

ORIGINATOR: CHIEF CONSTABLE

PAPER NO: AP18//8

**SUBMITTED TO: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL -
23 FEBRUARY 2018**

**SUBJECT: DEPLOYMENT AND EVALUATION OF BODY WORN VIDEO
(BWV)**

SUMMARY:

1. At the Accountability and Performance Panel meeting 16 June 2017, the Panel discussed Body Worn Video (BWV) under the Revenue and Capital Outturn report (Paper AP17/28).
2. The Panel requested a report on the implementation of Body Worn Video, once the equipment had been in use for six months.
3. This report outlines the deployment, and evaluation to date, of Body Worn Video.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Accountability and Performance Panel is asked to note the contents of this report.

1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

1.1. The Body Worn Video (BWV) project was initiated in October 2016 with Chief Superintendent (then Temporary Assistant Chief Constable) Mike Fawcett named as the project lead.

1.2. The agreed objectives of the project are to:

- Align with the Home Secretary's view that Forces should look to embrace the new technology available in order to assist with the presentation of evidence at court and to deal with "vexatious complaints" by providing front line officers with BWV devices;
- Increase public confidence by providing all Firearms, Night Time Economy, Licencing, Public Order, Safer Neighbourhood Officers, Patrol, Special Constables, and PCSO's within Norfolk and Suffolk with personal issue and/or access to pool BWV devices;
- Increase the opportunity of early guilty pleas by providing all front line officers with BWV devices and a networked ICT solution, which enables the streaming of captured footage in interview rooms within Norfolk and Suffolk;
- Increase officer/staff morale by providing them with BWV devices and associated software, policies and guidance that will enable them to do their job more effectively, ensuring the processes associated to Body Worn Video are simple, effective and waste free;
- Increase the number of prosecutions for Domestic Violence offences due to the irrefutable evidence provided by BWV devices provided to officers and staff;
- Decrease the number of complaints made against police officers and staff and speed up the investigation process where complaints have been made by providing officers and relevant staff with BWV devices that will capture incidents;
- Implement a central storage solution to support BWV, Digital Asset Management Solution (DAMS) and Management of Police Information (MoPI) retention requirements;
- The implementation of Information Management processes and policy to ensure the data is managed according to law and technical best practice e.g. MOPI, the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE), the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA), the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act (CPIA) and Data Protection;
- Enhance the network infrastructure to support the increased traffic;
- To provide a BWV management platform which aligns to the National Digital First Programme.

1.3. The project has been designed to deliver in three phases in both Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies, each with a set deadline.

- **Phase One** – Deliver training and deploy BWV cameras to all authorised firearms officers (AFOs), Roads Policing and Dog Section officers before the 31 July 2017. This phase deployed **270** personal issue cameras to officers and was completed on 4 July 2017.

- **Phase Two** – Deliver training and deploy BWV cameras to all County Policing Command (CPC) officers up to the rank of Sergeant by 31 December 2017. This phase deployed **1450** personal issue cameras to frontline uniform officers and was delivered on time.
 - **Phase Three** – Deliver BWV functionality to the remaining policing areas such as CID, Specials etc. The detail of this phase is currently in scoping with deployment currently scheduled to begin on 2 April 2018.
- 1.4. Prior to phase two commencing the Joint Performance and Analysis Department (JPAD) developed an evaluation plan in conjunction with the Project Lead and Project Manager. This evaluation will focus on the effects of issuing the 1,450 cameras to CPC officers as part of Phase 2. The aim is to establish whether the use of BWV will:
- Change the number of reported assaults on police officers;
 - Increase the reporting of use of force by officers;
 - Increase the number of tickets issued by officers;
 - Increase the number of Section 35 dispersal notices issued within the Night Time Economy (NTE) environment;
 - Increase officer morale;
 - Reduce the time taken to write an arrest statement;
 - Reduce the time it takes to resolve complaints;
 - Reduce senior officers time in investigating complaints;
 - Reduce the number of complaints against police.
- 1.5. The evaluation will also seek to track public confidence data and domestic abuse conviction rates before and after the roll out of the equipment, though it will not be possible to directly attribute the introduction of BWV to any changes identified in these measures.
- 1.6. Data informing this evaluation will incorporate a mix of qualitative and quantitative data. Quantitative data will be drawn from police systems, including Athena, the Stop and Search Database and data held by the Professional Standards department. Qualitative data will be collected by means of focus groups and surveys of police officers being issued with the equipment.
- 1.7. Four focus groups and a force wide survey have already been conducted in order to obtain a baseline for qualitative data analysis. Early findings from the pre-roll out consultation suggest that the general feeling amongst officers is that the use of BWV is likely to have a positive impact on their day to day roles. Some of the key expected benefits identified by frontline officers included:
- it being instrumental in showing the demeanour of persons police are dealing with and providing a first-hand view of the scene;
 - a means of corroborating evidence to counteract complaints against police;
 - potential to diffuse situations as individuals will be informed they are being filmed;
 - potential for increase in early guilty pleas and/or successful prosecutions.
- 1.8. A follow-up survey and further focus groups will be conducted towards the end of 2018 to capture changes in officers' perceptions and attitudes towards the technology.
- 1.9. The final evaluation report will be published in early 2019 (one year after deployment of the equipment), with an interim report covering the first six months of the roll out

due in mid-2018, which will provide an overview of the early impact of BWV on the measures in question (quantitative measures only).

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2.1. The budget planning for this project has been aligned with the phases which equates to the following:

- Phase one - £1,000,000
- Phase two - £1,200,000
- Phase three - £600,000

2.2. Both phase one and two have been delivered within budget, and it is projected that this will also be the case with phase three.

3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

3.1. With the implementation of BWV, there is a need for officers and staff to embrace new processes and procedures. Overall, these have been met with positivity. However, the cultural change required in some areas will take time to embed. An example of this is the need for the recording officer to ensure relevant timings within the footage are highlighted to ensure the investigating officer does not have to review the whole clip. Whilst this was captured in the training package, this is sometimes over looked but through good communication both force wide and between teams this can be eradicated over time.

3.2. Another area, which needs improving, is the ability for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and the wider criminal justice organisations to be able to review evidential footage remotely. This will enable quicker and more accurate charging decisions and facilitate a disc-less process from capture to court. Work is ongoing with the CPS and the supplier of BWV technology to develop a solution which meets these requirements.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	No
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	N/A
Have human resource implications been considered?	N/A
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	YES
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	YES
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	YES
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	YES