

Overview and Scrutiny Task Group - CCTV Provision

Tuesday, 8 April 2014

Present: Councillor Robert Fynamore (Chair), Councillor Kim Snape (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Doreen Dickinson, Graham Dunn, Roy Lees, June Molyneaux and Rosie Russell

Also in attendance

Officers: Paul Lowe (Merged Crime and Disorder Reduction Manager) and Dianne Scambler (Democratic and Member Services Officer)

14.CTV.22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

14.CTV.23 MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group – CCTV Provision meeting on 28 March 2014 be held as a correct record.

14.CTV.24 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS

No declarations of any interest were received.

14.CTV.25 EFFECTIVENESS OF CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV)

The Neighbourhoods Team Manager presented an analytical report that had recently been undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership's Analyst. The report sought to provide analysis of the Council's CCTV usage, crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough of Chorley, so that informed decisions could be made in relation to tasking and allocating resources effectively.

The report had been prepared by utilising data from Chorley's CCTV Operator Log and Lancashire Constabulary's crime recording and intelligence systems between 1 June and 31 December 2013.

The following key findings, inferences, conclusions and recommendations were made:

- There were 1041 operator logs during this period
- There were 127 requests to provide retained evidence and 335 requests made to review footage
- The greatest number of CCTV operator logs related to assaults which accounted for 12.9% of logs; 63.2% of these were requested by the police.
- The three hour periods of the week when most logs were created between the hours of 00.00 and 2.59 on Sunday
- There were 1776 crimes recorded in the incident locations where a camera is situated during the seven month period
- Staffing levels could be increased on Wednesday and Saturday evening.

The Group also received a report giving a brief summary of finding relating to a national study that had been undertaken by the Home Office to evaluate the effectiveness of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV).

The report summarised the findings of the following CCTV effectiveness studies:

- The Home Office Research Study 292 – Assessing the impact of CCTV
- The Home Office Research Study 252 – Crime prevention effects of closed circuit television; a systematic review
- The Scottish Government: Crime and Criminal Justice Research Findings No:8 (1995) – Does Closed circuit television prevent crime

Members discussed all the information received in detail. It was noted that there have been many different research studies conducted which have aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of CCTV but that it was difficult to quantify its effectiveness with a broad brush approach. Advice given directly from the Home Office indicated that authorities were best to evaluate their need in response to local issues and concerns.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the hours of CCTV operation in the Chorley Borough be reviewed.**
- 2. That the siting of the CCTV cameras be reviewed.**

14.CTV.26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group – CCTV Provision will be held on 15 May 2014 at 2pm in Committee Room

Chair