

Option 4

CCTV provision in Central Bedfordshire is:

- completely removed
- reduced by reducing the number of cameras

Description	
<p>The Council removes the CCTV Service in its entirety. The CCTV Team at Dunstable is made redundant and the contract with HCCTVP ceases. All CBC owned CCTV equipment is de-commissioned.</p> <p>Alternatively, the number of cameras is reduced based on intelligence led evidence identifying areas where continued CCTV provision would provide most benefit. Initially this is likely to be the 8 Council owned cameras monitored via the HCCTVP. These cameras are located in areas where provision is provided to some extent by Town Council owned cameras. Locations for additional camera reductions would need to be identified via a review and incident analysis.</p>	
Detail	Revenue Costs
Total anticipated Operating and Salary Costs for existing CCTV Service 2010/11	£350,000.00
Complete cessation of Council CCTV Service:	
Estimated Redundancy Costs for Dunstable CCTV Team	£26,593.00
Indicative de-commissioning costs of Dunstable control room	£5300.00
Total Revenue Costs Subject to caveat in section 16 of main report	£31, 893.00
Anticipated Net cost saving Year 1	£318,107.00
Capital costs: Subject to caveat in section 16 of main report	
Current service providers (Quadrant) Indicative de-commissioning costs of all CBC cameras to include attendance from telecom providers & the power company to disconnect their services, civil work to remove the column & reinstatement of the ground	£279, 710.00

<p>Continue service but reduce camera numbers: initial reduction of 8 CBC owned cameras currently monitored at HCCTVP</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saving</p>
<p>Anticipated costs of monitoring and maintenance for 8 Council owned cameras monitored through HCCTVP 2010-11</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">£47,640.00 Detailed breakdown in appendixB</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Total revenue saving</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">£47,640.00</p>
<p>Capital</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cost</p>
<p>Current service providers (Quadrant) Indicative de-commissioning costs for 8 Council owned cameras to include attendance from telecom providers & the power company to disconnect their services, civil work to remove the column & reinstatement of the ground</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">£38,000.00</p> <p>Transferring camera ownership to Town Councils would reduce or remove decommissioning costs dependent on number of cameras transferred</p>
<p>Considerations</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime, disorder and Anti Social Behaviour is a high priority for all communities • CCTV supports local policing, any removal of the service may lead to increases in incidents of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour • Complete removal of CCTV was not supported in the responses received through consultation undertaken. • In light of the announced public sector funding reductions, and those awaited as part of the public spending review, it is inevitable that there will be less police officers and PCSO's to respond to and detect crime. Continuing CCTV would help to mitigate the negative impact of those reductions. • Complete or partial removal of CCTV may lead to additional pressure being placed on other Council and partner agencies resources • CCTV provides Central Bedfordshire with a capable guardian including those areas identified as priority areas based on indices of multiple deprivation where some of the more vulnerable and hard to reach members of the community reside. • CCTV supports the Council priority to create safer communities and the Council vision for an economic powerhouse. • CCTV supports reductions in fear of crime and increases public confidence • CCTV supports successful criminal prosecutions through the Criminal Justice System and adds value for money by reducing costs and time in evidence gathering • The Council CCTV system has had significant capital expenditure in recent years to bring the system to a point where it can support more advanced technology thus providing the Council with the opportunity to look at more opportunities for income generation 	

- Maintenance costs for 27 internal cameras at the Leighton Buzzard Multi Storey Car Parks will need to be budgeted for elsewhere.
- The existing CCTV Service already works with other services e.g. planning (S106 funding) and there are other opportunities to consider including parking enforcement, emergency planning, waste services
- National CCTV Surveys highlight the difficulties of costing economic benefits of CCTV as some of the value that this type of service brings is not quantifiable in monetary terms.
- CCTV Service provides support for local businesses via Radiolink and reports on traffic management
- CCTV supports officer safety including police and local authority officers working in areas with CCTV
- Removal of CCTV has significant risk for the Council in terms of reputation with partners and communities and businesses.
- CCTV supports the Councils statutory duty with regard to crime and disorder and those linked to Environmental crime

Recommendation

Reducing the number of cameras, initially beginning with the 8 CBC owned cameras monitored through HCCTVP, does not provide any significant additional savings to those already identified in option 2 (appendix B). As such **it is not recommended that this option is pursued in its own right, however it will be considered as part of discussions with Town Councils regarding option 2.**

Removal of the CCTV Service would produce significant savings, however the wider costs to the community in terms of fear of crime, public confidence, increased levels of crime and disorder and reduced detections and prosecutions is likely to far outweigh the obvious initial savings. Service savings can be achieved via alternative options.

In view of the wider impact of ceasing the service **it is not recommended that the CCTV service ceases in the next two years.**

This is on the basis that over this period of time it will be possible to evaluate the impact of the public sector funding cuts and their impact on crime, disorder, detections, prosecutions, public confidence, fear of crime and officer safety. It will also allow the CCTV Service to develop income generation opportunities from within and by looking at collaborative working with partners and the possibility of a 'single provider' solution. **It is recommended that:**

- discussions take place with key partners i.e. Town and Parish Councils and Bedfordshire Police to seek contributory funding**
- Costs are reduced by achieving savings are made via other options identified in this report.**