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	<i>Director of Services</i>
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WARD/S AFFECTED	<i>(All Wards);</i>

1. Purpose of Report

To consider the implications of the Privacy Impact Assessment review of the CCTV provision in Chiltern. To agree future CCTV monitoring arrangements and potential costs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. To note the recommendations of the CCTV review and continue to provide public area CCTV coverage in the recommended locations detailed in Appendix 2 of this report**
- 2. To disconnect and remove the CCTV provision in the recommended locations detailed in Appendix 3 of this report.**
- 3. To continue to participate in the CCTV TVP hub model and seek to achieve the economies of scale to enable re-investment in the existing CCTV network**
- 4. To delegate the final decision on the CCTV TVP hub model business plan to the Head of Healthy Communities and Head of Environment in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Healthy Communities and Environment**
- 5. To allocate up to £80,000 in the Capital budget 2019/20 for the provision of mobile CCTV and for the capital costs arising from the relation of the CCTV hub**

2. Reasons for Recommendations

2.1 To ensure effective monitoring of the Council's CCTV network in accordance with the Information Commissioner Office guidance

3. Content of Report

3.1 CCTV supports the investigation of crime and disorder and can provide reassurance to communities; it can also be used to assist in the identification of persons helping reduce risk to vulnerable persons who may be missing or otherwise at risk. CCTV can also be used to support the Council's service delivery in the areas of parking reducing ASB and environmental crime.

3.2 The Council currently operates 42 fixed CCTV cameras across Amersham, Chesham, Chalfont St Peter and Little Chalfont with images sent to the Wycombe CCTV hub for monitoring and recording and release to Thames Valley Police for the investigation of crime. The main purpose for which the CCTV provision is used in Chiltern is to investigate crime through police officers accessing data from recorded events. Some active monitoring of the public realm occurs but this is at a very low level and is for the following reasons;

- To attempt to find missing persons
- Monitoring for stolen or suspect vehicle as part of a crime (however the current CCTV cameras are not directly linked to the ANPR network)
- Monitoring cash in transit movements
- Looking for suspect persons
- Routine monitoring car parks and high street locations

Location	Number of cameras
Chesham	13
Amersham on the Hill	22
Amersham Old Town	3
Chalfont St Peter	3
Little Chalfont	1
Total	42

3.3 All of the public area CCTV cameras are managed and operated at the High Wycombe Hub (CCTV control room). The Hub is operated 24/7 by two operators and a CCTV manager; the manager is also responsible for the repair of faults to the cameras and the control room equipment. The Hub is contractually required via Thames Valley Police to operate Chiltern cameras for fixed periods which total, for the Chesham cameras for 15 hours / week and those in Amersham for 10 hours / week. Whilst these are the contractual monitoring periods, the operators respond to all incidents that are brought to their attention by the Police and this can be at any time of the day or night

3.4 An independent CCTV review has assessed the purpose of the surveillance cameras, what issues they are trying to address, how effective they are, what benefits can be gained from surveillance, what other less intrusive methods could be used, how privacy is maintained and how the data is managed. The full report is detailed in Appendix 1

3.5 In summary, the greatest number of incidents recorded was in Chesham, with less than one fifth in Amersham. Incidents tended to be brought to the attention of the control room by the police, rather than the other way around, which suggests that pro-active surveillance was not the principal manner in which the systems are operated, reflecting the limited active monitoring funded by TVP. Operators monitored for missing persons and vehicles wanted by the police and cash-in-transit vehicles. In the three years analysed, the number of incidents recorded in 2017 reduced to half of the number in 2015. The condition of the cameras is considered poor and not all are used for the management of crime and disorder.

Future CCTV provision

- 3.6 The review recommends that the existing camera systems detailed in Appendix 2 are refurbished with new; digital cameras that will restore them to meet their operational requirement of producing high quality images suitable for investigating offences and for use in court. The refurbished town centre cameras in Amersham, Chesham and Chalfont St Peter are managed and operated at a CCTV Control Hub, available for live view and access to recorded images 24 hours per day
- 3.7 Based on current crime levels, usage in the detection of crime and disorder the review further recommends that the existing camera systems detailed in Appendix 3 are decommissioned
- 3.8 The review also recommends that a re-locatable CCTV system (4G) is procured to allow monitoring of temporary crime and disorder hotspots not covered by CCTV. The system to consist of 3 or 4 cameras recording high quality images (31 days) within the body of the unit. Review of the images would be via an authorised user able to dial into the camera to review and download recorded images and view live, as required. The re-locatable system can be used for short-term deployments should a need arise in the future.
- 3.9 The recommendations in the report identified for the new multi-storey have been addressed within that project.

CCTV monitoring

- 3.10 To achieve revenue savings Aylesbury and Wycombe Districts currently hosting CCTV control centres are working with TVP to explore the opportunities to reduce long term costs by relocating the CCTV monitoring to the Milton Keynes hub. CDC currently works with Thames Valley Police who supports the cost of monitoring the CCTV images at the Wycombe CCTV control room.
- 3.11 Any change to CCTV monitoring by Wycombe will require Thames Valley Police and Chiltern District Council to identify alternative CCTV monitoring arrangements. TVP are seeking to relocate all monitoring to Milton Keynes. It would be for the Council to agree to this proposal or find an alternative monitoring provider or disconnect and remove all its CCTV cameras. WDC has given notice that it will no longer monitor the CDC CCTV images when the TVP hub project goes live.
- 3.12 The proposals currently suggested by TVP is that all users of the proposed MK CCTV control hub are charged a share of the Capital costs based on a per camera rate. For CDC and based on the current 42 CCTV cameras this would incur a one off cost estimated at £60,000 and an annual revenue contribution of approximately £30,000.
- 3.13 Should CDC reduce the numbers of CCTV cameras to the levels detailed in Appendix 2 the capital cost is estimated at £40,000 and a revenue cost of £30,000
- 3.14 CDC has expressed a view that whilst it may be willing to share the capital investment, there are no revenue savings to CDC from transferring the image monitoring to the MK hub. Further discussions are being undertaken in relation to the business case.

- 3.15 It is recommended that in principle approval be made to participating in the MK Hub subject to final approval of the business case being agreed by the Head of Healthy Communities and Head of Environment in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Healthy Communities and Environment.

4 Consultation

The Local Police Commander has indicated that he would support the upgrade to digital CCTV cameras and the introduction of mobile units as part of an overall reduction in fixed CCTV cameras.

5 Options (if any)

- 5.1 To discontinue the CCTV network
 5.2 To reduce the CCTV network and monitor via TVP Hub
 5.3 To consider alternative approaches to monitoring the CCTV network

6 Corporate Implications

Reports must include specific comments addressing the following implications;

7.1 Financial – the current CCTV budget is £68,298 which includes cost of CCTV camera repair and maintenance, and transmission to WDC Hub. The monitoring costs are currently met by TVP. The business case being proposed by TVP would have to be met from within existing revenue budgets which would require a reduction in CCTV cameras. However a capital investment of £10,000 per mobile camera will be required. Additionally capital cost of £40,000 may be required to relocate to the TVP CCTV hub

7.2 Legal – the ICO requires local authorities providing CCTV surveillance to annually consider the impact of monitoring and the benefits to the local community. The CCTV review has identified cameras which are of limited impact in detecting crime and disorder and consideration should be given to removing these.

7 Links to Council Policy Objectives

<http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/Aims-and-Objectives>

<http://www.southbucks.gov.uk/prioritiesandperformance>

8. Next Step

The Council will continue to work with TVP on the business case for the TVP CCTV Hub

Background Papers:	It is a legal requirement that we make available any background papers relied on to prepare the report and should be listed at the end of the report (copies of background papers for executive decisions must be provided to Democratic Services)
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