

This is a summary of the decision of the DPC

A complaint was lodged at the Data Protection Office (DPO) regarding CCTV camera against Respondent. The complainant alleged that Respondent, his neighbour, has without notification placed CCTV cameras all around her house in their common yard and alleged that these cameras are facing towards his house.

This office initiated an enquiry and indicated to Respondent that the rules of data protection require that video surveillance system must be positioned to capture images only within her premises. Moreover, signs must be displayed to notify the public of the presence of CCTV cameras whenever they are entering the premises concerned. Respondent was thus requested to provide:

- her statement on the allegations made by Complainant;
- a copy of the recordings of all the cameras installed and she was requested to urgently reposition her CCTV cameras in order to record images within her premises if the cameras are capturing images outside her premises.

By a way of a letter, Respondent declared that she is a widow and she has installed the CCTV cameras for two years now. In addition, she mentioned that there was signage to notify people of camera surveillance and the reason for installing the CCTV cameras is because of Complainant. According to her, they had done a lot of damage to her house and had beaten her.

Together with the letter, Respondent provided pictures of the recordings that were captured by the cameras.

The office analysed the pictures and since they were not clear, a site visit was thus scheduled on a given date and time at Respondent's premises. During the site visit, it was observed that the cameras were not viewing the house of Complainant. However, we found out that one of the cameras which was pointing at Respondent's stairs was viewing another neighbour's 1st floor and another camera was viewing the road slightly. Respondent was thus requested to take the necessary measures so that the said cameras capture only images of her premises.

Consequently, Respondent repositioned her cameras and provided conclusive evidence that the cameras were viewing within her premises only. Thereafter, this office issued a letter to Complainant to inform him of the investigation carried out. He was also informed that the enquiry would be closed by given date since there was no evidence regarding any potential breach of the DPA. Besides, he was requested to notify the office in writing if he had any other issues regarding this complaint and to provide concrete evidence to substantiate his allegations made.

Complainant did not revert back to this office regarding any further issues.

The Data Protection Commissioner decided as follows:-

Following the above enquiry, I am of the view that corrective measures have been properly taken by Respondent and thus, no breach of the DPA has been committed. The enquiry is thus closed to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.