



AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

St George Neighbourhood Partnership Tuesday 11th September 2012

Report of: Roger Eynon, Project Officer, Traffic Management, Neighbourhood and City Development.

Title: St George Park Car Park Improvements

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1- The Neighbourhood Committee is asked to choose one of the CCTV options presented in this report.
- 2- The Neighbourhood Committee is asked to approve the spending of S106 £7,228.88 to improve St George Park Car Park.

Background

1. This project was funded as part of the Church Road Showcase Bus Route. Initially the project was led by the Capital Projects Team delivering the Showcase Bus Route, however due to workload capacity of the team the project was handed over to Parking Services to progress.
2. It was decided as part of the improvements that were to be made to Chalks Road car park, that the project would include CCTV. This was discussed with the police, neighbourhood meetings and waste disposal who were all supportive of this facet of the plan.
3. It was deemed desirable to have a CCTV installation at the car park for the following reasons.
 - a) to deter and detect fly-tipping at the recycling bins
 - b) to deter and detect criminal and anti- social behaviour in the car park
 - c) to deter and detect criminal and anti- social behaviour in the skate park

4. Originally it had been planned to have 12 analogue CCTV and one Pan tilt and zoom (PTZ) cameras in the car park, which would have cost in the region of £19,000. Unfortunately, due to increased costs incurred in the car park refurbishment, there were insufficient funds remaining for the CCTV proposal to be carried out.
5. At the same time we became aware that there were shortcomings in conventional CCTV camera recordings. It was literally a case of what you saw - you got. Once the image was recorded there was very little that could be done to focus into the image or improve its quality, without loss of image through pixilation.
6. On the other hand, High Definition (HD) CCTV technology provides a wider angle of vision with a focusable depth of field, allowing the recordings to be focused into with no loss through pixilation. This provides excellent evidence retrieval, far improved as compared to the non-HD technology, whilst allowing for fewer cameras to cover the required fields of vision. We have trialled HD cameras in the multi-storey car parks and found them to be extremely practical.
7. Due to the current financial constraints, we have found that we can reduce the number of cameras required whilst markedly improving the quality of the recorded images and their evidential value.
8. Furthermore, a problem occurs with PTZ cameras, in that they only record what are specifically pointing at, any incident that occurs adjacent to that field of vision will not get recorded. Because HD cameras have a wider field of vision they can be set up to overlap and continually record a far wider area. What they cannot do is be turned and directed to another area in their 360 degree range. However we have found that we have rarely had to access our PTZ cameras in live mode and will be withdrawing them from use in our multi-deck car parks. They have a useful function in areas such as the City Centre where incidents of anti-social activity take place on a very regular basis and live monitoring is undertaken as a result.
9. I have therefore reviewed the CCTV needs in light of the new technology, with consultants, and have been able to downsize the scheme resulting in reduced costs.
10. The equipment would be fully compatible with the newly upgraded Dallmeier CCTV equipment in our other car parks.
11. Please note we recognise the need and value the local support for CCTV cameras to be installed in the St George Park Car Park. In doing so we have secured further £3,000 from the Capital Projects Team. We have

also received commitment from the Neighbourhood Delivery Team (NDT) to contribute approximately £2,000 to £3,000.

12. It is hereby recommended that the Neighbourhood Committee approve £7,228.88 of Section 106 from the Redfield Post Office development. This money along with money secured for this project will be used to finance the completion of St George Pak Car Park improvements.

Option: 1

This is the downsized HD version of the original plan, now having 6 HD cameras as opposed to the original 12 analogue units, but still with a fully functional PTZ

The recording equipment to be installed at Templegate car park, with the camera feeds connected into the Council's B-Net cable network. The PTZ camera to be patched through to the emergency control room for control.

Cost £12,686.00

OPTION 2 -

This is the cheapest and most downsized HD version of the original plan, with just 4 HD cameras as opposed to the original 12 analogue units, and no fully functional PTZ. The fields of view are based as follows:

No	Location
1	On the first lighting pole to view car park vehicle entrance
2	On the first lighting pole to view park pedestrian entrance
3	On the third lighting pole to view re-cycling area
4	On the third lighting pole to view pedestrian entrance from Lyndale Road

Cost £8,935.00

OPTION 3 (Option 2 + PTZ) –

This is as Option 2, the downsized HD version with just 4 HD cameras, but with one fully functional PTZ, The fields of view are as Option 2 but with the added PTZ facility.

Cost: £11,169

OPTION 4 -

This is the extended fully HD version of the original plan, now having 8 HD cameras as opposed to the original 12 analogue units, with two replacing the PTZ camera.

The additional two HD cameras would be mounted on a newly erected pole in the parks compound covering the area previously covered by the PTZ.

The advantages of this option, are that they will record a wider field of view as compared to the PTZ which can only records what it is pointing at. If an incident occurs adjacent to its `point of view' it won't get recorded. With two HD cameras their width of view would overlap allowing far improved evidential retrieval.

7	On the new pole to view the skate park area and part of the park
8	On the new pole to view the play area and part of skate area

Cost - £12,807

RISK ASSESSMENT

1. There are no main risks associated with these project.
2. Competent contractor from BCC procurement will be appointed to carryout the works.
3. The NDT will consider financial contribution if the project can be an asset for crime reduction in the park and the project is going ahead within this financial year.

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. It is not expected that there will be any adverse impacts to any equalities community from this investment decision. It will improve community safety for all members of the community.

REVENUE

1. The revenue implications of investment are taken into account through the way in which the Council allocates S106 income.
2. The NDT will consider financial contribution if the project can be an asset for crime reduction in the park and the project is going ahead within this financial year.