

# Stevenage Borough Council Report

## CCTV Joint Executive

**Date of meeting: Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**Report by: Richard Baldock** on behalf of the CCTV Officer  
Management Board

**Report title:** Officer Management Board Report

### **Ward(s) affected:**

Not applicable as the report covers the four council partners' areas.

### **Summary**

This report gives a brief overview of the Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership. It informs members of the 2025/26 Quarter 4 budget position.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CCTV JOINT EXECUTIVE:**

- a) that the committee considers and provides any feedback on the Quarter 4 financial position for 2025/26

### **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 At its meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the CCTV Joint Executive endorsed a revised approach to calculating the CCTV service costs to each local authority within the CCTV Partnership. This revised approach recognised the difference between pro-actively monitored cameras and static, reactive cameras given that use of the latter makes far fewer demands on the CCTV Control Room. At the same time, the revised methodology more accurately reflects the changes from time-to-time in the

number and type of cameras of each partner authority. The revised approach was implemented in 2023/24.

## **Overview of the Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership**

- 1.2 The Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership is a collaborative initiative involving four local authorities in Hertfordshire, these being, East Herts, Hertsmere, North Herts and Stevenage. These councils work together to ensure the closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems are effectively managed and contribute positively to community safety and crime prevention efforts. The Partnership pools resources and expertise to manage and operate a network of CCTV cameras across the councils.
- 1.3 The key features of the Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership can be summarised as follows.
  - **Collaborative Management:** The Partnership is managed on a day-to-day basis by Stevenage Borough Council with officer oversight and guidance provided by the CCTV Officer Management Board consisting of officers from the four councils. Member oversight is provided by a sub-committee of each council's Executive, that is, the CCTV Joint Executive. This method of working allows for efficient decision-making and resource allocation.
  - **Shared Services:** By sharing services, the Partnership can reduce costs associated with the procurement, installation, maintenance and monitoring of CCTV systems. This includes leveraging bulk purchasing and shared infrastructure to achieve economies of scale.
  - **Coverage and Scope:** The Partnership oversees a wide network of CCTV cameras covering various public spaces such as town centres, car parks and other key areas within the four

local authority areas. The cameras are strategically placed to maximise coverage and effectiveness in crime prevention and public safety.

- **Monitoring and Response:** The CCTV footage is monitored in real-time by trained operators at the CCTV Control Room in Stevenage. The operators can alert the police and others of incidents as they occur. This proactive monitoring helps in the rapid deployment of police resources to address potential criminal activities. In addition, there are a number of reactive cameras from which footage can be downloaded if required.
- **Data Protection and Privacy:** The Partnership adheres to strict data protection and privacy regulations, ensuring that CCTV footage is handled and stored securely. Access to the footage is restricted to authorised personnel and used only for legitimate purposes.
- **Funding and Resources:** The Partnership is funded through recharges to the member councils as discussed later in this report and income from its trading arm, the CCTV Partnership Company which provides services to the private sector and some other public sector bodies outside of the Partnership itself.

## **2 Reason(s)**

### **2025/26 budget**

- 2.1 Stevenage Borough Council provides financial management services for the Partnership. The table below presents the Quarter 2 CCTV Partnership Finance Summary.

	<b>2025/26 Budget</b>	<b>2025/26 Actuals</b>	<b>2025/26 Variance to Budget</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Employees	124,310	91,544	-32,766	"- c.£40k saving from the vacant BDM post, which is offset against a reduced income from the Company; and - c.£7k increase in salary cost resulting from the regrade of the CCTV Manager post (with on-costs)"
Premises Related	43,320	52,696	9,376	Additional costs at Cavendish Rd than budgeted (repairs & maintenance and depreciation)
Transport Related	920	1,849	929	Mileage costs (50% of which is charged to the Company)
Supplies and Services	640,890	615,346	-25,544	"- £20k saving on the Veracity Support annual licence fee (as this has been included for 5 years upfront as part of the recent upgrade); - £14k underspend on sundry materials; and - £9k pressure projected relating to the change in shift pattern for SSG (as previously communicated to the Partnership)"
Recharges	18,000	18,141	141	
Income from Company	-275,150	-229,675	45,475	"Reduction in Company income resulting from: - Vacant BDM post (c.£40k); and - Reduced Q4 camera unit charge, following the OOH adjustment (c.£5k)"
Income adjustment for the OOH service	0	-125,671	-125,671	Income relating to the Out of Hours (OOH) service to be received into the Partnership - backdated to 24/25
<b>Balance to recover from partners</b>	<b>552,290</b>	<b>424,232</b>	<b>-128,058</b>	

	<b>Invoiced 25/26</b>	<b>Partner Cost 25/26</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Average Camera No. + % of Total Cameras</b>
Stevenage Borough Council	266,490	207,550	-58,938	131 cameras. 48.92%
East Hertfordshire District Council	105,960	80,260	-25,700	51 cameras. 18.92%
North Hertfordshire District Council	102,580	77,630	-24,950	49 cameras. 18.30%
Hertsmere Borough Council	77,260	58,790	-18,470	37 cameras. 13.86%
	<b>552,290</b>	<b>424,230</b>	<b>-128,058</b>	<b>268 cameras. 100%</b>

2.2 The charges to the partner councils will be invoiced during the year with any pressures or efficiencies reconciled after year end.

### **3.0 Risks**

3.1 There is a risk that without adequate officer and member oversight of the CCTV Partnership's budget, significant unanticipated overspends could occur which would place financial burdens on the partner councils at a time when all councils are facing significant financial pressures. The risk is being mitigated by Officer Management Board meetings being held at least quarterly at which the latest budget projections are reviewed and any necessary actions to contain pressures are identified

## **4.0 Implications/Consultations**

### **Community Safety**

The provision of CCTV cameras is part of each council's efforts to promote community safety and protect the public as per the relevant Codes of Practice 2013 which was presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 30 (1) (a) of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.

### **Data Protection**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Equalities**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Financial**

The financial aspects of the Partnership are outlined in the report.

### **Health and Safety**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Human Resources**

These have been considered by Stevenage Borough Council in relation to operational management of the service and the monitoring contract.

### **Human Rights**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Legal**

The Partnership operates within the terms of the Partnerships Agreement. In addition, the selling of services to the private sector is handled by the CCTV Partnership Company in line with the relevant legislation.

### **Specific Wards**

Not applicable.

### **Contact Officer**

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