

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: CCTV - AIRDRIE TOWN CENTRE
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 27 November 1996	Ref: MMcC/JG/REP.119	

The Planning & Development Department have received a request from Airdrie Development Trust to donate a capital sum of £12,000 to facilitate the upgrading of the cameras in Airdrie town centre to colour.

A letter from Jim Armstrong, Chairman of the Trust, outlining the proposal is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. As the letter points out this system was installed four years ago and has black and white monitoring screens which with the advances in technology has now become dated. The Trust has previously applied to the Scottish Office for funding to update the cameras in Airdrie to colour but failed earlier this year as they had no current capital funding in place.

However they did receive positive indications that Airdrie would be looked upon favourably if they could raise some capital funding.

It is estimated that to update the cameras to colour would cost in the region of £40,000 and it is intended to submit a bid for this money to the Scottish Office by 31st of January 1997 seeking a 50% grant. The Council have been approached to donate a capital sum of £12,000. This funding would require to be committed from the 1997/98 budget.

The lack of colour cameras in Airdrie was one of the points picked up by the recent consultants report which considered the future of the CCTV operation in North Lanarkshire. It would appear that colour cameras are advantageous in that they allow accurate descriptions of people and cars to be obtained which is more effective in combating crime. Colour cameras are also more user friendly to the operator, aiding concentration over long periods of time.

It is proposed that this request be considered as part of the discussion on the Capital Programme for the 1997/98 period.

#### Recommendation

That a contribution of £12,000 be agreed in principal subject to the funding being available from the 1997/98 Capital Programme.



Stanley C Cook  
**Director of Planning and Development**

For further information contact Gordon Smith, Head of Economic Development & Property

Mr Stanley C. Cook  
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G67 01JW

Airdrie Development Trust  
c/o Coatbridge Police Office  
' N ' Division Police H Q  
Whittington Street  
Coatbridge  
ML5 3AD

Tel : 01236 502008

Date : 10th October 1996

Dear Mr Cook

**CCTV - AIRDRIE TOWN CENTRE**

As you are aware Airdrie was the first town in Scotland to install a town centre CCTV System linked directly to the police office. The success of this system is now well documented and it has been the catalyst for the growth of CCTV in town centres throughout the U.K.

The system was installed some 4 years ago and with advances in technology it is now becoming dated. Early this year the Airdrie Development Trust applied to the Scottish Office for funding to update the cameras in Airdrie to colour but failed as they had no current capital funding in place. They did however receive very positive indications that Airdrie would be looked upon very favourably if they could raise some capital funding.

To update the cameras in Airdrie to colour would cost in the region of £40,000 I would like at this point to ask North Lanarkshire Council to donate a capital sum of £12,000. Other agencies will be approached and it is very likely an upgrade to the system could be achieved when the money raised is matched by Central Government. It will be necessary to submit a bid for this money to the Scottish Office by 31st January 1997 or the possibility of a 50% grant will be lost and therefore a timeous reply to this request would be appreciated.

The advantages of colour cameras would be immense in that they allow accurate descriptions of people and cars to be obtained which enables us to combat crime more effectively. Colour is also much more user friendly to operators and aids concentration over long periods of time.

Given the current concerns by all to create a safer environment I would request that North Lanarkshire Council give this request favourable consideration.

Should you have any queries regarding this proposal please contact Inspector McCloy at Coatbridge Police Office on the above telephone number.

Yours sincerely

*Jim Armstrong*  
Jim Armstrong  
( Chairman )

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPT.  
HEADQUARTERS  
14 OCT 1995

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