



Mr Tony Porter
Surveillance Camera Commissioner
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Date; 15 November 2019

[www.gov.uk/
surveillance-camera-commissioner](http://www.gov.uk/surveillance-camera-commissioner)

To:
Chief Executive
South Gloucestershire Council

Letter by email

Dear Chief Executive,

Certificate of compliance of surveillance camera systems and the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 by the Surveillance Camera Commissioner.

As you will be aware, my role as the Surveillance Camera Commissioner was created by virtue of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 (PoFA). I am appointed by the Home Secretary under the terms of section 34(1) PoFA and independent of Government.

As Surveillance Camera Commissioner I have a number of statutory functions, one of which is to encourage *relevant authorities*, as defined by section 33(5) of the Act, to comply with the Secretary of State's "*Surveillance Camera Code of Practice*" (the Code). Your council is a relevant authority as defined by the Act and as such you have responsibilities arising from the legislation and the Code in respect of all public space surveillance camera systems which you operate. The Code can be accessed via the below link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/surveillance-camera-code-of-practice>

Amongst my statutory functions I work closely with independent accreditation bodies within the security industry to deliver a certification scheme in respect of the surveillance camera systems in public places and which fall within my regulatory remit. One of those accreditation bodies is National Security Inspectorate (NSI).

This scheme enables organisations to demonstrate that the systems they operate comply with the provisions of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 and the Code. By successfully engaging with the accreditation bodies and my certification scheme, an organisation, and more importantly the public, may be reassured that surveillance camera systems which intrude upon their privacy are being *demonstrably* operated ethically and legitimately to an appropriate standard. I acknowledge your excellent and most commendable commitment in that regard arising from your engagement with this process.

NSI have now reported to me that they have successfully completed an assessment of your Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance camera systems and have confirmed their recommendation that my certification of compliance is similarly issued in respect of those systems. I am of course delighted to accept their recommendation and have issued a separate certificate accordingly.

I have included a copy of my certification mark which under the provisions of the scheme you are entitled to display on your website and indeed any public communication you publish in respect of the certified system you operate. A hard copy certificate will be posted to you separately

If you are doing any media activity with regard to you attaining my certification mark, I would be happy to provide some supportive words on your achievement.

Please convey my appreciation to your team for their application to this process.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Park'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and 'P'.

Surveillance Camera Commissioner England & Wales
Email: scc@sccommissioner.gov.uk