

REPORT FROM: CORPORATE DIRECTOR

TO: POLICY and RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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TRANSFER OF SERVICES AND FACILITIES TO TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To consider matters relating to town centre CCTV; and to reconsider a request for transfer of land at Harrison Street to Barnoldswick Town Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That the proposal for Barnoldswick, Brierfield, Earby and Nelson town councils to take over Pendle's place in the Blackburn CCTV monitoring hub arrangement be approved.
- (2) That the transfer of ownership of the CCTV equipment and the allocation of the residual capital budget on the basis below to the town councils (including Colne) be approved.
- (3) That the transfer of the land at Harrison Street to Barnoldswick Town Council be agreed and the Corporate Director be authorized to agree the terms.

REASON

To continue the programme of transfers to town and parish councils.

CCTV

1. In 2015 the Council agreed to move to a single scheme provision of CCTV in its town centres with monitoring and support to be undertaken from a new East Lancashire hub in Blackburn. At the same time the Council withdrew its revenue funding for CCTV with the town councils agreeing to pick this up. In the event the Barnoldswick, Brierfield, Earby and Nelson schemes were included in the new hub with Colne Town Council deciding to set up its own scheme.
2. The Blackburn hub was developed by a Project team of officers from Blackburn with Darwen, Preston, Hyndburn, Burnley and Pendle and became fully operational in 2017.

More recently Rossendale has joined in and it is now well established. Blackburn with Darwen operates it and has a service level agreement each of the other councils.

3. We have now reached the position where Pendle Council is effectively “the man in the middle” with the 4 town councils providing all the funding and increasingly receiving the service direct from Blackburn with Darwen. It is proposed that Pendle now drops out of the picture. An informal discussion with the four town councils indicated broad agreement and formal approval from them is awaited.
4. The change would also require the approval of Blackburn with Darwen and the other councils. New service level agreements between Blackburn with Darwen and the four town councils would be required.
5. Alongside this change it would now be appropriate for Pendle to transfer ownership of all the CCTV equipment to each of the town councils (including Colne).
6. There is also a residual capital budget of £79,190 for CCTV and it is proposed that this be divided up and allocated to the town councils (including Colne) for use on any further CCTV provision or upgrading of the existing equipment. The number of cameras in each town would be used as the basis of the allocation giving shares as follows:
 - Barnoldswick - £22,173
 - Brierfield - £5,543
 - Colne – £20,589
 - Earby- £10,295
 - Nelson -£20,589

Land in Barnoldswick

7. At the meeting on 19th March the Committee approved the transfer of various pieces of land to Barnoldswick Town Council. Not approved was the transfer of the amenity area at Harrison Street which is seen as a potential residential development site.
8. The Town Council has requested that the Committee reconsider this pointing out that the nature of the site and its location means that any redevelopment is very unlikely, certainly in the near future. It would be willing to have included in the transfer documentation an option for the Council to take the land back should redevelopment become a realistic possibility.
9. It is therefore now recommended that the land be transferred on this basis.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy:	The continuing development of the transfer and devolvement of services facilities to town and parish councils is a fundamental feature of the Council's Strategic Plan.
Financial:	The CCTV proposal would see the utilisation of the remaining capital budget for CCTV provision
Legal:	None arising from the report.
Risk Management:	None arising from the report.

Health and Safety: None arising from the report.

Sustainability: None arising from the report.

Community Safety: None arising from the report.

Equality and Diversity: None arising from the report.