



CCTV Annual Statistical Report

2021

Introduction

This document provides an examination of data collected by the CCTV department of Boston Borough Council. This data is collected and studied in order better understand the performance and achievements of Boston's CCTV unit but is clearly not (nor indeed intended to be), a full picture of criminal activity within the areas it covers.

The majority of data in this report has been exported from the 'VTAS' software in use by Boston CCTV. Boston CCTV has no set targets for incidents or arrests, and does not receive any benefits or funding based on results or achievements. Altering or manipulating statistics would serve us no purpose, so the figures within this document can be confidently taken as factual.

Scale of Data

The data relates to the period between 01/04/20 and 31/03/21. Within this time period, CCTV operators have:

Recorded **15,652** Daily log entries.
Completed **2,853** incident records which includes...
474 Boston camera area incidents.
474 East Lindsey camera area incidents.
161 South Holland camera area incidents.
23 North Kesteven camera area incidents.

Dealt with **445** Boston Borough Council Out of Hours Telephone Calls
Dealt with **747** East Lindsey District Council Out of Hours Telephone Calls

CCTV contributed to **287** arrests (**122** relating to Boston only)

Produced **296** pieces of evidence for Police / Court use.

123 of these for the Boston area.
87 for the East Lindsey area.
70 for the South Holland area.
16 for the North Kesteven area.

Arrests / Incidents

The chart below shows a monthly breakdown of the **122** arrests where CCTV has provided a direct contribution in Boston. Also included in this chart, are the number of evidential CCTV packages seized by Police, the number of CCTV incidents logged, and also the number of incidents logged in regards to the Council's Out of Hours service. Boston Borough Council monitor CCTV for several other local authority areas, but the data within this report relates to Boston only. Some data from other areas is included to give some context to the work of the CCTV Control Room.

BBC CCTV Performance Data 20/21				
Month	Arrests	Evidence	Incidents	Out of Hours
April	12	3	75	47
May	15	10	78	43
June	5	13	22	32
July	6	12	28	26
August	12	12	27	55
September	14	11	46	40
October	6	10	35	22
November	9	5	31	24
December	12	5	35	37
January	14	12	42	49
February	6	12	17	29
March	11	18	38	41
Year Total	122	123	474	445

Boston - Incident Category Breakdown

2019/2020

Incident Category	No,
Alarm Activation	14
Alcohol	30
Anti-Social Behaviour	97
Bicycle Theft	2
Breach of Conditions or Ban	4
Burglary	12
Criminal Damage & Arson	20
Domestic Abuse	2
Drugs	29
Emergencies	8
Environmental Crime	6
Events	2
Fire / Ambulance / Sudden Death	16
Fraud	1
Licensing	0
Other Crime	18
Other Theft	4
Public Order	49
Robbery	7
Search for Person	67
Shoplifting	95
Suspicious Behaviour	36
Theft from the Person	1
Traffic Offence	55
Vehicle Crime	6
Violence and Sexual	53
Weapons	25

2020/2021

Incident Category	No,
Alarm Activation	7
Alcohol	7
Anti-Social Behaviour	41
Bicycle Theft	2
Breach of Conditions or Ban	0
Burglary	3
Criminal Damage & Arson	9
Domestic Abuse	3
Drugs	16
Emergencies	3
Environmental Crime	3
Events	1
Fire / Ambulance / Sudden Death	4
Fraud	1
Licensing	0
Other Crime	13
Other Theft	1
Public Order	20
Robbery	4
Search for Person	57
Shoplifting	38
Suspicious Behaviour	26
Theft from the Person	0
Traffic Offence	53
Vehicle Crime	2
Violence and Sexual	23
Weapons	14

This table shows a comparison between the 2019/20 report and 2020/21. Most types of incidents have seen a decrease, most likely due to Covid-19 restrictions in place during this time.

Cameras / Locations

		2019 - 20	2020-21
	Camera	Incidents	Incidents
1	Camera 20 - Ingram Memorial	163	95
2	Camera 03 - West Street	100	79
3	Camera 06 - Market Place	133	74
4	Camera 05 - Market Place	60	62
5	Camera 07 - Strait Bargate	98	60
6	Camera 23 - Haven Bridge	79	60
7	Camera 30 - Central Park	37	50
8	Camera 01 - West Street	57	50
9	Camera 24 - Rosegarth Street	55	50
10	Camera 12 - John Adams Way	70	41

The list here shows the top 10 Boston cameras in regards to the numbers of incidents in which they have been used. The number of incidents from 2019/20 is included for comparison

Incidents are often covered by more than one camera in order to follow proceedings or cover the incident from multiple angles for better evidence capture. Camera 20 is top again as it covers the entire market place, and is used to support other cameras that may be closer to the problem area.

Central Park enters the 'Top Ten' during this period. Camera coverage in Central Park has been improved to help protect the investment into park facilities such as the Skate Park and Multi Use Games Area.

Of the **50** incidents logged for Central Park camera 30, **27** of these were Covid 19 related incidents.

Police Data

Our incident categories are grouped in a similar way, and therefore can be comparable with official Police statistics which can be viewed freely online at www.police.uk. The table below shows police collected data regarding reported crime within a 1 mile radius centred on the Municipal Buildings. This is then compared with the CCTV performance data.

Offence	Police	CCTV
Anti-Social Behaviour	1697	41
Bicycle Theft	101	2
Burglary	122	3
Criminal Damage & Arson	330	9
Drugs	196	16
Other Crime	87	13
Other Theft	210	1
Public Order	252	20
Robbery	20	4
Shoplifting	450	38
Theft From the Person	19	0
Vehicle Crime	84	2
Violence and Sexual	1311	23
Weapons	60	14

When we compare all reported crime in the area with CCTV data for the same incident categories we see on average CCTV is involved in **3.8%** of incidents.

Similarly if we compare the total reported crime (**4939**) with the number of evidence disks produced for the Boston area (**123**) then we can conclude that CCTV provides video evidence for **2.49%** of reported crime.

The comparison above does not include some of the other incidents that CCTV deal with that do not necessarily involve the Police. For instance, Environmental crime (littering, fly tipping, urinating etc.) and the Out of Hours service.

Out of Hours Service

The Out of Hours services for Boston Borough Council and East Lindsey District Council are operated from our 24hr CCTV control room. When the main areas of Council business are closed, this maintains a contact point for members of the public needing emergency assistance. Calls can be varied and sometimes challenging for staff to reach the best solution. Staff are provided with a guide book for most types of call but often need to think 'outside the box' to assist callers.

The Out of Hours Service has become a significant part of the CCTV operator's duties, logging **1192** Out of Hours calls for 2020/21. This is a reduction of 14% from the previous year. Community Safety has been working with the IT department to try and reduce call volumes, by providing more easily accessible information on the Council's website.

Covid 19

During the period covered by this report CCTV logged **222** Covid 19 related incidents. A large amount of these are the result of routine observations giving estimated numbers of people in town centre public spaces. With this information, partner organisations were able to better direct their resources to where they were needed.

Where non-compliance with social distancing rules was observed, Police were quickly directed to any problem areas and advice given.

2021/22

We have seen a reduction in Out of Hours calls, likely due to changes put in place to allow members of the public to get information and help through better website facilities. Our lesson from this, is that working closely with other departments can greatly improve our own service area.

During the Covid-19 outbreak we began to use some alternative technologies such as 4G cameras, to be able to swiftly monitor testing and vaccination facilities. In 2021/22 this should give us some degree of flexibility to monitor new problem areas.

We are currently in the early stages of looking at upgrading the CCTV camera stock in the Boston area. This is to make use of higher resolution images. A higher resolution image equals better quality usable evidence.

2021/22 is somewhat unpredictable, with people returning to behaviours and activities missing during the Covid outbreak. In the coming year we intend to remain flexible to cope with whatever direction the world takes us.

This page is blank