

**Option 5 (a)**

Status Quo is maintained – Dunstable and Stevenage continue to provide the service and any procedural changes completed as necessary. As part of this option the following would be considered:

Potential revenue savings identified via review of existing shift patterns operated at Dunstable

<b>Description</b>	
<p>The CCTV Service based at Dunstable would review its current operating patterns i.e. proactive monitoring 365 days per year 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.</p> <p>Existing contract arrangements with HCCTVP would not allow any changes to the service provided through Stevenage or reduce the costs.</p> <p>Existing shift patterns would change to reduce the number of staff and the service would move towards a mix of recording only (no CCTV Operators on duty) and proactive monitoring (CCTV Operators on duty) based on peak levels of demand.</p> <p>The number of FTE CCTV Operators would reduce and current arrangements for 'Stand-by' operators would be removed as would contractual overtime and non-contractual overtime payments. Unsociable working hours shift payments would be reviewed.</p> <p>The savings identified form part of the targeted efficiency savings proposals under consideration as part of the Councils' medium term financial plan.</p>	
<b>Detail</b>	<b>Costs</b>
<b>Anticipated CCTV Service salary costs for 2010/11</b>	<b>£225,000.00</b>
Reduce salary costs for CCTV Service by changing shift patterns and introducing a mix of recording only and proactive monitoring.	£95,000.00
<b>Indicative Revenue Savings</b>	<b>£95,000.00</b>
Indicative Redundancy costs	£3640.00
<b>Indicative Net Revenue Saving</b>	<b>£91, 360.00</b>

## Considerations

- Revisions in shift patterns and reductions in numbers of staff will leave the service with absolutely **no** resilience to provide cover for annual leave or sickness.
- Revenue generated through existing contracts for commercial monitoring e.g. retail parks may reduce or be lost as contracts will need to be reviewed as full 24/7 – 365 days a year proactive monitoring will no longer be available.
- There will be a disparity of service across Central Bedfordshire as monitoring through HCCTVP would continue on a 24/7 – 365 day a year basis with full cover for sickness and annual leave etc.
- Town Councils currently monitoring cameras through HCCTVP will be less inclined to consider the Council CCTV Service for its monitoring as it will not provide the same service as HCCTVP.
- Current provision of RadioLink to retail businesses will be affected as calls for assistance, calls giving intelligence on shoplifters, known offenders etc and signing in and out will not always receive a response
- Consultation feedback identified 24/7 – 365 day a year monitoring as the preferred option. However understanding the need for cost reductions there was support for :
  - recording only between 0300 and 0700 hrs Monday to Thursday is seen a practical way to reduce cost from Bedfordshire Police Inspectors, Chief Inspector and Superintendent managing Central Bedfordshire and other consultees
  - licensees felt that this option was practical for Monday to Wednesday but Thursday should have full pro-active monitoring
- Reducing monitoring may have a negative impact on fear of crime and public confidence
- There may be a decrease in detection of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour in areas covered by CCTV and a reduction in evidence available for criminal proceedings during recording only periods.
- Police may experience delays in obtaining evidence, having to wait until CCTV Operators are on duty.
- Reduction in Council Fixed Penalty Notice income generated through CCTV Service

## Recommendation

In view of the need to identify organisational savings **it is recommended that this option is pursued and:**

- **that this option is linked to Option 2, the integration of Council cameras into Dunstable**