

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE	20 JUNE 2017	7
RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAMERAS AND THE PROVISION OF CCTV			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

At a meeting of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee on the 1st November 2016 the Committee resolved to establish a working group to consider the future use of rapid deployment cameras. The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee on the results of the Working Group meetings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That consideration is given to ceasing the purchase and support of Rapid Deployment Cameras and the capital budget be used to support the provision of the existing CCTV maintained system.
- 2) That the feasibility of extending the current maintained system is explored to include locations where rapid deployment cameras have previously been deployed.
- 3) That continued support is provided to the maintenance of equipment in the CCTV vans but any subsequent replacement of the actual CCTV vehicles be dealt through Capital or Funding Bids, rather than the existing budget provision.
- 4) Adopt the proposed policy regarding the use of Body Worn Cameras.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Environment, Health and Housing Committee 1st November 2016

A report sought the approval of members to undertake a review of the use of rapid deployment CCTV cameras in the Fylde. The review was to be undertaken by a Working Group set up with representation from the Environment, Health and Housing Committee.

It was RESOLVED:

1. That the Committee notes the report and acknowledges the need for a review of the use and replacement of rapid deployment cameras and endorses the production of a report with recommendations for their future replacement and use.
2. That the Committee appoints Councillors Ben Aitken, Viv Willder, Delma Collins and Louis Rigby to a CCTV Working Group to visit the CCTV suite at Wyre Council and work with officers on the production of the above report.
3. That the report and recommendations of the Working Group, be reported back to Committee upon conclusion for due consideration.

Following a report to the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee 22nd January 2015 resolved to recommend to Cabinet

1. To note the current position with regard to the management and monitoring of the Rapid Deployment and

the fixed CCTV cameras in Fylde Borough.

2. To approve the option of adding the three Lytham Town centre cameras to the existing monitored system (as outlined in the report) to be delivered through the Wyre BC and Fylde BC CCTV monitoring partnership, funded from the approved Capital programme at an estimated cost of £1,185

Community Focus Scrutiny Committee – 22 January 2015

1. To approve a fully funded budget increase of £1,151 to the CCTV replacement scheme within the approved Capital programme and that this increase be met for the additional LSP final balance.

2. As a consequence of the high risk to the existing downloading facility (outlined in paragraph 7 of the report) no further maintenance or renewal works be undertaken to other existing rapid deployment cameras, (as listed in Appendix 1 of the report) and they be decommissioned where such works are required

3. To approve the continuation of the existing maintenance work for the existing CCTV vans, where such works are a Fylde BC responsibility, whilst Cabinet subsequently resolved to approve the recommendations made by the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee subject to:

- Replace recommendation 1(4) on the Future of CCTV in Fylde with “To seek a further report to cabinet on the implications on the capital budget provision of the proposed conversion of the Lytham cameras, to the monitored system delivered through Wyre council, with a view to this funding being set aside in an earmarked reserve for CCTV. The long term use of this to be considered further in 2017 when the police are able to give the council a commitment to monitoring the cameras post 2017, or otherwise. In the meantime if any of the current camera locations fail, they can be considered on a case by case basis, based on a proven need being demonstrated through an impact assessment”

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	✓
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	✓
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	✓

REPORT

1. Members will recall that a meeting of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee on the 1st November 2016 the Committee considered an report concerning the provision of CCTV and resolved:

1. *That the Committee notes the report and acknowledges the need for a review of the use and replacement of rapid deployment cameras and endorses the production of a report with recommendations for their future replacement and use.*
2. *That the Committee appoints Councillors Ben Aitken, Viv Willder, Delma Collins and Louis Rigby to a CCTV Working Group to visit the CCTV suite at Wyre Council and work with officers on the production of the above report.*
3. *That the report and recommendations of the Working Group, be reported back to Committee upon conclusion for due consideration.*

2. Members will also recall that when considering CCTV, the Authority must have regard to the [Surveillance Camera Code of Practice](#) issued by the [Surveillance Camera Commissioner](#).

3. There are 12 guiding principles to the code including requirements that the use of a system is consistent with a legitimate aim and a pressing need, that the system takes into account the effect of the CCTV on individuals and their privacy and that the purpose of the system is justifiable. This [guidance](#) provides further information about how local authorities should comply with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice.

4. The code goes on to explain this further:

“Surveillance camera systems operating in public places must always have a clearly defined purpose or purposes in pursuit of a legitimate aim and necessary to address a pressing need (or needs). Such a legitimate

aim and pressing need might include national security, public safety, the economic well-being of the country, the prevention of disorder or crime, the protection of health or morals, or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others That purpose (or purposes) should be capable of translation into clearly articulated objectives against which the ongoing requirement for operation or use of the systems and any images or other information obtained can be assessed."

5. The second principle is:

"The use of a surveillance camera system must take into account its effect on individuals and their privacy, with regular reviews to ensure its use remains justified."

6. The code says that this *"points to the need for a privacy impact assessment process to be undertaken whenever the development or review of a surveillance camera system is being considered to ensure that the purpose of the system is and remains justifiable, there is consultation with those most likely to be affected, and the impact on their privacy is assessed and any appropriate safeguards can be put in place"*.
7. The council would not be complying with the code if it reviewed its use of surveillance cameras without identifying the legitimate aim that the system would pursue and the pressing need that it would address. Any identified aim and need must be translated into clearly articulated objectives and the requirement for the system must be assessed against those objectives. Any decision on a review would need to be informed by a privacy impact assessment.

8. There is no legal requirement upon the Council to provide CCTV but the purpose of CCTV in Fylde is to:-

Assist in reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Help to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour

Assist in the prosecution of offenders.

9. Meetings of the Working Group took place on the 19th December 2016, 21st February 2017 and 11th April 2017. During meeting 1, members were provided with a background to the CCTV systems utilised in Fylde with supporting documentation (app 1). Meeting 2 took place at Wyre Council where the CCTV system was demonstrated to Members and the Police were invited to attend to highlight their views regarding CCTV and the final meeting was to summarise the thoughts of the Working Group.

10. Fylde Council are effectively concerned in the provision of 3 styles of CCTV:

- a) **Maintained, monitored system** providing 8 cameras in St Annes, 4 in Lytham and 3 in Kirkham. Monitoring is provided by Wyre Council utilising a number of volunteers and accredited staff whilst maintenance is provided by Blackpool Council. The current budget is sufficient for the provision of the system and also provides a small amount of slippage for repairs etc.
- b) **Rapid Deployment Cameras** – these consist of a small numbers of cameras which are not monitored and placed in locations in response to spikes in crime or anti-social behaviour. There must be an appropriate pole in place for the camera to be attached to and any footage is downloaded by the Police.
- c) **CCTV Vans** - Fylde Councils Community Safety Partnership purchased 2 CCTV vans and transferred ownership to the Police.

11. This report is primarily concerned with **b) Rapid Deployment Cameras**. The maintained, monitored system is currently operating effectively under a Service Level Agreement with Wyre Council and whilst there are some concerns about the future provision of the CCTV vans, those concerns relate to the age and condition of the vehicles rather than the installed CCTV equipment.

12. The current arrangement for the CCTV vans is that Lancashire Constabulary support the maintenance and servicing of the vehicles whilst Fylde Council service and maintain the equipment (having originally purchased the vehicle). Any decision regarding the operational age of the vehicles and their withdrawal from service would be for the Constabulary.

13. Currently, the annual revenue budget for the provision of CCTV is £44998 (code 3379 47401) from which the following costs are paid:

To Blackpool Council re maintenance	£15780
To Wyre CCTV SLA	£11250
Volunteer training/expenses	£2000
St Annes/kirkham Line Rentals	£6441
Lytham line rentals	£1500
	=====
Total	£36971

The remainder of the budget is taken up by costs such as signage, replacement batteries, repairs etc and there is some slippage which could potentially be used to replace failing maintained cameras on a rolling basis.

14. The challenge faced in providing CCTV is as follows. Following the cessation of the Local Strategic Partnership, a capital budget remained for the provision, maintenance and repair of CCTV. As of March 2017, that budget stands at £37500 and is unlikely to be increased by the Authority.
15. The Rapid Deployment Cameras are now failing and there are 8 remaining that are in operational working order. Many of the poles that were originally put in place to facilitate the use of the rapid deployment cameras, are now in unsuitable locations (it should be noted they originally were and assisted in addressing a specific issue).
16. The cost of installing and connecting a new post is £541.21 and £1091 respectively, without taking into consideration the actual cost of a new pole. The cost of rapid deployment cameras ranges from £3150 to £4800 depending upon their specification.
17. The Police were requested to attend the second working group and observations from them included:
 - ASB (anti-social behaviour) generally moves from area to area. CCTV vans have proved to be a good visual tool to disperse and deter pockets of low level ASB.
 - Now only 8 working rapid deployment cameras in place. Some of these are not in areas where required and quality of footage on some is poor.
 - No means of measuring / evidencing the reassurance CCTV provides or how much crime has been prevented due to the CCTV.
 - CCTV footage is rarely used as key evidence but is a good source of supporting evidence.
 - CCTV vans are used at events such as Club Days as a good means of preventing larger scale issues arising.
 - Statically ASB figures higher in town centres as opposed to rural areas.
 - The ideal scenario would be to invest in CCTV vans over the rapid deployment cameras but, bearing in mind the limited budget available, the priorities for the police would be to invest in more monitored cameras.
18. During the meeting, the Police confirmed they were aware of the vulnerability of rural villages and analysis would have to be undertaken to demonstrate the appropriate locations. It was also confirmed that the reassurance and preventative ability of CCTV cameras is immeasurable.
19. It is known that in the past, some Town and Parish Councils have funded the purchase of Rapid Deployment Cameras and Fylde Council have subsequently contributed to their maintenance and running costs. Those cameras are also now coming to the end of their working life but it should be noted that these organisations may wish to fund cameras in their localities subject to appropriate impact assessments.
20. Whilst not strictly relevant to the current delivery of CCTV in Fylde, Blackpool Council's monitoring suite is currently located within Blackpool Central Police Office which is scheduled for closure in the near future. Provision for a new suite has not been incorporated in the new build and as such discussions took place between Fylde, Wyre, Blackpool and Lancaster Councils on the 27th March to consider the centralisation of CCTV.
21. A CCTV Hub has been established in Blackburn covering the east of the County which is understood benefitted from some funding from the PCC and grants from Central Government. At this point in time, the involvement of Fylde Council is dependent upon how Wyre Council wishes to proceed due to the current service level agreement. However, officers are involved in the discussions and will report in due course any

potential impact upon the Fylde. The cost of implementing and subsequently maintaining the centralising of CCTV is unknown, as is whether it is actually achievable. However, the potential impact of this should be factored into any considerations.

22. To summarise, whilst the concept of a rapid deployment camera to address spikes in anti-social behaviour or crime is laudable, the deployment of cameras is subject to a number of variables such as the location and appropriateness of existing polices, lighting in the immediate area and also the need to attend the location to actually download any footage.
23. Crime and anti-social behaviour is fluid and can be affected by a number of factors such as the presence of licensed premises, changes in recreational areas, housing developments etc. Whilst the rapid deployment cameras are ready to be deployed, the actual hardware (pole and supply) may not be available in the locality of the ASB resulting in alternative measures being considered such as deployment of one of the CCTV vans.
24. Enquiries have been made as to the feasibility of adding cameras to the maintained system. Charges are anticipated in the region of £15k per installation (connection, installation and camera cost) with additional running costs of £1100 from BT for the data and monitoring expenses from Wyre. Furthermore, by extending the current provision of monitored cameras, a survey would need to be carried out by BT for each connection i.e. each camera location, and there would also be the added cost of any necessary modifications at the studio in Wyre. Bearing in mind the current proposals to establish a new CCTV suite at Blackpool, adding to the current system may not be financially prudent at this time.
25. Members may also wish to note that due to advances in CCTV technology and affordability, numerous business in the Borough have installed their own systems which may be utilised by the Police subject to appropriate and lawful requests being made. Furthermore, following a successful funding bid, the Authority is currently looking to purchase up to 8 body worn camera for the Dog Enforcement Wardens and other officers engaged in enforcement work, thus increasing CCTV capacity.
26. Body worn cameras are also subject to regulation by the Surveillance Camera Commissioner and therefore a Policy has been prepared for the use of the body worn cameras (app 1). It is requested that members consider the approval of the policy.
27. Therefore, the Working Group recommends to the Committee :
 - 1) That consideration is given to ceasing the purchase and support of Rapid Deployment Cameras and the capital budget be used to support the provision of the existing CCTV maintained system.
 - 2) That the feasibility of extending the current maintained system is explored to include locations where rapid deployment cameras have previously been deployed.
 - 3) That continued support is provided to the maintenance of equipment in the CCTV vans but any subsequent replacement of the actual CCTV vehicles be dealt through Capital or Funding Bids, rather than the existing budget provision.
 - 4) That the proposed policy regarding the use of Body Worn Cameras is adopted.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	The revenue budget in 2017/18 for Fylde CCTV costs is £44,998 and the approved Capital Programme for 2017/18 includes a sum of £38,000 in respect of CCTV provision. This report requests no additional financial resources but rather considers how existing approved resources may be most-effectively utilised.
Legal	As highlighted within the report
Community Safety	As highlighted within the report
Human Rights and Equalities	As highlighted within the report
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	No implications arising from the report
Health & Safety and Risk Management	No implications arising from the report

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Home Office Surveillance Camera Code of Practice	June 2013	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/282774/SurveillanceCameraCodePractice.pdf
Working Group Agenda and Notes		https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/MeetingsCalendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/954/Committee/19/Default.aspx

Attached documents

Appendix 1 – Body Worn Camera Policy