



Urban security: six statements about video surveillance

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Six statements

- Technical capability is growing
- There is demand for wider adoption
- The evidence of effectiveness is good – but not overwhelming
- There are concerns about privacy, social cohesion and cost
- These concerns are being addressed
- There is a role for industry to play



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Technical capability is growing

Technical advances...

- Performance of the cameras
 - Sound recording
 - Interoperability/IP
 - Storage and retrieval
 - Automated monitoring
 - Cost and flexibility
-
- ...but there are systems challenges

Lack of coordinated approach to CCTV development poses significant risks in terms of compatibility of systems, cost of accessing the images and the potential loss of operational effectiveness

Association of Chief Police Officers 2007



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There is demand for wider adoption

Policy Era	Policy Features	CCTV diffusion
Innovation and Experiment early-mid 1990s	Central government drive to establish policy	Initial systems City centres and car parks
Acceptance and expansion mid-90s-early 2000s	Extensive local service delivery	Widespread diffusion and technical diversity
Retrenchment mid 2000s-	Central government drive to standardise policy and practice	Continued uptake and sophistication Integration. computerisation



Source: William Webster 2009 www.surveillance-and-society.org

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Evidence of effectiveness

- UK Home Office Systematic review 2007

CCTV was oversold – by successive governments - as the answer to crime problems. Few seeking a share of the available funding saw it as necessary to demonstrate CCTV's effectiveness.

- Philadelphia study 2009

An analysis that incorporates controls for long-term trends and seasonality finds that the introduction of cameras is associated with a 13% reduction in crime. The evaluation suggests that while there appears to be a general benefit to the cameras, there were as many sites that showed no benefit of camera presence as there were locations with a positive outcome on crime.



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Concerns about privacy and social cohesion

- Urban inclusion

natural surveillance comes from 'eyes on the street'

Jane Jacobs *The Death and Life of Great Cities* 1961

At present we are building cities that segregate and brutalise rather than emancipate and civilise

Richard Rogers *Cities for a small planet* 1996

- Anxiety and the fear of crime

there is mounting evidence that far from promoting the feelings of reassurance and safety promised in the developers' brochures, it is the blatantly security-conscious environments themselves which are responsible for growing levels of fear, for those behind the gates and for those outside

Anna Minton *Ground Control* 2008

- A surveillance society?

Mass surveillance has the potential to erode privacy. As privacy is an essential prerequisite to the exercise of individual freedom, its erosion weakens the constitutional foundations on which democracy and good governance have traditionally been based in this country'

House of Lords Constitutional Committee 2009



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These concerns are being addressed(1)

EFUS

Principles of the charter

- Legality
- Necessity
- Proportionality
- Transparency
- Independent oversight
- Citizens' involvement



These concerns are being addressed(2)

UK consultation

This government will end the culture of spying on citizens. It is outrageous that decent, law-abiding people are regularly treated as if they have got something to hide... Video surveillance is going to be the object of custom-made laws.

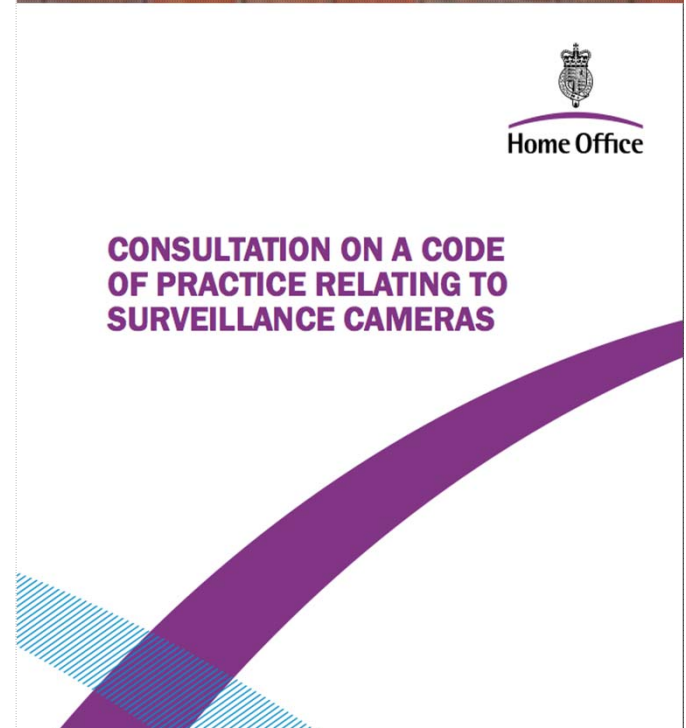
Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg 19 May 2010

The initial focus is the development of a new, comprehensive, Code of Practice designed to promote clarity and consistency in the future use of such technology.

Consultation document March 2011

Issues for consultation

- Statutory code of practice for public bodies
- Surveillance camera commissioner
- Technical and other standards
- Collection, storage and use of data
- Application to privately owned cameras
- Future issues



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A role for industry

Accusation of 'slick marketing' in the growth of CCTV from the 1990s

What can be done to design privacy in?

- Accountability
- Transparency
- Configuration for proportionality
- Sharing images
- Standards based approach

Future issues

- Automated monitoring
- Greater interoperability/IP based systems
- Internet of Things

