

**Written Response from Cllr Stuart Bailey
To Questions asked on CCTV, at Full Council Meeting on 23 February 2023**

Following the successful transfer of the CCTV service to the control room in Addlestone, Cllr Neighbour and I visited the CCTV control centre at Runnymede on Monday 6th March. The set up is every impressive and provides opportunities to further develop our CCTV service that were not previously available. I am aware that I committed to provide a fuller written response to questions raised at the full council meeting on 23rd February which I provide below:

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- 1. Is it correct that the feed from Hart to Rushmoor had been interrupted earlier in the week ending 24th February?**

The connection between Hart and Rushmoor was not interrupted and remained working at all times. We lost sight of cameras ahead of the planned transition date as CSS (the contractors) redirected them to Runnymede. That happened on the 21st February 2023, at which point Runnymede had control of cameras and started recording a short time after. It would not be possible to retain the cameras in both locations, so this had to happen at some point to allow transition.

- 2. Is it correct that the control room at Runnymede does not have or only has limited radio contact with emergency services**

Safer Runnymede has Police Radios linked to each desk which they use to speak with Hampshire Officers. If there were a need to one of the other emergency services e.g. Fire Service/Ambulance, they would use 999 and identify that it was a Hampshire incident and not Surrey (SECAMB – Ambulance).

- 3. Is Hart aware of the growing trend of families in private rented accommodation being made homeless, and if so what is being done?**

A Section 21 notice, also known as a section 21 notice of possession or a section 21 eviction, is the notice which a landlord must give to their tenant to begin the process to take possession of a property let on an assured shorthold tenancy, **without providing a reason** for wishing to take possession.

End of Assured shorthold tenancy has remained in the top 3 reasons for homelessness approaches in Hart (behind parental eviction) and has done so for a number of years. However as a service we are not seeing any significant increase in numbers, and it is important to note that we rarely see S21 notices from landlords who work with us through our rent bond scheme.

The majority of the evictions we see are due to the landlords not being able to financially fulfil their responsibility as a landlord and are having to sell the property.

We continue to promote our service to landlords and tenants and encourage them contact us prior to serving notice to see what we can do to resolve the issues and therefore in turn hopefully prevent eviction and where we can't prevent the tenancy ending we provide advice and assistance to ensure a smooth move and transition for residents into suitable accommodation and hopefully therefore avoid the need for temporary accommodation.