

CCTV IN HEREFORDSHIRE

Report By: CCTV OFFICER

Wards Affected

Countywide

Purpose

1. To inform Members of the current financial and operational position of the Herefordshire CCTV system.

Financial Implications

2. There are no direct financial implications from this report.

Background

3. The Herefordshire CCTV Control Room was opened in June 2003 and Remploy Managed Services were commissioned to proactively monitor 28 CCTV cameras covering Hereford, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye.
4. In March 2005, after a successful Market Towns Initiative funding bid, 5 cameras in Ledbury were connected to the Control Room and in December 2005 2 additional cameras in Hereford were installed, paid for from West Mercia Constabulary Basic Command Unit fund. This brought the total cameras being monitored to 35.
5. The Control Room has radio links with the retailers in Hereford City and City Beat Officers, through the Hereford Retail Security network, and acts as "Control" for the Hereford City HAND (Herefordshire Against Nighttime Disorder) scheme, pub / club radio. The service also monitors the Parking Attendants radios, for staff safety, and provides traffic updates for BBC Hereford and Worcester Radio.
6. There have been 7902 incidents noted between 1st November 2003 until 31st August 2006.

	Total Incidents Noted
Hereford	6714
Leominster	589
Ross-on-Wye	493
Ledbury	106

Operational Hours	Total Incidents Noted
08:00 – 12:00	849
12:01 – 16:00	1342
16:01 – 20:00	1605
20:01 – 00:00	2648
00:01 – 03:00	1458

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Debbie Stringer, CCTV Officer on 01432 261713

Incident	Total Incidents Noted	Incident	Total Incidents Noted
Alarm Activation	55	Assault	169
Autocrime	30	Begging	57
Burglary	41	Concern for Welfare	554
Confirm Target	237	Criminal Damage	361
Disturbance	1055	Public Drinking	436
Drug offence	163	Drunkeness	377
Fighting	602	Graffiti / Flytipping	22
Missing Person	176	Road Traffic Collision	59
Theft from Person	61	Theft from Retailer	478
Traffic Offence	322	Traffic Problems	62
Suspicious Behaviour	1644	Anti-Social Behaviour	823
Locate Wanted Persons	118		

In August 2006 out of the 331 incidents noted in the occurrence records 174 incidents were picked up and reported by CCTV, resulting in 24 arrests.

7. The original contract with Remploy was for 123 hours per week, 08:00 am – 01:00 am Monday to Thursday and 08:00 am – 03:00 am Friday and Saturday, single staffed operations. Since the introduction of the new licensing act in November 2005, until the end of July this year the Alcohol Implementation Group of the Community Safety and Drugs Partnership have funded an extra hour of monitoring on a Friday and Saturday from 3:00 am until 04:00 am to assist with the dispersal of people from the City and the 3 market towns. During August 2006 West Mercia Constabulary, funded the additional hour from their Tackling Violent Crime fund. Funding ceased on 28th August.
8. The CCTV Officer has successfully secured Section 106 planning gain from 2 major developments in Hereford City. Nearly £25,000 has been secured to provide a new camera in the Union Street / Gaol Street area and to renew the failed microwave link to the camera located in Commercial Street from the development of the Commercial Street / Union Street area. In May 2006 upto £35,000 was secured to provide 1 or 2 cameras by the Pomona Place development to cover a small proportion of the Great Western Way.
9. The CCTV Officer has been actively investigating alternative revenue funding streams. Meetings have been held with the Chair of the HAND scheme to discuss contributions from licencees; a meeting has been held with officers of Property Services to investigate whether the Council's building alarm call out facility could be transferred into the Control Room as a cheaper alternative to a national call centre; a questionnaire is being sent out Council wide to ascertain whether CCTV and the Control Room could provide services rather than using outside contractors.

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Additionally, a local security firm has been in contact with the CCTV Officer to identify whether the Control Room could operate as emergency contact for the lift security that they are installing (a service that could be provided if the Control Room was staffed full time).

RECOMMENDATION

THAT, subject to any comments that Members may wish to make, the report be noted.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None Identified