PETITION – CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Council has received two petitions on the subject of Closed Circuit Television. The petitions have insufficient signatories to be submitted to the full Council, so they have been referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel for formal receipt.

2. THE PETITIONS

2.1 One of the petitions has been organised by Councillor J W Davies. The petition, which has 42 signatories is as follows:

"Having listened to residents' concerns about street drinking and associated crime in the area, Councillor John Davies is petitioning St Ives Town Council and Huntingdonshire District Council to work towards a solution whereby a CCTV camera can be provided to cover the locality of the "chub stream" and surrounding area. We the undersigned support the provision of this facility."

2.2 The other petition has been organised by the local Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator and has 41 signatories:

"We, the undersigned, wish to petition Huntingdonshire District Council regarding the apparent decommissioning and removal of the CCTV camera in Ingram Street car park. The presence of the CCTV camera over the last few years has been greatly valued by residents and we are disappointed that there was no consultation with us prior to this action. We would be grateful to know whether there is an agreed timescale for when the camera might be reinstated?

Whilst we appreciate the need for cuts in local government finances, we were particularly disappointed to note that the large black bowl that protects the camera has been completely removed from the supporting post. Would it not be possible for this to at least be reinstated (even if it was not operational) in order that it might act as a deterrent to any unwanted vandalism?"

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 Fifty signatures are required for a petition to be submitted to the full Council. The two petitions, which have been received, do not qualify to be treated in this way. Provided there are more than 10 signatures, it is referred to an Overview and Scrutiny Panel for formal receipt and for Members to determine what action to take to respond to them.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petitions submitted to the Council.

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