
ANNUAL CCTV INSPECTORS' REPORT

**Responsible Cabinet Member(s) - Councillor Bill Dixon,
Community and Public Protection Portfolio**

Responsible Director(s) -Paul Wildsmith, Director of Corporate Services

Purpose of Report

1. To introduce the second Annual Report from the Independent Inspectors of CCTV.

Information and Analysis

2. The Independent Inspection Team is now well established and totally familiar with all aspects of the CCTV operation.
3. Since the previous report was submitted on 8th June, 2004 (Minute Ref. C14/Jun/04) the Inspectors have continued to randomly visit the Control Room in pairs to check that internal procedures, quality initiatives and legislative requirements are being met and sustained (as indicated in their report).
4. As requested in the previous report the Inspection Team is now an integral part of the Control Room operation and as highlighted during our recent successful bid for the CCTV User Group Gold Award, they form a key part of Best Practice and were in themselves a significant contributory factor toward getting that award.
5. At the last report, there were six Inspectors and this has now reduced to five (for personal reasons) and it is intended to publicise this report partly to maintain public confidence in the system and partly to advertise for new Inspectors to bring the numbers nearer to the original eight.
6. The Inspectors' full report is **appended** to this report. Once again, it is very positive about what they have seen and still very supportive of the operation in total.
7. The items of concern raised by the Inspectors in their previous report have been addressed and there seems to be little of concern in the second report. Their comments in paragraph 4.1 of their report are particularly encouraging and seem to sum up their general satisfaction with the operation.
8. The only issue they raise relates to a recent press article and the possibility of there being a new Town Hall development. In that context they have acknowledged the finite capacity for the Control Room to grow and requested that any future development takes account of the ability to expand.

Legal Implications

9. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members, other than those highlighted in the report.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

10. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

Council Policy Framework

11. The issues contained within this report do not represent change to Council policy or the Council's policy framework

Decision Deadline

12. For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter

Recommendation

13. It is recommended :-
 - (a) That Cabinet accepts the attached report by the Independent Inspectors.
 - (b) That the report is publicised in the Town Crier and other journals and the opportunity taken to recruit up to three additional Inspectors as part of that publicity.

Reasons

14. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons :-
 - (a) The report is positive and supportive of the CCTV service.
 - (b) Publicising the report will further enhance the reputation of the Council and service and significantly contribute to the process of sustaining public confidence.
 - (c) The positive and reassuring tone of the report should help us recruit up to three new Inspectors to take the Group back to its original compliment, which will ultimately aid the inspection process.

**Paul Wildsmith,
Director of Corporate Services**

Background Papers

Minutes of previous meeting dated 8th June 2004

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