

CCTV decision making process

Southwark CCTV team currently has 483 permanent cameras across Southwark's Town Centres and Estates. The team also has 18 redeployable cameras that are deployed in areas of most need and in conjunction with partnership activity so that concerns for crime and ASB are dealt with effectively rather than displaced.

The decision making process for redeployable cameras is in line with statutory guidance as stated within the Home Office Surveillance Camera Commissioners Code of Practice, specifically;

- Use of a surveillance camera system must always be for a specified purpose which is in pursuit of a legitimate aim and necessary to meet an identified pressing need.
- The use of a surveillance camera system must take into account its effect on individuals and their privacy, with regular reviews to ensure its use remains justified.
- When the use of a surveillance camera system is in pursuit of a legitimate aim, and there is a pressing need for its use, it should then be used in the most effective way to support public safety and law enforcement with the aim of processing images and information of evidential value.

The decision on when and how long to install a redeployable camera is taken by the Business Unit Manager for Environment and Community Protection in consultation with the Partnership Tasking Group Meeting, chaired by the Chief Inspector for Neighbourhoods and Partnership and the Business Unit manager for Neighbourhood Nuisance.

Fig 1 shows the redeployable CCTV decision making process.

When a request for a redeployable camera is submitted both qualitative and quantitative analysis of the concerns raised is undertaken. A Crime and ASB survey is undertaken by the analytical team within the service. Contact is also made (in light of potential under-reporting) to partners such as local policing teams, housing, Southwark anti-social behaviour unit and wardens service to see if they are aware of the concerns raised and whether or not any current activity is being undertaken already which may impact on the need for a camera.

Action such as patrols from local policing teams, community wardens and engagement with residents from Southwark Anti-Social Behaviour Unit may need to be actioned first in order to fully understand the concerns being experienced and to ensure that the right resources from across the partnership are deployed.

CCTV redeployable camera requests are taken to the Partnership Tasking Group and the decision is taken on whether or not the need for a camera is a proportionate response and will support partnership action in resolving the concerns being raised.

Any redeployable camera installed is reviewed every twelve weeks to monitor impact on concerns, partnership action and decision whether the camera installation is extended for a further 12 weeks or relocated to another area.