



# 31900 POLICY – BODY WORN VIDEO

**Version:** 2

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**ECHR**

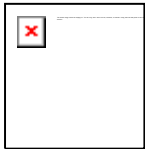
**Potential Equality Impact Assessment: High**

## 1. About This Policy

- 1.1. This policy explains the approach to the use of Body Worn Video (BWV) and is aimed at all staff and members of the wider police family involved in the criminal justice system.
- 1.2. BWV users, their supervisors and managers are expected to comply with the BWV policy 31900 and procedure 31901 BWV Incident Recording and have regard for the Intranet Guidelines on usage.

## 2. General Principles

- 2.1. Hampshire Constabulary is committed to making the best use of its resources. A key area of this strategy is to transform service delivery by taking full advantage of new technology. Body Worn Video is an overt method by which officers can obtain and secure evidence at the scenes of incidents and crimes.
- 2.2. BWV should only be used in pursuit of a legitimate aim; necessary to meet a pressing need; proportionate; effective, and compliant with any relevant legal obligations.
- 2.3. When BWV is used in public or private the user must always take into account the effect on individuals and their privacy.
- 2.4. BWV should be used in a manner that gives individuals and the wider community confidence that the cameras are deployed to protect and support them.
- 2.5. All BWV equipment provided for police use should be compliant with the recommendations in the NPIA 'Technical specifications' section of the Guidance for the Police use of Body-Worn Video Devices.
- 2.6. All images recorded using BWV are the property of Hampshire Police, must be retained in accordance with Force procedures and the ACPO Practice Advice on Police Use of Digital Images. They are recorded and retained for policing purposes and must not be shown or given to unauthorised persons other than in accordance with specified exemptions.
- 2.7. All officers and staff must be trained in the use of the BWV equipment and relevant legislation and procedures before they are allowed to use



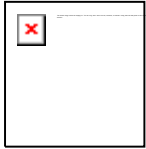
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the cameras. All officers and staff will use equipment in line with the guidelines published on the BWV intranet site.

- 2.8. Deployment of BWV as a tactic should be considered against current intelligence and information. Any use must be justifiable as a proportionate response to the issue at hand.
- 2.9. The use of BWV relates to crime reduction and investigation strategies and should NOT be confused with the deployment of Public Order trained Evidence Gatherers or Forward Intelligence Officers.
- 2.10. Professional Standards Department and line management will not routinely search the back office system for misdemeanours or offences committed by users, but if a complaint is received interrogation of the system is an appropriate line of enquiry.

### 3. Statement of Policy

- 3.1. The aim and objective is for BWV to support the Policing Priorities by:
  - 3.1.1. Enhancing opportunities for capturing best evidence
  - 3.1.2. Providing an optical evidence solution that will ultimately save time by increasing early guilty pleas, reducing officer case preparation and court time, improve sanction detections and speed up the criminal justice process.
  - 3.1.3. Reducing challenges to evidence in court.
  - 3.1.4. Reducing the reliance on victim evidence particularly those who may be vulnerable or reluctant to attend court.
  - 3.1.5. Reducing incidents of violent crime in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight by modifying behaviour.
  - 3.1.6. Assisting police officers and staff to control anti-social behaviour
  - 3.1.7. Promote Public reassurance
  - 3.1.8. Supporting Restorative Justice solutions.
  - 3.1.9. Reducing protracted complaint investigations by providing impartial, accurate evidence
  - 3.1.10. Improving the professionalism of the service and in the professional development of officers.
- 3.2. BWV users are directed to procedure 31901 BWV Incident Recording for instructions on recording incidents and also the Intranet Guidelines that advise in detail the correct use of the equipment when dealing with Witness First Accounts, bookmarking and downloading footage. The guidelines also cover training and maintenance.
- 3.3. BWV should not be used to record interviews of suspects under caution which occur at a police station. It may be used to record interviews which take place other than at a police station. However,



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recording interviews under such circumstances does not negate the need for them to be recorded contemporaneously. There is no provision within the Police and Criminal Evidence act 1984 for this.

### 4. Monitoring And Evaluation

- 4.1. The adherence to and the effectiveness of this policy and associated procedure will be monitored by the BWV Force Strategic Lead.

### 5. Review

- 5.1. The BWV Force Strategic Lead will undertake to review the policy on an annual basis, or sooner if legislation or procedural change dictate.

### 6. Other Related Policies, Procedures and Information Source

- 6.1. The Data Protection Act 1998
- 6.2. The Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996
- 6.3. The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000
- 6.4. The Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
- 6.5. Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- 6.6. Human Rights Act 1998
- 6.7. Code of Practice on the Management of Police Information
- 6.8. Surveillance Camera Code of Practice
- 6.9. ICO Guidance on CCTV
- 6.10. Guidelines on the use of Body Worn Video in Hampshire (see Intranet)
- 6.11. Force Retention Schedule (see Intranet)
- 6.12. AD203 – Equality Impact Assessment

**Origin:** Tasking and Co-ordinating