

# CCTV Annual Report

**2022**

South Somerset District Council



This document has been produced to provide details of the CCTV surveillance system in operation in the town of Yeovil, monitored by Sedgemoor District Council. It also assists in demonstrating compliance with the Home Office's "Surveillance Camera Code of Practice" (the Code). The Sedgemoor District Council CCTV system has been notified to the information Commissioner registration number Z5968381

Sedgemoor District Council currently operates 167 CCTV cameras which are a mix of Public

Open Space and internal cameras. These are monitored in Bridgwater. The scheme is supported by Somerset West and Taunton Council, South Somerset District Council and Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

There are currently 29 public space CCTV cameras monitored in Yeovil. The details and locations of these are set out below, including the amount of incidents each camera has been utilised in - recorded to date in 2022;

Camera no	Location	Analogue/Digital	Make	Number of Incidents
201	Petters Way	Digital	Samsung	1
202	Henford/ Westminster Street	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	19
203	South Street	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	5
204	Lloyds Bank/ The Borough	Analogue	Bewator Solaris Dome	10
205	North Lane Car Park	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	1
206	Boots Middle Street	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	18
207	Vicarage Street/ Middle Street/ South Street	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	18
208	Middle Street/Old Station Road	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	21
209	Middle Street/ Wyndham Street	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	22
210	Church Street	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	7
211	Peter Street	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	3
212	Starts Lane	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	16
213	Old Station Road Car Park	Analogue	Bewator Solaris Dome	0
214	Gold Croft Car Park	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	0
215	Huish Car Park	Analogue	Bewator Solaris dome	0
216	Tesco car park	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	3

Camera no	Location	Analogue/Digital	Make	Number of Incidents
217	Princess Street/ Park Road	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	0
218	Bus Depot – Glovers Walk	Analogue	Bewator Solaris Dome	5
219	Old Box Factory Car Park	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	1
220	Petters Way	Digital	Bosch	1
221	Hospital Roundabout	Digital	360 Vision	2
222	Fairfield Car Park	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	0
223	Glovers Walk	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	2
224	Monument Camera	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	7
225	Court Ash 2	Analogue	Bewator Surcha Dome	0
226	Underpass	Digital	Vista Power Dome	1
227	Underpass	Digital	Vista Power Dome	1
228	Underpass	Digital	Vista Power Dome	2
229	Underpass	Digital	HIK	2

**The Sedgemoor District Council CCTV scheme is operated in relation to the prevention of disorder or crime and the reduction of the fear of crime. Additionally, it may be used in relation to public safety.**

This document also reviews the camera locations and highlights some of the good work CCTV assists with.

## Introduction

Sedgemoor District Council has operated public open space CCTV cameras in Yeovil for over 20 years.

The cameras are permanently monitored 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year and the operatives are in close contact with the Police at all times via airwave radio, over 3 district channels.

The control room has a video wall with six large HD slim profile monitors.

Each monitor can display one, large image for dealing with major incidents or hot spot areas, or up to 4, 6, 9, or 12 images from separate cameras at any time, and this is all controlled by the new Genetec VMS equipment, which was installed in February 2022.



*Sedgemoor District Council CCTV Monitoring Office*

## Background

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on local authorities to do all they reasonably can to prevent;

- crime and disorder in their areas (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment),

- the misuse of drugs, alcohol or other substances, and
- re-offending in their areas.

This will lead to improvements in people's quality of life as a result.

Management responsibility for the monitoring, operation and technical maintenance of the CCTV scheme is undertaken by Sedgemoor District Council and it's approved installation and maintenance contractor CDS (Computerised Data Systems).

The CCTV Operations team consist of 1 Team Leader and 10 CCTV Monitoring Officers, all of whom are SIA licensed. Two members of staff, depending on operational requirements, undertake the 24-hour monitoring on a shift/rota

basis. The scheme is operated in compliance with the internally approved CCTV Code of Practice, which has been agreed with the Police and has been prepared as guidance for Council staff and the operators of the system.

This internal Code of Practice also reflects the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 and associated regulations. This was reviewed in 2021 and is refreshed bi-annually.

## Purpose of the CCTV System

The Code details that the use of a surveillance camera system must always be for a specified purpose which is in pursuit of a legitimate aim and necessary to meet an identified pressing need. It states that such a legitimate aim and pressing need might include national security, public safety, the economic well-being of the country, the prevention of disorder or crime, the protection of health or morals, or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

**The scheme is operated in relation to the prevention of disorder or crime and the reduction**

**of the fear of crime. Additionally, it may be used in relation to public safety.**

The CCTV scheme is operated within applicable law/guidance and only for the purposes identified above. The scheme will be operated with due regard to the privacy of the individual. The scheme will not be used, for example, for traffic management or minor enforcement issues (including parking offences).

## List of Priorities

A list of priorities have been agreed with Avon and Somerset Constabulary, through monthly partnership meetings and fortnightly priorities meetings; The priorities are not listed in any particular order. They are all equally important and assist in evidencing the pressing need for the continued investment and use of CCTV to deter and prevent crime and disorder.

- Hate Crime
- Victimisation (including repeat victimisation)
- Vulnerability and Exploitation
- Anti-Social Behaviour (nuisance)
- Reducing Re-offending
- Serious and Organised Crime
- Road Safety
- Use of drugs
- Missing persons (adult and minors)



## Highlights from the Operation of the System - Taunton

Since the installation of the Genetec VMS System in February 2022 The key highlights are as follows:-  
CCTV staff were involved in 466 incidents/

observations in Yeovil and they are broken down as follows;

**92** ASB Incidents

**33** Missing Persons – Adults

**22** Traffic Offences

**31** Theft Offences

**54** Concern for Welfare

**21** Suspicious Activities

**65** Assault Incidents

**19** Wanted person incidents

**25** Public Order Offences

**82** Other/Observations

**22** Police Observations

CCTV staff were directly involved in 95 arrests by Avon and Somerset Constabulary in Yeovil throughout this period for the following offences;

**14** ASB Incidents

**9** Wanted Persons

**5** Weapons Incidents

**3** Suspicious activity

**8** Other Offences

**4** Theft Offences

**11** Public Order Incidents

**4** Traffic Offence Incidents

**5** Weapons Incidents

**5** Criminal Damage Offences

**29** Assault Offences

**1** Robbery Offence

**1** Police Observation

**1** Rape Offence

## Number of arrests by month – Yeovil

Arrests	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22	Jul 22	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22
	12	16	12	10	11	11	11	9	3

### Monitoring details

The images from the Council's CCTV cameras are monitored in a specifically designed secure monitoring suite in Bridgwater.

The images from all the cameras are being permanently recorded and these recordings are kept for 28 days before being deleted. Footage can be archived within a storage vault on the VMS if it is being used by the Police in relation to a specific case, however, when the footage is no longer needed it is deleted.

The Code details that access to retained images and information should be restricted and that there must be clearly defined rules on who can gain access and for what purpose such access is granted. The disclosure of images or information should only take place when it is necessary for such a purpose or for law enforcement purposes.

### Yeovil crime reduction partnership

Our CCTV team work closely with YCRP and have direct contact with the Co-Ordinator over airwave

radio. We also attend Yeovil Pubwatch meetings on a monthly basis.



## Future Plans

A project is well underway in partnership with South Somerset District Council underway to upgrade 11 cameras within Yeovil from analogue

to digital (Bosch 5100i Starlight cameras) as we move towards the end of the year at the following locations;

<b>202</b>	Henford/Westminster Street
<b>204</b>	Lloyds Bank The Borough
<b>206</b>	Boots Middle Street
<b>207</b>	Vicarage Street/Middle Street/South Street
<b>208</b>	Somerfields Middle Street/Old Station Road
<b>209</b>	Junction Middle Street/Wyndham Street/Newton Road
<b>212</b>	Stars Lane
<b>213</b>	Old Station Road car park
<b>217</b>	Princess Street Junction with Park Road
<b>218</b>	Bus Depot – Glover's Walk entrance
<b>222</b>	Fairfield Car Park

The monitoring office now has a link between Bridgwater House and Bridgwater Police Centre which will allow police communications operators a live, real-time view of what operators are

monitoring. This will allow improved dispatch times across the areas we cover and a greater understanding of our role.

## Directed Surveillance

- The law and our Code of Practice permits the use of the CCTV system to monitor or observe individuals covertly via CCTV (i.e. 'directed surveillance') at the request of 'Public Authorities' (i.e. law enforcement bodies).
- Targeted operations employing directed surveillance will only be carried out where other methods of investigation are not appropriate or not likely to be effective and where they are considered 'proportionate' to the suspected criminal activity or problem posed. The law and rules relating to covert surveillance are contained in the Regulation of

Investigatory Powers Act 2000. Failure to obtain the necessary authorisations under this Act could invalidate any subsequent evidence obtained by virtue of the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

- Local authorities are required to obtain judicial approval prior to using covert techniques. Local Authority authorisations and notices under the Regulations of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) will only be given effect once an order has been granted by a Justice of the Peace in England and Wales.



## Complaints

The Code details that system operators should also record and publish information in relation to

any complaints it receives about CCTV. For the period of this report 0 complaints were received.

## Regulation of investigatory Powers

During the period in question no covert surveillance took place.

## Future reports

- The Council will continue to be transparent regarding its use of CCTV and produce an annual report moving forwards as required.
- Sedgemoor District Council is committed to community safety and helps with the prevention and detection of crime.

The council is exploring new ways to improve and develop our partnership working with neighbouring councils and partner agencies, to ensure a safer community to live, visit and work in.





## Contact us

### Website

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### Visit

At the address below

8:45am – 5:00pm

Monday to Friday

(except bank holidays)

### Write

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