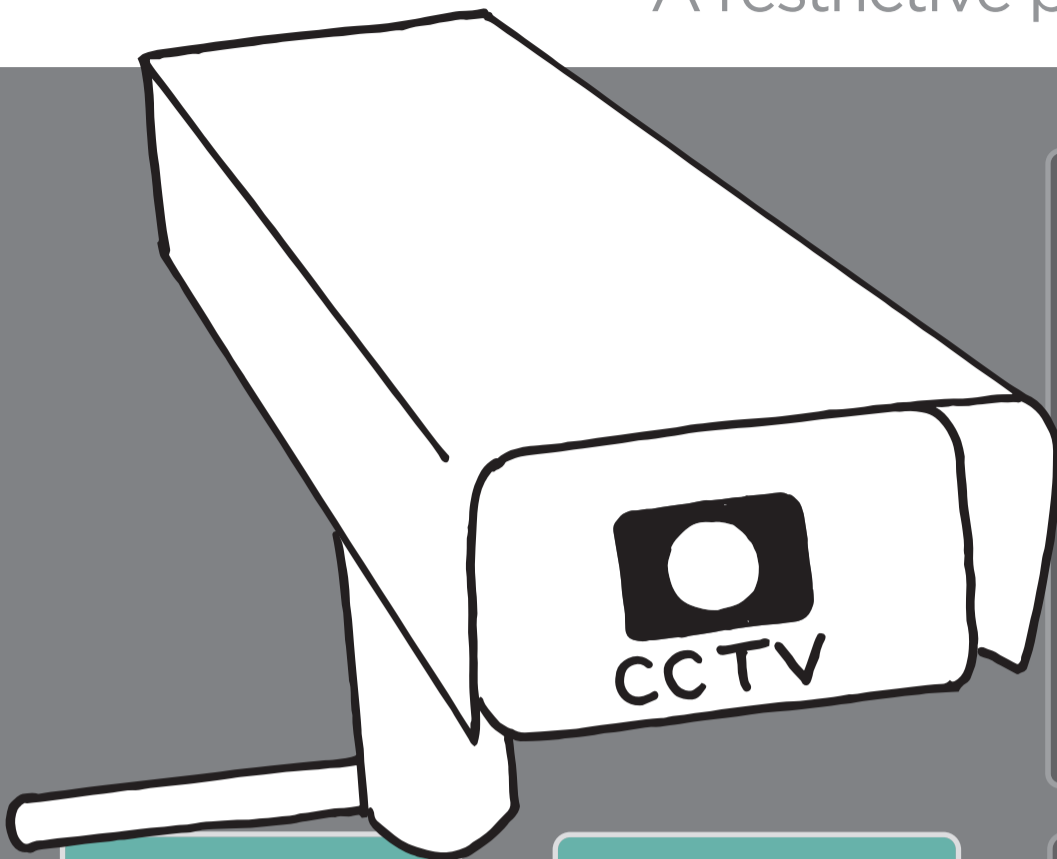


# Surveillance

A restrictive practice and a human rights issue



## What is it?

Surveillance is where staff use cameras, microphones or other technology to watch and listen to people, places and property. This is a restrictive practice.



## Why is it used?

Lawful surveillance can help check that people, places and property are safe and cared for.



### ARTICLE 08

Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence



### ARTICLE 03

Right not to be tortured or treated in an inhuman or degrading way



## How should it be used?

Surveillance must be used for a specific purpose. All other alternatives which don't breach a person's rights must have been tried.

## Your rights

Surveillance can be a blanket restriction and breach your right to privacy, eg if it is not least restrictive (Human Rights Act, ARTICLE 08)

It can be inhumane and degrading if you are being recorded in your bedroom all of the time (Human Rights Act, ARTICLE 03)

*The more surveillance threatens your privacy and dignity, the stronger the justification must be for using it.*



If you're worried about surveillance breaching your human rights you can:

- Tell your family
- Speak to the staff in your setting
- Email PALS   
 [www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/hospitals/what-is-pals-patient-advice-and-liaison-service/](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/hospitals/what-is-pals-patient-advice-and-liaison-service/)
- Contact the Care Quality Commission (CQC)   
 [www.cqc.org.uk/contact-us/how-complain/complain-about-service-or-provider](http://www.cqc.org.uk/contact-us/how-complain/complain-about-service-or-provider)
- Get legal advice

## Ask these questions!

What is the reason for the surveillance?

When will the use of surveillance be reviewed?

How long do I have to be monitored?

Are there any other alternatives that don't breach my rights?