

Host a Camera Programme

Public Policy & Transparency Statement

Version 1.0 | 18 October 2026 | Prepared for publication following USCN approval and operational verification

1. About this policy

This statement explains how UK Safety Camera Network Ltd (USCN) intends to operate its Host a Camera public-safety programme, the responsibilities of hosts, and the information available to people who may be recorded. It applies to USCN-operated public-safety cameras, not to customers' privately owned CCTV installations.

Our aim is to support community safety by placing suitable cameras on properties with the permission of those entitled to grant it. Cameras do not guarantee crime prevention, constant monitoring, police attendance or the availability of footage in every case.

2. Our organisation and purpose

The programme is operated by UK Safety Camera Network Ltd, company number 17346373. USCN describes its structure as a company limited by guarantee, without share capital or conventional shareholders. We are not a registered charity or community interest company.

We use "non-profit" to describe our operating approach: after legitimate business costs, including staff remuneration, remaining resources are intended to sustain and develop our public-safety activities. Commercial CCTV work and the public-safety programme are part of the same organisation. No host is required to purchase commercial services.

Our governance is currently small. We are working to broaden the experience and oversight available to the organisation.

3. Funding and financial transparency

Our principal planned funding source is the surplus generated by bespoke commercial CCTV installation services. Donations may also support the network and shared operational costs. We are seeking public and private grant funding; we do not represent applications as grants awarded or received.

We aim to build resources for ongoing maintenance, replacement and responsible removal of equipment. Our network expansion will depend on available funding and our ability to support cameras already in service. We intend to publish proportionate information about programme activity and funding as our reporting arrangements develop.

4. What hosting costs

USCN normally provides and retains ownership of the camera, standard mounting equipment, cabling, a Power over Ethernet injector, installation, configuration, ordinary maintenance and footage administration. Standard hosting does not require a subscription or the purchase of a commercial CCTV system.

Hosts normally provide suitable electrical power and an internet connection, including the associated electricity and data costs. Where an unusual site requires specialist equipment or additional works, we will explain any proposed host contribution before installation; no such additional work will proceed without agreement.

We normally take responsibility for ordinary equipment faults, vandalism and weather-related damage. Deliberate interference or damage attributable to a host may result in charges or termination under the hosting agreement. The written hosting terms govern the details and any exceptions.

5. Applying and site suitability

Submitting an enquiry does not itself commit an applicant to hosting a camera. We assess whether a proposed site is appropriate, considering the public-safety purpose, necessity, proportionality, alternative measures, privacy, visibility, physical safety, connectivity and access for maintenance.

We require appropriate permission before installing equipment. Landlord, freeholder, leasehold, planning and other consents may be needed depending on the property. We will discuss the intended camera location and coverage with the prospective host before work begins.

6. Cancellation, removal and restoration

There is no minimum hosting period. A host may request cancellation at any time. Standard removal is free during the first 90 days. The standard removal fee is £60 after the first 90 days and reduces to £45 after a further 90 days, as explained by USCN; the signed agreement must define the exact applicable dates and any exceptions. The stated maximum standard removal charge is £60.

We aim to remove equipment within 30 days of a valid cancellation or withdrawal of property permission, with urgent safety matters handled appropriately. If the property is being sold or a tenancy is ending, hosts should notify us as early as possible so that continued hosting or removal can be arranged.

We will reasonably make good our mounting points, including filling and sealing holes. Identical visual restoration of brickwork or masonry may not always be possible. The hosting agreement sets out the agreed reinstatement standard and any additional work.

7. Camera operation and connectivity

USCN owns and operates hosted cameras and manages requests for footage. Cameras are intended primarily to record locally, for example to onboard storage. A temporary internet outage need not stop local recording while power remains available, but it may prevent remote administration or prompt retrieval of recordings.

We do not describe the network as routinely live-monitored. Hosting a camera does not automatically give the host access to live or recorded footage. Police do not have routine direct access to our cameras.

8. Privacy and data protection

USCN intends to manage the personal information captured by its hosted public-safety cameras in accordance with applicable UK data-protection law. We assess proposed locations for necessity and proportionality, including the risk of unnecessarily recording private areas, and consider appropriate camera positioning, privacy masking and signage.

Our full privacy notice should identify the applicable data controller, contact details, purposes, lawful basis, retention periods, recipients, individual rights and complaint routes. A data protection impact assessment will be carried out wherever required. We will not describe a dedicated data protection officer as appointed unless that appointment has been made.

Individuals may contact us about footage that may contain their personal data. Requests are assessed under applicable law; the right of access does not automatically entitle anyone to unredacted footage of other people.

9. Retention and security

Our programme materials describe a typical recording retention period of approximately three days. Actual retention depends on system configuration and any lawful need to preserve footage relating to an incident, request or investigation. Footage should not be kept longer than necessary for the relevant purpose.

We seek to limit access to authorised personnel for legitimate operational and disclosure purposes. Camera and network security arrangements should include appropriate authentication, secure access, software maintenance, incident response and protection against unnecessary access from host networks. The precise technical controls used at a location will depend on the installed configuration.

10. Requests for footage

Members of the public, hosts and public authorities may contact USCN about relevant incidents or personal-data requests. We review requests individually, considering identity, lawful grounds, the rights of others and the availability of recordings.

Where disclosure to police or another authorised recipient is lawful and appropriate, we aim to limit it to relevant material and use a suitable secure transfer method. We do not provide routine public access to recordings.

11. Maintenance and end of life

We aim to inspect, maintain and update cameras in proportion to their condition, security support and public-safety importance. We prioritise necessary security maintenance and replacement as equipment approaches the end of vendor support.

If a camera cannot be operated safely, securely or lawfully, we may suspend its operation, repair it, replace it or remove it. Funding constraints may require us to postpone expansion or reduce non-urgent activity, but they do not remove our legal and safety obligations.

12. Insurance and responsibility

USCN has arranged insurance for aspects of its CCTV installation work. The extent of cover for hosted-camera installation, ongoing operation, equipment damage and other risks depends on the applicable policy wording, limits and exclusions. We do not imply that every conceivable loss is insured.

The hosting agreement should specify responsibility for property damage, unsafe equipment, deliberate interference, equipment removal and claims. Hosts should contact us promptly about damage, faults or safety concerns. Any internal financial reserve is not the same as an insurance policy.

13. Complaints and accountability

We welcome questions about camera placement, privacy, signage, equipment safety and the way the programme operates. Contact us using the details below. Data-protection concerns may also be raised with the Information Commissioner's Office.

We aim to communicate honestly about the network's scale, funding and performance, distinguishing plans and applications from operational achievements and awarded support.

14. Continuity and closure

Our intention is to operate a financially sustainable network and to plan responsibly for maintenance, replacement and eventual removal. If funding becomes constrained, our priority would be the safe and lawful management of existing cameras rather than continued expansion.

If the programme is wound down, we would seek an orderly removal process or, where legally and practically appropriate, transfer to a suitable organisation. Such an outcome cannot be guaranteed in insolvency; equipment ownership, contracts, data obligations and available resources would need to be addressed under applicable law.

15. Contact and further documents

UK Safety Camera Network Ltd (USCN) | Company number: 17346373

Website: uscn.org.uk | Programme: host.uscn.org.uk

Email: info@uscn.org.uk | Telephone: 0808 280 1223

Prospective hosts should request and review the current hosting agreement, fee schedule and applicable privacy information before agreeing to installation. Where these documents and this statement differ, we will explain the applicable position before agreement.