



Policy and Resources Committee – 2 July 2012

CCTV in East Northamptonshire

Purpose of report:

To ask Members to consider the findings from discussions with the partner organisations involved in providing CCTV in East Northamptonshire and decide whether this Council continues with funding support in the future and if so on what basis.

Attachment(s)

Appendix 1 – Costs for CCTV in 2012/13 (excluding ad-hoc maintenance)

Appendix 2 – Equalities Impact Assessment (initial screen)

1 Background

1.1 East Northamptonshire has a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) network covering the six market towns. The network was installed in the early 2000s and is operated through a partnership involving:

- East Northamptonshire Council
- The six town councils in East Northamptonshire
- Kettering Borough Council
- Northants Police
- The CCTV Operator

1.2 The network consists of 24 cameras, linked by fibre-optic cable to the BT Exchange and then to the CCTV Control Room based in Kettering. The 24 cameras are located as follows:-

Town	Number of cameras
Higham Ferrers	4
Irthlingborough	3
Oundle	4
Raunds	4
Rushden	6
Thrapston	3

1.3 All 24 cameras are of the Pan, Tilt and Zoom (PTZ) type and are on timed sequences. The operators can manually change the views on each camera from the Control Room. All images captured by the cameras are recorded.

1.4 The costs of providing and maintaining the network consists of:-

- CCTV Control Room – operatives monitoring the system on a 24/7 basis
- BT Exchange – transfer of data from the cameras to the Control Room
- Maintenance – two maintenance visits per year to the network

Each town council meets two-thirds of the costs for its town's set of cameras and East Northamptonshire Council meets the other third. The costs for CCTV in 2012/13 are set out in Appendix 1. No other organisation provides financial support. Ad-hoc repairs to the system are met by this Council, which in financial year 2011/12 was £2,040.

1.5 Rushden Town Council operates a system independent from the network which

covers its offices at Rushden Hall and Hall Park. A number of local businesses situated in the six towns have their own systems too.

- 1.6 Kettering Borough Council provides technical support for maintaining the network. The network runs parallel with the Kettering one and the maintenance contracts commissioned by Kettering Borough Council for its network cover the East Northamptonshire network too.

2 Discussions with the partners

- 2.1 Discussions have taken place with the town councils and Northants Police about the benefits and the value of having CCTV in the towns. These discussions have also involved the CCTV Control Room Operator and Kettering Borough Council.
- 2.2 The discussions have challenged how CCTV contributes to reduced crime, the detection of offenders and how it supports prosecutions. The key findings from these discussions need to inform all partners' decisions on future investment with CCTV.
- 2.3 A workshop was held with the town councils and the police to ascertain their views on how the network is operated now and how it could be provided in the future. The workshop was run twice (December 2011 and January 2012) to give each town council the opportunity to participate. Unfortunately Irthlingborough Town Council did not take part in either meeting. Written views were requested but none were received.
- 2.4 Following the workshops, discussions were held with individual town councils to present the findings and gather thoughts on these. Discussions were also held with the town councils about potential options. The East Northants Community Safety partnership (CSP) has also been kept up to date with progress and partners have put forward their views on CCTV generally.

3 Main findings

- 3.1 The town councils overwhelmingly value CCTV but the overarching concern is whether local people believe it is value for money. The Control Room can provide statistics on where CCTV has been used to support police activity by category, for example altercation, theft or robbery, and even tracing missing persons. Figures are also provided for where actual incidents being monitored by CCTV have involved an arrest. However, information is not available about whether the use of CCTV in any incident secures a conviction.
- 3.2 At the workshop meetings the police said that demonstrating the 'deterrent value' of CCTV is difficult but they believe that it makes a significant contribution to the district's low crime figures. The police do not make a financial contribution to the running of the network but have stated that their work involves preparing and bringing cases to court, which it believes involves significant costs. Northants Police are currently reviewing their position on CCTV but are yet to report on this.
- 3.3 It is acknowledged by all of the participants that the current network has been in place for a long period of time, which could give rise to increased maintenance requirements, even equipment failure. CCTV technology has moved on significantly since the network was installed, with new systems available including the use of wireless connectivity for transferring images. Rushden and Raunds Town Councils have been looking at the different types of systems available and considering whether any cost savings could be found in terms of running and maintaining the network.
- 3.4 Another important factor is the current location of the cameras. Detailed surveys and appraisals were carried out when the cameras were installed 10 years ago. All of the 24 cameras are in their original locations and with changes to their surrounding environments, it may be that some of these cameras are not fully effective anymore.

3.5 Discussions with Kettering Borough Council have looked at whether a countywide or North Northamptonshire arrangement could be developed for providing, monitoring and maintaining CCTV networks. Significant variations have been identified between each district's systems, and with different agreements in place involving buildings, contracts and monitoring arrangements it is highly unlikely that this option could be pursued.

4. Key factors for CCTV provision in the future

4.1 It needs to be kept in mind that the current network was commissioned in the early 2000s and is approaching 10 years old. Very little change has been made to the network other than replacement of parts where failure has occurred. It is expected that breakdowns will increase over time given the age of the equipment; these costs are currently being met by this Council.

4.2 Within the partnership Kettering Borough Council provides all technical support and contracts for maintenance, covering both the Kettering and East Northamptonshire networks. The location of the Control Room has been under review as part of the future use of the Newlands Centre in Kettering, and it is expected that the maintenance contracts at some stage will need to be re-tendered. This could give rise to cost implications, which at this stage are not known.

4.3 Any alterations, upgrades and changes to the system will require capital investment, which could be significant. There is no capital budget identified for this in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and the positions of other partners are not known at this stage.

5 East Northamptonshire Council's view

5.1 As stated above, the discussions with partners need to inform decisions about future investment and commitments to CCTV in East Northamptonshire. From this Council's perspective there are four practical options:-

1. Continue with revenue funding support for operating the network as per current arrangements but with no capital investment for upgrades or replacements in the system in the future,
2. Continue as in option 1 but with capital investment for upgrades or replacements in the network
3. Continue as in either option 1 or 2 but reduce monitoring requirements
4. Withdraw funding support altogether

5.2 The following appraisal illustrates the impacts and implications of each option:-

Option	Operational issues	Potential impacts	Resource implications
1. ENC continues with financial support as it does now but with <u>no</u> capital investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential issues with future maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased budget pressure; particularly with expected increase in maintenance. 	£47,628 included in the 2012/13 revenue budget
2. ENC continues with financial support as it does	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential issues with future maintenance • Requires capital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased budget pressure; 	£47,628 revenue cost

now but <u>with</u> capital investment for upgrades and improvements	funding provision	particularly with increase in maintenance	Capital budget required
3. ENC continues with its financial support (either as option 1 or 2 above) but seeks to reduce monitoring requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires negotiations with town councils to achieve a consensus around monitoring Potential to reduce or remove monitoring and move to recording images only Potential issues with increased maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased budget pressure; particularly with increase in maintenance. 	<p>£47,628 revenue</p> <p>Capital budget requirement depending on option chosen</p> <p>Potential for savings if monitoring is reduced or changed to recording images only.</p>
4. ENC withdraws funding support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Councils would need to decide whether they continue with their funding and whether the shortfall can be met (based on current costs for now). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced budget pressures. Reputational impact – potential for challenge if a serious incident occurred Crime could increase 	£47,628 revenue saving

5.3 As part of the discussions with the CCTV Operator, consideration has been given to the practicalities of reducing the monitoring or moving towards recording images only. If monitoring was to be reduced, the partners would need to arrive at a consensus on how this would be done.

6 Equality and diversity issues

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (initial screen) has been prepared to support the considerations with this report and is included at Appendix 2.

6.2 Members are asked to keep in mind that withdrawing our support now or in the future could result in CCTV being switched off in whole or in part.

6.3 The East Northamptonshire Residents' Panel Survey August 2011 sought views on a number of community safety issues. The survey indicated that females were more likely to feel unsafe than males whilst outside after dark (20% of females; 14% of males). In addition to this the survey identified that female respondents were more likely than male respondents to be worried about being attacked by strangers (34%:22%).

7 Legal implications

7.1 This Council owns all of the equipment that forms the network. If Members are minded to withdraw funding support it will be necessary to negotiate with the town councils the

future of CCTV in East Northamptonshire and whether it can be retained and at what level. If this option is chosen, it will be necessary to consider the transfer of the equipment in title and ownership to the town councils.

8 Risk management

8.1 If Members are minded to continue with support for the CCTV network but with no capital investment, we would need to make it clear that we would not be liable for the costs associated with alterations, upgrades or replacements to any part of the system. Equally, if funding support is withdrawn, we would need to be clear that we have no liability for upgrading the equipment in the future. This will require some form of negotiation with the other partners, in particular the town councils.

8.2 As identified, we require technical support from Kettering Borough Council for operating the network. Kettering has also considered options for how CCTV could be provided in the future. Kettering commissions the contracts for the CCTV Operator (PR Kettering) and the maintenance contractor (CVL Systems). Under the current arrangements we have a partnership agreement with Kettering Borough Council and would be consulted on any changes to the contracts, including re-tendering.

9 Financial implications

9.1 The costs associated with CCTV provision are set out in appendix 1. This illustrates the comparison of our financial support and that of each town council.

9.2 The financial costs and or savings associated with the options are set out in the table at 5.2 above.

10 Corporate outcomes

10.1 Although provided through a partnership, CCTV contributes to our corporate outcomes as follows:-

A good quality of life – safe: The district has low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, and partners believe that CCTV contributes to this.

11 Next stages

11.1 As set out above, partners (town councils, police, CCTV Operator and Kettering Borough Council) have been involved in various stages of the discussions so far. The next stages following this report will be to bring these partners back together and agree the way forward for the future of CCTV in the district.

11.2 It is proposed that a report detailing the final options for CCTV in East Northamptonshire be presented to Policy and Resources Committee meeting in October 2012.

12 Recommendations

12.1 Members are recommended to:-

1. Consider the options set out in 5.2 above and decide which option to take
2. Consider and note the Equalities Impact Assessment (initial screen)
3. Note that the partners will be brought back together to consult on the future of CCTV in East Northamptonshire based on the option chosen
4. Note that the final option on the future of CCTV will be brought to this committee in October 2012

Legal	Power: Local Government Act 2000 ----- Other considerations:				
Background Papers: East Northamptonshire Residents' Panel Survey August 2011 http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.aspx?downloadID=1205&fileID=3857					
Person Originating Report: Mike Greenway (Community Partnerships Manager) Telephone 01832 742244 mgreenway@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk					
Date: 8 June 2012					
CFO		MO		CX	

APPENDIX 1 – CCTV Charges for 2012/13 (excluding ad-hoc repairs and replacement work)

BT Based on £46,649 (+VAT)

Control Room £93,329.61(+VAT)

Maintenance £3,000 (does not cover ad-hoc repairs/replacements)

Total Cost = £142,978.61

Divided by 24 cameras = £5957.44 per camera

BT

	Town Councils (2/3)	ENC (1/3)	Total
Higham Ferrers	5183.22	2591.61	7774.83
Irthlingborough	3887.42	1943.71	5831.13
Oundle	5183.22	2591.61	7774.83
Raunds	5183.22	2591.61	7774.83
Rushden	7774.83	3887.42	11662.25
Thrapston	3887.42	1943.71	5831.13
Totals	31099.33	15549.67	46649

Control Room

	Town Councils (2/3)	ENC (1/3)	Total
Higham Ferrers	10375.14	5179.80	15554.94
Irthlingborough	7781.36	3884.84	11666.20
Oundle	10375.14	5179.80	15554.94
Raunds	10375.14	5179.80	15554.94
Rushden	15562.71	7769.69	23332.40
Thrapston	7781.36	3884.84	11666.20
Totals	62250.85	31078.77	93329.62

Maintenance

	Town Councils (2/3)	ENC (1/3)	Total
Higham Ferrers	333.34	166.66	500
Irthlingborough	250	125	375
Oundle	333.33	166.67	500
Raunds	333.33	166.67	500
Rushden	500	250	750
Thrapston	250	125	375
Totals	2000	1000	3000

Total contribution to be paid by each council:

	Town Councils (2/3)	ENC (1/3)	Total
Higham Ferrers (4)	15891.69	7938.07	23829.76
Irthlingborough (3)	11918.78	5953.54	17872.32
Oundle (4)	15891.69	7938.07	23829.76
Raunds (4)	15891.69	7938.07	23829.76
Rushden (6)	23837.54	11907.10	35744.64
Thrapston (3)	11918.78	5953.54	17872.32
Totals	95350.17	47628.39	142978.56



EIA Initial Screening Form – Committee decision

1. Decision being taken:	Whether ENC continues to provide financial support for CCTV in East Northamptonshire and if so on what basis.
2. Name and Job title / role of person completing Initial Screening:	Mike Greenway (Community Partnerships Manager)
3. What is the main purpose of the Service or Policy under discussion?	CCTV has been provided across the six market towns in the district for some 10 years. A review is being undertaken in partnership with the town councils, police, CCTV operator and Kettering Borough Council. The review needs to inform partners' decisions on the future provision of CCTV.
4. List the main activities of the Service or Policy under discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 cameras situated across the six towns • Monitored by a Control Room based at the Newlands Centre in Kettering. All images are recorded 24/7. • Network runs parallel with Kettering's system and technical support including contract maintenance is supported by KBC.
5. Who are the main beneficiaries of the Service or Policy under discussion?	Local residents, visitors and businesses in the six towns. Police – supports policing activity in the six towns
6. How is the success of the Service or Policy under discussion measured?	Monitoring statistics illustrating where CCTV cameras have been used in incidents (by type) and whether arrests have resulted from them.
7. Are equality monitoring systems for the Service or Policy under discussion in place?	No

8. Use the following table to indicate using a ✓:

- a) Where you think that the decision being taken could have a positive impact on

any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality of opportunity or improving relations within equality groups.

- b) Where you think that the decision being taken could have a negative impact on any of the equality groups i.e. it could disadvantage them.
- c) Where you think that the decision being taken could have a neutral impact on any of the equality group i.e. no impact

Equality Group	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact	Reason
Gender:				<p>If the option to withdraw financial support for CCTV is taken by Members it could result in CCTV being switched off in whole or part if funding support is not available.</p> <p>The East Northamptonshire Residents' Panel survey August 2011 sort views a number of community safety issues. The survey indicated that females were more likely to feel unsafe than males whilst outside after dark (20% of females; 14% of males). In addition to this the survey identified that females respondents were more likely than male respondents to be worried about being attacked by strangers (34%:22%).</p>
Women/Girls		X		
Men/Boys		X		
Transgender people		X		
Sexual Orientation:				

Equality Group	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact	Reason
Lesbians, gay men and bisexuals		X		This group can be subjected to hate crime and it is possible that CCTV is used in identifying perpetrators.
Race/Ethnicity:				
White British people		X		This group can be subjected to hate crime and it is possible that CCTV is used in identifying perpetrators.
White non-British people (including Irish people)		X		
Asian or Asian British people		X		
Black or Black British people		X		
People of mixed heritage		X		
Chinese people		X		
Travellers (Gypsy/Roma/Irish heritage)		X		
People from other ethnic groups		X		
People who do not have English as their first language		X		
Disability:				
Physical impairment, e.g mobility issues which mean using a wheelchair or crutches.		X		This group can be subjected to hate crime and it is possible that CCTV is used in identifying perpetrators.
Sensory impairment, e.g blind/having a serious visual impairment, deaf/having a serious hearing impairment.		X		
Mental health condition, e.g depression or schizophrenia		X		

Equality Group	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact	Reason
Learning disability/difficulty, e.g. Down's syndrome or dyslexia, or cognitive impairment such as autistic spectrum disorder		X		
Long-standing illness or health condition, e.g. cancer, HIV. Diabetes, chronic heart disease or epilepsy		X		
Other health problems or impairments (<i>please specify if appropriate</i>)		X		
Age:				
Older People (60+)			X	The East Northamptonshire Residents' Panel survey August 2011 sort views a number of community safety issues. The survey indicated that respondents aged 75+ were less worried about crime than other respondents
Children and Young People (see guidance for definition)			X	
Religion/Belief:				
Christian			X	
Buddhist			X	
Hindu			X	
Jewish			X	
Muslim			X	
Sikh			X	

Equality Group	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact	Reason
Other religion (including holding no belief)			X	
Other Potentially Affected Groups				
Rural Isolation - People who live in rural areas e.g isolated geographically, lack of internet access			X	CCTV covers town centre areas only
Socio-economic Exclusion – e.g. people who are on benefits, have low educational attainment, single parents, people living in poor quality housing, people who have poor access to services, the unemployed or any combination of these and the other protected strands			X	
Any other potentially affected groups (<i>please specify</i>)				
9. If you have indicated that there is a negative impact on any group:				
a) Is that impact against legislation?	Yes	No ✓		
b) What is the level of impact?	High	Low ✓		
10. Could you minimise or remove any negative impact that is of low significance?	If CCTV were to be removed from the towns it is difficult to predict whether this would actually impact on the protected groups identified. The impact is potential.			
11. Could you improve a positive impact of the decision?	N/A			

12. If there is no evidence that the decision promotes equality of opportunity or improved relations, could it be adapted so that it does?	N/A
Head of Service signature	
Date of Initial Screening:	8 June 2012