

## Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

<b>Title of EqIA:</b>	Corporate Policy and Procedure for use of Body Worn Video Cameras
<b>Brief description of the Proposal:</b>	The Corporate Policy and Procedure for use of Body Worn Videos sets out the statutory framework and procedures which permit the Council's lawful use of the overt surveillance technique known as Body Worn Videos (BWV), whilst ensuring the public authority does not infringe a person's Article 8 rights.
<b>Summary of Impacts and Issues:</b>	<p>The primary consideration of this EqIA in the context of BWV use, is the protection of a person's article 8 rights – their right to respect for their private and family life, their home and their correspondence.</p> <p>The BWV Policy and Procedure follows the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice, and sets out the Council procedures for use of BWV to ensure the protection of peoples right to privacy and the protection of their personal data in line with the Data Protection Act 2018.</p>
<b>Potential Positive Impacts:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significantly enhances the quality of evidence provided by law enforcement officers;</li> <li>• Provides an independent, reliable, real time evidential capture of an event/incident as precisely as possible limited only by the field of view and audio range of the device;</li> <li>• Promotes positive behaviour and interaction between the wearer and member(s) of the public;</li> <li>• Assist in the drive to reduce crime and the fear of crime and increase the proportion of offences brought to justice Provide a greater impact than street CCTV as they can be deployed at any position within an incident; those present quickly learn the recordings include sound and BWVs are more obvious than other CCTV systems;</li> <li>• Assists in the investigation of a complaint and/or alleged offence(s) arising out of an event/incident, thus reducing investigation time for unwarranted complaints;</li> <li>• Assists the court to see and hear the incident through the eyes and ears of the officer at the scene, thereby gaining a real understanding of the actions of the accused;</li> <li>• Time efficient saving by producing an exhibit of the recording, saving officer recording the incident as a statement or in their pocket notebook;</li> <li>• Assist in officer development as there is an ability to review their performance in detail after an incident;</li> </ul>

<b>What engagement or consultation has been carried out?</b>	None currently.

**Assessment**

For all of categories below please consider:

- 1. Does this proposal eliminate unlawful discrimination?**
- 2. Does this proposal advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it?**
- 3. Does this proposal foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it?**

<b>Statutory Considerations: Please highlight what impact could there be on people with protected characteristics.</b>		
<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions/ Mitigating Factors</b>
<b>Age:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	<p>The BWV Policy and Procedure follows the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice and sets out the Council procedures for use of BWV to ensure the protection of peoples right to privacy and the protection of their personal data in line with the Data Protection Act 2018.</p> <p>BWV is only used when necessary, proportionate and in pursuit of a legitimate aim, such as public safety and the prevention and detection of crime.</p> <p>Please see 12 guiding principles in the Policy and Procedure document as well as the data storage and processing procedures which ensure the protection of personal data in line with the Data Protection Act 2018.</p> <p>The Council has authorised the use of BWV by specific teams and their named BWV User Authorised Officers, who are required to undergo training, before and in order to be authorised.</p> <p>The Council has also authorised specific officers to be given access to the BWV material, known as BWV Access Authorised Officers.</p>
<b>Gender reassignment:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above
<b>Marriage and civil partnership:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above

<b>Pregnancy and maternity:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above
<b>Race:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above
<b>Religion or belief:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above
<b>Sex:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above
<b>Sexual Orientation:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above
<b>Social deprivation - please highlight what impact could there be on people experiencing social deprivation:</b>	Protection of article 8 rights	As above
<b>Disability:</b>	<p>BWV procedure ensures individuals are notified when officers are using BWV which may capture audio, video or photographic footage of them. It is therefore important to consider people with disabilities – particularly those with sensory impairments – to ensure notification is communicated in an appropriate format.</p>	<p>The Council's use of BWV will be reiterated by officers wearing a symbol/sign on their uniform. Further, the BWV device will be in a prominent position (normally on their chest) and its forward facing display will be visible to persons being recorded. The BWV also has a flashing red light when recording is taking place.</p> <p>Prior to switching on the BWV, the user must wherever possible/practicable verbally announce to the data subject that video and audio recording is/is going to take place using BWV (see paragraph 104. and 105. of the BWV Policy).</p> <p>By utilising both these methods it ensures that individuals with hearing or visual impairments are not discriminated against and are suitably notified when BWV is in use.</p>

<b>Other significant Impacts:</b>	None	
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### Action Plan

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>

<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Harry Lee
<b>Manager:</b>	Angela Taylor
<b>Corporate Director:</b>	
<b>Date completed:</b>	22/06/2022