

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of People and Places	Overview and Scrutiny Task Group – CCTV Provision	15 May 2014

CCTV PROVISION AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN CHORLEY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This is the fourth meeting of the Task Group convened to review the Councils CCTV provision and infrastructure currently available in Chorley. The Group has now considered a variety of different information and is nearing its conclusion to the review. This report provides detail of the consultation undertaken with Parish Councils on CCTV provision aims to bring the work of the Task Group together with a draft final report for Members consideration.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. To consider the consultation responses received from the Parish Council's (Appendix 1)
3. To consider the draft final report of the Task Group subject to amendment were necessary (Appendix 2)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

4. The Task Group were requested by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to undertake a full scrutiny review to inform future CCTV provision in the Borough.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

5. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all		A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy communities	√	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	

CURRENT CCTV SYSTEM OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS

6. The Task Group considered a draft report detailing the Councils CCTV system operation policy for 2013/14, presented by Simon Clark, Head of Health, Environment and Neighbourhoods. This gave the Task Group an overview of the system, how it is managed, operated and used within the Borough. Extensive regulation governs the use of CCTV surveillance and the Group have been mindful of this policy in determining any change in the provision and operation of CCTV by the Council in the future.

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

7. Following the scoping of the review the Group agreed the following objectives and outcome:

Objectives – to review the current CCTV system and inform future provision with a range of options from gold plated, through to minimal/no CCTV provision – including impact and cost implications.

Outcome – to recommend one level of CCTV provision for the future which balances the needs of stakeholders with affordability for the Council?

EVIDENCE GATHERING

8. The Task Group have spoken to various stakeholders in the CCTV service, in particular the police and town centre business representatives as the system links through to the police and town radio systems. The Parish/Town Councils have also been consulted across the borough, the results of which are contained within Appendix 1 to this report, and a short public survey was undertaken to try and assess feelings of safety. The Group have come to realise that there is very little national research available which assesses the value of CCTV, so that much of the information they received has been anecdotal.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9. A draft final report is included at Appendix 2, for the Task Group to consider and amend where appropriate in light of the additional information being considered by the Group at this meeting.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

10. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance	√	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	√	Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

11. Any decisions to invest in or decommission services need to be done in the context of the councils overall resources position. Significant savings are going to have to be made by 2016/17 and without evidence or data it is difficult to assess the effectiveness of CCTV provision albeit it, studies indicate that it increases the feeling of safety. There are currently significant changes being made to the way that the borough is policed and this too needs to be a consideration when determining where the council should allocate its resources. I would suggest that further work is required on the options set out by the task group before any decision can be made, and this is reflected in the number of options for consideration.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

12. The Council's CCTV function is subject to the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice made under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012. The Council was inspected by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners in February 2014 in relation to covert surveillance rather than overt surveillance subject of this report. However the Inspector visited the Council's CCTV

suite at Chorley Police Station and spoke to two of the operators. The Inspector found no issues with the Council's CCTV operation.

JAMIE CARSON
DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

There are no background papers to this report.

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Dianne Scambler	5034	9 May 2014	***