



Dear Sir/Madam

Kent Police are currently looking to expand their Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) capability across the force area and part of this is looking at several new cameras being installed in the Tenterden area.

An integral part of our deployment considerations alongside crime prevention and detection objectives is a consultation process with community partners as part of a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA).

As locally elected councillors we would like to canvass your opinion on the use of ANPR in your area. Whether supportive or otherwise we would welcome feedback as part of the DPIA process as we consider our installation options across Kent.

The below provides an overview of why we use ANPR, how it works and how we use it to support our policing objectives:

### **Why we use ANPR**

ANPR technology is used across Kent to help detect, deter and disrupt criminality at a local, force, regional and national level, from volume crime offending, organised crime which often involves travelling criminals, and more serious public safety threats such as terrorism offences. Alongside our crime objectives we also utilise ANPR to support our road safety strategies, in particular the high-risk offenders that drive whilst disqualified, under the influence of alcohol and drugs and without insurance.

### **How it works**

As a vehicle passes a police monitored ANPR camera, its registration number is read and instantly checked against database records of vehicles of interest. Police officers can intercept and stop a vehicle, check it for evidence and, where necessary, make arrests. The use of ANPR in this way has proved to be important in the detection of a wide range of offences. The vehicle movement data is also stored enabling intelligence analysis as part of crime investigation and analysis processes. ANPR evidence is frequently used in court proceedings as part of the criminal justice process.

### **Access to stored data**

ANPR data is stored locally in computer-based systems and also shared with the police National ANPR Data Centre (NADC). The data is stored locally and nationally for a period of twelve months.

We have clear rules controlling access to ANPR data to ensure that access is for legitimate investigation purposes. Only officers and staff with appropriate training have access to ANPR data if it's relevant to their role, and they may normally only do so for a maximum period of 90 days from the date it was collected.

Access to data for up to twelve months will be subject to the authorisation of a senior officer. After 90 days, access may only be for priority & Volume crime, serious, major or counter terrorism

investigations and up to twelve months only for major investigations and counter terrorism purposes.

### **Camera locations**

ANPR cameras are used at fixed locations and in police vehicles to provide a mobile capability where they will be best utilised to detect, deter and disrupt criminality. In line with national policy, we do not disclose details of our fixed locations as this information is likely to be of benefit to offenders and if known could reduce the value of ANPR to policing.

### **Privacy Impact Review Process**

Across Kent for any new camera installation an assessment is conducted to ensure that there is a clear installation pressing need, taking account of the following factors:

- National security and counter terrorism;
- Serious, organised and major crime;
- Local crime patterns
- Community confidence and reassurance, crime prevention and prevention.

Of considerable weight to this process is the Data Protection Impact Assessment review which we aim to include consultation with persons and organisations with a reasonable interest in the proposal.

In conclusion I would like to invite your feedback on the use of this technology. Responses preferably by email to [ANPRDPIAResponse@Kent.police.uk](mailto:ANPRDPIAResponse@Kent.police.uk) by the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 would be welcome.

Please ensure any feedback contains sufficient information for us to be able to establish if you support Kent Police's use of ANPR or have any concerns and would like further information.

It is our intention to make a presentation on ANPR at the next available Council District meeting which you will be welcome to view.

Yours faithfully

*Guy Fletcher*

ANPR Manager Kent and Essex Police