

Caistor Public Space CCTV Survey

1. Are you?

259 (90.9%)	A resident
34 (11.9%)	A local business owner
5 (1.8%)	A visitor to Caistor

2. How often do you visit Caistor Town Centre areas for:

(this includes High Street, Market Place, South Street and Butter Market)

	None	1-2 times per week	3-5 times per week	5+ times per week
Work /Education	59 (35.1%)	19 (11.3%)	17 (10.1%)	73 (43.5%)
Leisure/Shopping	3 (1.2%)	73 (29.3%)	84 (33.7%)	89 (35.7%)

3. Does the use of public space CCTV make you feel safer and more secure?

213 (72.7%)	Yes
54 (18.4%)	No
26 (8.9%)	Unsure

4. Do you have any other comments about the use of public space CCTV in Caistor?

149 comments received

1. I am being targeted by gangs who came to my town to kidnap me for the sex slavery trade. They are boarders and loiter around the town centre in protective clothing, pretending to be workers. I have martial arts skills and it will be a clean killing for self-defence.
2. I would feel a lot safer there having twice nearly been hit by cars mounting the pavement whilst walking my two small children to nursery. I see a man drinking alcohol daily through the week and acting aggressively to people walking past. Perhaps CCTV could be avoided with a stronger police presence but as there isn't much I would welcome CCTV. It's a shame the town council would have to pay though.
3. It is time to bring this aspect of Caistor into line with the rest of the UK. By installing CCTV residents and visitors are being protected. CCTV is a proven deterrent against crime. I understand two residents have been very vocal in campaigning against CCTV. I also understand they have a long history of being negative about what is good for the rest of Caistor
4. Waste of money. If a crime was happening the Police are too far away to attend or are busy somewhere else.
5. Shame not all over Caistor but I know it's very expensive
6. I think that CCTV is invaluable in crime reduction, it acts as a deterrent. It also helps people to feel more secure, both in their homes and whilst passing through the area. It can also help to solve crimes if they are committed and provide good evidence in court cases.
7. Vital in this day and age. We have had numerous incidents of theft and violence including the removal of the cash machine late at night with reported gun carrying accomplices. With CCTV we may have seen some arrests or quite possible have deterred the incident!
8. I'm not sure it represents good value for money for Caistor residents. Would it not be better spent on providing help for most vulnerable, e.g. social care, better access to doctors, help with housing for poorest etc.?
9. None, we really need it!!!!
10. I do not like the thought of being monitored as I go about my business.

11. Disgusting. Police State.
12. Having CCTV in the market square may help to combat the anti-social behaviour of the idiots who enjoy driving cars skidding round corners.
13. Those with nothing to hide should not fear them. Our home CCTV have twice assisted the police.
14. Is this another cash cow for the council or is it only for security reasons
15. Could the CCTV also be used to identify persons who deliberately drop/leave litter, and also dog owners who fail to pick up their dog dirt? Payment of fines could be put towards the cost of monitoring the cameras.
16. CCTV is a good idea, particularly to crack down on antisocial behaviour or provide data if there is a crime. Those who are going about their normal business should have nothing to worry about provided the data recordings are stored securely and destroyed after a period of time.
17. How far away is the monitoring going to be done? It is no replacement for a closed police station.
18. Living by the market place provides me with an insight into the kind of behaviour displayed, and cctv would be a worthwhile deterrent to this
19. As long as it doesn't mean that something else loses funding
20. Well overdue due to criminality in the Market Place, eg NatWest Bank cash machine, and Caistor in Bloom vehicle thefts and gathering of many young people.
21. I feel we need CCTV in public places to assist the authorities in preventing and solving anti-social behaviour.
22. As a Caistor resident I feel the CCTV will be a waste of money and do not agree with it being installed at a cost of 2k per year to the tax payer!
23. People shouldn't have a problem with CCTV, if it's used in the correct manner, unless they have something to hide.
24. The results of using CCTV are self-evident and result in prosecutions and save police time and therefore money. Besides I enjoy watching thieves too stupid to realise they are being watched.
25. Think it's a good idea. Believe there are some gangs starting to congregate in the square. There have also been the famous cash point theft and other incidents around the market place. There needs to be some security to prevent things getting any worse. This is no good for Caistor, the town needs reinvigorating, not destroying with criminal things going on.
26. It will make the vulnerable feel safer and be a deterrent to trouble makers.
27. A fantastic idea which we fully support. An excellent deterrent to those with less than good intentions!
28. I am concerned that it is felt CCTV is necessary for the Market Place and would like to know more of the reasoning behind its possible installation. Also where funding may be realised from, and is this likely to result in a further reduction in our other services? Since the decision was made to reduce night time lighting in several areas (mine included) I certainly don't feel safe and secure despite understanding the rationale behind it.
29. 1. I consider the installation of the cameras to be intrusive and unnecessary. Given the level of policing in Lincolnshire, there is no way in which any response would arrive in time to prevent any crime. Thus the sense of security offered would be false. 2. There is also the question of ownership. It is the right of every citizen to request (under the Freedom of Information Act) that any CCTV footage of him / her be made available on request given the place, time and a brief description. All other images have to be redacted. The maximum charge for this service is £10. Thus, say, a group of 4 individuals could sit quietly in the Market Square every day for a month and then individually request 30 days of redacted footage be provided by whoever owns the cameras. In the case of cameras on shops, this is usually assumed to be the shop owner. The resulting 120 recordings would cost considerably more than just £1,200 to produce.

30. Complete waste of money. Crime is low level except the bank raid and this will not make any difference. Serious criminals just wear masks and stolen cars. I doubt it would stop any domestic arguments in the street as they are heated moments, same when some drink, not that I see this as being a problem. If the police think it is a good idea, then they should pay for it. Pointless hair brained idea from narrow minded individuals. If it was useful, that it is not, it would just move crime to other areas in Caistor
31. I have not personally experienced any safety/security issues in Caistor but, if the Town Council considers that there will be a benefit from having CCTV installed in the town centre, I am happy to accept that judgement. Cost-wise, this would appear to be a good deal.
32. What is the crime rate in Caistor? What is wrong with the one we have? How would CCTV stop someone from being assaulted? That didn't stop the cash machine being ripped out. (That was thought to be roadworks commencing) The money could be better spent cutting grass in what is regarded as rural parts of the town. Why am I bothering to fill in this "survey"? It will not make any difference if everyone disagrees, it will still go ahead.
33. Although crime is fairly low in Caistor, hopefully, the proposed CCTV system would deter any would be offenders and in the event of any crimes that do occur it will help identify the person responsible.
34. £6000 to set up plus £2000 running cost per annum would be better spent keeping the lights on for the roads in Caistor through the night. All the lights kept on would be best, but a minimum of every other light as a minimum. On a dark night there are trip hazards everywhere that cannot be seen. Some nights I am walking home with light then I am enveloped in total darkness, totally unacceptable and dangerous, as well as the risk of being mugged.
35. We definitely need CCTV in Caistor and in my opinion Caistor could do with more CCTV, to ensure public safety and business's security. West Lindsey council does need to invest more in Caistor, as it could be a thriving town.
36. The only people who object and fear CCTV usually are the very people who are likely to be doing things illegal or anti-social. I think Caistor will be a better, safer and a pleasant place to visit.
37. It may help reduce poor behaviour - lots of noise emanates from the Settlement in particular
38. There are lots more areas in Caistor which could be just as susceptible to crime, especially in the dark mornings/evenings (and now no street lights). We are often woken by noisy (often drunk) people walking down our road as late as 2.00am some nights and we live towards the bottom of the Town. CCTV in the Town Centre does not affect us as we are very rarely in that area and hence, it doesn't make us feel safer. However, we would imagine that it will be beneficial to businesses and residents there so they are the ones who will benefit from having it there.
39. I think it would be a very good idea and is long overdue
40. I deem it as intrusive so no thanks!
41. A great idea, crime seems to be getting worse and CCTV can only help bring crime rates down.
42. Get it installed!
43. It is a positive step in discouraging anti-social behaviour and criminal activity as long as those monitoring the public space are backed up by a responsive police attendance when it is required.
44. It would help the police in prosecuting any committing crimes or anti-social behaviour.
45. Good luck with the project
46. I think this would be a welcome addition to the town.
47. Caistor does not need CCTV. WLDC and Caistor Town Council would be better placed using their money to update the pedestrian crossing which is in dire need and clearing the drain grilles of silt - we are hardly living in the Bronx!

48. This is a complete waste of public money in Caistor. The incidences of crime in the Market Place are very low and I doubt CCTV will help in any way. It might be able to identify people in low-level, drink related crime, but more serious criminals would not readily show any recognition features. Moreover, if a crime in progress is seen by CCTV, the likelihood of a suitable police presence in the area close enough to make an effective response is relatively low given the small numbers of officers/cars spread over a much larger area. Before any money is dedicated to this vanity project, I would like to see a detailed analysis of the crime figures for the area covered by the proposed cameras and a cost benefit appraisal based on them. Do I assume that the proposal for CCTV at the sports ground has been dropped?
49. Having CCTV installed at home, it did not prevent crime or help gather evidence. I have been a victim of crime 3 times since installation.
50. Feel safe already in Caistor but think CCTV would be deterrent to damage of property, dangerous parking.
51. I should be able to give this initiative my full support but cannot trust the Council or other "authorities" not to abuse it as happens repeatedly in other areas of the country. How does the council have money to spend on things like this on the grounds of public safety and crime prevention whilst it is willing to expose the public to dangers of unlit streets because the council "can't afford" to operate the street lights and switches them off? Will CCTV coverage in the Market Square not just shift criminal/anti-social behaviour from there to other unmonitored areas of the town such as unlit residential areas as noted above?
52. I would like to receive a comparison of the costs associated with the installation and maintenance of CCTV and the operational and maintenance costs for maintaining street lighting after midnight in Caistor. Whilst measures to improve security are welcome, it would seem that street lighting should be the first consideration towards ensuring the safety and wellbeing of residents and visitors. How will the costs of maintenance be met in future years?
53. Not sure if it's a deterrent these days. People who commit crime tend to hide their faces. I've never felt unsafe in Caistor even walking in the dark after a night out.
54. Given that we have had the cash pint ram raised and the old Co-Op is empty I think it would encourage potential future investors that the area is managed and that the Town Council are committed to security for residents and business users. However I also feel that CCTV would be better served in the Caistor park where a lot of youngsters are "hanging out" and intimidating, albeit indirectly, other children and even sometimes adults.
55. I agree with the use of CCTV in the Market Place but think that £2000 per year is rather expensive. I understand that the system will be monitored 24 hours a day but is this needed in Caistor? The CCTV recording would always be available to the police if needed. Is it possible to have pay a recording system only?
56. I do not find CCTV cameras intrusive and there is always the chance they could help solve a crime. It is a sad fact of life we need them but if it helps make vulnerable people feel safer than they are useful and we should be used to them by now as they are everywhere.
57. I have no desire for CCTV in Caistor market place. I think it's unnecessary and a waste of money. There's no need for it there. There's no benefit to having it there.
58. I do not think we should be spending on this
59. Total waste of taxpayers' money in my opinion. How is this supposed to reduce or prevent crime? If anyone is planning on committing a crime in the areas covered by CCTV they will cover up so they can't be identified. Police response times are so poor (not their fault when they are so dreadfully underfunded by the Conservative Government) that even if the CCTV operator alerts the police the chance of them getting to the incident / crime in time is slim and no doubt the images will be so poor identification will be virtually impossible. Why not tell the public you're putting up cameras and then install dummy cameras. It is the same deterrent if no one finds out and it is a lot cheaper. More police, countrywide, is what we need not CCTV!

60. It would hopefully be a deterrent for any behaviour problems and would monitor anything odd taking place!
61. We feel it is a waste of money. The money instead would be better used in the parks for example, or even using some of the money to paint the white lines on the pedestrian crossing outside the co-op. CCTV is only as good as the person monitoring it.
62. I believe this will be a good use of resources. Thank you, Chris Robey
63. A GOOD IDEA, ESPECIALLY MONITERED, AND IF THE REACTIONS TO CRIME ARE GOING TO BE MADE MUCH QUICKER!
64. Needed in more places around Caistor e.g. Sports field
65. Please note that I think a CCTV camera would re-assure people and help fight crime. I think signs indicating the installation would help deter crime from this area...Thanks.
66. Would have been more useful than the PO footage a couple of years ago when the bank cash machine was attacked
67. Ensure the cctv is of good quality; images will be clear and USEFUL Position in the most sensible site Question "Who will view the images" - fully trained, db's checked and totally reliable and complete confidentiality when necessary Thank you
68. I seem to remember we had cameras in the market square several years ago and someone damaged the one on the post office wall by throwing something at it, which meant it didn't work. The picture quality was not good at all and I don't think anyone was ever prosecuted. The cost of £2000 seems a lot to come out of the council rates every year as well. We are not in agreement with the proposal. By the time the operator could send the police to the town if they saw a problem, the culprit/s would be long gone anyway. More police patrols would be more acceptable instead.
69. Will the Caistor element of council tax increase to accommodate repairs should vandalism of the cameras take place - how would this be addressed? What is the level currently of any crimes that would be supported by CCTV monitoring of the area? Are they worthwhile? Will the police presence be reduced in any way in Caistor? Are the street lights switched on in that part of Caistor? Will the cameras be monitored for criminal activity or reviewed upon the reporting of a crime only? How will this aid the police response with any anti-social behaviour spotted?
70. If it is felt that the benefit to the Community outweighs the cost of this service and this can be demonstrated then I am all for it as no doubt there will be an increase in our taxes to pay for it!
71. I support it as long as it is used appropriately which it will be.
72. Having looked at the BBC info regarding the chance of being a victim of crime in my local area, the maximum percentage was 3%. I have lived in much larger towns, eg Slough and Bournemouth, and there I could see the advantage of having CCTV in areas with a huge footfall at all times of the day, where crimes such as pickpocketing, shoplifting and those resulting from a misuse of alcohol, etc. were common. But in Caistor???? You have got to be kidding. The shops should and many do have their own CCTV. Late night misuse of alcohol should be the responsibility of those selling alcohol. Invasion of privacy. Spiralling costs, for little return. Response time for Police will not prevent incidents. No one collected my response on Saturday, which is why I have completed this online.
73. Good idea if properly monitored and auctioned
74. Not value for the money, you only have to look at London to see they do not work.
75. I think it is a waste of rate payer's money, if the decision to have them fitted takes place I do hope that permission is obtained from the property owner, as on a previous occasion cameras were fitted without it.
76. We do support the CCTV but hope it will not replace police patrols.
77. Believe it would help in reducing crime
78. We do not feel the need for CCTV. More expense on rates. P.O camera did no good when ATM went.
79. Money would be better spent on speed cameras on navigation lane, Kelsey rd or speed bumps
80. Has to be quality equipment. Put also around the skate park for after dark use

81. I would like the ATM to be replaced. CCTV would be desirable
82. All of this was needed before the Market Place had nothing in it! Now it seems a complete waste of money and Caistor has many more areas which needs investment. Too little too late for Caistor
83. None quite happy. Would like our lights back on as our corner house is very dark
84. I think that increases personal security is a good thing and hopefully CCTV will deter deviant behaviour
85. Move 2 CCTVs from the sports field to the market place. After all they are only monitoring how the grass grows
86. I don't want my contribution of Council Tax going to some useless scheme that will not benefit me and the majority of Caistor. If business and properties in Town Centre want CCTV they should pay for it themselves.
87. It would be a waste of Caistor Town Councils already small budget. £2000 a year thrown away on something that doesn't deter crime
88. Safety important
89. Needed
90. We need this
91. With no police patrols and those on duty possibly 8-9 miles away or at another incident, CCTV is the only possible deterrent
92. Helpful
93. We have need
94. If it helps
95. Helpful
96. I do feel that having CCTV is very important for the Caistor community and that the council does need to invest more in Caistor
97. I think it is an excellent idea in the centre of the town, it will make some people feel safer in the event of any accidents and road accidents
98. Totally in favour of CCTV in Market Place
99. Business in South St will not benefit and looks a bit costly. All in favour for the Market Place
100. A must for the town
101. Long overdue
102. Essential requirement modern age. Nothing to hide means no issues
103. About 3 years ago Micks Caistor Chippy in the Market Place were held up by a gun man. If your CCTV had been switched on this person would have been caught.
104. All for it. help to stop crime
105. Money for this purpose could be put to better use other than the movement of the public. Crime in this area does not warrant the use of this system and the cost involved.
106. Makes it more safe. Stop people and prevent crime
107. Waste of public money
108. The cost of the facility and service seems very reasonable and the deterrent effect would be significant. In 12 years living in Caistor 2 of our reported crimes would (may have) have been assisted by the planned CCTV (theft of cycle)
109. What is CCTV? As an old inhabitant of Caistor, I do not want to see ugly additions to the square
110. I think it is very important to monitor public spaces - having lived in Caistor for 80 years - have always felt safe - hopefully we can keep it that way
111. It is an essential addition to this area to monitor antisocial behaviour/crime. It should have been in operation for many years. If we have not behaved inappropriately it is our protection
112. CCTV is a proven deterrent used by all responsible councils. Only today there was an incident in the centre square by someone from Glebe house shouting racist comments. Anyone in the immediate area would be intimidated.
113. Privacy seems a little unimportant - more funding to local police etc. may be beneficial
114. Peace of mind

115. The crucial questions you should be asking are 1, do we need CCTV in Caistor market place? 2, have the police requested CCTV here? 3, what crimes will be prevented or solved by having it? We do not feel it is needed and will be a waste of public money!
116. Badly needed to make local businesses more secure and residents
117. Feel no great need at the moment
118. Sad to say in this day and age it appears CCTV is required
119. It would help police if and when there was any trouble around the area
120. Sadly we are subject to vandalism and litter problems. Also CCTV might reduce this and identify the subjects involved
121. Unfortunately with the upsurge in theft, and unsociable behaviour CCTV is in my view a necessity
122. Please make any CCTV subtle in appearance as the centre of Caistor is historically significant and we do not want this to detract from the attractive nature of our lovely market place
123. Speed cameras would also be very welcome
124. We have never had any issue with CCTV if you do not intend to do anything among, why would you
125. Too limited and most of us do not live in the Market Square and some may feel vulnerable when the street lights go of at midnight. CCTV is an effective deterrent and dummies should be used for this. Put elsewhere in dog fouling hotspots
126. It will enable people to feel safer at all times of the day. I am fragile and would not at present walk alone in the market place after dark
127. Modern times need modern security systems
128. By having CCTV in Caistor market place. Could we now have a cash machine from the NatWest bank? This would mean a lot to people of Caistor. The bus is only here for a short time, in the town hall car park
129. Wouldn't make me feel safer necessarily but may help catch any criminals (such as those who stole the ATM cashpoint) more easily
130. Cameras are useful only after an event. They do not stop problems only allow follow up
131. We do not see any need for CCTV in Caistor and do not want it
132. I think this is a total waste of money. I've lived here 50+ years and never thought we warrant CCTV. You should spend money on better things
133. Waste of money. Some areas have street lighting turned off to save money
134. Does not stop events taking place, waste of money, what about maintenance? Was this idea suggested a few years ago?
135. Not sure it's really needed
136. I do not know enough about the issues the CCTV is meant to solve to be able to give a definite answer. Is there really much crime/ASB in Caistor Town Centre? Also how effective would the CCTV be? The authority I used to work for used CCTV, but much of it was unreliable or did not provide clear enough images for any follow up action by the police etc. I remain to be convinced of the value of this proposal
137. Waste of money - no benefit to Kelsey road
138. Waste of money
139. More CCTV at Kelsey road sports field area to deter unsociable activities and prolific dog fouling
140. At less than 2p per household per week it has to be a no brainer. It is important that image quality is high so that images are acceptable as evidence in any (hopefully none) court cases resulting
141. Will the system actually pick up crime or will it be the same as other CCTV which never seems to be pointing in the right direction
142. I am unsure as the effectiveness of CCTV as a deterrent. Is it the best use of public money? The sports ground is probably worth CCTV as deterrent and is a priority.

143. I would like the CCTV in Church st and chapel st. It is dangerous with motor bikes following cars and also children going up and down on scooters or on the foot paths.
144. CCTV is potentially an invasion of privacy. Businesses that feel they should benefit should pay for it. There is already CCTV in the Market Place and the small numbers of businesses and low crime rate to not justify further taxpayer cost
145. A much needed addition for the safety of all living, working and visiting Caistor
146. Will provide reassurance to the community and deter criminals
147. Low crime figures if worried by council. Failing to address the basic needs of the town. Is this a means of reducing policing even further at rate payers expense. The vote taken by CTC to install CCTV with no survey or information is appalling
148. I think there is better ways of spending money i.e. promoting Caistor trying to get an identity for the town
149. The paper supplied does not quantify the problem if any in the Market Place of Caistor neither does it set out the geographical area to be covered. What incidents or crimes have been recorded over recent years, where and at what times?
Whilst the Market place as such is a regular area of about an acre there are a number of off shoots, for example the Red Lion extension, the north east extension to high street, the large area leading onto plough hill and also the butter market with its adjacent public house. To cover this total area would require a number of cameras unless they are to be of the sophisticated and expensive rotating head type.
As regards monitoring, we are told they would be managed and monitored by WLDC CCTV service. To be effective cameras must be on at all times and continuously monitored. If incidents are seen then immediate reaction to respond must be implemented. Bearing in mind there are now no police in Caistor, and at night none on duty between Keelby in the north and Gainsborough and the police claim lack of resources coupled with prioritization of reports, it is unlikely any meaningful response would be forthcoming.
This leaves detection from the collection if evidence. We are all familiar with images from CCTV which are published in the media. Only in very rare cases, generally from inside premises with enhanced lighting, are the prints clear enough to allow any recognition or identification. You will note that the attack on the NatWest Bank some 18 months ago proved that the presence of CCTV neither deterred nor detected the culprits, who were admittedly professional criminals.
Cost – presumably the cost of maintenance will be added to the general Caistor precept leading to an increase in individual bills. Acceptable perhaps to those who live in the Market Plan (very few) but of little consolation to the vast majority of the 3000 plus who do not live there.

Comment Categories

All comments received have been recorded under one of the following categories:

- **Expressed Support:** Comments expressing support with reasons
- **Acceptance:** Comments accepting the proposal but without reasons
- **Acceptance but with concerns:** Comments accepting the proposal but with specific concerns
- **Neutral/Unrelated:** Comments that do not express a clear position on the proposal
- **Does not support:** Comments that do not support the proposal with reasons

Expressed support	Acceptance	Acceptance but with concerns	Neutral/Unrelated	Does not support
16	40	12	29	52
Support/Acceptance: 68				