

National CCTV Strategy Programme Board

Meeting Number 7

3rd April 2009

Note of discussions

Attendees

Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) – CCTV Lead and Senior responsible Officer (SRO)

British Security Industry Authority (BSIA)

British Transport Police (BTP)

Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)

Department for Transport

Home Office Scientific Development Branch (HOSDB)

Information Commissioner's Office

Local Government Association (LGA)

Ministry of Justice (MoJ)

National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA)

Public CCTV Managers Association (PCMA)

1) Introduction

Apologies were received from:

Security Industry Authority

2) Minutes and Actions from previous meeting

2.1 Agreement of the Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes of the Programme Board number 6 held on 23rd January 2009 were accepted, with two changes – clarification of the CPS representative and the PCMA do not represent the LGA.

2.2 Review of Actions

Actions

04-04 SRO to write to the Chief Constables highlighting the issue regarding Local Authorities that do not have Airwave in their CCTV Control Centres.

CLOSE - Now Complete

04-07 A meeting needed to be arranged between the Programme Team and the Ministry of Justice regarding the issue of the ICO's Powers.

CLOSE – this will be taken forward as part of the National Oversight body work

06-01 BSIA and HOSDB need to evaluate the issues with providing guidance to Manufacturers/Installers that states that where public money is used for the installation of a CCTV surveillance system, one of the Data Export options must to meet a common standard (*to be defined before guidance is issued*) for the Police and CJS to retrieve and replay this data.

CLOSE – this action is being taken forward by the Standards Subgroup

06-02 Programme Support Team set up the initial Sub Group Meetings, produce draft Terms of Reference and agree initial Milestones

CLOSE - Now Complete

06-03 BSIA, highlighted the work of the SSAIB and the NSI undertake in registering and inspecting Intruder Alarms in the Public & Retail Sectors.

CLOSE following discussions with the Met Police Intruder Alarm Team, this will not give the detail that we anticipated

3) National CCTV Strategy Recommendations

On a general note, the Programme Support team must gain Programme Board approval before any approach is made to Ministers

Update by Chairs of the Subgroups

3.1 Establishment of a national CCTV body

Given the current developments on CCTV a NCB specific meeting has yet to be held.

3.2 Police Use of CCTV

Initial meeting held on 27 March, Recommendations assigned to various individuals for further analysis, milestone and deadlines will be agreed at next meeting (17 April).

A Research Project is being scoped to look at the success of CCTV in detecting and fighting crime.

A sample of 6 Local Authorities have been asked to give feedback on the use made of CCTV the LGA & PCMA highlighted that this information should be requested via the LGA/PCMA as they have the closer links with the Local Authorities).

Research into existing training and career development models for traditional forensic disciplines is being undertaken in order to establish guidance for a proposed model for CCTV, too date the National Fingerprint Learning and professional Development Pathway appears to be an idea model that could be aligned to CCTV.

3.3 Facilities in the CJS

The main two Recommendations have been identified as discrete workstreams, one primarily involving NPIA, CPS and HMCS Court Improvement Directorate to take forward Rec 34; and one involving NPIA, ACPO, CPS and LSC (Legal Services Commission) to take forward Rec 35. Meetings of these workstreams would be arranged in April. It was suggested that it might also be useful to secure some judicial input into both of these work streams.

With regard to Recommendation 36, the following wording was suggested to clarify this requirement:

“In the event of a guilty plea there should be the capability for CCTV evidence to be played in court where this may assist in determining an appropriate sentence.”

Action 07-01

CPS should discuss with the OCJR and the HMCS how to take this forward in Governance Terms.

3.4 Standards & Operability

Initial meeting held on 1 April, progress being made on the Recommendations owned and shared by the HOSDB.

A couple of areas to further explore in terms of Retention:

- If CCTV product is taken and not used, Constabularies should not be retaining for more than 30 days (current ICO guidance), however there is a question of whether this evidence is purely in the Police domain – there could be instances where a Defence Solicitor could take action to support a civil claim.
- When a product has been used in Court, how long and where should this be stored?

3.5 Partnership Working – PCMA

There have been no meetings for this subgroup. Some work is taking place on Performance Indicators with broader partnership working, also looking at the question of primacy of use for CCTV cameras.

It was agreed that a subgroup is required for Partnership Working.

Action 07-02

Subgroup Chairs were asked to make “Best Guesstimates” on when their assigned Recommendations could be delivered as the Programme Team need to respond to the Policing Minister’s request for urgent progress to be made on the Strategy

Information required by close of business Friday **17 April**

Action 07-03

The question of Mapping Details being requested under a Freedom of Information Request was raised and whilst it is not an issue saying that CCTV Operates in an area, there will be instances where the specific location and view angle of cameras should not be disclosed.

ICO will see what guidance they could give on this topic

6) Communications & website update

The revised CCTV Web site should be ready for publication in early May, this will give a greater awareness to the public of what the aims are for the Strategy and a better understanding of what CCTV does.

Mention was made of the Community Engagement Programme – this could be a good route for getting the message about CCTV out into the wider public view

Action 07-04

The Programme Support Team to look at what is involved in this process.

7) Any other business

7.1 NCS Logo & Wording agreed.



7.2 ICO – ICO, Justice Bill Update

Data sharing provision has been removed; everything else has been retained including the increased powers.

ICO also mentioned the recent issue regarding licensing conditions re CCTV in Pubs. Such a blanket condition would be seen by the ICO as a breach of the data Protection Act.

7.3 The BTP enquired as to the current status of the Directors Guidance with regard to proposed changes in the protocols for CPS viewing of CCTV evidence prior to charge.

The CPS updated the programme board that the Director's Guidance was currently being revised to outline the circumstances in which a charging decision could be made on the basis of a summary when the visual evidence (eg. CCTV) had not been personally viewed by the prosecutor making the decision. It was important to emphasize that this was intended to be a stop-gap arrangement until a technical solution can be put in place.

8) Date of next Programme Board Meeting

Future meetings will need to be on a more regular basis to ensure the progress of both the Recommendations and the development of the National body.

Monday 13th July 2009