

CCTV EVALUATION

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report seeks Members' agreement to an evaluation of various CCTV systems that are currently being used throughout the District.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Over the last three years the quantity of CCTV systems being installed throughout the District has increased dramatically. These range from single cameras in the entrances of Council owned sheltered accommodation, to clusters of cameras in shopping parades and car parks.
- 2.2 The systems currently being used are a mix of analogue and digital and all are self-contained units. There is no central base for monitoring.
- 2.3 The systems have been funded and installed by a variety of agencies – the District Council, various Town/Parish Councils and local chambers of trade.
- 2.4 To date there has not been a comprehensive evaluation of the systems, and it is considered it would be prudent to do so before any additional installations are proposed for implementation.
- 2.5 On the basis of estimates obtained, the cost of such an evaluation exercise would be in the region of £8,000.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The evaluation proposed would look at the existing CCTV provision in terms of its impact, effectiveness, needs and suitability. In turn, it would also carry out an evaluation of management, equipment audit, lines of responsibility and likely future expectations, and the potential for scheme expansion.
- 3.2 The evaluation would provide the Council with advice as to how it can best utilise current systems as well as in forming any long-term strategy for the future.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Within the constraints of funding, having an effective CCTV system is perceived to act as a deterrent which can impact upon the detection of crime and disorder.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Should the Council agree to evaluate the current CCTV provision, it is proposed that it is funded from the Crime and Disorder Reserve. There is currently a balance of £85,341 in that Reserve.
- 5.2 Since some of the systems have been funded by Town and Parish Councils, Members may wish to consider a contribution from those respective Councils. However, a detailed breakdown of such costs has not been undertaken at this stage. However, it is unlikely to be more than £500 per Council.

6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
- (1) That the proposal to evaluate the existing CCTV systems be agreed, with the evaluation costs of £8,000 being funded from the Crime and Disorder Reserve.
 - (2) That the Town and Parish Councils, where applicable, be approached with a view to providing a contribution towards the costs of evaluation.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers:

None

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