

CCTV for Hirwaun – Community Council Decision

A request was made last October to install 7 CCTV cameras in Hirwaun. Since then the Community Council has been investigating the installation and running costs of this. A breakdown of the timeline and costs were provided in our March update.

At our April meeting, our Cllrs discussed an email received from RCT which advised that due to recent legislation RCT are now unable to monitor CCTV for third parties. It was previously advised by RCT that any CCTV installed by the Community Council would be monitored and controlled by RCT at the CCTV headquarters at Sardis Road. Due to this change in legislation, RCT can no longer monitor any CCTV that the Community Council installs.

During a subsequent telephone conversation with RCT to discuss the Community Council's options further, RCT advised of the following:

- Any CCTV installed would now need to be monitored via the Community Council office.
- The police would not be then in a position to monitor any crimes in progress. We would only be able to monitor retrospectively.
- More importantly, the Community Council would need to employ a Data Controller under GDPR. The Community Council is currently exempt from this but would not be if we had CCTV. Community Council Clerks cannot be Data Controllers due to conflict of interest.
- The Community Council would also need to obtain NSI Accreditation, DBS checks and an operator's licence. These would need to be paid for in addition to the installation costs and CDS yearly fee. There may also be a need to upgrade the broadband for the Community Council office to accommodate the bandwidth for the CCTV.

Based on the full information and advice provided by RCT, the Community Council reluctantly agreed that we could no longer continue with the request to install CCTV in Hirwaun.

Cllrs did however agree to submit a request to RCT asking that they fund the installation of the CCTV cameras themselves.