

**Report of Head of Community Safety Partnerships  
Report to the Director of Communities and Environment**

**Date: 17/05/19**

**Subject: Modernisation of Leedswatch public space CCTV cameras and the CCTV transmission network.**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number: 1, excluded under Access to Information Rule 9.1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. The Leeds City Council services of Leedswatch and Urban Traffic Management & Control (UTMC) own and operate public space CCTV cameras across Leeds including the City centre, district town centres, the road transport network and local authority housing estates.
2. The analogue CCTV cameras and transmission infrastructure of the Leedswatch and UTMC CCTV systems are now approaching end of life and not considered cost effective.
3. In order to maintain services, achieve best value and create operational efficiency a modernisation of the of the Leedswatch and UTMC analogue CCTV asset is necessary.

**Recommendations**

The Director of Communities and Environment is requested to review the contents of this report and approve the decision to approach the market place to procure suppliers which can modernise and replace the analogue CCTV assets of Leedswatch and UTMC

## **1. Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The analogue CCTV assets of LeedsWatch and UTMC require modernisation to be fit for purpose and achieve best value. This report seeks permission to approach the market for solution proposals for the implementation of a digital CCTV system to achieve the modernisation.

## **2. Background information**

- 2.1 LeedsWatch and UTMC own and operate CCTV monitoring centres which from a single software platform integrates the CCTV systems of Leeds Community Safety, Housing Multi-Story Blocks the bus stations West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) and the UTMC road transport CCTV infrastructure.
- 2.2 A LeedsWatch Modernisation Project Board formed in September 2017 to modernise the infrastructure of LeedsWatch, part of Community Safety service within the Communities and Environments Directorate. During the course of the project it has proved pertinent to expand the project's scope and incorporate the pressing needs of UTMC, part of the Transportation service within City Development. The board now brings together digital modernisation work of the two services across two directorates.
- 2.3 The CCTV systems of LeedsWatch and UTMC use digital and analogue camera technologies and a variety of networks for the transmission of images. The cameras and their networks vary in architecture, technology, running cost, performance and condition. The associated support is complex and a substantial financial expense.
- 2.4 The Modernisation Project Board considered the following issues of the LeedsWatch and UTMC CCTV assets:
- 242 of the public space cameras owned and operated by LeedsWatch and UTMC are analogue and approaching end of life. When compared with the digital camera equivalent analogue cameras have inferior image quality and functionality.
  - The CCTV transmission networks are a significant annual overhead and their performance is no longer fit for purpose. A modernisation of the transmission services and redesign of network topology is a prerequisite for the installation of digital cameras.
- 2.5 The board concluded that the analogue elements of the LeedsWatch and UTMC CCTV service is now considered a legacy solution with high fixed costs especially around connectivity. This analogue technology is becoming obsolete and will become unsupported.

### **3. Main issues**

- 3.1 The Modernisation Project Board considered options to address the legacy CCTV asset whilst investigating contingency solutions.
- 3.2 It was decided that the preferred option would be to procure, design and implement a modern digital CCTV system for LeedsWatch and UTMC. It should evaluate and create a new blended CCTV infrastructure utilising innovative, smart and mobile technology whilst facilitating the continued delivery and development of the services.
- 3.3 A costing exercise was completed in 2017/18 that estimated the capital costs of the scheme would be in the region of £695k, with a new fibre contract in the region £113k per annum. Permission is sought to advertise for tender for both the capital expenditure and new fibre contract with the view to moving the modernisation project forward. Should any costs be materially different from the original business case then approval will be sought from Financial Planning Group with the revised figures (details contained in the confidential appendix 1).
- 3.4 The modernisation project should create a new digital transmission infrastructure utilising fibres and radio technology by procuring a supplier from the Crown Commercial service contract for 'Networks and telecommunications services' referred to as RM1045 (to be superseded by RM3808 in July 2019) , additionally proposals new YHPSN contract should be considered.
- 3.5 The upgrade to digital transmission will establish a fit for purpose network by replacing old, unsupported analogue hardware. This option provides a range of benefits as the solution supports a modern digital platform which is a blend of wired and innovative mobile technology using radio, Wi-Fi and 3/4G. This will create a robust infrastructure that meets requirements and provides a scalable platform for the next ten years.
- 3.6 242 cameras owned and operated by LeedsWatch and UTMC are analogue cameras and becoming obsolete. The modern digital equivalent cameras have superior image quality, functionality, continuing manufacture support and longevity. Digital cameras have been used by LeedsWatch and on all new installations post July 2014, they have increased the operational performance of the services and demonstrated saving through the improved utilisation of the existing transmission infrastructure.
- 3.7 It was concluded that the modernisation project should seeking to appoint a contractor or contractors who will be responsible for the supply and installation of digital IP CCTV. A procurement should therefore be undertaken.
- 3.8 All legacy analogue cameras should be upgraded to digital cameras by the appointed contractor/s, this will improve image quality, functionality, achieve operational efficiencies and promote the rationalisation and application of a digital transmission infrastructure.

## **4. Corporate considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1.1 The Modernisation Project Board has been created with members representing Safer Leeds, UTMC, Digital and Information Services, Procurement and Information Governance.
- 4.1.2 Elected members were consulted during the development of the modernisation programme, they have been updated on the advantages and motivation of a system
- 4.1.3 The recommendation to modernise the CCTV asset of Leedswatch was reviewed by scrutiny.

### **4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

- 4.2.1 The decision to proceed with the award of the framework extension does not have any equality and diversity impacts.

### **4.3 Council policies and best council plan**

- 4.3.1 Leedswatch work in partnership with departments across the authority, WYP and the Fire & Rescue Service to protect the public, property, staff and assets. The continued monitoring of CCTV and is an integral part of the Leedswatch service and essential to achieve departmental aims.
- 4.3.2 The modernisation project enables the service of Leedswatch to undertake monitoring and management duties in the city. These services promote and support safe, strong communities by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 4.3.3 The infrastructure and technology utilised by the Leeds City Councils security services enhances the 21st century infrastructure aspirations by providing enablers for 'Smart City' and strategies such as flood defence.

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 The modernisation of Leedswatch and UTMC CCTV systems will reduce the maintenance overhead for CCTV hardware and more efficiently utilise the transmission system.
- 4.4.2 These factors will reduce the support costs and annual revenue charges.

### **4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in**

- 4.5.1 This decision is eligible for call-in as it exceeds a £250,000 expenditure.
- 4.5.2 The procurement of the framework will be conducted in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations and councils Contract Procedure Rules.

## **4.6 Risk management**

4.6.1 The risk management will be undertaken by the Modernisation Project Board.

## **5. Conclusions**

5.1 The cameras utilised in the majority of public space installations are analogue and approaching end of life, they will require replacement before they are obsolete and beyond repair. The suitable replacement is a digital equivalent. The network which supports the Community Safety public space cameras is analogue, this is no longer cost effective and requires upgrade to a digital service.

## **6. Recommendations**

6.1 The Director of Communities and Environment is requested to review the contents of this report and approve the decision to approach the market place to procure suppliers which can modernise and replace the analogue CCTV assets of LeedsWatch and UTMC

## **7. Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 [Modernisation Scrutiny paper.pdf](#),

7.2 [Scrutiny minutes](#)

---

<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.