

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

### REQUEST FOR THE USE OF EMERGENCY POWERS – CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

**SUBJECT:** Purchase of Deployable CCTV

1. **Originating / Department / Service** – Community Safety, Environment and Housing Directorate.
2. **Reason for Seeking Emergency Powers** –

The Emergency Powers are being sought to purchase five deployable CCTV cameras from the £350,000.00 Capital allocation for the upgrade and improvement of the CCTV system across the Vale of Glamorgan and that the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to execute on behalf of the Council the contract with the existing supplier.

In 2019/2020 Community Safety carried out a review of the current CCTV provision in the Vale of Glamorgan in line with the requirements placed upon the Council by the CCTV Surveillance Code of Practice. This review concluded that the 77 cameras that are currently installed around the Vale are no longer fit for purpose given their age, location and current working order.

The Council is in discussions with partners on how best to move forward with the recommendations from the review and a £350,000.00 capital investment was awarded by the Council in July 2019 to support the upgrade and improvement of the CCTV system across the Vale of Glamorgan.

During the last 4 months of lockdown for the COVID-19 pandemic, the Community Safety Team has experienced a significant increase in the number of ASB incidents that occur across the Vale. In April, ASB incidents showed a 170% increase incidents recorded the same time last year and in May, the Vale experienced an increase of 378% in recorded incidents of ASB compared with the same time last year. Of the 750 incidents experienced in May, 553 were classified as environmental which is almost entirely made up of incidents that are as a result of COVID-19 breaches. As the warm weather increases, the Vale traditionally starts to experience higher rates of ASB with gatherings of young people who create issues for:

- other residents, due to antisocial behaviour and nuisance noise levels;
- the environment, by leaving litter and vandalising the areas they gather in;
- themselves, through risky behaviour that leaves them vulnerable and at significant risk of harm.

A combination of 'routine' ASB exacerbated and increased by the additional issues created by COVID-19 is creating a significant pressure on community safety services and presents a significant risk to staff and residents within these areas. The most recent gathering of over 500 young people in Ogmores

resulted in a situation where statutory services could not deploy sufficient resources to disperse or affect the situation. This has highlighted the importance of a functioning CCTV system to be able to witness, gather evidence from and deter incidents of ASB that require more than an enforcement / police presence.

The Vale, as a rural and seaside location, presents ample locations that appeal to perpetrators of ASB and for this reason, there are a number of hotspot areas that become problematic during particular moments of the year. For this reason, deployable CCTV is the most efficient option, given the need to deploy the cameras easily where intelligence and evidence informs the Community Safety Team that problems are happening or expected.

The cameras will be reviewed and managed by the Community Safety Team based at Barry Police Station. The police have been consulted and are in agreement with the use of deployable CCTV. The locations of the cameras will be agreed between the Council and Police.

The Community Safety Team has secured £10,000.00 for the purchase of one deployable camera for Ogmore through s106 monies and pending approval for an additional £10,000 for Rhoose Point (Consultation ends on 31<sup>st</sup> July). The purchase of the remaining three deployable cameras would necessitate the spending of £25,000.00 (includes a 5 year license and maintenance element) from the existing £350,000.00 capital.

ICT completed the research on deployable cameras during 2019 to ensure that the equipment was compatible with the Vale's ICT system and as a result they procured 1 deployable camera on behalf of community safety earlier this year at a cost of £10,000.

A quote for five cameras has been provided by the same company which is £45,000 (includes a £5,000 discount due to the number of cameras being purchased).

Due to the crucial safety concerns within the Vale at this time an exemption from contract procedure rule 17.4.2 (f) is requested so that an urgent order can be placed with the existing supplier for the deployable CCTV cameras at the cost indicated above.

3. **Policy Framework and Budget** –

PLEASE INDICATE as appropriate that the matter that you are seeking the use of Emergency Powers for is a Cabinet or Council function.

Cabinet      **X**      Council

4. **Relevant Scrutiny Committee** –

Homes and Safe Communities

**IMPORTANT**

The following sections **must** be completed **prior** to the request being submitted to the Democratic and Scrutiny Services Section for processing.

I confirm (delete as appropriate)

~~(a) — That there are no financial implications and the relevant Cabinet Member, Leader and / or the Deputy Leader has been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers; **or**~~

(b) That, in view of the financial commitments, the Head of Financial Services, the appropriate Chief Officer, the relevant Cabinet Member, Leader and / or Deputy Leader have been consulted and are in agreement with the use of the Emergency Powers ~~and that~~

~~(c) — For matters relating to the Planning Committee the Chairman of the Planning Committee has also been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers;~~

~~(d) — For matters relating to the Licensing Committee the Chairman of the Licensing Committee has also been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers.~~

~~(e) — For matters relating to the Welsh Church Act Estate Committee the Chairman of the Welsh Church Act Estate Committee has also been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers.~~

~~(f) — For matters relating to policy the relevant Scrutiny Committee Chairman has been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers.~~

**Signed:** Miles Punter  
**(Instructing Chief Officer)**

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

**Please print name: Miles Punter – Director of Environment & Housing**

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**I hereby approve under my Emergency Powers the attached recommendation(s) on behalf of the Cabinet / Council (please delete as appropriate).**

**Signed:** .D.R. Thomas.....**Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020.....  
**Managing Director**

**NB: Should the relevant portfolio Cabinet Member be unable to be consulted only the Leader and / or Deputy Leader be consulted in their absence.**

**N.B. Cabinet: 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2020 Minute No. 295**