



Public Area CCTV – Implications of Budget Reductions 2015/16

SUMMARY

- 1.1 In March 2015 The Council confirmed the reduction of the £200k reduction of the CCTV budget.
- 1.2 The remaining budget (approximately £70k) will cover the cost of basic maintenance of the CCTV cameras and control room equipment.
- 1.3 As a result all six CCTV Monitoring Officer posts have been deleted.
- 1.4 The control room equipment still continues to operate, but active monitoring of the system ended on 31st May 2015.
- 1.5 The Police are actively exploring various solutions for remote access to take control of the system and access recorded data.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To recognise the impact of the budget reduction on the operation of the Public Area CCTV system.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Council has confirmed the decision to make the necessary reduction in budget.
- 3.2 The impact has been mitigated by making budget available to keep the equipment operating to provide a minimum evidence gathering service, however active monitoring ended on May 31st.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The total cost of operating the Public Area CCTV system has been reduced over recent years by the Council investing external grant funding in new technology.
- 4.2 As part of the budget setting process for 2015/16 the available budget has been reduced by £200k. The control room equipment is still operating using pre-programmed routines, and data is still being recorded.

- 4.3 The control room is still available for the Police to visit in person and use to obtain evidence. Routine access to the control room is limited to office hours, Monday to Friday.
- 4.4 It is possible that the Police may be able to access the technology remotely, without the need to visit the control room; Council Officers are assisting in the development of the options and the current system supplier has been working with the Police. There is some technical difficulty in making the CCTV system available for remote access for live Police operations. This would have the benefit of allowing the CCTV system to be actively used, rather than passively recording data.
- 4.5 The Council needs to ensure compliance with its legal responsibilities under the Data Protection Act and in relation to the national CCTV Code of Practice. The Police and Council officers will need to develop a protocol and controls to ensure that the Council is not exposed to risk. A brief outline has been provided to the Police to set out the Council's key concerns and requirements.

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| OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED |
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- 5.1 Consideration was given to the complete removal of all Public Area CCTV and total closure of the control room, with the disposal of all equipment. This would have removed all benefits of a public area CCTV system whereas the decision to end active monitoring ensures that many aspects of the current CCTV system are retained and that the service continues to provide a facility which can be used to support the reduction and detection of crime.
- 5.2 The Police and other key partners have been invited on several occasions to contribute to the cost of maintaining the existing CCTV system and the cost of active monitoring. None of the partners were able to offer sufficient funding contributions.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

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|--|---|
| Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s) | Circulated to the following Olu Idowu Head of Service – Legal Amanda Fletcher Head of Finance – Neighbourhoods Tim Clegg Director of Partnerships and Streetpride, Andy Thomas Head of Service – Partnerships and Communities, David Gartside Head of Service – Traffic and Transportation |
| For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices: | Nigel Brien 01332 641833 nigel.brien@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications |

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| IMPLICATIONS |
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Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 The financial savings resulting from ending active monitoring of the public area CCTV system contributes to the Councils need to set a balanced budget for 2015/16.

Legal

- 2.1 The Council's obligations under the Data Protection Act requires that access to both the control room and recorded images by the Police or other partners is controlled by protocol.

Personnel

- 3.1 The deletion of six full-time posts – CCTV Monitoring Officers

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- 4.1 None arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 The CCTV service assists with the protection and safety of all groups and the whole community. The continuation of a reduced service will at least ensure that some of the perceived benefits of CCTV continue in the future.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None arising directly from this report

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 None arising directly from this report

Risk Management

- 9.1 None arising directly from this report

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 Our aim is to work together so that Derby and its people will enjoy; feeling safe and being safe, a thriving sustainable economy, good health and well-being and a strong community.