[News story: Surveillance Camera Commissioner publishes civil engagement plan](#)

As part of the National Surveillance Camera Strategy for England and Wales Tony Porter, Surveillance Camera Commissioner, has published a civil engagement plan.

This work has been led by Professor William Webster — Director at the Centre for Research into Information, Surveillance and Privacy (CRISP) as well as Professor of Public Management and Policy at the University of Stirling — and signed off by the Commissioner's strategy group.

The civil engagement strand of the strategy will engage citizens and civil society about the use of surveillance camera systems and associated technologies (such as automatic facial recognition). It will to raise awareness and encourage discussion about the use of such systems.

The civil engagement plan aims to ensure that:

- citizens have free access to information relating to the operation of surveillance cameras
- citizens have a better understanding of their rights in relation to the operation of surveillance cameras
- citizens have an understanding of how surveillance cameras function and are used, and
- organisations have an understanding of the information relating to the operation of surveillance cameras that they should make available to citizens

Surveillance Camera Commissioner, Tony Porter said:

> A key objective of the strategy is to make information freely available to the public about the operation of surveillance camera systems. In the current climate, with a security threat level at 'severe', surveillance cameras can be a tool to keep people safe but that can't be at the price of mass intrusion into an individual's right to privacy.
>
> The work William has done on the civil engagement plan will be crucial in ensuring that the use of surveillance cameras is debated and to encourage organisations to be transparent about why and how they are using surveillance cameras.

[Read the civil engagement plan](#)

[Press release: June 2017 Price Paid Data](#)

HM Land Registry Price Paid Data tracks land and property sales in England and Wales submitted to us for registration.

This month's Price Paid Data includes details of more than 92,000 residential and commercial land and property sales in England and Wales lodged for registration in June 2017.

Of the 92,009 sales lodged for registration:

- 67,772 were freehold

- 9,595 were newly built

- 29,901 sales took place in June 2017

- 559 were residential sales in June 2017 in England and Wales for £1 million and over

- 356 were residential sales in June 2017 in London for £1 million and over

Property type	June 2017
Detached	20,431
Semi-detached	23,216
Terraced	24,673
Flat/maisonette	17,390
Other	6,299
Total	92,009

The most expensive residential sale in June 2017 was of a flat in the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, for £11,241,078. The cheapest residential sales in June 2017 were of terraced properties in Burnley, Lancashire and Hartlepool, County Durham, each for £18,000.

The most expensive commercial sale in June 2017 was in Newport, Wales for £83,500,000. The cheapest commercial sales in June 2017 were in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich and Trafford, Greater Manchester, each for £100.

[Access the full dataset](#)

Notes to editors

1. Price Paid Data (PPD) is published at 11am on the 20th working day of each month. The next dataset will be published on 29 August 2017.

2. [Price Paid Data](#) is property price data for all residential and commercial property sales in England and Wales that are lodged with HM Land Registry for registration in that month, [subject to exclusions](#).

3. The following information is available for each property:
   - the full address
   - the price paid
   - the date of transfer
   - the property type
   - whether it is new build or not
   - whether it is freehold or leasehold

4. Price Paid Data can be downloaded in txt, csv format and in a machine readable format as [linked data](#) and is released under [Open Government Licence (OGL)](#). Under the OGL, HM Land Registry permits use of Price Paid Data for commercial or non-commercial purposes. However, the OGL does not cover the use of [third party rights](#), which HM Land Registry is not authorised to license.

5. Price Paid Data includes Standard Price Paid Data (SPPD) for single residential property sales at full market value and Additional Price Paid Data (APPD) for transactions previously excluded from SPPD such as:
   - transfers to a non-private individual, for example a company, corporate body or business
   - transfers under a power of sale (repossessions)
   - buy-to-lets (where they can be identified by a mortgage). The information available for each property will indicate whether it is APPD or SPPD and the record's status — addition/change/deletion (A/C/D).

6. The [Price Paid Data report builder](#) allows users to build bespoke reports using the data. Reports can be based on location, estate type, price paid or property type over a defined period of time.

7. As a government department established in 1862, executive agency and trading fund responsible to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, HM Land Registry keeps and maintains the Land Register for England and Wales. The Land Register has been open to public inspection since 1990.

8. With the largest transactional property database of its kind detailing over 24 million titles, HM Land Registry underpins the economy by safeguarding ownership of many billions of pounds worth of property.

9. For further information about HM Land Registry visit www.gov.uk/land-registry.

10. Follow us on:

[News story: New station boost for passengers thanks to £16 million government investment](#)

Rail passengers are set for better journeys with 5 new stations to be built across England and Wales, the government announced today (28 July 2017).

The Department for Transport (DfT) has given the green light for the stations, which will provide long term benefits to passengers and the wider economy. The government will invest over £16 million in the schemes under the new stations fund, which gives local communities improved rail services. All of the new stations will be accessible, with step-free access throughout.

The successful bids announced today are:

- Horden Peterlee in County Durham which will receive £4.4 million of DfT funding towards a scheme worth £10.55 million
- Warrington West in Cheshire, which will receive £4.23 million towards a total project cost of £17.2 million
- Reading Green Park which will receive £2.3 million towards a total project cost of £16.5 million
- Bow Street in Ceredigion, Wales which will receive £3.945 million towards a total project cost of £6.76 million
- Portway Parkway near Bristol which will receive £1.672 million towards a total project cost of £2.23 million

Rail Minister Paul Maynard said:

> We are committed to improving journeys for passengers right across the country. This means delivering more trains, quicker journeys and making more seats available.
>
> The new stations fund is a great example of how our record investment in the railways and work with local authorities and industry is delivering better journeys for passengers and boosting

local economies.

The stations will improve access to the rail network and create new leisure, training, employment and business opportunities, as well as supporting new housing developments. All of the stations will be completed by March 2020.

Today's announcement is the [second round of funding for the scheme](#). The initial round has already delivered improvements to passengers and communities with stations at Newcourt (Exeter), Lea Bridge (London), Pye Corner (Newport) and Ilkeston already open and Kenilworth due to be completed later this year.

David Biggs, Managing Director for Network Rail Property, said:

> More people than ever are choosing to travel by train and this ambitious investment into brand new stations allows us to meet growing demand while providing greater connectivity across Britain.
>
> New stations are proven to have a hugely positive effect on local areas, acting as a catalyst for regeneration driving social and economic improvements. We look forward to beginning work on these schemes as part of our continued efforts to create a better railway for Britain.

Details on each of the stations are:

Horden Peterlee

The new station, which will have 2 platforms, will deliver improved access to employment opportunities to the area, which has low levels of car ownership, making it easy for people to get around.

Warrington West

Key benefits include reducing congestion on the M62 motorway and supporting the Chapelford Urban Village housing development. The station will have 2 platforms and a 268 space car park.

Reading Green Park

The station has the potential to unlock 7,500 new jobs and 1,500 homes, serving an area currently only accessible by road. It will have 2 platforms.

Bow Street

The station will act as a park and ride site for Aberystwyth and Borth stations and will help traffic congestion in Aberystwyth.

Portway Parkway

The station will serve an existing park and ride site and will reduce congestion on inner Bristol roads.

[News story: Digital technology for healthcare: apply for funding](#)

Up to £8 million is on offer for UK businesses to work on innovation projects that tackle the biggest healthcare challenges.

To support a growing, ageing population, Innovate UK is making up to £8 million available to UK businesses to develop new and novel digital healthcare solutions.

This competition is being run under the digital health technology catalyst, which is part of the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund. The aim is to support the development of digital health products that meet NHS needs. It is a new £35 million funding programme over 4 years.

Impacting delivery and patient outcomes

Digital health promises to have a profound impact on the approach, delivery and administration of healthcare, for the benefit of patients.

We are seeking feasibility or development projects that advance digital health or digitally-enabled medical technologies. These should:

- improve patient outcomes, such as through better clinical decision-making and supporting them to manage their own care
- offer new approaches to healthcare that transform its delivery
- reduce the demand on the health system, make it more efficient and create savings

Competition information

- the competition opens on 31 July 2017, and the deadline for registrations is 4 October 2017
- feasibility studies can range from £50,000 to £75,000 and last up to one year
- industrial research and experimental development projects can range from 500,000 to £1 million and last up to 3 years
- you can work alone or in collaboration with other organisations, but projects must be led by a UK-based SME

- you could get up to 70% of your eligible project costs
- projects must start by 1 February 2018

[News story: Geovation funds new business ideas](#)

Start-up companies and entrepreneurs with pioneering ideas are invited to apply for grant funding of up £20,000, by Thursday 17 August 2017.

On 19 July 2017, we announced a new strategic partnership with Ordnance Survey. Through the [Geovation Programme](#) we encourage and support property technology (PropTech) companies who will revolutionise the property industry with new products and services.

Start-up companies and entrepreneurs with pioneering ideas are invited to apply for grant funding of up £20,000, by Thursday 17 August 2017. We expect business ideas that use our land and property or geospatial datasets will benefit the conveyancing process, making it simple, faster and cheaper for everyone.

Who can apply

Geovation is open to any technology company creating property or location-based products or services. There are two routes to apply for funding:

- PropTech Programme, run in partnership with Ordnance Survey, supports innovative technology businesses who use location or property data to revolutionise the property industry
- GeoTech Programme, run by Ordnance Survey and open to any technology company creating location based products and services

Find out more about the [Geovation Hub](#) in London where the Geovation programme is located.

Apply