

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	1029821
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1. **TITLE:** Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA)

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Corporate Services

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To approve the Policy on Directed Surveillance and use of Covert Human Intelligence Sources.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** No

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

That the Policy on Directed Surveillance and use of Covert Human Intelligence Sources, at Annex A to the associated report, be approved..

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

The Council's Policy ensures compliance with Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 and the Human Rights Act 2000.

The statutory Code of Practice issued by the Home Office states elected members should set the Policy once a year.

In March 2011 the Council was subject to an inspection from the Office of Surveillance Commissioners. The report states "Formal ratification of the revised Policy by the Council has been deferred pending my inspection, but can now proceed". The report described the Council's policy as "clear, accurate and practical" and that there was a sound RIPA structure in place. It also described the Council's use of RIPA as moderate.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

None. The Council should have a Policy which is up to date, reflects the Code of Practice and recent case law about the appropriate use of RIPA.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** Overview and Scrutiny Working Group.

10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Director of Corporate Services

11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Final Day of Call-in Period
15 November 2011	23 November 2011