

From: Foi Enquiries <FoiEnquiries@aberdeencity.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 August 2019 16:17

Subject: REV-19-0647 - CCTV in Schools

Thank you for your follow up query.

I am aware that part of this FOI request is incorrect, as there are indeed local authority schools frequently using the cameras to monitor childrens' behaviour in the playground. Please can you confirm this is the case, and which schools in fact do this.

Please note that, CCTV systems in schools are not used to routinely monitor live footage of the activities of building occupants. Viewing screens are kept within locked offices and switched on only to view recorded footage of specific incidents which have occurred, where it is deemed necessary to investigate the incident. It is possible that this would include the behaviour of pupils in playgrounds, where an incident has occurred in the playground and where it is considered necessary for authorised staff to review the recorded footage to follow up on that incident.

We hope this helps with your follow up query.

Yours sincerely,



Tomina Egbuson | Access to Information Officer
Aberdeen City Council | Access to Information Team | Customer Feedback
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From: Foi Enquiries <FoiEnquiries@aberdeencity.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 July 2019 10:58

Subject: REV-19-0647 - CCTV in Schools

Thank you for your email of 11 June 2019 May 2019 requesting that Aberdeen City Council (ACC) review its handling of your request as we failed to meet the 20 working days deadline. Please accept our sincere apologies for delay in providing you the response. I can now advise you that we have undertaken an internal review of our decision and the findings are set out below.

Review details

***Do all Aberdeen schools have video surveillance cameras?
Where are these cameras typically located in a school?
What is the purpose of these surveillance cameras in schools?
Are the cameras ever used to monitor childrens' behaviour in the playground?***

Is footage recorded?

How long is footage kept for?

Who can access the recorded footage?

Review outcome

In accordance with Section 21(4)(c) of FOISA, please find below the response to your information request, which comprises the Review Outcome:

Do all Aberdeen schools have video surveillance cameras?

No. Please note that our response only covers the local authority schools.

Where are these cameras typically located in a school?

They are located on the exteriors and other various locations within the school.

What is the purpose of these surveillance cameras in schools?

For security and deterrent against vandalism.

Are the cameras ever used to monitor childrens' behaviour in the playground?

No.

Is footage recorded?

Yes.

How long is footage kept for?

Footage is kept approximately between 2 weeks to 4 months. The timeframe varies in each school.

Who can access the recorded footage?

This footage can be seen by trained Robertson's staff such as janitors. Also school senior management staff such as headteachers can see the footage too. Anyone other than the trained personnel who want to see the images (including police for example) would need to submit a subject access request giving reasons why they require to see it.

What happens next?

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your request for an internal review, you can apply directly to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) for a decision. Generally, OSIC cannot make a decision unless you have been through the ACC's review procedure. To make an application to OSIC, please write or email OSIC at:

The Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner

Kinburn Castle

Doubledykes Road

St Andrews

Fife

KY16 9DS

www.itspublicknowledge.info

An application to OSIC must be made in writing within six months of receipt of ACC's Review Decision Notice. When applying to OSIC for a decision you should give your name and address for correspondence. Please note that OSIC will not be able to investigate if you have not used your real name to make your information request. You must also specify:

- which request for information your requirement for review relates to
- the reason that you asked ACC to carry out a review of your request
- the reason why you are not satisfied with ACC's review outcome decision

The Commissioner will contact ACC and invite its comments on your application. Thereafter (if no settlement has meantime been reached), the Commissioner must reach a decision within 4 months of receiving your application, or within such other period as is reasonable. You will receive written notice of the outcome of the Commissioner's decision.

Should you wish to appeal against the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only. Any such appeal must be made within 42 days after the date of the decision has been issued.

Yours sincerely,

Salomeh Kheyri Rad
On behalf of Review Panel Clerk



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