

## **Appendix 1: Overview of CCTV Projects**

### **1. The Council's Main Frame CCTV upgrade**

In 2018/19 the Council allocated a total of £60,000 of capital funding to enhance CCTV capacity within wards through the purchase of additional re-deployable CCTV units. These CCTV unit were available to each ward through the allocation of this funding. This was achieved. The cameras arrived in November 2018 with the processes for deployment established by December 2018. The first deployments took place in January 2019.

In January 2021 the Council's Community Safety and Regulatory Services were seeking to upgrade and to modernise the Council's CCTV assets to improve community safety and prevent or detect crime and anti-social behaviour. Community Safety and Regulatory services would be responsible for a range of activities including on-street enforcement of anti-social behaviour and environmental crime, alongside working with partners at a strategic level to develop initiatives and influence ways of working to prevent, reduce or address crime.

CCTV Project Board Delivery Plan was created with various partner agencies looking at assets that the Council own in relation to CCTV. It was identified that the Council currently had 98 fixed camera units across the town centre and other areas within the Borough. The images from these units pass through Rotherham and into a control room in the Doncaster area with no current local viewing capability. In addition, the Council had a further 372 CCTV units on secondary systems (on Council buildings) and a further 97 re-deployable units to support enforcement functions, which are a mixture of overt and covert cameras but again, there is no current remote viewing capability.

The Council was also aware that some of the systems and hardware, including camera heads, were outdated and in some cases no longer supported with upgrades. A number of the camera units are analogue, without digital capability and limited fields of view, many of the system did not integrate meaning the Council was not able to realise the full potential of its current assets.

The aims and objectives for the Project board was to look at setting aside the funding to deliver further investment into the CCTV system, the Council identified the following three objectives:

- Review and upgrade, where possible, fixed CCTV units, ensuring as a minimum current coverage is maintained.
- Upgrade, as appropriate and necessary, the hardware and software associated with the system.
- Seek to link the re-deployable units to a 'live monitoring capability'.

The Council and its partners have a range of strategic objectives through the Safer Rotherham Partnership which this project will contribute towards. These include reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, tackling serious and organised crime and protecting vulnerable people.

The Council's Capital Investment will focus primarily on the upgrade of the fixed CCTV system, which includes 98 camera heads (as referenced above), associated hardware and software and to ensure the system itself is fit for purpose, including the hardware and software associated with the system. Secondly, the priority is to provide a local remote viewing capability for the existing system of fixed CCTV units. Thirdly, the Council is seeking to link the current (and/or future) re-deployable CCTV units to a remote monitoring capability, making use of the existing system. Finally, the Council is seeking to modernise and upgrade as many of the fixed CCTV units as possible, providing as much advantage in terms of viewing capability as can be achieved within the funding available.

All hardware and software must be compliant with data protection legislation and guidance from the Information Commissioners Office. Image quality must be at least evidential quality as per any current requirements and wherever possible, fit for any future changes in requirements. All works must comply with relevant Policies or practices of the Council both in relation to CCTV and the Council IT infrastructure.

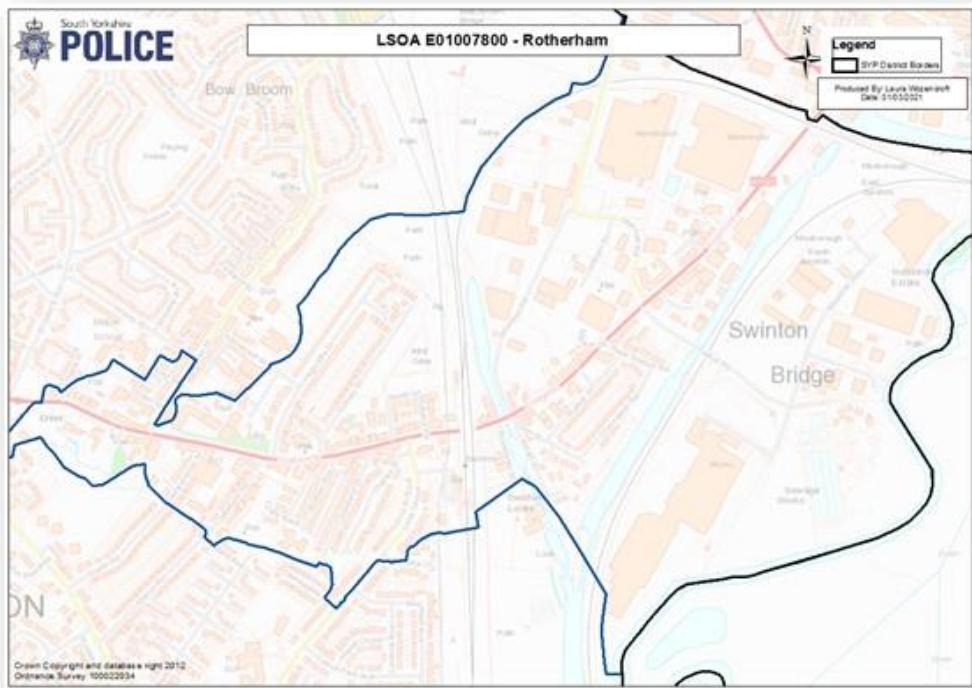
## **2. Safer Streets Funding 2**

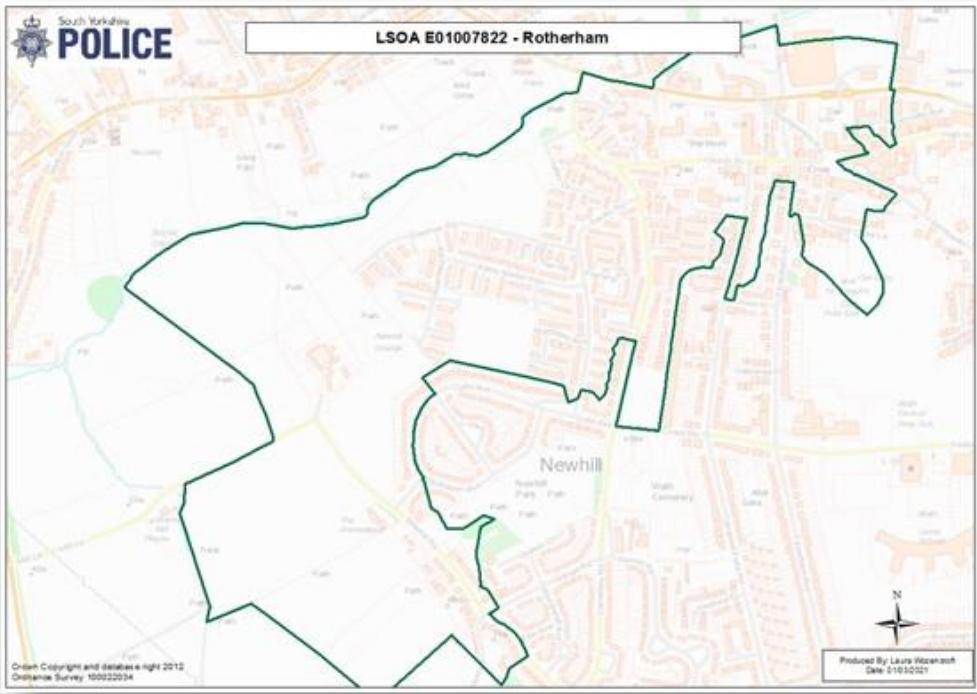
In April 2021 Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) across England and Wales were able to bid for Safer Streets Fund investment for measures aimed at preventing acquisitive crime in disproportionately affected areas. Initiatives could target vehicle theft, robbery or burglary, among other crimes, and could include interventions to improve home security, such as installing better locks and gating alleyways and make streets better lit at night. Each crime prevention plan will have the potential to make communities safer while freeing up the time of police and other agencies to focus on more complex crimes. The fund was designed to ensure local communities can participate in the development of these plans and will also include money for community projects that complement them. PCCs must work with local authorities and other partners to develop these plans, which need to be based on evidence, demonstrate value for money and engage local communities. As they are rolled out, each initiative will be assessed to help inform future government investments.

To meet the bid requirements, the following offences were mapped against Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs):

- Acquisitive Crime – Residential Burglary/Burglary in a Dwelling, Personal Robbery, Theft from the Person and Vehicle Crime (Taking From a Motor Vehicle and Taking of a Motor Vehicle).

The areas that were awarded such funding in Rotherham were parts of Wath town centre and including some surrounding streets including most of the White bear estate and Swinton Precinct, including some surrounding streets and along Station Road including parts of Swinton Industrial estate. Maps of the areas covered in Swinton and Wath are as follows:





In summary, this proposal looked to invest in:

- CCTV cameras
- “Operation Shield” Smart water to all properties within the highlighted areas.
- Increase signage and media involvement within those communities
- Supporting active community groups.

The Council will take control of the re-deployable camera units and be responsible for ongoing maintenance and re-deployment as part of its overall management. This will allow for the intervention to remain active for as long as the cameras remain functional and see a continuation of the benefits described above for many years to come. We expect the cameras to last a minimum of 5 years.

Rotherham was successful in securing £63,000 for CCTV cameras to cover Wath and Swinton, this allowed the Council to purchase 20 re-deployable cameras (10 for each area identified in the report) on lamp columns which would be viewable by a 4G network and would eventually interlink into the Council's mainframe project. A further £17,500 was identified from the same project (externally funded) for an underspend on property marking, so authority was sought so the funding could be re-allocated into additional cameras. The request was successful and a further 6 cameras and 20 adaptors were purchased so that the cameras could be fitted to the Council's older concrete style lamp columns.

It is expected that the project will contribute to the following outcomes.

- Reduction in fear of crime
- Reduction in acquisitive crime
- Local residents see action in the area
- Improved public relations
- Reduction in fear of crime and improvement in residents' perceptions of safety (to be measured by external evaluation company)
- Increased awareness of local crime prevention activity (to be measured by external evaluation company)

### **3. Safer Streets Funding 3**

A further funding bid of £110,000.00 was also successful under Safer Streets Fund 3 to address safety in Clifton park.

In summary, this proposal looked to invest in:

- New lighting - £95,000.00
- CCTV - £15,200.00

This will help make users feel safer particularly during the evenings.

The system will include 15 camera heads in 5 locations around the park.

The Council will take control of the re-deployable camera units and be responsible for ongoing maintenance and re-deployment as part of its overall management. This will allow for the intervention to remain active for as long as the cameras remain functional and see a continuation of the benefits described above for many years to come. We also expect these cameras to last a minimum of 5 years.

### **4. Rosehill/Victoria Park CCTV upgrade**

A funding bid to Safer Rotherham Partnership for improvements to Rosehill Park, Rawmarsh for CCTV was successful in November 2021 to improve lighting and CCTV and access control.

The system consists of:

- 29 fixed static dome cameras with 24hr colour along with 4 PTZ (pan Tilt Zoom) cameras that can be moved to look at different locations with an upgraded 64 channel NVR recorder then wireless links from each camera location to get it back to the recorder in the house. This allows the Council to get the cameras back to the recorder without digging the park up to run

cables, plus 1 ANPR camera pointing at the car park in response to the CSE issues.

This work links to the aims of the Police and Crime Plan by helping to protect vulnerable people and assisting to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour.

Reports of drug use and dealing, stolen vehicles and incidents with gangs and knife crime have all taken place in Rosehill Park over the past 12 months.

The additional cameras will help women and young girls feel safer after comments were made from residents that they will not walk through the park as they don't feel safe as they know the existing cameras did not work.

Improvements to Rosehill Park contributed to many of the local Ward Priorities for the north area. including:

Rawmarsh West

***Priority 1 - Improvements to the local community***

- *Improving Open Spaces*

***Priority 3 - Ensure Rosehill Park is a well-used resource and is accessible to all ages and abilities***

***Priority 4 - Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour***

- *Support partnership working initiatives that make people feel safe where they live or work*

To summarise the total CCTV cost was £24,500.00

## **5. Wharncliffe flats CCTV Upgrade**

After ongoing ASB in the area of Wharncliffe flats it was decided that the current CCTV system was outdated and not up to standard for the level of evidence needed and was some blind spots so to tackle the ongoing ASB and drug use in the area.

## **6. Victoria Street, Masborough Upgrade**

Further funding by the Safer Rotherham partnership has allowed the council to upgrade this systems from a none working unit to a fully operational 5 headed systems that now covers a larger area of Masborough and will interlink in with the Council's mainframe CCTV systems.

Victoria street was identified to have an old fixed CCTV system with 1 PTZ camera linked across the road to a road side cabinet that was not working.

## **7. Eastwood, Operation Grow Upgrade**

After growing concerns from residents within Eastwood in relation to constant power cuts a joint operation was formed to tackle the issues a number of streets in Eastwood was identified to have a number of cannabis cultivations The Council deployed 8 new re-deployable cameras that had remote access for police and council officers to live watch and have instant playback if it was needed.

The cameras have helped with gathering intelligence as well as helping combat fly tipping in the area with 2 FPNs being served from the footage and 1 ongoing investigation leading to prosecution.

The cost of the cameras deployed within Eastwood is £25,152.

### **Covert CCTV for Fly Tipping**

There is also an increasing reliance on CCTV as a tool to deter fly tipping as well as capturing images of incidents and offenders. CCTV has proven to be very useful, although it should be recognised that it has limitations. If an offender cannot be identified or faces are obscured the Council may not have the evidence to take action. Similarly, there is only a finite number of cameras that are available and consequently only a limited number of incidents can be captured. That said, the use of CCTV has proven very successful resulting in successful prosecutions, including two custodial sentences being handed down by the Court. Whilst positive, the increasing levels of CCTV assets also have resource implications in term of officer time and expertise to manage the associated systems. An example of the re-deployable fly-tipping cameras is as below:



The work undertaken in Rotherham is very well recognised by other Local Authorities regionally with five Councils having visited Rotherham over the past few years to

learn the methods deployed here. The success is reflected in these Councils now utilising Rotherham's tactics to tackle fly tipping in their own areas of Barnsley, Doncaster, Manchester, Bradford and Wakefield.

Currently Rotherham has access to 14 deployable units which are spread across the Borough.

The above units are operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and must be maintained twice a week with battery changes due to the remote locations that the cameras are often in, for example at Hoober below:

