Sunderland City Council
Protocol
Deployment of Council Mobile CCTV Resources

1. Background

1.1 Sunderland City Council has 24 deployable 3G CCTV cameras that can provide high quality CCTV imaging for the purpose of prevention and detection of crime and disorder.

1.2 The cameras are supplemented by a range of other measures including mobile stills cameras (flash cams) used for environmental crime and other CCTV capability provided by partner agencies.

1.3 The Council resource is managed by the Council's Security and Emergency Services based in Development and Regeneration.

1.4 The resource provides a significant tool in relation to the prevention and detection of crime and disorder and as such is an exemplar of the Council's commitment to its statutory duty under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which states:

"Without prejudice to any other obligation placed on it, it shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it can to reasonably can to prevent, (a) crime and disorder in its area including anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and (b) the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area".

2. Allocation and deployment

2.1 Each of the City Area Frameworks will be allocated up to 4 of the 3G cameras. A further 4 will be held centrally to support intensive local activity or support other citywide crime and disorder deployment priorities. The 3G CCTV resources should support the Safer Sunderland Partnership's strategic priorities and the Safe priorities of the Area Committee (see appendix 1).

2.2 Requests for consideration for camera deployment will come from a range of sources including Area Committees and individual Elected Members, Council Directorates and partner organisations engaged in the Safer Sunderland Partnership e.g. Northumbria Police.

2.3 Deployment of the cameras will need to take into account a range of factors including:

- ✓ The problem to be addressed
- ✓ Other measures/resources needed to support the CCTV surveillance; and
- ✓ Technical considerations in relation to suitable sites being found in the problem area to be addressed.

- ✓ Resource required to deploy – each 3G CCTV camera has an estimated budget for 2009/2010 that will allow for up to 4 deployments of each camera. Additional deployments over and above this would require identification of additional revenue budget from the City Council or Safer Sunderland Partnership.

2.4 Area based requests for CCTV deployment should be considered initially by the relevant Local Multi Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS) Group. The LMAPS groups involve key partners and an Area Committee member representative. They meet on a 5 weekly cycle and provide a secure information sharing forum in which to discuss both operational intelligence and additional resource deployment to support CCTV consideration.

2.5 The LMAPs group will, having regard to the emerging Area Committee Safe City priorities and current partner intelligence and information, develop an initial deployment proposal for up to 4 cameras and present it to the Area Committee, giving reasons for deployment, for approval.

2.6 The Area Committee will consider the proposal and either authorise it, or identify alternative deployment arrangements together with the reasons for this.

2.7 The LMAPs group will keep the deployment arrangements under continuous review through its cycle of meetings. Any proposed changes will be reported to and considered by the Area Committee in accordance with 2.5 and 2.6 above.

2.8 Urgency - should an urgent need occur outside of the formal meetings cycle, deployment of cameras will be delegated to the Chair of the LMAPs group, in consultation with the LMAPs Area Committee member and the Director of Development and Regeneration or his nominee. Such urgently required deployments would be reported to the next LMAPs and Area Committee cycle for review.

3.0 Strategic Requirements

3.1 From time to time it may be necessary to seek agreement from Area Committees to utilise a large number of rapid deployment cameras for special events or other particular circumstances. In such cases Area Committees will be consulted on the proposals so that any impact on local arrangements can be fully assessed and taken into consideration.

3.2 A CCTV performance group will meet every 3 months to review overall citywide performance and deployment. This group will consist of the Portfolio Holder Regeneration and Community Cohesion, the Council's Security Manager, the Council's Safer Communities Manager and the senior Police Officer (ranked chief inspector or above) with responsibility for neighbourhood policing or in exceptional cases their nominee. The Area Committee representative on LMAPS or the Area Committee chair may request attendance at the meeting to review applications for additional resource or to raise issues affecting 3G performance in their area through the portfolio holder.

3.3 The CCTV performance group will consider all requests (in line with the protocol criteria) for consideration of deployment of the 4 Citywide 3G cameras.

4.0 Citywide Emergency Request Approval

4.1 While in every possible case full consultation and approval of 3G CCTV deployment should be in accordance with this protocol set out above, in cases of civil emergency, serious crime and disorder or threat of serious crime and disorder then emergency deployment or redeployment of area based cameras will be approved by either the Director of Regeneration or Chief Executive (or their nominees) in conjunction with the Leader (or nominee).

5.0 Reporting

5.1 The CCTV performance group will be responsible for ensuring effective communication with LMAPS chairs, Area Committees and any relevant delivery group of the Safer Sunderland Partnership.

5.2 Regular reports will be made available to all Area Committees. In addition an annual report will be made available to Area Committees and Regeneration and Community Review Committee.

5.3 This Protocol will be reviewed 6 months after its adoption and annually thereafter.

February 2009