

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

15/11/16

Executive Board Member:	Portfolio:
Cllr. PAM PALMER	COMMUNITIES

REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT

RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

1. To review the covert surveillance activity undertaken by the authority in 2015/2016
2. To note the report of the Office of the Surveillance Commissioner following an inspection in April 2016
3. To review the corporate procedure on the conduct of such surveillance and approve changes for 2016/2017.

REASONS:

Guidance recommends elected members maintain an overview of the use of covert surveillance by the authority and annually review the policy and procedures governing those activities.

Directorate CHIEF EXECUTIVES Name of Head of Service LINDA REES JONES	Designation HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION & LAW	Tel No. 01267 224012 E Mail Address: LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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Declaration of Personal Interest (if any): None

Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any): N/A

DECISION MADE:

Signed:

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER



Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was not adopted:	



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Directed Surveillance

During the period 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 a total of 2 authorisations have been issued for Directed Surveillance, the details of which are as follows;

Reference	Offence	Granted	Approved	Cancelled	Outcome
094/DS/15	Benefit Fraud	08/05/15	21/05/15	16/07/15	Some evidence Obtained.
095/DS/15	Underage Sales	17/11/15	03/12/15	04/01/16	No evidence Obtained

Covert human Intelligence Sources

No authorisations have been issued for the use of Covert Human Intelligence Sources during this period.

Interception of Communications Data

No authorisations have been issued by the authority for the interception of communications data during this period.

Statistical Returns

Annual returns reflecting the above have been provided to the Office of the Surveillance Commissioner and the Interception of Communications Commissioner.

Inspection by the Surveillance Commissioner

The authority was inspected by a representative of the Surveillance Commissioner in April 2016. The inspection report contains only one recommendation, relating to training. Compliance with this recommendation is in hand. The report also suggests certain changes to the Council's covert surveillance procedures and a revised document incorporating those changes is attached for approval.

Changes to Reporting Practices

Given the low level of activity (which is expected to reduce further) it is proposed to cease quarterly reporting and instead inform the relevant EBM if an authorisation is granted together with an annual report summarising all such activity.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO



IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: LINDA REES JONES

Head of Administration and Law

Policy and Crime & Disorder NONE	Legal NONE	Finance NONE	ICT NONE	Risk Management Issues NONE	Organisational Development NONE	Physical Assets NONE
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CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: LINDA REES JONES

Head of Administration & Law

1. Local Member(s) Not applicable
2. Community / Town Council Not applicable
3. Relevant Partners Not applicable
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Legal file	LS-0134/10	County Hall Carmarthen

