



North Devon Council

Report Date: Monday, 2 September 2024

Topic: CCTV Annual Report

Report by: Hannah Harrington, Place Manager (Town Centres)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This purpose of this report is to provide members with an annual report for the North Devon Council Public Surveillance CCTV system.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. To note the contents of the annual report.

2.2. To consider the outcomes of the Equality Impact Assessment as summarised in paragraph 6 of the report.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. To ensure compliance with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice to ensure North Devon Council's system remains necessary, proportionate and effective

4. REPORT

4.1. In June 2013 the Home Office published the 'Surveillance Camera Code of Practice' (the code). The code was issued under Section 30 of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 and certain operators of surveillance camera systems, which includes the Council, must consider the guidance in the report. An amended code was introduced in January 2022.

4.2. The code requires that regular reports are published and that regular reviews of the CCTV surveillance system undertaken to ensure it remains necessary, proportionate and effective. The review should be on a regular basis, but at least annually. There is an expectation that published reports will contain information about the review of the locations.

4.3. The 2023 annual review was undertaken by the North Devon Council Scheme Manager and CCTV Supervisor and the annual report (attached as appendix 1) contains a list of the camera locations and comments about the appropriateness of their location.

4.4. The report states that the camera locations are all considered appropriate at this time. Subsequent reviews will continue to be carried out regularly and each year as a minimum



5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1. The direct cost of providing the CCTV system in 2023-2024 financial year was £191,000

6. EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

6.1. CCTV is an effective tool in tackling crime and antisocial behaviour, helping to safeguard anyone living, working or visiting North Devon. The annual review and ongoing monitoring of equality related issues in respect of the CCTV system have not given rise to any concerns and additionally confirm the positive impact / benefits to all protected characteristics as set out in this equality impact assessment.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

7.1. There are no anticipated environmental implications arising from the annual report.

8. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

8.1. What impact, positive or negative, does the subject of this report have on:

8.1.1. The commercialisation agenda: there is an opportunity for the CCTV hub to provide an income stream to the Council. Council approved a report setting out the offer and associated fees for the service in March 2023. The opportunity continues to be promoted to Town and Parish Councils.

8.1.2. Improving customer focus: the CCTV service benefits the local community and helping to address some of the key concerns that customers have around feelings of safety.

8.1.3. Regeneration or economic development: the presence of CCTV contributes to people's feelings of safety and encourages them to visit towns thus supporting the regeneration and economic development of those towns.

9. CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

9.1. The decision in respect of the recommendations in this report can be made by this Committee pursuant to delegated powers provided in Part 3 Annexe 1 paragraph 1, delegated

10. STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This report contains no confidential information or exempt information under the provisions of Schedule 12A of 1972 Act.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Surveillance Camera Code of Practice
- North Devon Council CCTV Scheme Code of Practice



12. STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers: Hannah Harrington (Place Manager, Town Centres)