

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
CABINET – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (RESIDENT SERVICES AND CLIMATE  
CHANGE)

CCTV CONTRACT AND RETENDER

**1 Executive Summary**

- 1.1 In 2018 the Council entered into a service level agreement with St Albans City and District Council (SADC) to maintain and monitor our network of CCTV cameras monitoring public spaces.
- 1.2 The current service level agreement/contract terminates at the end of March 2025.
- 1.3 The network of CCTV cameras provides a vital service to the Community Safety Partnership across the borough.

**2 Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 That Cabinet gives approval for the Council to enter into a 5 year agreement (with a possible two year extension) with St Albans City and District Council for the provision of CCTV services subject to the price quoted by SADC remaining competitive against any price quotation which may be received from another provider.
- 2.2 Subject to 2.1, that delegated authority is given to the Executive Director (Resident Services and Climate Change ) in consultation with the Executive Director (Finance and Transformation) and the Legal Services Manager to agree the SLA with St Albans City and District Council for the provision of the CCTV services.

**3 Explanation**

- 3.1 The Council has a network of CCTV surveillance system with cameras covering selected locations, monitored at a central control room within St Albans City Centre.
- 3.2 The monitoring room is owned by SADC who contract with a company called Videcom for the monitoring of the images and for the maintenance of the equipment.
- 3.3 The Council currently has 35 cameras that are monitored through the SADC agreement.
- 3.4 The CCTV provided within the current contract/SLA with SADC is provided for the purpose of improving community safety and protecting the council's housing stock. The cameras are provided to deter crime and anti-social behaviour and to help identify and apprehend those individuals who commit criminal acts or disorder.
- 3.6 The CCTV system is a valuable tool in tackling crime and the fear of crime but it is also dependent upon partnerships to be truly effective. These include partners within

the Council such as the Community Safety team, the Street Wardens, and the Anti-social Behaviour team. External partners include the Town and Parish Councils, the Police and SADC.

- 3.7 The CCTV operators work closely with the police, giving and receiving information to assist the police in targeting criminal and anti-social activity and supporting victims of crime.

## **Implications**

### **Legal Implication(s)**

- 4.1 There is no requirement to have CCTV in public spaces, but the CCTV system supports the council's statutory duty to work with partners under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and subsequent amending legislation. Once a CCTV network is in place there is a legal duty on that organisation to follow both data protection legislation and the duty placed on that organisation by the Surveillance Camera Commissioner under the Regulation of investigatory Powers Act 2000 and all amending legislation.
- 4.2 The Council would enter into an SLA with SADC and SADC would, in turn, enter into a contract with a service provider for the monitoring and maintenance of our CCTV cameras.

## **4 Financial Implication(s)**

- 4.1 The current cost of the monitoring and maintenance is approximately £100,000.00 per annum.

## **5 Risk Management Implications**

- 5.1 Reputational: If we delay the commissioning of a new contract there could be a period where no contractor is responsible for monitoring the current public space CCTV network – so the system would be ineffective.
- 6.2 Reputational: Public space CCTV plays a vital role in enhancing the positive perception of safety for our residents and businesses within the town centres and other key locations, not only does it act as a deterrent it provides an invaluable service for our partners in detecting crime and identifying perpetrators of crime.

## **6 Security and Terrorism Implication(s)**

- 7.1 The provision of CCTV within the main public spaces of our borough provide a more controllable and safer environment for our residents and businesses. CCTV assists with the identification, apprehension and conviction of suspects involved in serious and organised criminal activity and ASB that poses a serious risk to public safety.

## **7 Procurement Implication(s)**

- 7.1 This council would be named on the procurement notice when SADC advertise the opportunity.

## **8 Climate Change Implication(s)**

8.1 There are no direct climate change implications associated with this report.

**9 Human Resources Implication(s)**

9.1 There are no direct Human Resources implications associated with this report.

**10 Health and Wellbeing Implication(s)**

11.1 There are no direct Health and Wellbeing implications associated with this report.

**11 Communication and Engagement Implication(s)**

12.1 There are no direct communication and engagement implications associated with this report.

**12 Link to Corporate Priorities**

12.1 The subject of this report is linked to the Council's Corporate Priority Together, create opportunities for our communities, especially to help us feel safer where we live.

**13 Equality and Diversity**

14.1 An EqIA was not completed because this report does not propose changes to existing service-related policies or the development of new service-related policies.

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