

Report To:	SCRUTINY PANEL B	Date:	27 NOVEMBER 2018
Heading:	SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION OF CCTV		
Portfolio Holder:	CABINET MEMBER (JOINT FOCUS)		
Ward/s:	ALL		
Key Decision:	NO		
Subject to Call-In:	NO		

Purpose of Report

This topic was added to the Scrutiny Workplan to gain an understanding of CCTV, to consider the impact it has within the Community, and how it contributes to the Council's Corporate Priorities. The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Panel further clarification, information, and guidance on the Scrutiny Review of CCTV.

This report includes:

- A summary of the CCTV Shared Service Arrangement
- Location maps of cameras within Ashfield, attached in the appendices
- Analysis of recent performance statistics
- Guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office and the national picture of CCTV
- Ashfield District Council's communication of CCTV use

Recommendation(s)

Members are requested to:

- Note the information given in this report;
- Discuss potential areas for improvement

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

CCTV was added as a review topic to the Scrutiny Workplan 2018/19.

Alternative Options Considered

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

Detailed Information

Background

At the last meeting of the Panel, Members were provided additional information in respect of the CCTV budget for 2018/19, along with data illustrating incident categories and CCTV statistics from the previous year. Members also discussed the location of cameras, and were interested in how locations are chosen and reviewed, along with the specific performance of each camera. Members have also made a site visit to the CCTV control room at Sherwood Lodge, to gain an understanding of the system, how it is used, type of monitoring, staffing, and quality of imaging.

Shared Service Arrangements

Ashfield District Council forms part of a CCTV Shared Service including two other local authorities in Nottinghamshire; Newark and Sherwood District Council and Broxtowe Borough Council.

The monitoring of the CCTV for the three authorities in the Shared Service is undertaken by Profile, an outsourced contract managed by Broxtowe Borough Council.

Ashfield District Council has 29 wireless CCTV cameras that are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at a control room situated at Nottinghamshire Police Headquarters (Sherwood Lodge).

The control room also provides a 24-hour contact centre for all out-of-hours calls made to this Council.

The key topics that the CCTV Shared Service Arrangement sets out are:

- Key Objectives of the partnership;
- The Principles of Collaboration;
- Performance Indicators; and
- The Respective Roles and Responsibilities each party has within the Partnership.

Key Objectives

Key objectives are established for all involved parties:

- All parties agree to:
 - Perform the key responsibilities set out in the agreement;
 - Record and share performance indicators; and
 - Cooperate in the management of CCTV to ensure the efficient and effective running of operations between all parties

Principles of Collaboration

The Principles of Collaboration advises involved parties to adopt a set of principles when carrying out the Partnership. These principles include;

- Open communication about any major issues or opportunities
- Full cooperation and accountability for each parties' respective roles
- Continued efforts to achieve the full potential of the Partnership
- Maintain an open network of communication to share information, experience, and skills to develop effective working practices, mitigate risk, and reduce costs
- Comply with applicable laws and standards
- Manage stakeholders effectively

The Principles of Collaboration section details the desired working relationship between Ashfield District Council, Newark and Sherwood District Council, and Broxtowe Borough Council, outlining the importance of open communication, and the need for accountability to ensure all actions are taken in a timely and positive manner.

Performance Indicators

Each party is responsible for the recording and sharing of the following performance indicators:

- The total number of incidents monitored between two dates
 - The percentage of those incidents generated by the Police
 - The percentage of those incidents proactively generated by the Control Room
 - The percentage of those incidents that result in lawful 'on street' detentions by Police and/or PCSO's.
- The total number of camera hours between two dates
 - The percentage of those hours when cameras are not functioning
 - The percentage of those hours when recording is not functioning
- The number of shifts when the CCTV Control Room is staffed below the agreed level
- The number of Police requests to view footage between two dates
 - The percentage of those requests responded to within 24 hours
 - The percentage of those viewings that result in the retrieval of evidence
 - The percentage of those viewings that result in CCTV evidence forming part of a prosecution or other formal action
- The number of complaints received
- Details of any continuance arrangement
- Budget provision and requirements

This information is intended to be used to produce the annual report that reviews the general performance of the Shared Service, and to inform any action taken to improve it. The sharing and recording of performance statistics is important for all parties in adhering to the Principles of Collaboration, and ensuring continued efforts are made to develop the Shared Service Arrangement.

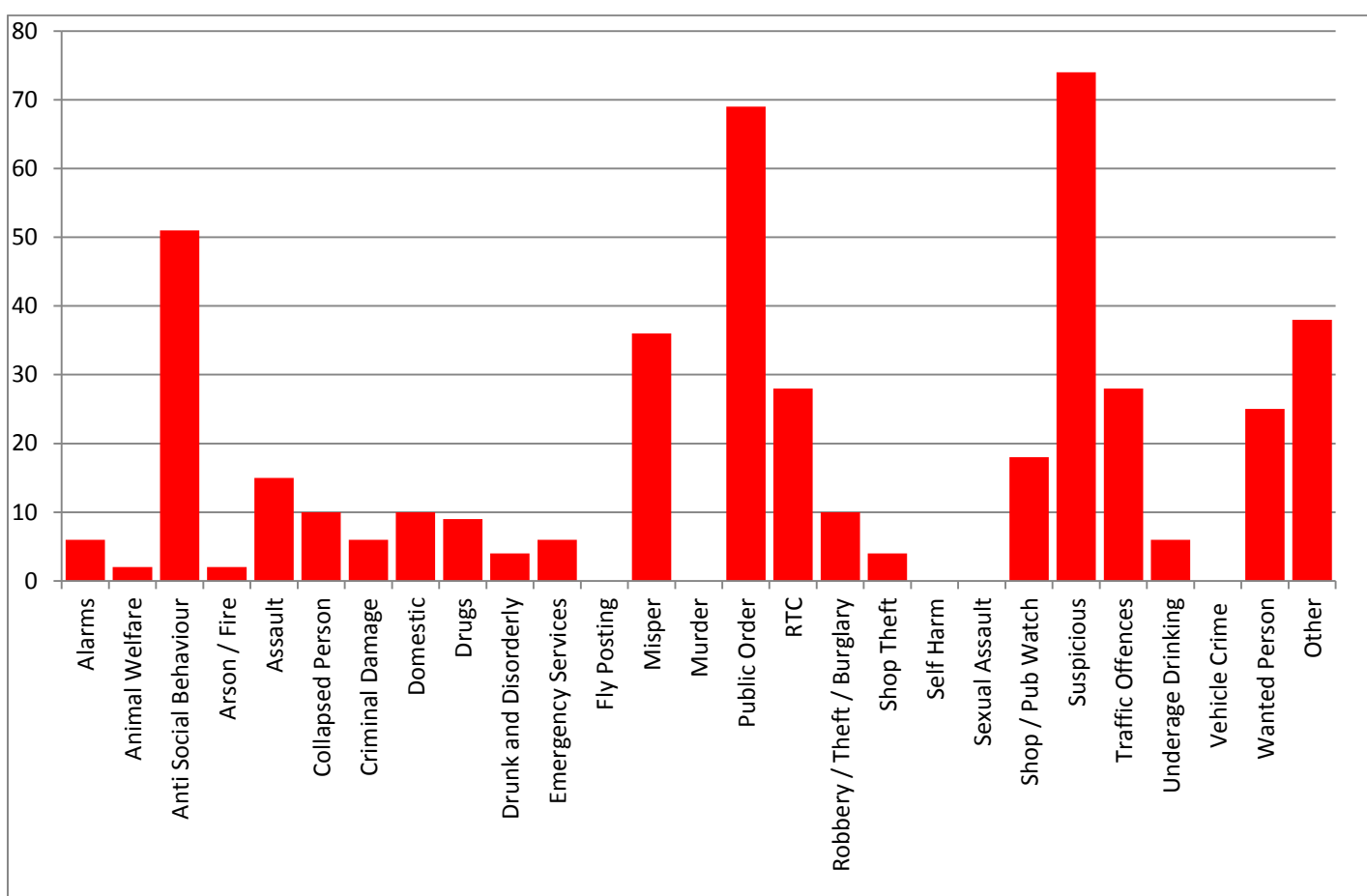
CCTV Performance Statistics

The purpose of Ashfield District Council's CCTV cameras is to deter and reduce crime and increase community safety. At previous Panel meetings, Members have discussed the need to ensure performance information and statistics for each individual camera is available, to assess the effectiveness of the CCTV in reducing crime and increasing community safety. Panel Members have also expressed interest in analysing performance statistics to determine the optimal locations for cameras.

Ashfield District Council has 29 wireless CCTV cameras placed across Hucknall, Sutton, and Kirkby Town Centres, as well as other key locations. Each incident the individual camera captures are logged at the CCTV Control Centre and made available to the Police and the Council upon request.

A total of 457 incidents were recorded by Ashfield District Council CCTV from May to October 2018.

This chart categorises the 457 incidents that have been recorded over that time period:



It is clear that the cameras capture a variety of activities, with suspicious behaviour followed by public order and then antisocial behaviour being the most common.

Categorised incident numbers are useful indicators when determining the effectiveness and analysing the location of a specific camera. However, Members should note that it is difficult to measure the extent to which CCTV acts as a deterrent to crime, and all factors must be taken into consideration before any decisions are made relating to CCTV.

A full list of all categorised monthly data from May to October 2018, for all 29 wireless cameras, is attached as Appendix A. Location maps for cameras in Hucknall, Kirkby, and Sutton are also attached as Appendix B.

Communication of CCTV

In previous Panel meetings, Members have discussed the public perception of Ashfield District Council's CCTV use and the need to improve communication. Members identified social media, the press, and Ashfield District Council's website as areas where improvements could be made to develop public awareness of the various CCTV systems in place.

Members may want to consider the benefits of enhancing the CCTV section on the website, providing website visitors some of the following information:

- The key objectives of Ashfield District Council's CCTV use
- Location maps of cameras
- Regular Incident statistics

Members have previously agreed that in order for Ashfield District Council's CCTV scheme to achieve the main objective of increasing community safety, members of the public must be made aware of the use and presence of CCTV throughout Ashfield. Additional information on the website would help to improve public awareness and perception of CCTV. Press releases and social media references could also be effective ways to positively manage public perception.

National Picture on CCTV

The Surveillance Commissioners Code of Practice applies to surveillance cameras that operate in public places and details the 12 principles for CCTV. The Surveillance Commissioner has introduced an online toolbox to support local authorities with achieving compliance including the data protection impact assessment tool.

The Shared Service core group are currently reviewing documents ensuring compliance which will be made available on the Council's website in the new year. The Surveillance commissioner is also seeking a national database which would see local authorities being able to obtain data on formal action as a result of CCTV footage from the Police.

CCTV has moved into amalgamating data networks, the explosion of drone technology, facial recognition cameras are all areas for regulation which are being considered by the Commissioner. The capability of cameras is increasing as technology moves forward rapidly and the Core Group will be visiting and receiving synergy3 training shortly to maximise the use of technology supporting the new system purchased as part of the shared service.

Next Steps

An additional visit to the Sherwood Lodge Control Room will take place on 21 November 2018. This visit will give Members of the Panel an opportunity to view the control room during evening operations, where different levels and types of activity can be observed, and Members can achieve a greater understanding of the issues the Control Room faces, and how they are responded to.

An informal working group is also in the process of being arranged, where representatives from Licensing, Planning, Commercial, Community Safety, and Communications will be available for Members to ask questions to further 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 General Data Protection Regulations and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018).
- 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 to help inform potential recommendations.

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	As above
General Fund – Capital Programme	As above
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	N/A

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

Reason(s) for Urgency

None

Reason(s) for Exemption

None

Background Papers

Attached as Appendices.

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