

RIPA INSPECTION - 2ND MAY 2013 – SUMMARY OF REPORT

1. Excellent training regime.
2. All staff involved in inspection were most receptive to constructive comment and approached the inspection in a most positive, courteous and cooperative manner.
3. Policy and procedures, training documentation and CCTV Policies and Protocols provide an extremely helpful and comprehensive policy and guidance regime for practitioners.
4. Privacy Risk Assessments – example of good practice
5. Review Panel process – whereby applications and authorisations are quality assured -is to be commended, as is the process by which the Senior Responsible Officer (Monitoring Officer) oversees the Central Record and can be involved in rectifying mistakes/failings by applicants and Authorising Officers

Recommendations

1. Policy and guidance documents to include guidance on the use of social networking sites and the internet.
2. CCTV Code of Practice and Protocol for use of CCTV in Covert Policing – in both documents there should be an explanation of the process by which the relevant details of an authorisation are made available to staff in the CCTV Control Room.
3. Central Record of Authorisations – record the Magistrate who considered an authorisation, the names of the officers at the hearing, and the outcome of the hearing and whether or not amendment was made to the authorisation.
4. Application Forms – some general recommendations made regarding improvements to the completion of forms by applicants and authorising officers.

14th June 2013