

## DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE	2 SEPTEMBER 2021	5
<b>SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS</b>			

### PUBLIC ITEM

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

### SUMMARY

This report updates and builds on the three limbs of the report that the committee considered in January this year. It asks the committee to approve the replacement of the existing town centre CCTV provision in St Annes, Lytham and Kirkham, subject to funding being made available. It reports on the acquisition of four rapid redeployable CCTV cameras to replace the previous mobile vans. Finally, it discusses how CCTV can be facilitated by town and parish councils and what support might be available from the borough council.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the replacement of the strategic town centre cameras in St Annes, Lytham and Kirkham in principle, subject to Capital budgetary provision being confirmed through the 2022/23 budget process.
2. Note the replacement of the two mobile CCTV vans by four rapid redeployable cameras; and
3. Note the ability of town and parish councils to fund their own supplementary CCTV systems.

### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

5 November 2019: (1) That the Committee considers the report and supports the rationalisation of the 2 CCTV vehicles to one in order to provide a viable service in 2020/21; and (2) That Officers are requested to investigate the costs of replacement CCTV vehicles with a view to submitting a future capital bid in 2021/22 and exploring other funding opportunities in the meantime.

5 January 2021: (1) To note the position with respect to the town centre CCTV and mobile vehicle replacement initiative; (2) To offer the support of the Committee to the Budget Working Group for the funding sought by both Kirkham Town Council and Newton-with-Clifton Parish Council for CCTV within their respective localities subject to both councils being able to demonstrate a pressing need for each camera and providing a copy of an associated data impact assessment; and (3) That a further report be brought back to the committee on guidance to be proffered to the Budget Working Group against which to consider future bids for funding for CCTV from other Town and Parish Councils.

### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	√
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	√

Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	√
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	√

## REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

1. This report updates and builds on the three limbs of the report that the committee considered in January this year, which are: CCTV provision in the town centres of St Annes, Lytham and Kirkham, assistance to parish councils to provide CCTV, and rapid redeployable cameras. CCTV is of interest to the committee because of its remit for community safety and its status as the statutory crime and disorder committee for the purposes of the Police and Justice Act 2006.

### TOWN CENTRE CCTV

2. CCTV is a valuable tool to assist the police and other agencies in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in the three town centre areas. Although impossible to quantify, the presence of a CCTV installation in town centre area also provides visible reassurance to the community and visitors, and has a significant deterrent effect in deterring much problem behaviour.
3. The council presently controls fifteen static CCTV cameras in town centre locations. The cameras are in in St Annes (8 cameras), Lytham (4) and Kirkham (3). The cameras are maintained under an agreement with Blackpool Council and operated and monitored through an arrangement with Wyre Council.
4. Cameras are generally regarded as having an optimum working life of five years, before becoming obsolete through a combination of service interruptions, increasing maintenance costs and technological advancement. Like an older car, a camera can be maintained in working order considerably beyond that expectation, but that may not be economically or operationally sensible.
5. The cameras in **St Annes** and **Kirkham** are analogue cameras which were installed in about 2008. They are operational, but outdated. The four cameras in **Lytham** are IP units installed in 2015, but are still past the end of their optimum useful life.
6. Any replacement cameras would be digital internet protocol ('IP') units. They would have the capability of capturing significantly higher definition images (including colour images during the hours of darkness), as well as receiving control data and sending images through an IP network.
7. Information supplied by Lancashire Constabulary and by the Partnerships Officer at Wyre Council, who oversees the Fylde CCTV operations, underlines the usefulness of the town centre cameras. The data below from Lancashire Constabulary covers the period 31 October 2019 to 1 November 2020. The data from Wyre Council covers the twelve months to October 2020.
8. In **St Annes**, Lancashire Constabulary recorded 2133 incidents in St Anne's town centre. These were classified by the police as including 198 nuisance incidents, 47 suspicious circumstances, 177 concern for safety incidents and 143 incidents of theft. 509 incidents were monitored by CCTV and there were 829<sup>1</sup> viewings of footage by the police (plus ten by other agencies). The most prolific camera in terms of incidents recorded covered 226 incidents, and the least busy covered 45.
9. In **Lytham**, Lancashire Constabulary recorded 547 incidents in Lytham town centre. These were classified by the police as including 86 nuisance incidents, 47 suspicious circumstances, 27 concern for safety incidents and 30 incidents of theft. 181 incidents were monitored by CCTV and there were 218<sup>2</sup> viewings of footage by the police. The most prolific camera in terms of incidents recorded covered 134 incidents, and the least busy covered 22.
10. In **Kirkham**, Lancashire Constabulary recorded 677 incidents in Kirkham town centre. These were classified by the police as including 98 nuisance incidents, 50 suspicious circumstances, 31 concern for safety incidents and 45 incidents of theft. 46 incidents were monitored by CCTV and there was 52 viewings of footage by the police.

The disparity between the number of incidents recorded and the number of viewings is because a single incident may have been recorded by more than one camera.

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11. Budget Working Group has recommended that funding for replacing the present town centre cameras be included in the budget for 2022-3. The present estimate for the cost of their replacement, as prepared by Blackpool Council, is set out below:

St Annes: £25,695

Lytham: £12,069

Kirkham: £8,824

Control/monitoring equipment: £17,772

Network costs - £7,500

Contingency 6% - £4,312

**Total - £76,172**

12. The committee is asked, subject to funding being confirmed through the budgetary process, to approve in principle the replacement of the town centre cameras in St Annes, Lytham and Kirkham. The exact location of for each replacement camera would be decided following detailed discussions with police representatives. When locations have been settled, a further report will be brought to committee so that members can be satisfied as to regulatory compliance with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice and data protection legislation.

#### RAPID REDEPLOYABLE CAMERAS

13. As well as the town centre cameras, the council has historically also been able to deploy two mobile CCTV vehicles, which were capable of being moved quickly to address particular problem areas on a temporary basis. Those two units are no longer in working order and are not capable of being economically repaired. Like the the town centre cameras, the age of the mobile CCTV units meant that they no longer met present day expectations even when working.

14. To replace the mobile CCTV vehicles, the council now has four rapid redeployable CCTV cameras (RRCs). RRCs can be deployed at short notice in response to particular problems. They are fully integrated with the remainder of the council's CCTV provision, as referred to above, and the council is responsible for their use and regulatory compliance. RRCs are specifically designed to deliver live and recorded high-definition images via 4G mobile transmission. As an all-in-one surveillance system, it combines an infrared PTZ camera, local recording capacity (up to 4TB) and integrated 4G transmission technology into a single, lightweight unit. Live and recorded footage from the cameras can be accessed via 4G, 3G and Wi-Fi connectivity, allowing users to remotely view and download the video via CCTV control room. They are fixed to, and draw their electricity supply from, infrastructure such as lamp posts and CCTV columns. One of the first uses of the rapid redeployable cameras was at Lytham Windmill, in response to anti-social behaviour in the early summer.

15. RRCs will be deployed to council-owned parks and open spaces and other facilities in response to requests from council services or ward councillors, to address local incidents of crime or anti-social behaviour. Deployments will normally for a limited time, in order to deal with a specific problem. If there are at any time more requests than available RRCs, the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Chairman of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee, will determine the priority of deployment using the following criteria:

- Technical and regulatory requirements being met;
- The effect on the community of the behaviour that the deployment is intended to address;
- The likely effectiveness of the deployment in addressing the behaviour;
- The proportionality of the deployment as a means to address the behaviour;
- The relative benefits of all other outstanding requests for deployment

#### TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

16. The town centre CCTV cameras and the RRCs are a strategic, borough-wide resource. The borough council is responsible for ensuring that that they comply with regulatory requirements, including the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice and data protection legislation. Town and parish councils may also want to have CCTV capability (or additional CCTV capability) of their own, informed by their local priorities. A town or parish council

can fund and operate its own CCTV cameras through its parish precept, without the consent or involvement of the borough council. If they do, the town or parish council is responsible for regulatory compliance.

17. Exceptionally, town or parish councils may seek capital contributions from the borough council towards CCTV systems. This would only be expected where funding for necessary local provision could not be met by the town or parish council through its own resources. Where this is the case, the borough council would require a business case to be made out for funding, detailing the need for the cameras, and why they cannot be funded by the town or parish council.
18. The borough council will also need to be satisfied that any CCTV that it funds will operate in a way that complies with regulatory requirements. The business case will therefore also need to include information about the proposed operation of the cameras that satisfies the borough council that the requirements of data protection legislation and the Code for Surveillance Cameras will be met.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	Subject to agreement in principle from the committee a Capital Bid will be proposed through the 2022/23 Budget Process at a current estimated cost of £76,172 as detailed within the body of the report.
Legal	CCTV is highly regulated. Since 2013, any CCTV installation operated by a public authority has had to comply with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice, issued by the Surveillance Camera Commissioner. Images collected by surveillance cameras are personal data and must be processed as required by the Data Protection Act 2018
Community Safety	Surveillance cameras can provide valued community reassurance and are an invaluable tool in combatting anti-social behaviour and crime.
Human Rights and Equalities	In general, any increase in the capability of surveillance camera system technology also has the potential to increase the likelihood of intrusion into an individual's privacy and infringe their rights under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	No implications.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	No implications.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
N/A		

