

Meeting	SPA Policing Performance Committee
Date	1 September 2021
Location	Video Conference
Title of Paper	Body Worn Video Roll Out Update
Presented By	ACC MacDonald, Criminal Justice
Recommendation to Members	For Discussion
Appendix Attached	No

PURPOSE

The paper will provide an update in respect of the work of the Body Worn Video project team in respect of armed policing and activity in relation to a wider national rollout to other roles across Police Scotland.

Members are invited to discuss and note the content of this paper.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview in respect of the Body Worn Video (BWV) project following the last meeting of the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) Policing Performance Committee on 8 June 2021.

2. FURTHER DETAIL ON THE REPORT TOPIC

2.1 Update on Progress for BWV for Armed Policing

- 2.1.1 The procurement process in respect of equipping armed policing with body worn cameras is in the process of being concluded, the contract having been awarded to Motorola Solutions UK Limited. Initial discussions have been held and both organisations are now working at an accelerated pace to implement the project plan.
- 2.1.2 A project management plan overviewing key aspects of the armed policing BMW implementation is in place. Sub-groups have been established in respect of Communications, Engagement, Estates and ICT. Armed Policing have commenced local implementation groups to focus planning for internal engagement, product requirements and business change activities.
- 2.1.3 The project team have engaged with a series of internal and external ethics panels on the contents of the Code of Practice document to test staff and public opinion with regard to how Police Scotland intends armed policing to use the body cameras. This approach has proved to be very informative and we look forward to sharing the report with regard to these sessions in due course.
- 2.1.4 Work continues to refine the Code of Practice document, supported by the Scottish Police Federation and The Association of Scottish Police Superintendents. Now that a supplier has been confirmed, details such as “buffering” and camera operation can be concluded. A copy of the final document will be forwarded once complete.
- 2.1.5 Impact Assessments in respect of Data Protection and Equality & Human Rights have been drafted. These documents are being finalised now that the supplier for armed policing has been confirmed. Copies of these documents will be forwarded once complete.
- 2.1.6 In line with recommendations from the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing, the Code of Practice, Data Protection Impact Assessment and Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessments will be available

online prior to armed officers being operationally deployed with body worn cameras. Copies of these documents will be forwarded by correspondence to the Policing Performance Committee Chair prior to publication.

2.1.7 In conclusion, the project team are very positive about the Motorola implementation plan and, despite a very aggressive timeline, remain confident they can deliver on the intention to equip armed police officers with body cameras in advance of the COP26 climate conference.

2.2 Update on National Public Consultation

2.2.1 On 1 June 2021 Police Scotland launched a formal public consultation on BWV ahead of consideration of a national roll-out. This conversation will enable communities to shape and inform decision making in respect of the legal, ethical and human rights considerations and national code of practice document. The consultation is being led by the Police Scotland Research and Insights team, supported by a communications plan, and concluded on 31 August 2021.

2.2.2 As of 12 August 2021, there were 7,979 responses to the survey with clear support for the introduction and use of body worn video by police officers and staff.

2.2.3 Further public engagement activity and focus groups are currently being carried out by an independent company involving interviews with a cross section of society from all age groups, people with disabilities, minority ethnic groups and representatives from communities across Scotland. This work is due to be concluded by 11 October 2021.

2.2.4 Supported by the national engagement survey and report from the internal and external ethics panels, this significant piece of work will be compiled in a report to be shared with the committee and used to inform the development of a national code of practice for the use of body cameras by Police Scotland.

2.3 Update on Plans for Body Worn Video National Business Case

2.3.1 The Dame Elish Angiolini Independent Review into complaints handling, investigation and misconduct issues, published on 11 November 2020, recommended that Police Scotland should accelerate its plans to expand the use of body worn video technology.

- 2.3.2 On 22 January 2021 Chief Constable Ian Livingstone expressed his “strong support for the greater deployment of Body Worn Video by officers and staff in Police Scotland”.
- 2.3.3 On 2 August 2021, the National Police Chiefs Council issued a letter proposing that, wherever possible, Chief Constables should deploy Body Worn Video (BWV) to officers who are equipped with conductive energy devices. This decision has arisen following repeated recommendations from public enquiries and the local force investigations.
- 2.3.4 The BWV Project Team have carried out initial work in respect of roles which could be considered for body cameras and the associated costs for a national rollout. Preliminary work indicates costs will be significant for a full rollout across Police Scotland. The full costs will be developed as part of the standard business case process, inclusive of a full tender exercise.
- 2.3.5 The current project scope includes equipping response policing officers (up to the rank of Inspector). Also within current scope is to equip specialist roles such as public order officers and a range of support staff roles e.g. CJPCSOs and PESAs.
- 2.3.6 The project team continue working towards development of an initial business case, it should be noted that as such, at this time Police Scotland has not been allocated a budget to develop a national body worn camera solution, and the project team is fully committed to meeting the armed policing requirement for COP26.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 In respect of armed policing, the project team are working within the allocated budget to ensure officers are equipped in advance of COP26.
- 3.2 A budget has not yet been allocated in respect of a national body worn camera solution. The initial business case is being developed.

4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Both the Scottish Police Federation and the Association of Scottish Police Superintendents remain in favour of Body Worn Video being introduced across Police Scotland.

- 4.2 As part of the current national public consultation, the project team have encouraged Police officer and Police staff associations and their members have been invited to partake in the online survey. Specific focus groups have taken place with a range of support staff and officers to further inform the consultation activity.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 In respect of BWV for armed policing, procurement is in the final stages of being concluded.
- 5.2 Subject to finance and approval, a national strategic solution will require a separate procurement exercise.

6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The use of new and emerging technologies in Police Scotland is a matter subject to significant public scrutiny. If the joint strategic statement of commitments covering:

- engagement;
- evaluating and learning;
- ethics, equalities impact and data privacy;
- providing benefits to wider criminal justice processes;
- best value;
- measuring progress and assessing performance; and
- governance and scrutiny

are not adhered to, this could cause significant reputational challenge for Police Scotland and the SPA.

7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Projected benefits of BWV include:

- Increased public transparency and accountability;
- Support the detection and prevention of crime,
- Support the resolution of complaints against officers and inform learning outcomes;
- Enhance officer safety and associated operational considerations;
- Improve officer behaviour during interactions with the public

all of which if achieved would fundamentally and positively enhance the social fabric of communities in Scotland.

8. COMMUNITY IMPACT

8.1 As per the social implications above there is potential for positive community impacts, but it is also acknowledged there are privacy, data and third party concerns that will need to be considered as part of any roll out. These will be mitigated by:

- Completion of a Data Protection Impact Assessment;
- Completion of a Code of Practice;
- Completion of Standard Operating Procedures and associated policies; and
- Completion of standardised training for camera usage and management of footage.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 In terms of public engagement and the future use of BWV, there are equalities implications. As such, an Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment nears completion in respect of public consultation activity and future use of BWV.

10. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The purchase and deployment of BWV cameras and the associated technology required to maintain them will increase Police Scotland's environmental impact and footprint, however not by a considerable extent.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to discuss and note the content of this paper.