

**What
Really
Matters?**

Budget Option
**CCTV
Monitoring**

Savings

2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	TOTAL
£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
420	0	0	420

Option summary

The primary function of the CCTV Control Room is to monitor images captured by the 111 cameras (55 of which are installed specifically to manage crime and disorder with the remainder being traffic control cameras) in place across Wirral. By agreement with the CCTV Control Room Merseyside Police on Wirral have the ability to control the cameras for operational reasons and to receive live images from a selection of cameras.

With the establishment of a new Joint Police and Fire and Rescue Service Control Room the Police Control Room in Wirral will close and permission is being sought by the new Joint Control Room to increase the opportunities for the viewing of images and control of the CCTV cameras captured by large public CCTV systems such as Wirral's. This will increase the level of duplication with two control rooms monitoring the same images and controlling the same cameras. This budget option would see the Council make savings by reducing duplication and closing the CCTV monitoring room giving the Joint Control Room access to images and unlimited control of Wirral's CCTV cameras. Wirral would remain responsible for the capture and transmission of CCTV camera images at a cost of £67,500 per annum.

This proposal would not affect the functioning of the traffic management cameras in place throughout Wirral.

Potential impact

Because of the level of duplication which exists, the impact will be minimal. CCTV cameras operating in Wirral will continue to be monitored for the purposes of preventing and detecting incidents of crime and disorder.

There are non CCTV functions performed by the Wirral Control Room staff that will require changes to current practices. For example activation of the Emergency Plan, receiving alarm activation calls and facilitating communication between the Community Patrol Service.

Reducing the impact

The system for activation of the Emergency Plan can actually be streamlined and enhanced by this proposal. Currently the Police managing an incident will recognise the need to activate the Councils emergency plan and request this via the CCTV Control Room who then make a telephone call to the duty emergency planning officer. Giving the Police direct access to contact the emergency planning officer on duty would speed up and streamline this process.

Management of radio communications between the Community Patrols and reception of alarm activation calls can be maintained by adjustment of the existing system managing both radio and telephone communication channels.