

Update On Possible Review of CCTV

Summary

1. This report presents a brief history of the proposed topic on CCTV in York, together with a revised topic registration form and possible review remit. Bearing in mind that a new Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny committee will be formed in the new municipal year, this report asks Members to consider whether or not to recommend to the new committee that the topic proceed to review.

Background to Topic

2. In Jan 2010 this committee received a topic registration form on CCTV submitted by Cllr Bowgett. Members were informed that an update Executive report on CCTV in York was expected from officers in July 2010, which would answer many of the questions raised in the topic registration form. On that basis, the committee chose to defer their decision on whether to proceed with a review.
3. In September 2010, the officer report was received by this committee together with some written views on the report from Cllr Vassie, who was unable to attend the meeting. At that time, Members were informed that North Yorkshire Police Authority had been tasked by the York and North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum to bring together a 'Task & Finish Group' to undertake a review of the costs and effectiveness of CCTV provision across the North Yorkshire police force area. It was expected that this would include looking at:
 - The advantage of new technologies and networks
 - Agreed evaluation methods and results
 - Learning from other areas and national guidelines
 - Approaches to needs assessment
 - Opportunities to do things better, cheaper, more effectively & efficiently
 - Opportunities for joint working
4. Again, the committee chose not to proceed with the review at that time. Instead, it was agreed to await the outcome of the Police Authority review before deciding whether or not the scrutiny review was necessary.
5. The Police Authority review was commenced with all councils in North Yorkshire feeding in information on their individual CCTV provision etc. But this work was halted, following a proposal that Local Government North Yorkshire & York Board (LGNYY) carry out a review of a number of services (including CCTV) where there was scope to introduce a shared service in an effort to secure significant (and

quantifiable) efficiency savings. See briefing note on the LGNYY project at Annex A.

6. In January 2011 Cllr Alexander registered a further CCTV scrutiny topic, which was considered at a meeting of this committee on 18 January 2011. It was noted that although the issues raised in both CCTV topic registrations had some similarities, they were not identical. It was agreed therefore that the Chair and Vice Chair would meet with Cllr Vassie and Cllr Alexander, to amalgamate the two topic registration forms into one (taking account of Cllr Vassie's written views), and identify a suitable remit for a review for the consideration of this committee.

Consultation

7. Officers from Network Management were consulted on the amalgamated topic registration form and the proposed remit shown at Annexes B & C respectively (to be tabled at the meeting).

Options

8. Having considered the information within this report and its associated Annexes Members may choose whether or not to recommend that the Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee formed in the forthcoming municipal year, proceed with the review, based on the revised topic registration form, and subject to the agreement of the committee members at that time.
9. If a decision is taken to make that recommendation, Members may choose to amend and/or agree the proposed remit shown at Annex B (to be tabled at the meeting).

Corporate Strategy

10. A review of CCTV in York would support the Council's corporate strategy to make York a safer city with low crime rates.

Implications

11. There are no known Financial, HR, Legal, Equalities, Crime & Disorder, ITT or other implications associated with the recommendation in this report.

Risk Management

12. There are no known risks associated with the recommendation in this report.

Recommendations

13. Members are asked to consider whether or not they wish to recommend to the new Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee (to be formed in the forthcoming municipal year) that they proceed with a scrutiny review on CCTV in York based on the remit proposed in Annex C.

Reason: To progress the work of this Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols.

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Report Approved



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Specialist Implications Officer(s): N/A

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: N/A

Annexes

Annex A – Briefing Note on Local Government North Yorkshire & York Board Shared Service Project

Annex B – New Topic Registration Form (to be tabled at the meeting)

Annex C – Proposed Remit For Review (to be tabled at the meeting)