

**Council – 24 September 2025**

**Notice of Motion under Standing Order No 10**

**Live ANPR CCTV for Tackling Organised Cross-Border Crime**

**Proposer – Councillor Osborne**

**Council notes:**

- Organised crime groups frequently operate across local authority and county boundaries, targeting communities in North Warwickshire.
- Senior Warwickshire Police officers have highlighted live ANPR-enabled CCTV as one of the most effective tools available to disrupt and prosecute organised cross-border crime.
- While many towns and villages in North Warwickshire have their own CCTV networks, these systems currently operate in isolation.
- Evidence from other regions shows that ANPR-enabled CCTV networks deliver measurable results, including significant arrests, drug and weapon seizures, and safeguarding of vulnerable people (see Appendix A).
- The Residents Satisfaction Survey listed “Lower Crime / Safer Streets” as the second most popular answer to the question of the “Biggest Change to improve the area” (High Street Investment ranking first)
- The excellent work undertaken by our community policing teams.

**Council believes:**

- Greater collaboration between local councils, parish/town councils, the Police, and other agencies would strengthen North Warwickshire’s capacity to prevent and detect serious and organised crime.
- A co-ordinated approach to CCTV, with selected cameras upgraded to live ANPR, would maximise efficiency and impact, while ensuring value for money.
- It should build on work done to deliver on residents priorities to improve the lived experience in our borough
- Appropriate use of technology can provide further enhanced outcomes in a cost effective fashion.

**Council therefore resolves:**

1. To meet with Warwickshire Police with a view to exploring a co-ordinated ANPR-enabled CCTV network.
2. To host a meeting with the Borough Council, Warwickshire Police, Town and Parish Councils and any other interested parties to review what CCTV capacity exists in the Borough and whether ANPR capability can be extended

3. To ask officers, in consultation with Warwickshire Police and partner councils, to scope the technical requirements, governance arrangements, and potential funding models for such a network, including indicative costings.
4. To receive a report back to the Safer Sub Committee within six months with findings and recommendations for next steps.

## **Briefing Note**

### **Why This Motion Matters**

North Warwickshire is particularly vulnerable to organised cross-border crime due to its rural geography, extensive road network, and proximity to major conurbations. Crime groups frequently use vehicles to move between towns and villages, exploiting council boundaries to evade detection.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) is a proven technology that can identify and track vehicles associated with organised crime, burglary, drug supply, fly-tipping, and other offences. Warwickshire Police have emphasised the value of live ANPR-enabled CCTV and the need for greater coordination of local systems.

This motion does not commit the Council to immediate spending. It seeks to:

- Convene a forum of councils and partners to plan collaboratively.
- Commission officers to produce a feasibility and costing report.
- Explore external funding sources (Home Office Safer Streets Fund, PCC grants, and private sector contributions).

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## **Appendix A – Evidence & Best Practice**

### **National Context**

- The National ANPR Service (NAS) manages 18,000+ police/LEA ANPR cameras, capturing ~90 million reads per day, governed by NASPLE standards and national data laws.
- HMICFRS highlights that tackling serious organised crime in the West Midlands requires better cross-force collaboration – precisely the gap a North Warwickshire forum would address.



### **Impact Snapshot – What ANPR-enabled CCTV Can Deliver**



### **Recorded Outcomes from Other Areas**

#### **City of London Police (2024–25)**

-  **100+ arrests**
-  **19 weapons seized**

- 💊 “Thousands” of drug wraps recovered

#### North Yorkshire Police (Jan 2024)

- ✅ 32 arrests in 48 hours
- 💊 Major Class A/B drug seizures
- 🚗 Vehicles & weapons recovered

#### Leicestershire Police (Dec 2024)

- ✅ 32 arrests, 38 warrants
- 💰 £22k+ cash seized
- 🔫 Handgun & other weapons taken off streets
- 🌿 2,337 cannabis plants recovered
- 🛡️ 34 safeguarding visits completed

#### West Mercia Police (Dec 2024)

- ✅ 68 arrests in one week
- 💊 Drugs valued at £2.5m+ seized
- 💰 £21k cash seized

#### Essex Police (Oct 2024)

- ✅ GBH suspect **identified & arrested** with ANPR + CCTV
- ⚖️ Guilty plea secured in court

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#### 📌 Why This Matters for North Warwickshire

- Criminal groups **travel across our rural roads** to commit burglary, acquisitive crime, drug supply, and fly-tipping.
- Local CCTV already helps reduce crime — but **systems are fragmented**.
- A **co-ordinated, ANPR-enabled network** would give Warwickshire Police real-time intelligence to intercept offenders before they cause harm.

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#### ✅ Key Benefits

- 🚗 More arrests & prosecutions
- 🛡️ Safer communities & reassurance

- 💰 Value for money through shared costs
- 📡 Stronger cross-border policing

### Local Relevance

- North Warwickshire Borough Council's own CCTV (e.g. Atherstone) has already helped reduce crime and ASB for many years and continues to do so.
- Warwickshire Police recently detected **thousands of offences in one month** using new enforcement camera vans, demonstrating the success of camera-enabled policing.

### Best Practice in Governance

- **Thanet District Council** obtained Surveillance Camera Commissioner certification for its CCTV/ANPR system – a model for compliance.
- Shared CCTV services (e.g. Fenland–Peterborough, North Yorkshire–York) show how councils can pool resources, cut costs, and deliver effective coverage.

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## Appendix B – Draft Monitoring Framework

If approved, the following KPIs and governance checks could be adopted:

### Key Performance Indicators

#### 1. Operational Outcomes

- ANPR alerts on vehicles of interest.
- Stops made following ANPR alerts.
- Arrests linked to ANPR intelligence.
- Weapons, drugs, and cash seized.
- Vulnerable individuals safeguarded.

#### 2. Crime/Harm Outcomes

- Reduction in burglary, vehicle crime, and drug offences in areas covered by upgraded ANPR cameras.
- Comparative analysis with control areas.

#### 3. Efficiency & Timeliness

- Average alert-to-stop time.
- Time saved in investigations through retrospective ANPR queries.

#### 4. Public Confidence

- Resident survey questions on fear of crime and reassurance in areas with upgraded coverage (aligned to Safer Streets evaluation models).

**Governance & Assurance**

- Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be jointly owned by Police and Council(s).
- Compliance with NAS/NASPLE standards.
- Independent audit every two years, with an option to seek Surveillance Camera Commissioner certification.
- Clear signage, privacy notices, and public information campaign.