

## Policy & Resources Committee - For Information

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>1 November 2016</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>CCTV</b>
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	<b>To provide a summary report for Q2 2016-17</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Cassie Pinnells, Community Services Manager</b>

### Background

This report is an extract from the CCTV Report received from South Oxfordshire District Council detailing the effectiveness of CCTV in deterring crime within the four towns in the district. This summary relates to the information for Thame. A full copy of the report can be emailed to Members on request.

### Summary

Across South Oxfordshire, CCTV operators supported 568 incidents during the second quarter of 2016 – 17 (July - September 2016).

The operators also produced 17 evidence packs for possible court proceedings, carried out 16 reviews of CCTV footage (a review is undertaken as a result of a written request) and supported 24 arrests.

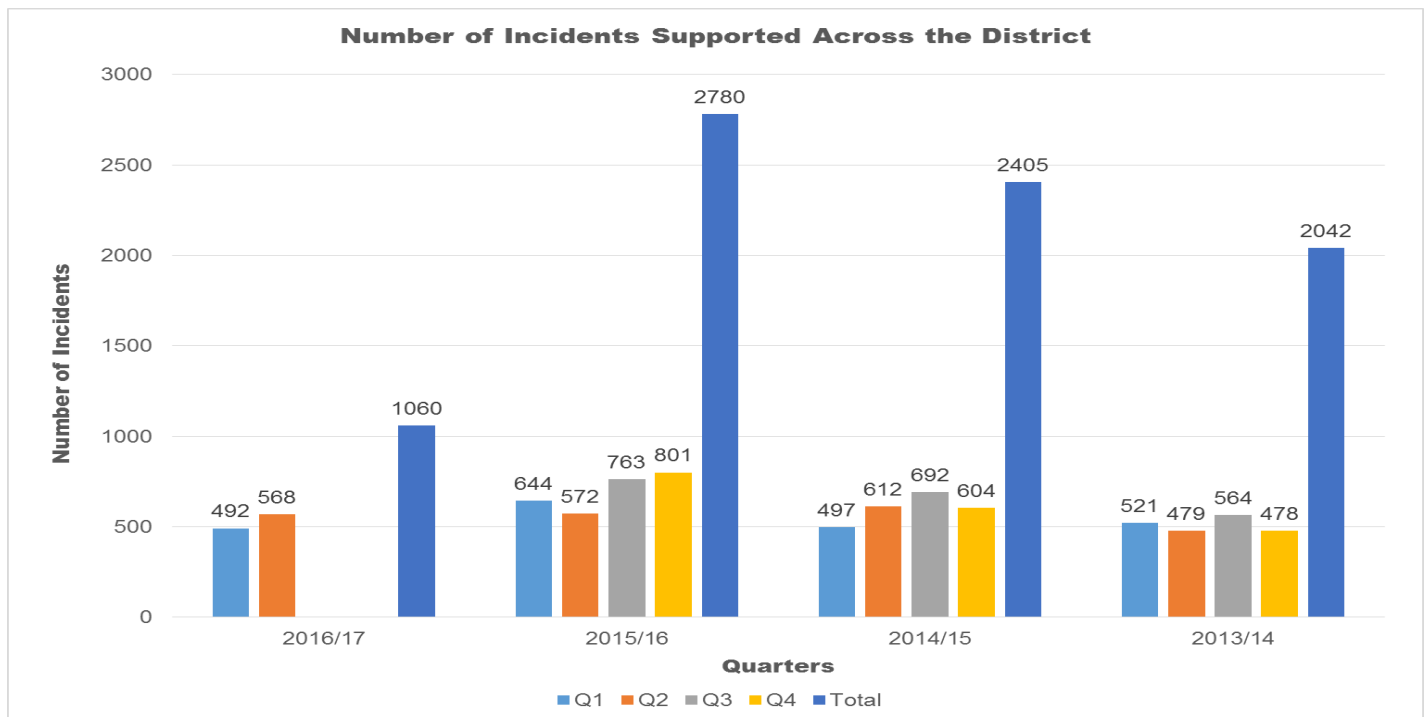
### Thame Case Study Information

A serious attempted robbery had taken place in the town centre. Although the actual event had not taken place within view of a CCTV camera, by reviewing the footage from several different cameras, we were able to provide the police with the movements of a vehicle they believed may have been used.

While listening to the police radio, our operator noted that a call had come in from members of the public, expressing concerns about the behaviour of a man in the town centre. From the description given, our operator was able to locate him and advise officers of his status, monitoring while they were en route. After a lengthy conversation, the man was given words of advice and sent on his way. Our operator monitored him to confirm that he had complied.

During the early hours of the morning, our operator noted two men trying several car door handles. The police control centre was alerted and officers dispatched. Meanwhile, our operator continued to monitor the men and update the officers en route. The men were stopped and comprehensive checks were made. Eventually, they were sent on their way, having had stern words of advice as to their future conduct and our operator was able to advise the police control centre, once they had left the area.

<b>Total Number of Incidents Supported Across the District</b>				
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
2016/17	492	<b>568</b>		
2015/16	644	572	763	801
2014/15	497	612	692	604
2013/14	521	479	564	478
2012/13	383	380	445	379
2011/12	547	492	532	413



Incidents broken down between the Towns:-

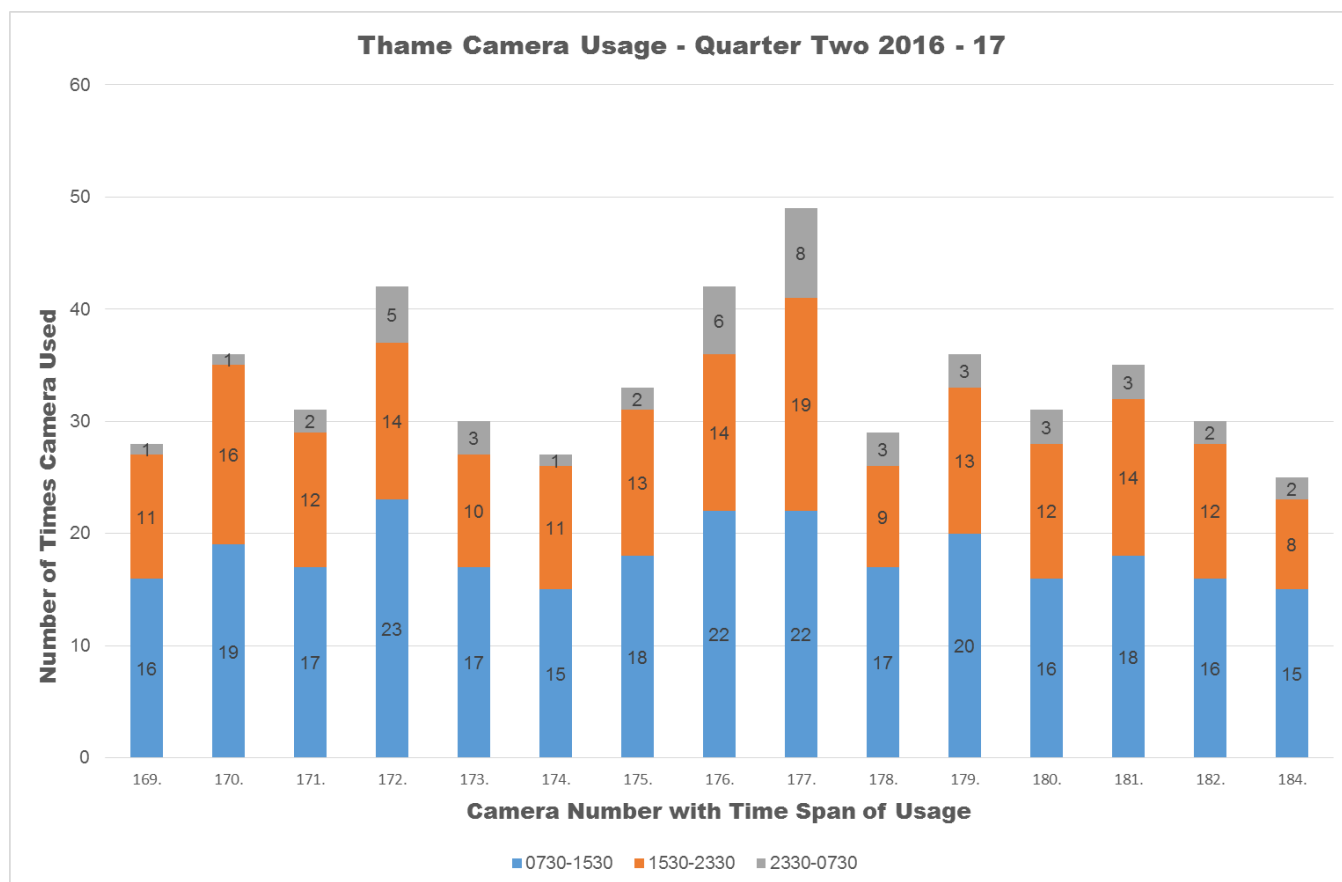
	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>			
						<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
Didcot	603	436	569	701	1114	209	192		
Henley	702	611	747	847	805	146	179		
Thame	346	257	376	455	375	46	82		
Wallingford	333	283	350	402	486	91	115		
<b>District Total</b>	<b>1984</b>	<b>1587</b>	<b>2042</b>	<b>2405</b>	<b>2780</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>568</b>		

### Camera Usage

The following charts show camera usage for each town. These indicate the number of times that individual cameras were deployed in recorded, monitored events.

The number of times that each camera was used has been divided into three sections, covering a twenty four hour period.

It is worth noting that for the period 23:30 – 07:30, the vast majority of camera usage occurred during the 23:30 – 03:30 time slot.



The following table displays the most common type of incident for each town during quarter two 2016 - 17, where CCTV was involved at some stage:

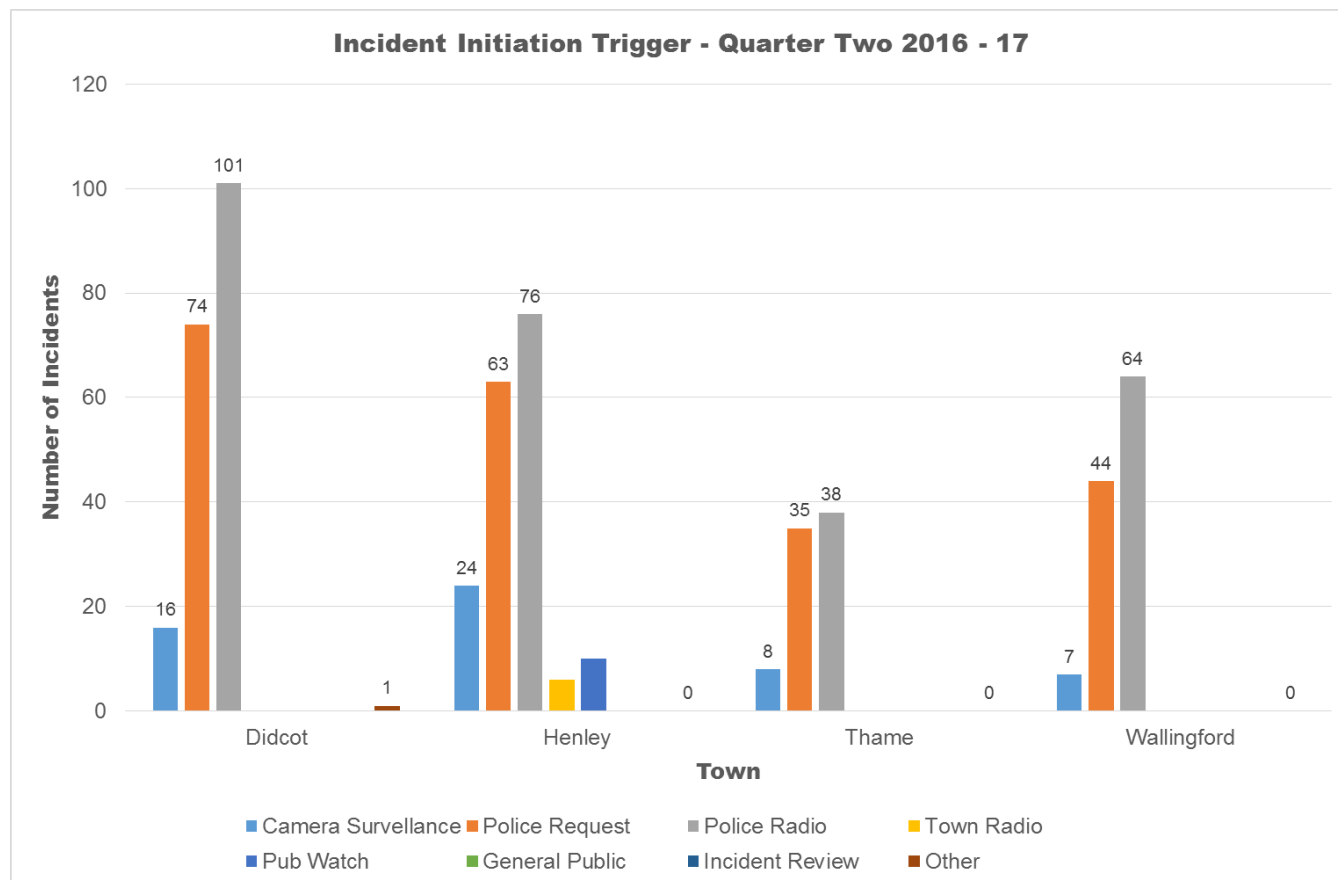
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<b>Most commonly monitored incidents</b>				
	<b>Didcot</b>	<b>Henley</b>	<b>Thame</b>	<b>Wallingford</b>
1	Missing persons (33)	Miscellaneous* (29)	Miscellaneous (11)	Fear for welfare (19)
2	Miscellaneous* (18)	Drunkenness (29)	Missing persons (10)	Miscellaneous* (16)
3	Assault (15)	Fear for welfare (18)	Suspicious behaviour (7)	Missing persons (12)

Miscellaneous refers to monitored incidents that don't fit easily into categories that are listed e.g. A request from G4 security to monitor their staff attending a local bank.

N.B. In previous quarterly reports, we used a category entitled 'observation'. 'Observations' were so designated by the police on a formal broadcast e.g. "observations for" a vehicle or person or incident. The degree of accuracy and detail passed by police radio depends on what is reported to them from persons reporting the incident.

In order to give a clearer picture of the type of events/incidents in which CCTV are involved, the category 'observations' is no longer used. Where observations are requested, only the category to which the observation is linked, is indicated in the statistics. E.g. If an operator were asked to observe a vehicle that is causing problems and parked on double yellow lines, this would be entered against 'traffic prohibition' on our data base.



### Reviews and evidence packs

When not tasked by police, the operators patrol all the cameras and focus on 'hotspot' areas. All cameras are recording 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are set in 'default' positions which are agreed with the police as the areas most likely to experience problems.

CCTV operators and the CCTV supervisor also respond to requests from members of the public and third parties under Data Protection Legislation and Subject Access Requests. The most common request is to examine car park or road cameras for evidence of 'non-stop road traffic collisions' in which the complainant's car has been damaged. All such requests are actioned and replies given. These are not included in the data below.

The chart on the next page shows the number of evidence packs the CCTV operators put together and the number of evidence reviews they undertook, as a result of formal written requests.

The evidence packs are the recordings and statements which the CCTV operators produce for police, solicitors and the Crown Prosecution Service.

Activity that monitors past footage, but does NOT result in an evidence pack being produced, is termed 'a review'. This may be, for example, that the footage does not show an event clearly enough to warrant making a permanent DVD copy for evidential use.

One of the greatest advantages of CCTV footage is in obtaining a guilty plea at the early interview stage. For many offences this early admission is due to the offence being captured clearly on camera and saves the expense of full trial at either magistrates or crown court.

