

## **REVIEW OF CCTV PROVISION**

<u>Report of the:</u>	Chief Executive
<u>Contact:</u>	Kelvin Shooter
<u>Urgent Decision?(yes/no)</u>	No
<u>If yes, reason urgent decision required:</u>	
<u>Annexes/Appendices (attached):</u>	None
<u>Other available papers (not attached):</u>	Review of CCTV provision: Report and Minutes, Crime & Disorder and Scrutiny Committee – 28 June 2016 Streetscene CCTV Report, Strategy and Resources Committee 7 February 2017

## **REPORT SUMMARY**

**This report provides an update on the progress of the review of CCTV to date.**

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION (S)</u></b>	<i>Notes</i>
<p>(1) That the Committee notes that the streetscene CCTV service is proposed to be continued at the current levels of service, subject to agreement being reached on a range of issues.</p> <p>(2) That a further report be brought to the Committee on 8 February 2018 reviewing compliance with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice</p>	

## **1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy**

- 1.1 There are no specific corporate plan actions in respect of CCTV in 2016/2017. The provision of Town Centre (Streetscene) CCTV falls within the 2016/20 Key Priority of 'Supporting Businesses and our Local Economy', it also contributes to the Key Priority of 'Supporting our Community'. A review of CCTV provision could contribute to the Key Priority 'Managing our Resources'.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 In June 2016 this Committee received a report on a review of the CCTV capabilities of the Council. The Committee agreed to receive a full review of CCTV (undertaken by an officer working group) in order that it could make recommendations to the relevant service committees. It was intended that by means of the review the Council would demonstrate and document compliance with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice and determine the appropriateness and value for money of each of the different systems.
- 2.2 The review would cover:
  - 2.2.1 Town Centres' (Streetscene) CCTV
  - 2.2.2 Public Car Parks CCTV
  - 2.2.3 Council Venues/Other facilities CCTV
  - 2.2.4 Council vehicles' CCTV.
- 2.3 A report on the review was included in the current work programme of the Committee in part to reflect that the Streetscene CCTV contract is due to end on 31 March 2017.

## **3 General Update on CCTV Review Progress To Date**

- 3.1 Following work undertaken by officers on the CCTV working group all areas of service within the Council that operate CCTV are now aware of the obligations in terms of compliance and review and have taken steps to ensure those obligations are met.
- 3.2 As stated to previous meetings, the use and operation of CCTV is covered by a range of legislation, including particular the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012. Under the 2012 Act, a Surveillance Camera Commissioner has been established whose principal role is to encourage compliance with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice.
- 3.3 Officers have been working on documenting compliance with the Code, and will in due course complete a self-assessment and submit this to the Commissioner.

## **4 Update on Town Centres' (Streetscene) CCTV**

- 4.1 The Council currently operates 20 streetscene CCTV cameras; 16 in Epsom Town Centre, 2 in Ewell High Street and 2 in Stoneleigh Broadway. Monitoring of the cameras is carried out at Runnymede Borough Council; maintenance of the cameras is via an external contractor.

- 4.2 The monitoring undertaken by Runnymede Borough Council is by means of a joint contract with Elmbridge Borough Council, Surrey Police and Epsom & Ewell Borough Council. The camera maintenance with Quadrant Services is by means of a joint contract with Elmbridge Borough Council, which administers the contract on behalf of this Council. Surrey Police currently contribute to the Council's costs under the various agreements.
- 4.3 Both monitoring and maintenance contracts (commenced in 2012) end on the 31 March 2017. Elmbridge Borough Council has notified this Council that it will not be entering into any new joint arrangement following the end of the current contract. Surrey Police have stated that they will not contribute financially to the monitoring contract between Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and Runnymede Borough Council.
- 4.4 With the loss of the Surrey Police monitoring contract contribution it has not been possible to come up with an alternative contract specification with the existing monitoring agency that is within the finances available and maintains an acceptable level of service. Surrey Police have indicated that they are not prepared to contribute towards the costs of monitoring or maintenance of the system. However, they have suggested an alternative arrangement in respect of monitoring.
- 4.5 Discussions with the Eastern Division of Surrey Police (within which Epsom & Ewell now falls), on the requirement of the local Police Neighbourhood Team to have access to CCTV live monitoring and recording has established that the Police would benefit from having the monitoring at their central monitoring suite at Reigate Police Station. Surrey Police already monitor other CCTV within the Eastern Policing Division and are fully operational and CCTV code compliant.
- 4.6 A report is being taken to the Strategy & Resources Committee on 7 February 2017 seeking authorisation for the Chief Executive to agree new arrangements for the monitoring and maintenance of the street scene CCTV system.
- 4.7 Surrey Police has commissioned a review of CCTV across the 11 Surrey Districts and Boroughs. It is anticipated that any outcomes of this Surrey wide review will not be available until at the earliest 2017/18.
- 4.8 It has also been noted that the feeds from the town centre cameras are also used by Surrey County Council Highways team. Currently SCC does not contribute to the cost of maintenance of the cameras, and officers are discussing this with County Officers, with a view to ensuring that a fair contribution is made to this Council's operating and maintenance costs.

## **5 Proposals**

- 5.1 An agreement is to be formalised on the monitoring of the 20 Epsom & Ewell cameras by the Surrey Police.

- 5.2 Procurement of the required services and equipment take place to facilitate the continuation of the service.
- 5.3 Following the county wide review of CCTV by the Surrey Police, Epsom & Ewell then review the CCTV service within the borough.
- 5.4 We will continue to ensure that all service areas within the Council that utilise CCTV remain compliant with the relevant legislation, and will seek to ensure that there is documented compliance with the Code of Practice.

## 6 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 6.1 The current budget for Epsom & Ewell Borough Council associated with Street Scene CCTV is £75,500 and can be broken down approximately as follows:

Category	Approximate Cost 2016/2017
Monitoring	£46,000
Utilities (electricity)	£4,500
Data (BT)	£15,000
Maintenance	£10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£75,500</b>

- 6.2 Under the proposals being taken to Strategy & Resources Committee, it is hoped that savings can be made in respect of all of the above categories of spend. It would require a further decision of that Committee if it transpires that the overall budgetary provision should increase.

## 7 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 7.1 The council is not legally required to provide a CCTV monitoring and recording service but where it does it is required to comply with the relevant data protection and CCTV codes of compliance. The alternative monitoring regime of the streetscene CCTV will meet all legal requirements of providing such a service.
- 7.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** Under section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, the Council has a duty to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent:
  - (a) crime and disorder in the Borough (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
  - (b) the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the Borough ;  
and
  - (c) re-offending in the Borough.

- 7.3 It will be important to have regard to the crime & disorder implications of any proposed change to CCTV arrangements, which adds weight to the proposal to wait until Surrey Police complete their county-wide review, before making any changes to the CCTV service.

## **8 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications**

- 8.1 The streetscene CCTV service, having been established since the 1990s, is valued by the Surrey Police in stopping and detecting Anti-Social Behaviour and crime. They have stated they wish the service to remain at its current level.

## **9 Partnerships**

- 9.1 The provision of streetscene CCTV has been a partnership between the Borough Council and Surrey Police. The proposed changes to the source of monitoring to maintain the service at its current level will continue that partnership.

## **10 Risk Assessment**

- 10.1 Should the Surrey Police decide to end their monitoring arrangement following its implementation post March 2017 it would not be possible to maintain the service within the resources currently available.
- 10.2 There are potential risks in relation to crime and disorder if the system is not maintained, though the data previously obtained indicates that the direct impact would be minimal. There is also a risk to the reputation of the Council and potential for harm to our relationship with both Surrey Police and Surrey County Council if the matter is not concluded by mutual agreement

## **11 Conclusion and Recommendations**

- 11.1 The ending of the existing streetscene CCTV contracts in March 2017 and the removal of Police funding necessitates some change being made. Either the budgeted expenditure would need to be increased, or changes to arrangements would have been required – for example, a change to the level of service under a contract with the existing monitoring contractor.
- 11.2 The arrangements proposed in terms of the monitoring streetscene CCTV at Reigate Police Station will hopefully allow the service to be continued at its current levels within financial resources allocated to the provision of CCTV.
- 11.3 Following the results of the county wide review of CCTV by Surrey Police the Council may need to re-evaluate the provision of CCTV within this Borough.
- 11.4 On balance, it is considered that this matter should be approached with a view to making the savings indicated above at the earliest opportunity.

AUDIT, CRIME & DISORDER AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
9 FEBRUARY 2017

11.5 A further report will be brought to this committee to review compliance with the Code of Practice in February 2018.

**WARD(S) AFFECTED: (All Wards);**