

***AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET***

**Report Title:** Town Centre Community Safety

**Name of Committee:** Scrutiny Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 19 March 2026

**Contact Officer:** Paul Pritchett, Environmental Health and Community Safety Manager

**Summary:** This report provides Scrutiny Committee with an overview of community safety arrangements within Rugby town centre following the cessation of the Rugby Business Improvement District (BID). Updates on the town centre CCTV monitoring arrangements, and the Council's ongoing partnership work with Warwickshire Police and other agencies in responding to anti-social behaviour and town centre safety issues. The report also summarises the Council's approach to maintaining community safety and public reassurance in the town centre following the end of the BID arrangements

**Financial Implications:** The Council currently allocates an annual budget of £329,000 for the provision of town centre CCTV monitoring. The emerging monitoring arrangements are being developed to operate within this existing budget where possible. Where transitional costs arise as a result of the cessation of the Rugby BID arrangements, these may be supported through the Town Centre Regeneration Fund and the additional funding allocated by the Council to support the transition from BID-funded services. Any expenditure will be managed within existing approved budgets and in accordance with the Council's financial procedures.

**Risk Management/Health and Safety Implications:** Maintaining effective community safety arrangements within the town centre remains an important operational priority for the Council and its partners. The transition from BID-funded services has been planned to ensure continuity of key functions, including CCTV monitoring. The Council continues to work closely with Warwickshire Police and other partners to

respond to issues such as anti-social behaviour and public safety within the town centre. Health and safety considerations associated with CCTV infrastructure installation and maintenance are managed through the use of competent contractors and appropriate risk assessments.

**Environmental Implications:** The matters set out in this report primarily relate to the management and delivery of community safety services within the town centre. No significant environmental impacts have been identified. Where CCTV infrastructure changes occur, installation will seek to utilise existing street furniture where possible and will be delivered in accordance with relevant environmental and operational standards.

**Legal Implications:** The Council has a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to work in partnership with relevant agencies to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour within the Borough. The provision of public space CCTV forms part of the Council's wider community safety arrangements in support of that duty. Changes to CCTV monitoring arrangements are being progressed through appropriate legal mechanisms, including delegation arrangements with partner authorities where required. The operation of the CCTV system will continue to comply with relevant legislation and guidance, including the Data Protection Act 2018, UK GDPR and the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 (Surveillance Camera Code of Practice).

**Equality and Diversity:** No adverse equality impacts have been identified. Community safety services such as CCTV monitoring and uniformed patrol presence contribute to public reassurance and support the safety of residents, visitors and businesses within the town centre. These services can be particularly important for individuals and groups who may feel more vulnerable to crime or anti-social behaviour. An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to support the development of the new arrangements.

**Scrutiny Committee - 19 March 2026**

**Town Centre Community Safety**

**Public Report of the Strategic Director for Communities**

**Summary**

The Rugby Business Improvement District (BID), operated by Rugby First Ltd, previously supported a number of services contributing to the management and safety of Rugby town centre. These included the Ranger patrol service, elements of town centre coordination and certain town centre events. The BID was funded through a levy on eligible town centre businesses.

Separately, Rugby Borough Council funds and owns the public space CCTV system serving the town centre. Rugby First Ltd has historically operated the CCTV monitoring arrangements on behalf of the Council through a separate agreement.

With the BID arrangements ending on 31 March 2026, Rugby Borough Council has implemented transitional arrangements to ensure continuity of key town centre services while longer-term solutions are developed. These include enhanced street cleansing activity, continued visible patrol presence through the Council's

Community Warden service, continuation of town centre events and updated arrangements for the operation of the town centre CCTV system.

This report provides Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the transition arrangements and the Council's current approach to maintaining a safe, welcoming and well-managed town centre.

**Background**

The Rugby Business Improvement District (BID) was established to support the economic vitality and management of Rugby town centre. It was funded through a levy on eligible businesses within the BID area and delivered a number of services intended to enhance the town centre environment.

These services included the town centre Ranger patrol service, town centre coordination activity and the organisation of several well-known town centre events. Alongside these BID-funded services, Rugby First Ltd also operated the monitoring arrangements for the Council's public space CCTV network under a separate agreement with Rugby Borough Council. The CCTV system itself is a Council-owned and taxpayer-funded public safety asset.

Following the decision not to renew the BID mandate, the BID arrangements will cease on 31 March 2026. Rugby Borough Council has therefore been working to ensure that key services which contribute to the safety, management and vibrancy of the town centre can continue while longer-term arrangements are developed.

### **Current Position / Current Arrangements**

Rugby Borough Council has introduced transitional arrangements to maintain key town centre services following the end of the BID.

The Council's Community Warden Service provides a visible uniformed presence within the town centre and the wider Borough area. Wardens undertake patrols, respond to reports of anti-social behaviour and environmental offences, and work closely with Warwickshire Police and other partners to support community safety and public reassurance.

As part of the Council's response to the increase in anti-social behaviour within the town centre, the existing Community Warden service will expand, with a further four posts created for a fixed-term period of 12-months. Community Wardens will complete patrols of the town centre area, in addition to their responsibilities in the wider Borough area.

Public space CCTV continues to operate across key locations within the town centre and remains an important tool in supporting community safety and police investigations. The Council is reviewing the operational arrangements and infrastructure supporting the CCTV system to ensure that monitoring continues and that the system remains effective and resilient in the future.

Community safety within the town centre continues to be delivered through partnership working between Rugby Borough Council, Warwickshire Police, local businesses and other stakeholders.

### **Service Response / Actions Being Taken**

Rugby Borough Council has taken steps to ensure continuity of services that contribute to the management and safety of the town centre following the end of the BID arrangements.

The Community Warden service provides regular patrols within the town centre, offering reassurance to residents, visitors and businesses while supporting responses to anti-social behaviour and environmental issues.

The Council continues to work closely with Warwickshire Police and other partners through established partnership arrangements to monitor emerging issues and coordinate responses where appropriate.

In relation to CCTV, the Council is putting in place new monitoring arrangements delivered through external partner provision to ensure continued operation of the system while a wider review of the existing infrastructure and future requirements is undertaken.

The Council also continues to engage with town centre businesses and partners in relation to safety initiatives and information sharing where appropriate.

### **Future Developments / Next Steps**

The transition following the end of the Rugby BID arrangements provides an opportunity to review how town centre services are delivered and coordinated.

In relation to CCTV, the Council is undertaking work to review the current system and consider how the network can be strengthened and modernised over time. This will ensure that the system continues to support community safety and police investigations.

The Council will continue to work with Warwickshire Police, local businesses and other partners to monitor community safety issues within the town centre and coordinate responses where necessary.

As longer-term arrangements are developed, the Council will continue to review how services are delivered to support a safe, welcoming and vibrant town centre.

### **Conclusion**

The cessation of the Rugby Business Improvement District arrangements represents a change in how some services supporting Rugby town centre are delivered. Rugby Borough Council has introduced transitional arrangements to maintain key services that contribute to the cleanliness, safety and vibrancy of the town centre.

These include continued visible patrols through the Community Warden service, the continuation of town centre events and the ongoing operation of the town centre CCTV system through updated monitoring arrangements and its continued review and modernisation.

Scrutiny Committee is invited to note the update on the Council's approach to maintaining town centre services and supporting community safety following the end of the BID arrangements.

**Name of Meeting:** Scrutiny Committee  
**Date of Meeting:** 19 March 2026  
**Subject Matter:** Town Centre Community Safety  
**Originating Department:** Regulation and Safety

**DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY**       YES       NO

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

<b>Doc No</b>	<b>Title of Document and Hyperlink</b>