

18 February 2022

Kia ora,

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 24 January 2022. You requested the following information:

1. How much has been spent on the installation of CCTV cameras in the past five years, broken down by year?

The capital budget for City Safety Camera renewals is set as part of the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plans.

| Year | Amount |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2022 | \$121,000 |
| 2021 | \$134,000 |
| 2020 | \$111,000 |
| 2019 | \$107,000 |
| 2018 | \$134,000 |
| 2017 | \$123,000 |

2. What is the cost to run CCTV cameras over a 12-month period? Please specify the dates of the period in your response. If the cost relates to indoor and outdoor cameras, please specify the number of indoor versus outdoor cameras.

The monthly costs are outlined below, these all relate to outdoor cameras:

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Network (vital) | \$13,989.73 per month |
| Maintenance (reactive and preventative) | \$7,854.30 per month |
| Additional costs (network charges) | \$4,800* |

*Note this is an approximate cost

3. Were any outdoor cameras vandalised in 2021? If so, please list how many times this happened.

There was one instance of vandalism in Waitangi Park of a technical equipment box, however we are not aware of any vandalism of cameras.

4. If outdoor cameras were installed for crime prevention, security, or public safety, can you please include any the number of reported crimes in the year prior to camera installation,

and the number of reported crimes in 2021. For ease of response, this can relate to an area rather than the viewport of specific cameras e.g. CBD.

WCC does not hold information on the number of crimes reported in Wellington and only assists in crimes where CCTV footage has been requested, therefore we are unable to comment on the years prior to camera installation.

5. Can you please list the number of times camera footage was used in solving a crime in 2021?

WCC assists with Police investigations by providing footage as requested, we do not receive any further information from the police as to whether the crime was solved. I can advise that in 2021 WCC assisted in over 300 requests from Police.

6. Does your organisation regularly review whether CCTV cameras are performing their objective? If so, please provide the results of the most recent review.

WCC has an ongoing process where we work to improve and update the system and performance. Recently, we have been doing work to improve and streamline costs of equipment and bulk networking services across the various business units at WCC. The City Safety Team works closely with Police in improving how we manage our network in a way that works for us and them as our partners.

7. Does your organisation have any policy regarding CCTV in place, which covers any of the following - If so, please provide a copy, or link to it:

- a. Objectives of cameras

Our use of CCTV cameras aims to make Wellington a safe city through activities that target and prevent crime and public disorder, ensure efficient responses, and increase public safety. The CCTV system also makes it possible for us to gather information on non-police issues such as rough sleeping.

- b. Data protection

All monitoring and use of footage is carried out in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993. Anonymised data is collected to assist with immediate responses and to help with evidence-based planning to improve safety and well-being. Data is stored securely for 26 days before being automatically wiped. Downloaded footage is handed over to Police, Insurers, Lawyers or in some cases, members of the public.

- c. Sharing of footage

For privacy reasons, we cannot release camera footage directly to the public. If a member of the public has lodged a complaint or incident with the Police or their insurance company, the agency can request footage from Wellington City Council. Under the Privacy Act 2020 members of the public have the right to access any personal information we hold about them, and to ask for it to be corrected if they think it is wrong.

- d. Vetting of volunteers viewing footage

We do not use volunteers; WCC Camera staff are fully vetted and must also comply with the WCC code of conduct.

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

Thank you again for your request, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards

Claudia Holgate
Senior Advisor, Official Information