

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Housing and Partnerships</b>
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<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Report Track:</b>	<b>Cabinet: 04/10/18</b>

**CABINET**  
**4 OCTOBER 2018**  
**UPGRADING CANNOCK CHASE PUBLIC SPACE CCTV TECHNOLOGY –**  
**APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO SPEND**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet permission to spend in relation to upgrading Cannock Chase Public Space CCTV Technology funded from a capital allocation of £50,000.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Cabinet grants permission to spend £55,000 towards the upgrading of Cannock Chase Public Space CCTV Technology (£5,000 available from existing Revenue Budget).

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The CCTV cameras were installed in 1998. The majority of the current analogue public space CCTV cameras located across the District are beyond the normal life expectancy and support for this type of equipment. The cameras are listed in Confidential Appendix 3, attached to this Report.
- 3.2 Some units have already failed and been repaired on a number of occasions. Due to the age of the equipment, the cameras can't be covered under any maintenance contracts thus making any repairs that are carried out expensive. The CCTV Maintenance Budget has been significantly overspent as detailed below:

2016 – 2017 Budget £7,990      Outturn £14,852      £6,862 overspent.

2017 – 2018 Budget £8,150      Outturn £27,877      £19,727 overspent.

2018 – 2019 Budget £12,150      £15,435 estimated overspend to date.

- 3.3 The Council therefore faces a decision to either:
- (a) Continue maintaining the existing cameras on an ad hoc basis and in an uneconomical manner
  - (b) Be aware of the outage risks and potential repair costs
  - (c) To invest in the replacement of cameras to obviate the risks.

The outcome of the Audit was discussed with Staffordshire Police and the CCTV Operatives and all were in agreement that the 26 cameras that have been deemed as essential to replace should take priority over the other cameras.

- 3.4 The approved capital programme includes an allocation of £50,000 for the upgrade of the CCTV cameras. There is an existing Revenue Budget (Community Safety Hub) of £5,000 that would fund the shortfall of the full £55,000 required to replace the 26 essential cameras, as identified in Appendix 3 of this Report.
- 3.5 At the time of the review, there were a total of 91 cameras across the District. A full audit review of each individual camera's condition, access and image has been conducted. The consultants appointed to conduct this review have summarised the priority order for the replacement of cameras using a Must Do (Essential), Should Do (Desirable) and Could Do (Optional) approach:
- Must Do (Essential) = 26 cameras
  - Should Do (Desirable) = 14 cameras
  - Could Do (Optional) = 8 cameras
- 3.6 The spend of £55,000 will only cover the cost of replacing the essential 26 cameras and it is anticipated that the works will be completed within this financial year.
- 3.7 The Revenue Budget of £12,150 for repairs and maintenance will be necessary to fund works that may be required due to vandalism / criminal damage and repairs to cameras that have not been upgraded.
- 3.8 A request for additional funding from the Capital Programme to replace the 14 desirable cameras and the 8 optional cameras will be subject to a report in the near future. A review of de-commissioning certain cameras will also be included in this report.

#### **4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 This report supports the Council's Corporate Priorities of Promoting Prosperity and Community Wellbeing.

- 4.2 This report also supports the Community Safety Delivery Plan 2017 -2020 and Police Crime Commissioners Community Safety Priorities.
- 4.3 The Strategic Priorities for Cannock Chase's Community Safety Delivery Plan are:
- Domestic Abuse
  - Anti-social Behaviour
  - Drugs (supply and possession)
  - Missing Children
  - Vulnerability
- 4.4 The Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire's (PCC) Community Safety Priorities are:
- Early Intervention – tackling the root causes before they become a problem;
  - Supporting Victims and Witnesses – making it easier for victims and witnesses to get the support they need locally;
  - Managing Offenders – preventing offending in the first place and reducing the likelihood of re-offending;
  - Increasing Public Confidence – making sure everything that happens in partnership contributes to individuals and communities feeling safer and reassured.

## **5 Report Detail**

### **Background and Context**

- 5.1 In December 2016 independent consultants were commissioned to carry out a technical study and appraisal of the existing CCTV system operating across the District.
- 5.2 The technical study comprised of the following:
- A camera by camera audit and assessment
  - Advice on most appropriate locations for cameras to improve the surveillance operation
  - Advice on the condition of cameras and priority order for replacement of cameras

- Advice on communication links servicing the cameras, with suggested alternative options including the use of wireless technology
  - Review of any associated support contracts with suppliers, vendors and communication providers.
- 5.3 All existing cameras are analogue units. A combination of dome cameras, 'shoe box' cameras and bullet cameras are deployed across the District. The majority of the cameras are Pan, Tilt, Zoom (PTZ) cameras, allowing operators to view the areas around the camera location and zoom into areas of interest. Some of the cameras have integral Infra Red (IF) lighting to enable better vision in night time conditions.
- 5.4 The consultants carried out a night time visit to the old CCTV control in November 2016. During this visit, it was observed that some of the older cameras deliver poor quality images and suffer from noise/grainy images and ghosting within the scene, particularly where lighting levels are low. This is still the case with the new control room. Lighting co-ordination is a fundamental component of a successful public space CCTV scheme and this has been taken into consideration whilst conducting the audit and presenting the findings.
- 5.5 Across the District, CCTV cameras record images continually over the 24 hour period and are monitored 24 / 7, 365 days a year.
- 5.6 CCTV is a deterrent to crime and with systems such as the Councils, CCTV footage is frequently utilised by the Police, resulting in perpetrators of crime being brought to Justice.
- 5.7 Staffordshire Police request approximately 30 reviews of footage per calendar month.
- 5.8 Areas of surveillance where CCTV has been particularly useful include:
- 5.9 Night Time Economy – linking in with the Councils Licencing department, Staffordshire Police and both Cannock and Rugeley pub watch.
- To tackle and prevent anti-social behaviour through effective communication and the prompt reporting of anti-social behaviour and criminal activity.
  - To promote a sense of security for customer and staff.
  - To improve police/licensee liaison by providing effective communications through Two-way radio and CCTV.
- 5.10 Business Crime – using the CCTV cameras and Store-net radios to address shoplifting in the District. Reducing crime and disorder, shoplifting and anti-social behaviour.
- 5.11 In addition, the Council also receives approximately 2 requests for evidence per month from insurance companies regarding road traffic collisions.

- 5.12 Some recent examples of how CCTV has either played a role in, or has been the main source of evidence in, criminal cases in the District are attached at Appendix 3.

### **Camera Review**

- 5.13 Attached (Appendix 3) is a summarised priority list for the recommended replacement of cameras, using a Must Do (Essential), Should Do (Desirable) and Could Do (Optional) approach to camera replacement.
- 5.14 A further decommissioning project will take place to identify those cameras from the desirable and optional lists, reviewing which CCTV cameras need to be decommissioned, if any, moving forward. This has already been considered as part of the essential camera identification for upgrades.

### **Proposal**

- 5.15 The proposal for consideration is for the upgrade / installation of 26 cameras identified as essential with 'Hybrid' CCTV cameras. Cameras will need to function in both analogue mode now and IP mode at some point in the future.
- 5.16 Operationally, the camera solution must be fully integrated with the Avigilon VMS, provide HD (1920 X 1080) image quality in IP mode and be feature rich to meet the daily needs of the system operators in respect of range, tracking speed, field of view, pre-sets, tours and masking. The reliability of the camera should be backed by the manufacturer with a standard 3 year warranty, with options to extend to 5 years. An initial quote has been received from a provider in order to understand the costs of such a project.

### **Recommendation**

- 5.17 It is recommended that Cabinet grants permission to spend £55,000 towards the upgrading of Cannock Chase Public Space CCTV Technology, starting with the essential 26 cameras as outlined within Appendix 3 of this Report.

## **6 Implications**

### **6.1 Financial**

£50,000 has been allocated in the approved Capital Programme to fund the replacement of failing CCTV cameras.

The cost of £55,000 has been identified to replace the most urgent cameras. The shortfall in budget approved will be funded from a contribution from the Community Safety Hub Revenue Budget for 2018-19.

There is an existing Revenue Budget of £12,150 for repairs and maintenance of CCTV cameras. This will need to be retained to fund unexpected repairs arising from vandalism, to the majority of cameras that are not being replaced as part of this capital project.

**6.2 Legal**

There is no legal requirement for the Council to operate a CCTV Service.

**6.3 Human Resources**

None

**6.4 Section 17 (Crime Prevention)**

The upgrade of the cameras will enhance service delivery for prevention and detection of crime and disorder.

**6.5 Human Rights Act**

None

**6.6 Data Protection**

The CCTV Service is compliant with Data Protection requirements.

**6.7 Risk Management**

None

**6.8 Equality & Diversity**

None

**6.9 Best Value**

The CCTV maintenance budget has consistently been over-spent since 2016; upgrading the essential cameras should reduce the over-spend.

<b>7 Appendices to the Report</b>
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Appendix 1: Staffordshire Police Letter of Support

Appendix 2: CCTV Case Studies

Appendix 3 CCTV Cameras Locations (Not for Publication)

<b>Previous Consideration</b>
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None

<b>Background Papers</b>
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None

**Appendix 1**

**Cannock Local Policing Team – Supporting Letter**

Dear Colleagues,

On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018 CCTV moved into the Civic Centre Cannock. Since that date Staffordshire Police have made approx. 400 requests for viewing access and downloads of images for evidential purposes.

This department is one of the cornerstones of district partnership working, it links together Police, Community Safety, the night time economy and the business store watch initiative managed through PABCIS. Beyond that it is an intelligence gathering tool, capable of surveying huge areas of the district on a scale that cannot be emulated by other partners. The financial costs of a good quality, well managed CCTV system are far outweighed by the benefit to the communities in which they are located.

The 400 requests in an 8 month period equates to almost 1 a day, showing the value to the Police of an effective modern CCTV system. Often the images allow officers to establish exactly what happened and ensure quicker identification of offenders. Additionally an operator can review footage while an officer is still at the scene and identify all involved. The system also allows monitoring of various community assets such as the new developments and refurbishments in Hednesford Park and the Pye Green Stadium site.

The value of the CCTV can be broken down into three distinct areas:

- Evidential- Where images captured by CCTV are used as part of the evidence presented to the CPS
- Prevention – where the Operators and Partners use the cameras in a proactive manner to identify known offenders operating in the district and then raise awareness with Pub watch, Store watch and Police. Supporting ASB legislation by monitoring breaches of CPNs & CPNWs.
- Intelligence – Proactive use of the systems to monitor areas where criminality is occurring, IE, Shoplifters, Purse theft, town centre violence. The systems also support officers looking for missing persons, allowing for review of areas, establishing last movements, area searches and possible sittings. Working with Neighbourhood Action Teams (NAT) on identification of cross border criminals involved in County Lines.

Regards,

Chief Insp. Sarah Wainwright  
Cannock Local Policing Team

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Appendix 2CCTV Case StudiesEvidential use

During the World Cup campaign of 2018 evaluation of football related incidents carried out at weekly Threat and Grip (T&G) meeting indicated that Hednesford was an area of concern. Tasking from T&G was for operators to monitor Market St Hednesford and report incidents. After the next fixture police were called to an assault outside licensed premises on this street. CCTV images assisted with identification of offenders giving officers a clear picture of what had happened prior to their arrival. Additionally due to existing sharing protocols linked with the Pub Watch banning submission these can also be shared with members. The footage from this incident gave CCDC and police licensing teams sufficient evidence to visit, discuss and take action where required in relation to the management of the licensed premises during events.

Several reports were received in the spring of 2018 after a number of town centre businesses in Rugeley were the victim of criminal damage. The damage had occurred overnight and was deliberate and malicious with many taking to social media to voice their outrage. The investigating officer was able to identify the two offenders from CCTV at targeted business, but it was the footage on Town Centre CCTV that linked to the offenders to all four incidents. Footage was copied and taken as evidence. This additional imagery greatly assisted the Police in securing a conviction for Criminal damage and compensation for the victims.

The Pye Green Stadium site is a known hotspot for ASB involving the use of off road bikes. Using intelligence from reports by members of the public, operators monitored the area at key times. This resulted in footage being obtained by CCTV of a known offender committing further offences. This evidence from CCTV was of huge assistance to Police in bringing action against the offender .

Prevention use

Cannock Town centre has experienced ASB from a group of adults who congregate in the town centre for a number of years, their behaviour causes offence to members of the public and has had a negative impact on town centre traders. Using Crime and ASB legislation, PCSO's have issued the majority with Community Protection Notice Warnings (CPNW). These warnings are the first stage of a process designed to address this type of ASB. If recipients fail to heed the warnings and continue with their behaviour then a further Notice can be issues (CPN). A breach of this constitutes an offence and can result in a fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or court appearance. Through the Community Safety Hub we advise CCTV of all current CPNW, CPNs, providing copy of conditions and images of offenders. CCTV then monitor and report back on breaches. This CCTV footage is used to progress to next stage and where appropriate issue FPN or report for court summons. By issuing and progressing these notices quickly we are starting to impact on their behaviour and because these notices last 6 months it has also become a preventive measure that can be monitored by CCTV as part of daily business.

Intelligence Use

County Lines is the name given to the spread of Organised Crime Groups (OCG) drug supply activity. With our close proximity to the West Midlands, the district has seen a rise in drug related incidents attributable to County Lines. Cannock Neighbourhood Action Team (NAT) use the CCTV system to gather intelligence on possible offenders, assisting with images of those suspected of involvement, locating vehicles and town centre addresses they use. This intelligence is shared beyond local officers with the information going up to County and regional level.

Locally the work of CCTV has resulted in arrests of West Midlands males involved in drugs supply into Cannock Chase, identification of vulnerable young people, missing from care homes outside of the County and used by the OCG for the trafficking and dealing of drugs.

Staffordshire Police wholeheartedly support the upgrading of the CCDC CCTV system.

## Great work from the CCTV team

**Our CCTV team who moved into the Civic Centre earlier this year have shown in the last few months how working closely with the police has highlighted and even prevented crimes in our District, thanks to their quick thinking and observations, when both on and off duty.**

In April this year a group of Eastern Europeans from Leicester who were known by police, as they had previous convictions for theft from a person, were spotted by our CCTV operator. The Eastern Europeans looked like they had targeted an elderly lady. Thanks to the quick action from the CCTV operator they were quickly located and stopped by a police officer. The vehicle used for this potential crime had no insurance and was ceased by officers. The CCTV operator not only prevented a crime from happening, but also got an uninsured vehicle off the road.

And in May a CCTV operator who was off duty, spotted a vehicle that was completely overloaded with scrap. The CCTV operator informed the control room, who supported the police to locate the vehicle.

The flatbed truck was located on Moss Street in Cannock and was found to be piled up to nearly 20ft high with scrap.

The truck was led to the nearest scrap yard and the driver was reported for a number of traffic offences.



And finally, a Pubwatch Radio report one 4am in the morning to CCTV advised them of a possible drink driver in Cannock. They provided details and CCTV tracked the vehicle while officers responded. The vehicle was stopped on Danilo Road in Cannock and police confirmed that the driver was over the legal limit, following a positive breath test. A further search of the vehicle revealed a bag of white powder (believed to be cocaine). The driver was charged with drink driving and received a community resolution for possessing drugs.



Our CCTV operatives, although located in our building, are often behind closed doors monitoring the CCTV cameras 24 hours a day, across the District. The articles above show the great work they are doing in conjunction with the police and that they are always on the look out even when they are not on duty. Brilliant work everyone, well done!