

BPC RESPONSE

Post Implementation Review of The Mandatory Use of CCTV in Slaughterhouses (ENG) Regulations

QUESTIONS	SUMMARY OF RESPONSES
1. Has requiring CCTV in all slaughterhouses led to benefits in animal welfare?	The highest animal welfare standards have long been practiced before the installation of CCTV. No additional benefits in animal welfare although CCTV has helped improve investigations and due diligence; as well as facilitating official authority and customer audits.
2. Has requiring CCTV in all slaughterhouses helped provide assurance that all slaughterhouses are operating to high welfare standards	CCTV is a useful tool in providing evidence of compliance and reviewing particular areas, incidents, and SOPs. Staff attitudes and behaviour with regard to animal welfare have been maintained at the highest standards.
3. Has there been a reduction in animal welfare issues since introducing mandatory CCTV in all slaughterhouses?	There was no direct correlation between a reduction in welfare issues and the introduction CCTV surveillance. Animal welfare practices in the UK are still ranked amongst the highest in the world, and the introduction of CCTV in slaughterhouses has had little impact on that status.
4. What benefits have been experienced from the introduction of CCTV systems in slaughterhouses?	Beneficial for incident investigation, SOP review and staff training. All these activities support commitments to continuous improvement of standards.
5. Have there been other costs or benefits of introducing CCTV cameras that weren't considered in the in the original Impact Assessment (CCTV internal impact assessment final.pdf (defra.gov.uk))?	Some sites have incurred additional costs with extra cameras and equipment fitted to satisfy local OV and improve monitoring. Storage of back-up footage has increased costs for some businesses.
6. Have slaughterhouse operators experienced a financial impact (positive or negative) from the introduction of the CCTV legislation?	Negative: Impact of having to maintain additional equipment and contract, downtime associated with stopping kill when rectifying an unexpected issue with a camera, historical data not accessible when reviewed. Positive: Able to investigate accurately to root cause and prevent reoccurring issues/costs
7. What were the range of costs for installing CCTV systems?	Costs per site range between £25K and £200K
8. Did slaughterhouse operators need to fit all new systems or augment existing ones?	There was a mix of using the existing systems and augmentation to cover all of the areas with limited CCTV visibility. Some sites did have to replace the full system in order to meet the standards required.
9. How much time did it take to install CCTV systems and train workers?	This varied according to the site and level of upgrade required. For example, one site took 8 months to design and install system. In others it ranged from 2-8 weeks for complete installation.

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10. What are the range of costs to maintain CCTV systems each year?	Ranges by site from £20k to £112k p/a
11. How much has it cost to store the recordings each year?	This is mostly included within the contract. Server maintenance costs upwards of £1200 per annum per site.
12. Have elements of the CCTV system needed to be replaced since they were installed? If so, how much has the cost varied from initial installation	Yes. Although costs for post installation upgrade or repair vary due to location / difficulty to install but circa 10% of installation cost each year.
13. Has a change in electricity costs been observed since the introduction of CCTV? If so by how much and has that varied year to year?	Cost associated with electrical consumption of cameras and servers, as well as air conditioning to maintain server temperatures, LCD screens used for monitoring etc, is circa £5k - £6k per site.
14. Was a behavioural change noticed in staff after installation or a reduction in the number of animal welfare incidents since CCTV systems were introduced? - Is CCTV used as a training tool?	Unable to directly correlate a behavioural change since CCTV introduction due to various factors. As a training tool it has been used to communicate actions following issues. Adequate care is taken to ensure non-breach of GDPR regulations.
15. Any other comments?	<p>A. It should be noted that prior to this legislation being introduced that the sites already had CCTV covering key areas of the process where live birds were present, and these were subject to regular audit both internally and externally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Loading and unloading in lairage ii. Entrance & exit of the stunner iii. Hang on area iv. Point of bleed <p>B. The legislation introduced an additional financial burden in that every area where live birds were present had to be covered.</p>