

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## REPORT

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: CCTV MONITORING SYSTEMS - REVENUE COSTS
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 23 April 1996	Ref: MMcC/HG/REPORTS.015	

North Lanarkshire area has four town centres, Airdrie, Coatbridge, Motherwell and Wishaw which have installed CCTV monitoring systems.

Independent investigation into the longest running system, Airdrie, has shown that the CCTV monitoring system has had a dramatic reduction in crime and also an increase in detection rate when a crime has been committed.

In each of the four towns a trust has been set up to oversee the management and funding of the monitoring systems. The trusts are made up of representatives from the business community, in some cases elected members and advisors from the police. The four trusts have come together to form the North Lanarkshire CCTV Joint Executive Committee for the purpose of making approaches to central funding bodies for the ongoing work of the monitoring operations. In February North Lanarkshire Council received a letter from the Joint Executive Committee seeking financial assistance towards the revenue costs for the running of the systems. The Committee have requested £100,000 in the next two financial years increasing to £200,000 in the following two financial years. Following discussions with the Executive Committee it has been established that the £100,000 relates to the funding towards the revenue costs of the Airdrie and Coatbridge systems only while the increase to £200,000 would make a contribution towards the funding of all four systems.

#### Operational Costs

The Joint Executive Committee is seeking a contribution from North Lanarkshire Council to cover the operational costs of running the system for the 1996/97 period. These costs include the wages, national insurance contribution, overtime, other overheads and in the case of the Airdrie Development Trust depreciation. An outline of costs for the four Trusts is shown below:

Wishaw Development Trust	£40,000
Motherwell Security Development Trust	£25,000
Airdrie Development Trust	£50,000
Coatbridge Development Trust	£50,000

#### Funding

Funding for the Trusts has come from the former local authorities, including Strathclyde Regional Council who made a direct contribution to the employment costs of the monitoring staff to the Airdrie and Coatbridge Trusts from a Policy & Resources Contingency Fund specifically set aside to finance CCTV systems.

In the 1995/96 period S.R.C. provided the following funding:

Airdrie Development Trust	£15,000
Coatbridge Development Trust	£12,000

The Finance Department have confirmed there is a budget of £29,000 in total with North Lanarkshire Council for non-identified grants and donations from previous Strathclyde Regional Council budgets. This is in a Chief Executive non-specific budget currently. It may be necessary to bid for this funding.

Confirmed funding for the CCTV Monitoring Systems is outlined below:

Wishaw Development Trust	£50,000
less invoice for 1995/96	<u>£8,750</u>
	£41,250
Funding Requested 1996/97	£40,000
Balance	£1,250
Motherwell Security Development Trust	£50,000
less invoice for 1995/96	<u>£5,000</u>
	£45,000
Funding Requested 1996/97	£25,000
Balance	£20,000
Airdrie & Coatbridge Development Trusts	£37,000
Funding Requested 1996/97	£100,000
Shortfall	£63,000

If the former S.R.C. funding is confirmed as being available in budgets the shortfall reduces to £36,000.

This could be met in part if members agree to allocate the balance of £21,250 from the Motherwell and Wishaw systems to the Airdrie and Coatbridge systems. If this is agreeable a shortfall of £14,750 will remain. If this cannot be met from a corporate contingency fund then the Airdrie and Coatbridge Trusts will require to make savings to bring their costs in line with budgets.

#### Issues

This funding package addresses the request for 1996/97 only.

Revenue costs for the operation of these four systems will continue to rise on an annual basis, and while police, retailers and community groups fully support these systems and their benefits the burden for funding will continue to fall on this Council.

A review of the four trusts requires to be undertaken with a report to this Committee in September/October.

The main issues to be considered within the review would be to identify means to reduce the revenue costs and increase revenue to the trusts.

Consideration would be given to the following:-

- Centralisation of monitoring which is currently undertaken in each of the four towns.
- Potential for revenue earnings from other Council departments and outside bodies by providing monitoring for other systems.
- Increase in financial contribution from businesses covered by the systems.
- Contribution from the Police Boards as local police are major beneficiaries of the system when pictures are used as evidence in court.
- Monitoring of the growth of systems in other areas as the Scottish Office competition may encourage local communities to bid for capital grants to install systems. This will provide a further long term financial burden as revenue costs will not be supported.
- Alternative sources of funding to support CCTV monitoring systems. In some areas this service is financed through parking charges in town centres.

**Recommendation**

Members are asked to note the report and approve the following:

- (i) Agree in principal to make a financial contribution to the four trusts as outlined below, subject to funding being available:-

Wishaw Development Trust	£40,000
Motherwell Security Development Trust	£25,000
Airdrie Development Trust	£50,000
Coatbridge Development Trust	£50,000

- (ii) A bid be submitted to the Director of Finance for £27,000 from the previous Strathclyde Regional Council budget disaggregated into the Chief Executive non specific budget.
- (iii) Agree a review of the future funding of these trusts be undertaken with a report of the findings submitted to September/October Economic Development Committee.



S. Cook

**Director of Planning and Development**

For further information contact G Smith, Head of Business Development and Property.