



Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Executive

Date: 25 February 2016

BODY WORN VIDEO

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform the Business Coordination Board (the "Board") of the methodology for implementing the recommendations from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary ("HMIC") with reference to the benefits of the use of Body Worn Video ("BWV"), further to approval of the capital spend by the Finance Sub Group (the "FSG") on 17 December 2015.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Board notes the report and the capital spend as approved by the Commissioner.

3. HMIC report "Increasingly everyone's business: A progress report on the police response to domestic abuse"

3.1 In the HMIC report "Increasingly everyone's business: A progress report on the police response to domestic abuse", published in December 2015, HMIC explicitly stated that "[it] welcomes the increased use by response officers of body-worn video cameras at domestic abuse incidents as this provides a powerful source of evidence in any later prosecution."

3.2 In the same report HMIC recognised that body-worn video cameras require substantial investment in both the equipment itself and the download and storage facilities, which is challenging at a time of budgetary constraint. Despite this, during the domestic abuse inspection, HMIC reported that they were pleased to find more forces using body-worn video cameras; but that "these devices are still not being used as widely as [HMIC] would have hoped".

- 3.3 The use of body-worn video in Cambridgeshire was specifically referenced in the HMIC "PEEL: Effectiveness 2015 (Vulnerability)" report, which recommended that the Constabulary should immediately take steps to improve its response as regards the use of body-worn video cameras by officers attending incidents of domestic abuse.
- 3.4 Following the hot debrief of the Vulnerability inspection findings in July 2016, the Constabulary took immediate action to address areas for improvement, with the Chief Constable setting out a clear expectation that when attending a domestic incident, body worn video will be worn and switched on, unless there are good reasons not to.

4. Capital Expenditure

- 4.1 The Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire ("BCH") project on joint procurement of BWV devices and tri force ICT infrastructure is in progress and currently in the fifth phase of issuing devices to staff. Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire have purchased devices of BWV for staff and a networked infrastructure in now in place across the collaborated area to support this. Cambridgeshire Constabulary currently has 195 BWV devices across the force available for pool issue to uniform frontline staff. The devices were purchased on a one-off basis and an interim solution at the time of purchase. The warranties for Cambridgeshire Constabulary devices begin to expire from March 2016 until September 2016.
- 4.2 The preferred option is for personal issue of BWV to frontline officers at a cost of £443k, as this ensures that the equipment is assigned and looked after by the individual and it does give some flexibility should devices be out of action for any period.
- 4.4 The Force Executive Board has already approved the request for funding but the expenditure is outside of the Chief Constable's delegation and therefore required approval through FSG. This approval was granted at the meeting on 17 December 2015.
- 4.4 The Commissioner approved the capital spend in a Decision Notice (CPCC 2016-003) on 9 February 2016.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 That the Board notes the report and the capital spend as approved by the Commissioner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document	HMIC report "Increasingly everyone's business: A progress report on the police response to domestic abuse", published in December 2015 Finance Sub Group minutes 17 December 2015
Contact Officer	Chief Executive, Cambridgeshire PCC