



Community Leadership Committee 9 September 2015

Title	CCTV Transformation Project - Progress Report
Report of	Jamie Blake Commissioning Director, Environment, Commissioning Group
Wards	All
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Urgent	No
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Summary

CCTV has a significant positive effect on resident's perceptions of safety. According to the latest Residents Perception Survey (Spring 2015) over 65% of residents agree or strongly agree that CCTV makes them feel safer (rising to over 70% in some of the wards with higher than average crime rates). Overall the provision of the CCTV service enhances community safety, reduces fear of crime and promotes the development of economic wellbeing especially around town centre locations.

The Council's CCTV service also supports the outcomes of Barnet's Safer Communities Strategy by helping the council and its partners to prevent, deter and detect crime and antisocial behaviour, helping the police to solve crime by providing evidential material for court proceedings, and importantly, as stated above CCTV also has a significant positive effect on resident's perceptions of safety.

In 2013 Barnet's CCTV system was assessed as being out of date, expensive relative to more modern systems, poor quality of recording compared to modern systems and with rising incidence of equipment failure, maintaining business continuity was proving increasingly challenging.

Following this assessment a detailed review and options appraisal for the CCTV service

was completed in order to mitigate the impact of the ageing technical platform and equipment failure, enhance performance, create a sustainable CCTV solution and reduce costs through modernisation of the system.

In September 2013 the council consulted residents to seek their views on the existing CCTV camera locations, the number of cameras, and the effectiveness of CCTV to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. The consultation findings, together with an analysis of recorded crime and anti-social behaviour both from the police and existing camera locations over the previous years informed the final positions of the cameras. Therefore a strong evidence base was produced to determine the final locations of the cameras.

In May 2014 delivery of the CCTV service was commissioned to a private sector partner with the objectives of delivering an entire CCTV network upgrade including improvements to monitoring, recording, and reviewing and transmission equipment; a fully upgraded control room; installation and commissioning of an improved police CCTV viewing platform. This approach was considered best value achieving financial savings over the five year period.

This report provides an update of the council's transformation of the CCTV service both operationally and technically.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Committee note the progress made on transforming Barnet's CCTV service and capabilities.**
- 2. That the Committee note the future actions.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 This report provides members of the Community Leadership Committee with a progress update on the transformation of Barnet Council's CCTV service. The summary of this report provides background information as to why the CCTV transformation was required and an overview of the approach taken.
- 1.2 The CCTV service helps the police to solve crime and provide evidential material for court proceedings – in many cases playing a critical role in providing evidence to secure convictions. Additionally CCTV assists in licensing and enforcement; and assists in supporting civil proceedings. The types of crime that CCTV can capture are public order offences, violence, theft, vandalism, vehicle crime and anti-social behaviour in public areas, town centres and parks.
- 1.3 In May 2014, following a full procurement process, OCS Group Ltd were commissioned to deliver:
 - An entire CCTV network upgrade including improvements to monitoring, recording, reviewing and transmission equipment.

- A fully upgraded control room.
- Installation of police CCTV viewing platform with additional capabilities.
- Operational management of the borough CCTV service.
- Maintenance of the new CCTV service.
- Installation of the boroughs automatic number plate recognition cameras (ANPR).

1.4 The network solution connecting the cameras to the control room pre 2015 was a hardwired solution. This is now a wireless solution with twenty roof top ariel's across the borough, creating a wireless ring around the borough (referred to as points of presence) equipped to transmit CCTV footage from the cameras to the new CCTV control room. It also enables a greater degree of flexibility for the council to add and move cameras around the borough – so long as the cameras have a direct line of sight to the points of presence.

1.5 The previous CCTV control room was outdated, with over 30 individual old style television monitors and outdated technical equipment, servers and recording and monitoring capabilities. The CCTV transformation has included installation of a new, modern and more technically able viewing platform for the control room operators in a new control room in Enfield. There has been little impact on the delivery of the service from a different location. The new control room complies with current British Standard 5979, has full disaster recovery facilities and a dedicated video wall function comprising multiple 52" HD monitors. The upgraded Indigo Vision recording system allows comprehensive recording capacity for the entire camera suite.

1.6 Barnet police are linked to the control room via a police radio, similar to the old system however they are now able to receive required evidential footage faster as it can be directly downloaded to the police station through a newly installed evidence locker/server. This negates the need for the police to physically travel to the control room to collect recorded evidence. The upgraded police viewing platform also enables the police to view the live camera feed should an incident take place outside the operating hours of the CCTV control room.

1.7 The final camera locations were informed by:

- An audit of the number of incidents recorded on each of the cameras.
- An analysis of the preceding twelve month of crime data.
- Consultation with the Police Intelligence Unit and Visual Identification Unit.
- Community Consultation.
- Technical feasibility assessment.
- Joint site visits by the police and council street scene officers.

The assessment of CCTV locations considers a number of factors including crime volume, level of concern around anti-social behaviour, environmental crime (e.g. fly tipping) and technical feasibility and compliance of surveillance of public areas.

- 1.8 Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera locations are based on police intelligence around burglary. Unlike the standard CCTV cameras, ANPR cameras record the car registration of vehicles and transmit them to the police directly who have the systems to interrogate the data to analyse trends that could highlight an individual using his/her car to commit crime such as burglary, stalking etc. The 2013/14 strategic crime needs assessment showed that 34% of suspected burglary offenders were from off borough with 30% on borough and 36% not known. Currently Barnet is serviced by the Metropolitan Police ANPR cameras. The police have identified the locations of the ANPR cameras based on their crime intelligence, site visits have been conducted by the police to finalise the locations. The installation of ANPR is dependent on the police back office systems and their capabilities to receive the camera feed from Barnet. This is currently being assessed.
- 1.9 The CCTV Transformation Project will now be moving to phase two with the following actions to be completed:
- The CCTV in the new locations to be installed – this involves the erection of new poles.
 - Network infrastructure to be completed.
 - ANPR approach to be reviewed, contract variation to be completed and ANPR cameras installed.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To update members of the Community Leadership Committee on the progress of the CCTV Transformation Project.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable to this report.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 There are no decisions that are required to be made in relation to this update.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1. Barnet's 2020 vision set out in its 2015-2020 corporate plan is for Barnet to be amongst the safest places in London, with high levels of community cohesion, and residents feeling safe.
- 5.1.2 The work of the Safer Communities Partnership delivers on the corporate commitment to ensure Barnet is amongst the safest places in London, with high levels of community cohesion, and residents feeling safe. CCTV makes a significant contribution to achieving these objectives by helping reduce crime and Antisocial behaviour, reducing the fear of crime and making residents feel safer.

- 5.1.3 Barnet's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2015-2020) highlighted that Barnet's crime rate per 1,000 population is the 8th lowest compared to all 32 London Boroughs, however despite the low level of crime compared to other London Boroughs, crime remains one of the top three concerns of local residents. The spring 2015 resident perception survey showed that 65% of the residents surveyed agreed that CCTV makes them feel safer, this has shown a marked increase compared to 2013 where it was 58%.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.2 The service is being managed within appropriate budgets. There is no financial implications.

5.3 Social Value

- 5.3.1 This report provides an update on a service which has already been commissioned where the benefits were outlined in the business case and previous committee reports. Please note the reports listed in section 6.1 of this report.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 Under s.17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, it is also a duty of the Council (and other partner agencies, including police, fire & rescue, GLA, TfL) when exercising its functions to have 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 (including anti-social behaviour), misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and re-offending.

- 5.4.2 The Council's Constitution (Responsibility for Functions – Annex A) sets out the Terms of Reference of the Community Leadership Committee which includes:

- To contribute to achieving better outcomes in the Safer Communities Strategy through CCTV, fighting crime and anti-social behaviour, combating graffiti fly-tipping and other environmental crime, action against Domestic Violence and any other relevant Council activity.
- To work together with partners on the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership including Police, Fire and Criminal Justice Agencies to help make Barnet a safer place.

- 5.4.3 Public space CCTV systems must be operated in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the principles as set out in the Human Rights Act 1998. London Borough of Barnet's CCTV Code of Practice sets out how the authority will comply with these requirements and principles. The Council is required to notify the Office of the Information Commissioner of the operation of the CCTV system.

5.4.4 Covert 'Directed' surveillance will only be conducted if formal authorisation is provided in accordance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

5.4.5 Section 163 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 creates the power for local authorities to provide CCTV coverage of any land in their area for the purposes of crime prevention or victim welfare.

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 Not applicable for this report as it is seeking to update the Community Leadership Committee and not seeking a decision.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 sets out the public sector equality duty to which the authority must have regard. The Council's public sector equality duty is set out in s149 of the Equality Act 2010:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

(a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

(b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

5.6.2 The operation of the CCTV service is governed by its own code of practice, notified to the Office of the Information Commissioner, and its own operational procedures, to ensure compliance with legislative requirements including Human Rights and Data Protection. The scheme is employed as a proportional response to identified problems and is used insofar as it is necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, public safety, the economic wellbeing of the area, for the prevention and detection of crime and disorder and for the protection of rights and freedoms of the community. The Council has published the code of practice required for Barnet CCTV Service.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 This report is not seeking a decision, however the consultation conducted in relation to CCTV is set out below.

5.7.2 The CCTV service transformation ensured it considered the needs of the community. A public consultation on CCTV was carried out between September and November 2013. The Spring 2015 resident perception survey also included questions to seek resident's views of CCTV.

5.7.3 Resident's views were assessed and used to inform discussion and decisions on the future CCTV service in the borough.

5.7.4 Of those residents taking part in the consultation:

- 80% of respondents agreed CCTV cameras can dissuade criminal activity.
- Respondents felt that CCTV is most effective in reducing anti-social behaviour and violence against the person.
- 51% of respondents thought that CCTV cameras are not signposted well enough to deter anti-social behaviour or other illegal activities.
- 72% would like to see additional CCTV cameras installed in their area.
- 76% of respondents are against a reduction in the number of CCTV cameras in their area.

5.7.5 No further consultation is planned to take place in relation to the contents of this report.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 Not relevant to this report as crime specific analysis was conducted to inform this project.

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Previous decisions

6.1.1 Cabinet, 17 March 2003, agreement of the priority areas for CCTV over a three year period up to and including 2006/07.

6.1.2 Cabinet Resources Committee, 28 July 2004, CCTV Tenders Acceptance, approval of the use of BT Redcare for the installation of fibre optic cabling to link cameras to the control room.

6.1.3 Cabinet Resources Committee, 26 September 2005, amendments to the CCTV installation programme.

6.1.4 Cabinet Resources Committee, 27 July 2006, approval of a revised CCTV installation programme.

6.1.5 Cabinet Resources Committee, 21 March 2007, approval of CCTV installation programme 2007/08.

6.1.6 Cabinet Resources Committee, 8 August 2008, approval of CCTV installation programme 2008 – 2012.

- 6.1.7 Cabinet, 29 November 2010 (Decision item 6) – approved the One Barnet Framework and the funding strategy for its implementation.
- 6.1.8 Cabinet, 14 September 2011 (Decision item 5) – approved the Safer Communities Strategy.
- 6.1.9 Cabinet, 20 February 2012 (Decision item 6) – approved the Business Planning Report 2012/13 – 2014/15 which included within the report the five projects to be developed through strategic outline cases.
- 6.10 Cabinet Resources Committee, 20 June 2012 (Decision item 6) – approved the Strategic Outline Case for the strategic review of Community Safety.
- 6.11 Cabinet Resources Committee, 18 April 2013 (Decision item 10) – approved the commissioning of a cost effective CCTV service and technical platform.