

TITLE: ANNUAL REVIEW OF REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (“RIPA”) POLICIES

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

Date: 27 March 2025

Author: Director Legal & Monitoring Officer (Senior Responsible Officer)

Report number: Z157

Contact officer: Maggie Camp, Director Legal & Monitoring Officer,
maggie.camp@eastcamb.gov.uk 01353 616277 Room 112 The Grange Ely

1.0 Issue

To update Members on the annual review of the RIPA Policies and provide Members with a report on the use of RIPA powers by the Council.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1. Members are requested to note the report.

3.0 Background/Options

3.1. Members may recall that a report was brought to Finance & Assets Committee on 30th March 2023 with a new Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (“RIPA”) Policy & Guidance and a new Covert Human Intelligence Sources (“CHIS”) Policy & Guidance on 30th March 2023. It was agreed that both policies should be reviewed annually in line with guidance received from the Investigatory Powers Commissioner’s Office (“IPCO”).

3.2. Members approved amendments to both Policies on 28th March 2024, which included recommendations in relation to staff training. The Director Legal & Monitoring Officer and Information Officer have reviewed both policies and report that no amendments are necessary.

3.3. The IPCO guidance also sets out that Members should review the Council’s use of the legislation at least once a year. The Legal Department retains a confidential Central Register for applications and the RIPA Coordinating Officer is responsible for the administration of the Central Register. The Central Register records that there has been 1 application for Directed Surveillance since the RIPA Policies were reviewed in March 2024.

3.4. Staff training It has been identified that there has been 2 new Service Leads appointed to the Council who will require training as Authorising Officers and the Director Legal & Monitoring Officer is currently arranging this. The training provider also provides an annual subscription service with updates and training to which the Council will be subscribing.

4.0 Arguments/Conclusions

4.1. No new guidance or legislation has been issued to require any amendments to the Policies and therefore the Policies do not need any amendments at this stage.

5.0 Additional Implications Assessment

5.1 In the table below, please put Yes or No in each box:

Financial Implications No	Legal Implications No	Human Resources (HR) Implications No
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) No	Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) No	Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) No

6.0 Appendices

None.

7.0 Background documents

Report to Finance & Assets Committee – 28th March 2024 – Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 200 (“RIPA”) Policy & Guidance and Covert Human Intelligence Sources (“CHIS”) Policy & Guidance