Policy on Covert Surveillance

Flow Chart of Decision-making Process

Applicant Officer

Written application for authorisation (Oral if urgent)



Authorising Officer

Considers if the proposed surveillance is:
for the purpose of preventing or detecting crime or preventing disorder;
in the interests of public safety; or
for the purpose of protecting public health

and is proportionate



Authorisation

Lasts for 3 months (72 hours for oral applications)





Review

Conducted by Authorising Officer as often as appropriate to ensure that conditions of authorisation still met

Renewal

Authorising Officer may renew before expiry if satisfied that the conditions are still met





Cancellation

Authorising Officer cancels authorisation when no longer needed, when it ceases to have effect or if conditions no longer met



Monitoring Officer

Maintains central record of all authorisations, reviews, renewals and cancellations