



ACT
Government

Strategic Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Plan 2020-2022





Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Capital Territory and the broader Canberra Region is Ngunnawal Country. It represents an important meeting place for the Ngunnawal people and those from other Aboriginal Nations.

The ACT Government acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional custodians of this land, and pays respect to Ngunnawal elders, both past, present and emerging for their contribution to the life and culture of Canberra.

The ACT Government also pays its respects to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

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MINISTER'S FOREWORD

A fundamental responsibility of all governments is to ensure the safety and security of its citizens as they go about their daily lives.

As Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) technology continues to evolve and improve, CCTV is commonly used by governments, law enforcement and individuals to enhance safety and security and investigate crime.

The ACT Government continues to invest heavily in CCTV technology to enhance the safety and security of public places and support the faster investigation and prosecution of crime.

In 2001, the government established the Public Safety CCTV Network. This Network has evolved to become a sophisticated inter-connection of CCTV systems in public open spaces and venues across the ACT. The Network provides live and recorded footage for the purposes of making Canberra a safer place and bringing those responsible for crime to justice.

In using this CCTV technology, the ACT Government ensures that an individual's right to privacy is protected through a structure of human rights and privacy laws and CCTV operating policies.

To provide transparency of the ACT Government's priorities for CCTV in the short terms, the government has developed this *Strategic Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Plan 2020-2022*. The plan will strengthen the collective efforts across the ACT Government on using CCTV to create an even safer Canberra.

I look forward to updating the ACT community on the government's progress against the priorities and activities identified in this *Strategic Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Plan 2020-2022*.

Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for Police and Emergency Services



INTRODUCTION

This *Strategic Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Plan 2020-2022* (the CCTV Plan) outlines the priorities and activities for the ACT Government to enhance its CCTV capabilities to provide for safer public places and events, the safety and security of staff and assets and the ability of ACT Policing to investigate and prosecute criminal offenders.

This CCTV Plan forms part of the ACT's security and emergency management governance framework to create a safer ACT. The implementation of this plan will be led by the Security and Emergency Management Branch within the Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS).

Regular reporting of the progress of the implementation of this CCTV Plan will occur to the Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group (SEMSOG) established under the *Emergencies Act 2004* which reports to the Security and Emergency Management Committee of Cabinet.

The Minister for Police and Emergency Services will also issue annual progress reports to the public about progress being made against the activities in this Plan.



CCTV SYSTEM USE IN THE ACT GOVERNMENT

CCTV is used widely across the ACT Government to support public safety, asset security and business monitoring functions. Specific purposes for CCTV include:

- > Crime deterrence, investigation and prosecution
- > Asset monitoring and security
- > Public safety and event monitoring
- > Process control and business monitoring
- > Supporting the response and management of emergencies
- > Training, engagement and community engagement
- > Traffic, vehicle and parking enforcement.

Individual ACT Government directorates and agencies have responsibility for CCTV systems under their control. This includes ensuring compliance of the systems with the ACT’s human rights, privacy and records retention laws.

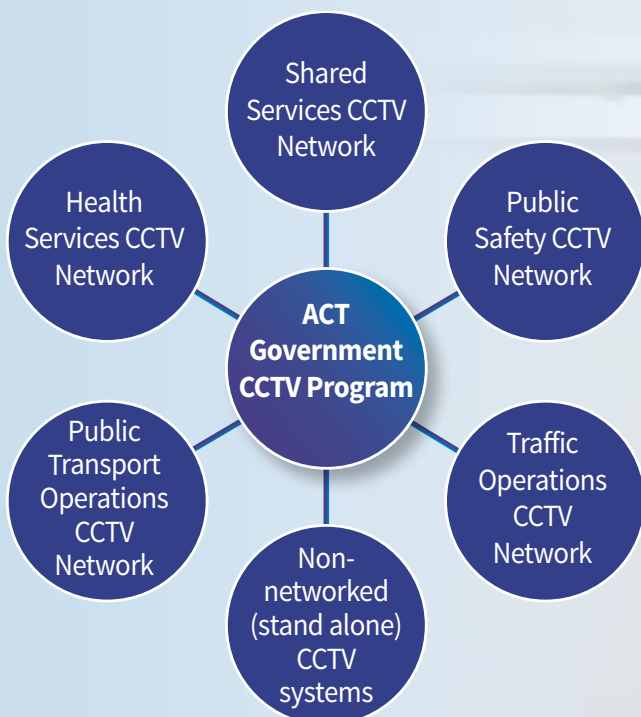
Many ACT Government CCTV systems are connected to the ACT’s Public Safety CCTV Network. The CCTV Network is an ACT Government owned network of interconnected CCTV systems located at various public venues and open spaces. Live and recorded footage from the CCTV Network is available to the government and ACT Policing.

The CCTV Network has a presence in a wide range of locations across Canberra. ACT Policing actively monitor the network on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and use it at other times to support incident response and investigations.

Other CCTV networks used by the government include:

- > the Shared Services CCTV Network, which links CCTV systems at Access Canberra Shopfronts and identified government premises
- > the Health Services CCTV Network, which links CCTV systems installed at the Canberra Hospital and other health services facilities.
- > the Traffic Management CCTV Network, which links the CCTV cameras that provide real time information about Canberra’s traffic network.
- > the Public Transport Operations CCTV network, that links the CCTV systems located at Canberra’s bus stations.

JACS is the policy coordinator for CCTV and works closely with all CCTV operators and users across the government and ACT Policing to develop future plans to enhance the benefits of using CCTV.



PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2020-2022

The following four priority areas will underpin the various CCTV activities to be progressed by the government in 2020-2022:

ENHANCING SAFETY, SECURITY AND LOWERING CRIME

The primary role of CCTV is to enhance safety, security and lower crime. The government will focus on activities that seek to strengthen how the ACT's CCTV Program is used to enhance public safety, public places and events and investigate and prosecute crimes.

CAPABILITY AND CONNECTEDNESS

CCTV technology continues to develop and improve at a significant pace. The government will progress activities that build the capability of the ACT's CCTV Program and provide better connectedness between CCTV systems as part of the CCTV Network.

GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

As CCTV systems become more connected and capable, ensuring their good governance and transparency of use must remain a priority. The government will focus on activities that strengthen the governance of the ACT's CCTV Program and provide enhanced reporting of how CCTV systems are used and their benefit.

INNOVATION

Innovation has formed the basis for how the ACT Government has used CCTV to address the safety and security issues with Canberra's public open spaces, venues and assets. The government will continue to be innovative in using CCTV to solve safety and security challenges in the ACT.

STRATEGIC CCTV ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE 2020-2022

ENHANCING SAFETY, SECURITY AND LOWERING CRIME

1. Review of the Public Safety CCTV Monitoring Arrangements

The government will work closely with ACT Policing to undertake a review of the CCTV Network monitoring arrangements. The review will consider the efficacy of current arrangements, and examine options that may better suit Canberra's public safety and crime deterrence requirements.

2. Public Safety CCTV Network Expansion

The government, working in close consultation with ACT Policing, will continue the expansion of the CCTV Network across Canberra to strengthen public safety and reduce crime. The community will be invited to have their say on the identified areas for expansion.

3. Evaluation of Solar Powered CCTV Trial

Following the commencement of a trial of solar powered CCTV in 2017, the government will complete an evaluation to help inform decisions on the future use of this CCTV technology. This will include the potential expansion to Park n Ride sites, public playgrounds and crime hot-spots.



4. Expansion of the CCTV Network over the CBRfree Wi-Fi Network

The government will complete and evaluate the trial of using the CBRFree Wi-Fi Network to route CCTV Network information. The government will work closely with the provider to identify the opportunities and costs of expanding the CCTV Network by using the CBRFree Wi-Fi network.

5. CCTV Support to Major Events

The government will continue to focus on using the CCTV Network to support the safety and effective management of major government run events, including the national Multicultural Festival, New Year's Eve, Floriade and Enlighten.

CAPABILITY AND CONNECTEDNESS

6. Integration of the Public Safety CCTV Networks and the Public Transport Operations Network

The government will integrate the Public Transport Operations CCTV Network into the CCTV Network. This integration will contribute to improved safety of public transport users.

7. Efficiency in CCTV Data Storage – Project “Bluesky”

The government will trial the storage of CCTV data centrally in a data centre rather than on-site. This will help the government to determine the benefits and efficiencies of collaboration between directorates in CCTV data storage.

8. Connection of the Canberra Theatre Centre CCTV Systems to the Public Safety CCTV Network

To strengthen public safety at the Canberra Theatre Centre, the government will connect the CCTV system at the Canberra Theatre Centre to the CCTV Network.

9. Hardware and Software Enhancements

The government will complete the CCTV upgrades funded in the ACT Budget 2018-19 and out years to enhance the capability of the CCTV Network including upgrading to digital cameras and new software. This will enhance ACT Policing's ability to use and search recorded footage more quickly and efficiently in support of criminal investigations.

10. Access Review

The government will conduct a review of access arrangements to live and recorded information collected by the CCTV Program to ensure compliance with CCTV laws. The review will also identify opportunities to maximise the benefit received from CCTV.

11. Networking other Government CCTV Systems

The government will review the benefits of networking other camera systems used by the government, such as the traffic camera system to provide an enhanced ability of the ACT to investigate crime.

GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

12. CCTV Network Cost versus Benefit Assessment

The government will undertake a cost versus benefit assessment of the CCTV Network. This will help inform the government when considering future investment in the CCTV Network.

13. ACT Government CCTV Policy

The government will replace the *ACT Government Code of Practice for Closed Circuit Television Systems* with a new ACT Government CCTV Policy. The new policy will establish a single policy position across all directorates and achieve greater consistency in the management of CCTV across the government.

14. Reporting

The government will review options to enhance CCTV reporting to provide greater transparency of how CCTV systems are used to support public safety, security, event management and crime investigation purposes.

15. CCTV Design Standard

The government will develop a CCTV design standard to establish minimum standards and provide greater guidance to directorates and business units seeking to purchase and install CCTV.

16. Panel of CCTV Repair and Maintenance Providers

The government will establish a panel of providers to undertake the installation, repair and maintenance of CCTV systems. This panel will drive greater efficiency and lower cost in the operation of the government's CCTV systems.

INNOVATION

17. Use of the Territory Radio Network (TRN) to support CCTV Information

The government will examine if the ACT's Territory Radio Network (TRN) can be used to route CCTV information. Using the TRN network could allow for the installation of CCTV at locations that are outside of the fibred or mobile phone network in support of bushfire detection or rural crime investigations.

18. Trailer Mounted CCTV Capability

The government will investigate the feasibility, costs and benefits to establish CCTV capability that can be quickly deployed via trailer or vehicle. This capability would allow for a minimum delay in the easy and quick deployment of a CCTV capability to support short term events, incidents or crime hot spots.