

NORTH LANARKSHIRE CCTV LIMITED

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

REPORT

To : ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: NORTH LANARKSHIRE CCTV LTD – PROGRESS REPORT
From : DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT		
Date : 23 November 2000	Ref. : Rep755 JH/CCTV/1.0.2.1	

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise members on the progress of North Lanarkshire CCTV Ltd.

2 Background

- 2.1 A report was presented to the Economic Development Committee on 25 November 1999 outlining progress to date and seeking ongoing financial support for the company.

3 Current Position

- 3.1 In general terms progress continues to be made in many areas and work continues to consolidate and sustain the company. Some aspects to be highlighted include –

- Further steps have been taken to put in place the harmonisation of pay and conditions of service for CCTV Operators.
- Maintenance contracts being renewed on a basis which provides overall benefit to the company.
- There is a need to have an in-depth examination of the cabling installation in Airdrie (and also Coatbridge) with a view to having an alternative provided. This arises from the fact that, being the first of its kind, renewal/investment will be required – this could be a potentially costly exercise.
- Coatbridge also has experienced difficulties which will require to be addressed. Specifically, the system is vulnerable to lightning strikes. Damage has been sustained on a couple of occasions which required expensive repairs to be carried out.
- New installation in Bellshill town centre and at Langloan have added value to the network coverage throughout North Lanarkshire.
- Cumbernauld continues to be held in abeyance pending resolution to the town centre development. Kilsyth, however, is being proceeded with at present.
- Discussions have taken place with Lanarkshire Health Board regarding the possible continuation of monitoring at the new Wishaw General Hospital once completed. During the course of construction losses have been minimal – CCTV credited with a large part of this.
- Radio Link operations have been expanded across North Lanarkshire, with new systems now in place in Airdrie, Coatbridge, Wishaw and Bellshill covering both day and night-time economies. This has been a real success story from a community safety perspective.

4 Financial Position

4.1 Funding comprises:

(a) Council grant	-	£37,000 (core)
(b) Chief Constable's Grant	-	£58,000 (variable)
(c) Income generation – public and private sources	-	<u>£155,000</u>
		<u>£250,000</u>

Estimated total income is approximately £250,000 per annum.

4.2 This year, as in past years, the financial position has been weakened by the reduction in the grant from the Chief Constable's Challenge Fund. The reduction this year was 21½% on last year's award.

Estimated expenditure is approximately £280,000 per annum. Funding of the shortfall can only be obtained by meeting such requirements from current reserves.

5 Outcomes

5.1 Statistics have been revised to reflect the wider role CCTV plays in community safety across North Lanarkshire. Main incident classifications included theft, shoplifting, breach of the peace. On average 133 apprehensions were being obtained monthly, reflecting the value of the CCTV operations.

6 Future

6.1 Although many requests are made to have CCTV installed, it is clear that it would be impossible to satisfy all those who have expressed such an interest, given that ongoing revenue requirements create difficulties.

6.2 It should also be noted that, in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council, consultants have been commissioned to undertake and report on an "Evaluation of Beneficiaries Study" – thus addressing how CCTV provision can be financed from those deriving benefit from the service.

6.3 In North Lanarkshire we are almost at a point where it would be difficult to expand, given the constraints of the locations in Police Stations.

7 Summary


7.1 Progress continues to be made and North Lanarkshire CCTV Ltd remains at the forefront of CCTV developments in both town centre and housing systems.

7.2 Funding remains a serious consideration, in particular the need to reinvest in the systems currently in place, as well as ensuring sustainability in respect of revenue requirements.

8 Recommendation

8.1 Members are asked to:

- (i) note and approve the content of this report, and
- (ii) homologate the core funding arrangements already in place.


for David M Porch
Director of Planning and Environment

26 October 2000

For further information, please contact John Halpin, North Lanarkshire CCTV Ltd., tel. 01698 261133.