

# Chichester District Council

CABINET

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## CCTV Service Transformation

### 1. Contacts

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### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That Cabinet agree to release £115,000 from the Asset renewal programme to purchase new CCTV Cameras including re-deployable cameras and hardware to transform the service to wireless.**
- 2.2 **That Cabinet agree to reduce the number of existing cameras to 24 and agree 3 new cameras in hot spot locations of the City as per the Appendix.**
- 2.3 **That Cabinet delegate authority to the Divisional Manager Communities and Customer Services to determine the deployment of re-deployable cameras and any small changes to the service.**

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Council's CCTV service currently comprises of 65 cameras, 25 on street and 40 in CDC owned car parks. Sussex Police have been monitoring all CDC owned public facing cameras in the district since April 2021. However, the service is outdated and has not kept pace with technological advances. We planned to review and update the system in the next couple of years and hoped to take advantage of fibre being implemented in the district.
- 3.2 Sussex Police have held the contracts for transmission and maintenance costs for CCTV across Sussex since 2012 and the transmission contract with the current provider BT was due to expire at the end of March 2023. Sussex Police informed us late 2022 this contract would be extended for another 3 years with no additional year on year costs. However since then it transpires that BT have internal issues which mean they can only offer a 1 year contract until the 31st March 2024 and any costs thereafter would rise by up to six times the current costs. This is clearly untenable and this report sets out how we can transform our CCTV service to ensure it is fit for purpose and is technologically sound.

3.3 Sussex Police have also intimated that they may sometime in the future no longer have a monitoring suite in Lewes but would still access our cameras remotely when a live incident is taking place. Conversations are taking place across Sussex regarding the governance of the CCTV Partnership, of which we are part, as all partners recently signed up to another 3 years with Sussex Police starting in April 2023. A recent communication from Sussex Police suggests this arrangement could continue until end of March 2025 but thereafter any governance around data collection would fall to partners.

#### **4. Outcomes to be achieved**

4.1 CDC have a more streamlined and updated CCTV service fit for purpose which encourages the feeling of public safety.

#### **5. Proposal**

5.1 Transform the current CCTV service to a more streamlined service of 27 wireless cameras which will be mainly located on street in Chichester City but a number of cameras will remain in outlying areas. This would involve decommissioning most of the Council owned car park CCTV cameras which were identified during the Sussex Police review of 2022 as being of low value evidentially and upgrading all the remaining to wireless enabled cameras with the improved benefits in terms of quality of images and accessibility to partners. As part of this transformation we have identified 3 additional "hotspot" locations which would benefit from CCTV which do not have any currently (see Appendix) . We also wish to purchase 2 re-deployable cameras to deploy in fast time should any new hot spot areas emerge.

#### **6. Alternatives that have been considered.**

6.1 Do nothing and risk having no CCTV service when BT stop the transmission.

6.2 Upgrade the service as is, this would be extremely expensive and not value for money as informed by the review by Sussex Police.

#### **7. Resource and Legal Implications**

7.1 The closing down of the cameras will cost up to £5000 which would come out of the existing CCTV budget.

7.3 The replacement cost of 24 existing cameras and the purchase of 3 new static cameras and 2 re-deployable cameras is £115,000 and will come from ARP.

7.2 Sussex Police have informed us that when the time comes we will not require any internal resource for the move from them to us to be the data owner for the CCTV images as they will just be able to access the images remotely as required. This potential move and the impact on resources will require further review over the next year.

## 8. Consultation

- 8.1. Whilst formal consultation is not required key stakeholders including the Business Improvement District (BID), Parking Services, chiBAC the Business crime reduction partnership for Chichester have been contacted for their views. The main concerns from the BID and chiBAC have been the potential impacts on crime, public safety, and public perception of safety. The potential impact on car park accreditation also needs to be considered.

## 9. Community Impact and Corporate Risk

- 9.1 Although CCTV is a discretionary service it is integral to public safety and reducing the fear of crime and acts of criminality. If we had no CCTV service we risk our reputation and Chichester becoming a magnet for petty criminals and organised crime groups. The removal of the cameras in CDC owned car parks may have a slight impact on the perception of safety and crime. Car parks generally have little crime associated with them compared to other areas of the City and the majority of enquiries are around low level collisions and damage to vehicles, images from car parks are not often accessed by Sussex Police.
- 9.2 Due to time constraints and existing contractual obligations we have an exception to tender in place for any procurement of cameras and wires transmission.

## 10. Other implications

	Yes	No
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder:</b> CCTV has a positive impact on the prevention and detection of crime and provides a visible reassurance to the public.	x	
<b>Climate Change and Biodiversity:</b>		x
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact</b> Human Rights and Equality Impact: CCTV needs to be proportionate to the presenting issues to avoid unnecessary public exposure.	x	
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help:</b> this service directly positively impacts the protection of the most vulnerable people in our district.	x	
<b>General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR):</b>	x	
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b> CCTV is viewed and monitored in compliance with current GDPR legislation		x

## 11. Appendices

List of remaining cameras and new locations.

## 12. Background Papers

None.