

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000334
Date 2 August 2016

Body Worn Cameras

Request:

1. Does your council use body worn cameras?
Environmental Enforcement Officers working on behalf of City of Wolverhampton Council use body cameras.
- i. If the answer is yes please indicate whether this is part of a trial or if the technology has been adopted on a permanent basis.
The body cameras are used through a pilot scheme with Kingdom Security which provides litter enforcement on behalf of City of Wolverhampton Council.
2. How many body worn cameras has your council purchased and how much has been spent?
The body cameras used by the Environmental Enforcement Officers are supplied by the contractor (Kingdom Security). This is not a cost that is met by the Council.
3. Which job roles and which departments are using body worn cameras?
Environmental Enforcement Officers
Place – City Environment
4. Did your council complete a privacy impact assessment before trialling or implementing body worn cameras?
 - i. If so please provide a copy.
No privacy impact was carried out for the trialling of the system, however as the Council now intends to proceed with a full rollout and a tendering process is being organised, a full privacy impact assessment is currently being undertaken.

Regarding the trialling process, due diligence of Kingdom Security was carried out in the first instance which included appropriate background checks with other Councils which received a positive result.

Approval was therefore sought by Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 30 June 2015 for a 12 month trial of an environmental enforcement in partnership with Kingdom Security.

5. Please provide the make, model and manufacturer of the body worn cameras you have purchased.
Pinnacle are the manufacturers of the body cameras the model range is PR5. Please note, as mentioned in question 2 above, this is not a cost that is met by City of Wolverhampton Council.

6. Where and for how long is the footage held?
The footage is stored securely on an internal Drive used in the Council. Regarding retention, it is kept for 6 months from the date of an offence.

If the Fixed Penalty Notice to which a piece of footage relates is settled within the 6 month period the footage relating to that incident is erased when the matter is resolved.

In the event a Fixed Penalty Notice is not settled within 6 months of the date of an offence, relevant footage is duly retained until such time as the matter is resolved.

7. Please provide documentation relating to the results of any trial of body worn cameras that your force has undertaken.
With reference to your question 4i above, it is worth clarifying at this point that the use of body worn cameras is only one facet of a wider environmental protection service approach. The Council has evaluated the effectiveness of the whole service as opposed to its individual facets. With that in mind, please find below a report that went to Cabinet (Resources) Panel in June 2015 proposing a trial for an integrated environmental enforcement service.
<https://wolverhamptonintranet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=143&MIId=4903&Ver=4>