CCTV would drive a wedge

SIR—An interesting point to come out of the survey, conducted by Cardigan Town Council CCTV sub-committee, of 50 shopkeepers and 50 residents of the town was that people's perception of crime is that it is much higher in town than it actually is.

Previous to this, on 7 December 1995, at a town council meeting, Supt Edwards (Dyfed-Powys Police) said the cameras' main use would be to allay the public's fear of crime.

I feel it would be a lot cheaper and better for our community to inform the public that crime is actually falling in Cardigan. It is down overall by 30 per cent over the last three years, with crimes of violence and autocrime down by 50 per cent during the last year. No wonder, if the population is so misinformed, it came out saying they were in favour of CCTV.

The real crime is that, not only will scarce public money drift out of the area to pay for cameras, but a wedge will be driven through our community jeopardising the 'rejuvenation initiative' for which so many are working so hard.

Yours etc,
Bob Doyle
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