

Domestic CCTV Cameras

Do I need permission?

You will need to apply for planning permission to install, change or replace a CCTV camera if:

- its dimensions will be greater than 0.75m x 0.25m x 0.25m (including its housing);
- it will be positioned less than 2.5m from the ground;
- it will protrude more than 1m from the wall;
- it will be in contact with the surface of the building at a point which is more than 1m from any other point of contact;
- it will be less than 10m from another camera on the property;
- more than 4 cameras will be attached to the same side of the property in total; or
- more than 16 cameras will be attached to the whole property in total.

If the property is a listed building you will also need to apply for listed building consent.

For guidance on installing CCTV equipment onto listed buildings please refer to [‘Streets for All: 1 Fixing signs, lighting and CCTV to buildings’](#) published by Historic England.

If you are in any doubt about whether planning permission or listed building consent is required please contact the Development Management Team on 01473 432913 or email developmentmanagement@ipswich.gov.uk

Siting and design

Whether or not planning permission is required CCTV cameras should be sited so as to minimise their effect on the external appearance of the building. They should also be removed as soon as reasonably practical after they are no longer required.

Other considerations

The Surveillance Camera Commissioner recommends that users of CCTV systems should operate them in a responsible way to respect the privacy of others.

To help you understand what you need to do if you are considering using CCTV systems on your property please refer to [‘Domestic CCTV: using CCTV systems on your property’](#) published by the Surveillance Camera Commissioner.

CCTV and the Data Protection Act

Please be advised that if your camera covers, even partially, any areas beyond the boundaries of your property, such as neighbouring gardens or the street, then it will no longer be exempt from the Data Protection Act (DPA) under the domestic purposes exemption. This does not mean that you are breaching the DPA but it does mean that you might need to take some steps to comply with it. Please see the [Information Commissioner’s Office website](#) for more information about domestic cameras covering areas other than your own property.