

4G vs 5G MDVR Decision Guide

How to choose the right connectivity for your fleet MDVR system

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Step 1 — Assess Your Connectivity Requirement

- ☐ Confirm primary MDVR connectivity use: event clips / live view / both
- ☐ Single-camera live view on demand: 4G is adequate
- ☐ Simultaneous multi-camera live view at high resolution: consider 5G
- ☐ Event clip upload (30–90s compressed): 4G is adequate

Step 2 — UK 5G Coverage Check for Your Routes

Route type	5G coverage (2026)	Recommendation
Major urban areas (London, Manchester, Glasgow)	Good	5G viable if needed
Motorway corridors	Patchy — improving	4G more reliable
A-roads / rural routes	Limited	4G recommended
Mixed urban + rural routes	Inconsistent	4G with 5G fallback OK

Step 3 — Decision Criteria

- ☐ ■ 4G: primarily rural/A-road routes, standard event clips + footage requests
- ☐ ■ 4G: 3–5 year system life, budget favour cameras/storage over connectivity
- ☐ ■ 5G: primarily urban operations, multi-camera live view is a daily requirement
- ☐ ■ 5G: 5+ year retention, future-proofing for improving coverage justifies premium

Step 4 — SIM and Data Plan Confirmation

- ☐ Standard 4G event-triggered use: budget 1–5GB/vehicle/month
- ☐ 5G with high-frequency live view: review plan — standard 4G plans may be inadequate
- ☐ Confirm fleet SIM plan with supplier before switching to 5G units
- ☐ Wi-Fi at depot available for bulk archive downloads (reduces SIM data cost)