Self-assessment tool

How well does your organization comply with the 12 guiding principles of the surveillance camera code of practice? Complete this easy to use self-assessment tool to find out if you do.

Using this tool

This self-assessment tool will help you and your organization identify if you’re complying with the principles in the code. It should be completed in conjunction with the surveillance camera code of practice. The tool will help you show how well you comply with each principle. It is possible to be largely compliant with some principles and to fall short against others. As a result you will note that at the end of the questions against each principle there is a space to include an action plan. This is to enable you to put actions in place over the next year to improve your compliance to that principle. These boxes can also be used to make a note of what evidence you could produce if required to show your compliance to that principle.

The document contains a combination of open and closed questions. For the open questions there is a limit on how much you can write, so please feel free to include any additional notes as an annex to the document – there are additional blank pages at the end of the tool.

We do not want you to send the self-assessment response to us. However, in the interest of transparency we encourage you to publish the self-assessment on your website.

The self-assessment is for you to satisfy yourself and those that you surveille that you meet the principles and identify any additional work to show compliance.

We would like you to let us know that you have completed this document as this will enable us to understand the level of uptake. Also please let us know if you will be interested in working towards certification against the surveillance camera code of practice in the near future or just be added to our mailing list.

This is the first edition of the self-assessment tool which will evolve over time. Please forward any feedback to scc@sccommissioner.gsi.gov.uk

Principle 1

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.

1. Have you translated principle 1 into clear objectives? If so what are they?

✔ Yes No

Assist in the detection of crime by providing evidence in criminal proceedings. Deter crime, improve public safety and enhance the general public perception of safety. Assist in the prevention and reduction of public disorder and anti-social behaviour. Assist the tracking and apprehension of persons who are suspected of having committed a criminal offence. Assist in identifying witnesses. Promote the objectives of Wiltshire Police and the Community Safety Partnership. To assist in the overall town centre management of Salisbury. To assist the council in its enforcement, regulatory functions and traffic management.

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| 2. Do you regularly review the system and assess against the objectives? | ✔ Yes | No |
| 3. Have you considered the requirement of the end user? | ✔ Yes | No |
| 4. Is the system being used for any other purpose other than those specified? If so please explain | Yes | ✔ No |

5. Have you identified any areas where further action is required more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 1?

Action plan

No

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| Principle 2The use of a surveillance camera system must take into account its effect on individuals and their privacy, with regular reviews to ensure its use remains justified. |
| 1. Do you review your system annually? | ✔ Yes No |
| 2. Have you conducted a privacy impact assessment?(The ICO has produced a PIA code of practice and the SCC has a template you can use if required) | ✔ Yes No |
| 3. Do you publish your privacy impact assessment and annual review? | ✔ Yes No |
| 4. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 2?Action plan |

No

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| Principle 3There must be as much transparency in the use of a surveillance camera system as possible, including a published contact point for access to information and complaints. |
| 1. Does signage exist highlighting the use of surveillance cameras? | ✔ Yes No |
| 2. Does the signage highlight the point of contact? | ✔ Yes No |
| 3. Has there been proportionate consultation and engagement with the public and partners to establish that there is a legitimate aim and a pressing need for the surveillance camera system? | ✔ Yes No |
| 4. Is the surveillance system a proportionate response? | ✔ Yes No |

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| 5. Does your publication of information include the procedures and safeguards that are in place, impact assessments undertaken, performance statistics and other management information? | ✔ Yes No |
| 6. Do you have a complaints procedure in place? | ✔ Yes No |
| 7. Do you make the public aware of how to escalate complaints? | ✔ Yes No |
| 8. Is there a defined time scale for acknowledging and responding to complaints and is this conveyed to the complainant at the outset? | ✔ Yes No |
| 9. Do you publish the number and nature of complains received? | ✔ Yes No |
| 10. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 3?Action plan |

Signs checked annually.

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| Principle 4There must be clear responsibility and accountability for all surveillance camera system activities including images and information collected, held and used. |
| 1. What arrangements are in place to provide clear responsibility and accountability? |

Responsibility and accountability for the system are documented in the authority's CCTV policy The document is available to the public on the Salisbury City Council website.

1. Are all staff aware of their responsibilities?
2. Please explain how you ensure the lines of responsibility are adhered to.

✔ Yes No

All staff are conversant with the Code of Practice, Operational Procedures and Assignment Instructions. Regular audits are carried out by the manager into the use of the system and refresher training is carried out. All CCTV operators are SIA trained and accredited.

1. If jointly owned, is it clear what each partner organisation is responsible for and what the individual obligations are?

✔ Yes No

1. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 4?

Action plan

No

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| Principle 5Clear rules, policies and procedures must be in place before a surveillance camera system is used, and these must be communicated to all who need to comply with them. |
| 1. Do you have clear policies and procedures which help ensure that any legal obligations affecting the use of such a system are addressed? | ✔ Yes No |
| If so please specify. |  |

CCTV Code of Practice, Operating Procedures, Assignment Instructions.

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| 2. Do you follow a quality management system? | ✔ Yes No |
| If so please specify. |  |
| NSI NCP 104 held by our CCTV maintenance contractor. |  |
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| 3. Are the rules, policies and procedures part of an induction process for all staff? | ✔ Yes No |
| 4. How do you ensure that all system users remain up to date and efficient with relevant operational, technical, privacy considerations, policies and procedures? |
| All system users are kept up to date through regular meetings and training. Procedures and policies are regularly reviewed and kept up to date. |
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| 5. Have you considered qualifications relevant to the role of the system users, such as the National Occupational Standard for CCTV operations or other similar? | ✔ Yes No |
| 6. If so, have any of your system users undertaken any occupational standards to date? | ✔ Yes No |
| 7. Do your system users require SIA licenses?(Please see SIA website: www.sia.homeoffice.gov.uk) | ✔ Yes No |
| 8. If staff do not need a license, how do you ensure they have the necessary skills and knowledge to use or manage the surveillance system? |
| Control room manager has BTEC Level 4 in Management of CCTV Control rooms. CCTV staff are SIA licensed. All CCTV volunteers undertake a 3 day SIA accredited CCTV training course. |
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| 9. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 5?Action plan |

No

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| Principle 6No more images and information should be stored than that which is strictly required for the stated purpose of a surveillance camera system, and such images and information should be deleted once their purposes have been discharged. |
| 1. On what basis are images retained and for how long? |  |
| Images are retained for 30 days unless a request has been made to the manager and only for the specified purpose of the system. The authority does not retain copies of discs |  |
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| 2. Do you have an auditable process for reviewing images and managing their retention? | ✔ Yes No |
| 3. Are there any time constraints in the event of the enforcement agency not taking advantage of the opportunity to view the retained images? | ✔ Yes No |
| 4. Are there any time constraints which might affect external parties from viewing the images? | ✔ Yes No |
| 5. Do you quarantine all relevant information and images relating to a reported incident until such time as the incident is resolved and/or all the information and images have been passed on to official third parties? | ✔ Yes No |
| 6. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 6?Action plan |

No

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| Principle 7Access to retained images and information should be restricted and there must be clearly defined rules on who can gain access and for what purpose such access is granted; the disclosure of images and information should only take place when it is necessary for such a purpose or for law enforcement purposes. |
| 1. Do you have a policy on who has access to the stored information? | ✔ Yes No |
| 2. Do you have a policy on disclosure of information? | ✔ Yes No |
| 3. What checks do you have in place to ensure that the disclosure policy is followed? |
| The system is regularly audited to ensure that the release and disclosure of information complies with legislation and operating procedures. All data subject access requests are dealt with by the manager and there is an information sharing agreement in place with other agencies such as the police. |
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| 4. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 7?Action plan |

No

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| Principle 8Surveillance camera system operators should consider any approved operational, technicaland competency standards relevant to a system and its purpose and work to meet and maintain those standards. |
| 1. What approved operational, technical and competency standards relevant to a surveillance system and its purpose does your system meet? |
| BS EN 50132-7 installation of CCTV systems. |
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| 2. How do you ensure that these standards are followed appropriately? |
| Auditing through NSI Silver accredited companies to prove their compliance to NCP 104 CCTV Guidance notes for BS EN 50132-7. |
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| 3. What steps are in place to secure certification against the approved standards? |
| Approved standards of certification is a requirement of our monitoring and maintenance contracts and tenders. "Service provider is required to retain NSI Silver Certification" |
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| 4. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 8?Action plan |

No

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| Principle 9Surveillance camera system images and information should be subject to appropriate security measures to safeguard against unauthorised access and use. |
| 1. What security safeguards do you have in place to ensure the integrity of images and information? |
| Access is restricted to the control room and system. The system is password protected and subject to regular audits. |
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| 2. If the system is connected across an organizational network or intranet, do sufficient controls and safeguards exist? | ✔ Yes No |
| 3. What is the specified purpose for which the information are being used and accessed and is this consistent with the stated purposes? |
| Wiltshire Police have a live feed in their HQ. They cannot move or have any control of the feed. The feed is protected via secure VPN and air locks. |
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| 4. Do you have preventative measures in place to guard against misuse of information and images? | ✔ Yes No |
| 5. Are your procedures and instructions and/or guidelines regarding the storage, use and access of surveillance system information documented? | ✔ Yes No |
| 6. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 9?Action plan |

No

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| Principle 10There should be effective review and audit mechanisms to ensure legal requirements, policies and standards are complied with in practice, and regular reports should be published. |
| 1. Does your system have a review process that shows it still addresses the needs and delivers the benefits that justify its use? | ✔ Yes No |
| 2. Have you identified any cameras that do not remain justified in meeting the stated purpose(s)? | Yes ✔ No |
| 3. Have you conducted an evaluation in order to compare alternative interventions to surveillance cameras? | ✔ Yes No |
| If so please provide brief details. |  |
| Dependency on CCTV remains high as other resources are limited. |  |
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| 4. Is it cost effective to continue running your surveillance camera system? | ✔ Yes No |
| 5. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 10?Action plan |

Salisbury City Council and Salisbury BID are committed to retaining and maintaining a compliant CCTV system. Cameras and the system are regularly maintained and upgraded if required.

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| Principle 11When the use of a surveillance camera system is in pursuit of a legitimate aim, and there is a pressing need for its use, it should then be used in the most effective way to support public safety and law enforcement with the aim of processing images and information of evidential value. |
| 1. Are the images and information produced by your system of a suitable quality for the criminal justice system to use without enhancement? | ✔ Yes No |
| 2. During the production of the operational requirement for your system, what stakeholder engagement was carried out or guidance followed to ensure exported data would meet the quality required for it to be used for evidential purposes? |
| Stakeholder engagement is continuous, especially with the police who supply regular feedback about the quality of the images. |
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| 3. Do you have safeguards in place to ensure the forensic integrity of the images and information including a complete audit trail? | ✔ Yes No |
| 4. Do you have a policy on data storage, security and deletion? | ✔ Yes No |
| 5. Is the information stored in a format that is easily exportable? | ✔ Yes No |
| 6. Does the storage ensure the integrity and quality of original recording and the meta data? | ✔ Yes No |
| 7. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 11?Action plan |

No

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| Principle 12Any information used to support a surveillance camera system which compares against a reference database for matching purposes should be accurate and kept up to date. |
| 1. Do you use any specialist technology such as ANPR, facial recognition, Body Worn Video (BWV) or remotely operated vehicles (Drones)? | Yes ✔ No |
| If so, please specify. |  |
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| 2. Do you have a policy in place to ensure that the information contained on your database is accurate and up to date? | ✔ Yes No |
| 3. Do you have a procedure for deciding when and whether an individual or vehicle should be included in a reference database? | ✔ Yes No |
| 4. What policies are in place to determine how long information remains in the reference database? |
| Information will be held no longer than is necessary and only retained when it is relevant. Databases are checked and weeded regularly. |
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| 5. Are all staff aware of when surveillance becomes covert surveillance under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000? | ✔ Yes No |
| 6. Have you identified any areas where further action is required to more fully conform with the requirements of Principle 12?Action plan |

No

Additional Information

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