

Report To:	SCRUTINY PANEL B	Date:	27 SEPTEMBER 2018
Heading:	SCRUTINY REVIEW OF CCTV		
Portfolio Holder:			
Ward/s:	ALL		
Key Decision:	NO		
Subject to Call-In:	NO		

Purpose of Report

To provide Members of the Panel with a progress update regarding the review of public space CCTV and outline recent developments to the subject area that may impact future discussions in concluding the review in due course.

Recommendation(s)

Members are requested to;

- **Note the information contained in the report;**
- **Discuss the current scope and potential conclusions.**

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

CCTV was added as a review item on the workplan 2018/19.

Alternative Options Considered

No alternative options considered yet, any considerations following the review will be detailed in a report to Cabinet in due course.

Detailed Information

The objective for the review is to “gain an understanding of CCTV, how it contributes to the Council’s Corporate Priorities and consider the impact they have within the Community”.

In undertaking this review Members have worked with the Service Manager, Community Safety, Community Protection Team Leader and the Emergency Planning and CCTV Officer from Newark

and Sherwood District Council (whom provide CCTV coverage for Ashfield as part of a Partnership arrangement).

At the last meeting of the Panel, Members were provided with additional information in respect of the CCTV budget for 2017/18 and 2018/19 and data illustrating incident categories and CCTV statistics for the period April 2017 to April 2018.

Ashfield District Council's CCTV coverage is provided through a Service Level Agreement arrangement with Newark and Sherwood District Council. In addition to supplying Ashfield District Council's CCTV Coverage, Newark and Sherwood also supply, monitor and maintain coverage for Broxtowe Borough Council.

As part of the agreement, Ashfield District Council have 29 wireless CCTV cameras across the 3 town centres and other key locations. In addition there are 2 cameras than can be moved to hot spot locations.

The cameras are monitored 24 hours each and every day at a state of the art control room sited within Nottinghamshire Police headquarters. In addition the control room staff provide a 24hr contact centre for some of the council out-of-hours services.

In addition to Newark and Sherwood, Ashfield and Broxtowe, the Police are additional key stakeholders and have direct access to images in the event of an emergency situation. For comparison, Newark and Sherwood District Council have 79 cameras and Broxtowe Borough Council have 63 cameras. Ashfield District Council CCTV function is managed by the Community Protection Service as part of the Place and Communities Directorate.

Action Point

Members of the Panel have already undertaken a site visit to Sherwood Lodge (CCTV Control Room) to gain an understanding of the system, how it is used, staffing, type of monitoring and quality of imaging. Members may wish to consider an additional visit on the evening to gain an understanding of the types of issues faced during an evening and how they are dealt with/ responded to.

Location of Cameras

As part of the initial discussions, Members of the Panel were interested as to how the camera locations are chosen, how often they are reviewed and scope for being more reactive to issues as they arise through the use of the deployable cameras (2).

Members were informed that that the locations of the CCTV cameras around the District had recently been discussed. A number of cameras had been repositioned due to Town Centre improvement works and Sutton Lawn had recently had a CCTV camera installed.

During a visit to the CCTV Control Room, Members were informed of all of the locations for Ashfield District Council's CCTV Units.

Action Point

Members may wish to discuss in further detail the locations for the cameras covering Ashfield, exploring activity per camera (incidents), added value of the location and any further locations that are not currently covered.

Members are aware from the work already carried out that relocation of any current camera would incur a cost and this should be considered in any future discussion relating to location.

Performance Management

The purpose of the community safety CCTV cameras is to reduce crime and the fear of crime. The Panel have already discussed the need to ensure that performance information is available and transparent to both Elected Members and the community on a regular basis.

Regular information on CCTV and incidents recorded would be beneficial to Elected Members in their communities, allowing changes in numbers and nature of incidents to be identified quickly and discussed with appropriate officers / Committees.

Action Point

Further discussions with the Service Manager, Community Protection regarding the best way to report information, frequency and appropriate forums.

Communications and Public Perceptions

In considering this topic, Members of the Panel have discussed public perceptions of CCTV and ways in which Ashfield District Council can improve communications on the use of CCTV.

Members agreed that if CCTV cameras are to reduce fear of crime then the public must be aware of the cameras' presence. National research on the impact that CCTV has on public perceptions has highlighted the important role that the media play in forming public opinions and their support for CCTV in the context of crime. This can assist in the positive public perception of cameras, particularly in their use in identifying perpetrators of crime, prevention and the feeling of safety.

In addition, Members of the Panel were also informed that CCTV had also been used to try to locate missing people.

Action Point

Members may wish to consider how the districts use of CCTV is communicated and whether there are any improvements that could be made to develop greater public awareness of the various CCTV systems in place and their purposes through the use of;

- The Press
- Social Media
- Website

Other Considerations

Further areas for consideration by the Panel could include:

- Widening the Scope from Public Space CCTV to include other areas including Body Worn Video and partners use of CCTV;
- Future changes and requirements from the Information Commissioner;
- Further discussions with the Portfolio Holder
- Timeline for completing the review

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Communities and Environment;

- Ensure the foundations for a good quality of life are in place; reducing crime and antisocial behaviour and facilitating cleaner and more attractive neighbourhoods
- Work with our partners to ensure we deliver services centred on the needs of people and places, rather than existing teams, agencies or institutions

Legal:

In addition to Council policies, procedures, guidelines and Codes of Practice, CCTV and its operation are subject to legislation under:

- Government codes of practice.
- The Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).
- The Human Rights Act 1998 (HRA).
- The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).
- The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA).
- The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.

Finance:

There are no financial implications arising from this report at this stage of the review, should any be identified during the course of this Scrutiny Review, appropriate advice will be sought from Finance.

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	None
General Fund – Capital Programme	None
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	None
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	None

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
There have been no risks yet identified at this stage of the review, any risks identified will be appropriately considered with consideration given to mitigation actions.	None yet identified.

Human Resources:

There are no HR implications identified in this report, any considerations will give attention to HR and seek appropriate advice.

Equalities:

Consideration of this topic will take into account any equalities issues resulting from the research, findings and subsequent recommendations.

Other Implications:

None identified at this stage of the review.

Reason(s) for Urgency

None

Reason(s) for Exemption

None

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