

Report to: Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 14 January 2016

Lead Member / Officer: Lead Member for Public Realm/
Head of Planning and Public Protection

Report Authors: Head of Planning and Public Protection/
Public Protection Manager

Title: Denbighshire CCTV Update Report

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the implications of the Council's decision, as part of the freedoms and flexibilities exercise to remove funding from the CCTV function for 2016/17.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 Members decided that the Council should no longer be funding or managing the CCTV service from the 1st April 2016. This will deliver 200k of savings for 2016/17. Members asked officers to work with partners to explore the possibility of developing a different CCTV service delivery model to take effect from the 1st of April 2016. Members asked for an update report to be presented to them in January 2016.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report and support the work done by officers in delivering the identified savings and developing a new partnership model for CCTV provision starting on the 1st April 2016.

4. Report details

- 4.1 The Council's CCTV system is operated and managed by the Planning and Public Protection Service. It is located in Rhyl Police Station.
- 4.2 The primary purpose of the system is to support the Community Safety Partnership's approach to reduce both the level of crime and fear of crime, to provide a safe public environment for the benefit of those who reside, visit and work in the area.
- 4.3 The service also monitors a small number of CCTV cameras located on council land and private land for the purposes of security.

4.4 The Public Space CCTV Cameras are located in Rhyl, Prestatyn and Rhuddlan. The cameras are located as follows:

- Rhyl 59 Cameras
- Prestatyn 17 Cameras
- Rhuddlan 4 Cameras

All these cameras are live cameras, linked to our main CCTV control room at Rhyl Police Station where traditionally there had been 24/7 monitoring.

4.5 Following the decision to remove the CCTV budget, officers engaged with partners to form a working group to explore options of delivering an alternative CCTV service in the future.

4.6 The working group membership is made up of a representative from North Wales Police, Rhyl Town Council, Prestatyn Town Council, Rhuddlan Town Council, Rhyl Member Area Group, Prestatyn Member Area Group and Elwy Member Area Group. The group has agreed terms of reference and has met on a number of occasions.

4.7 A final delivery model has been agreed with all partners which involves keeping all existing CCTV cameras operating within Rhyl, Prestatyn and Rhuddlan. These cameras would continue to record 24/7, however there would be no permanent monitoring of cameras. One member of staff (CCTV Coordinator) is required to maintain the system and be the point of contact and coordinator between all partners.

4.8 Further work has been carried out with partners to establish what 'income' can be generated by the partnership in order to be able to deliver a CCTV service.

4.9 The following contributions and income have been agreed

- North Wales Police – Will continue to contribute the same amount to the CCTV Service (in the region of 16k)
- Rhyl Town Council – Agree in principle to contribute financially to a new model (15k)
- Prestatyn Town Council – Agree in principle to contribute financially to a new model (10k)
- Rhuddlan Town Council – Agree in principle to contribute financially to a new model (3.5k)
- Internal (DCC) recharges to services that benefit from security as a result of CCTV cameras being connected to the control room (approx. £14.5k)

- External charges for private cameras connected to the control room (approx. £2k).

4.10 This gives a projected income of approx. £61k.

4.11 The type of service that can be delivered for approximately £61k includes the following:

Activity	Brief Description	Anticipated costs for 'minimal' service
CCTV Coordinator	Based in Rhyl Police Station managing the minimal service	£28k
Quadrant	Repair and maintenance of control room	£6k
Street Cam	Repair and maintenance of cameras	£15k
BT Redcare	Quality of pictures	£5k
Costs of control room	Electricity, air conditioning	£8k
Total estimated cost		£62k

4.12 The Council requires all financial savings from the closure of the CCTV service to be secured by the 31st of March 2016. This includes all redundancy costs. This meant that all seven CCTV operators were made redundant on the 31st of October 2015. A CCTV Coordinator was retained to maintain a service until the 1st of April 2016 when the new partnership commences.

4.13 A legal agreement and governance arrangements is being drafted by DCC legal services in conjunction with NWP solicitors. Members may wish to request a report during the autumn of 2016 to scrutinise the governance arrangements of the new CCTV partnership.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

5.1 The operation of a CCTV service directly contributes towards the corporate priorities of protecting the vulnerable within our communities and keeping our streets clean and tidy.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

6.1 The costs of the new CCTV partnership effective from the 1st April 2016 will be met by the partners and 'income'.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.

7.1 The potential impact of this decision has been assessed. Any decision to progress with any of the previously mentioned proposals will need to be assessed for equality impact.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

8.1 Reports have been presented to Members through the Freedoms and Flexibilities process and updates have been provided to Members as discussions have progressed with partners. CCTV staff and Unions have been engaged at various stages as required.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 The proposal within this report will enable the implementation of the decision by Council on 9th December 2014 to withdraw £200k funding from this service area in 2016/17. This formed part of the Phase 2 Freedoms and Flexibilities savings.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

10.1 There are no risks associated to this report.

11. Power to make the Decision

11.1 No formal decision is required

11.2 Article 6.3.2(c) of the Council's Constitution stipulates that Scrutiny can "consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants", and Article 6.3.3(a) states that Scrutiny can "assist the Council and the Cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework..."

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