This is a summary of the decision of the Commissioner.

The Data Protection Office received a complaint from Complainant against Respondent alleging that one of Respondent’s cameras is capturing images of his backyard.

Subsequently, this Office issued a letter to Respondent to inform him of the complaint and to provide his statement on the allegation made by Complainant. Respondent was also requested to provide a copy of the recordings of all the cameras installed and to urgently position his CCTV cameras in order to record images within his premises only within a period of 21 days from receipt of the letter.

Respondent came in person at this office to submit his reply following the letter issued to him. He provided a copy of the images of the camera behind his house before and after its repositioning. He also stated in his reply that he would like to lodge a complaint against Complainant concerning the positioning of Complainant’s two cameras which is found in Complainant’s backyard. Respondent stated that the cameras’ are pointed at the windows of his bedrooms.

On the same day and in the presence of Respondent, this office analysed the pictures provided by him and requested him to reposition his camera since Complainant’s windows are still being captured.

Afterwards, by way of a letter, Respondent informed this office that he has repositioned the camera again in such a way that the windows of Complainant are not being captured anymore. This office analysed the pictures provided by Respondent which was found in the same letter and observed that corrective measures have been taken by Respondent. Respondent also reiterated that he wishes to lodge a complaint against Complainant with regard to the positioning of Complainant’s cameras.

Consequently, the Data Protection Office wrote to Complainant informing the latter that corrective measures have been taken by Respondent and that his premises are now not being captured by the camera of Respondent. This office also informed Complainant through the same
letter on the complaint made by Respondent and was thus required to reposition his CCTV cameras in order to capture images only within his premises within a period of 21 days following receipt of this letter and to provide recordings of all cameras installed to this office.

Following the letter issued to Complainant, the Data Protection Office received a reply from the latter and a CD containing recordings of his cameras.

It is observed based on the evidence provided in CD to this office by Complainant that the eight cameras are not capturing the premises of Respondent.

The Data Protection Office thus issued a letter to both Complainant and Respondent to inform them of the measures taken by both of them and that none of their premises are being captured by the other party’s cameras.

They were both informed that the complaint will be closed at a given date and to inform this office in writing if they have any other issues regarding this complaint by providing all concrete evidence to substantiate their allegations before the closing date. Complainant and Respondent did not provide any further allegations.

The Data Protection Commissioner decided as follows:

The enquiry has revealed that, to the satisfaction of both parties, no cameras are capturing prohibited images and thus no breach of the Data Protection Act has been established.