

1 March 2021

John Finnie MSP  
Convener  
Justice Sub-Committee on Policing  
Room T2.60  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1 SP



**ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE**  
**Mark Williams**  
Police Scotland Headquarters  
Tulliallan Castle  
Kincardine  
FK10 4BE  
Tel: 01259 733139

accoperationalsupport@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Dear Mr Finnie

## **BODY WORN VIDEO CAMERAS**

I write in response to your correspondence dated 25 February 2021 regarding evidence provided by Police Scotland to the Justice Sub-Committee in relation to body worn video cameras (BWV). In your letter you sought clarity in regard to BWV costs for cloud storage, as well as details of the proposed model to be purchased, and whether it is compatible with current cameras in use in the force. Lastly, you asked how members of the public can access footage from BWV cameras. A response to each element of your letter is outlined below.

### ***Could you please provide details of the basis of the estimated costs for cloud storage?***

I can confirm that the costs for cloud storage which were provided are initial estimates based on current knowledge of the technologies that are expected to be required. A listing of detailed expenditure for the project will be confirmed as we work through the requirements, specification and supplier procurement options in accordance with the Scottish Government prescribed business case process. The project team is now in place to support the development of this business case.

### ***Could you please clarify the model that is being considered by Police Scotland for purchase, and whether it is compatible with the current cameras being used and any associated equipment?***

As part of work to secure a BWV solution for armed policing, Police Scotland will undertake a procurement process with potential suppliers and for that reason has not yet decided on a model. For various reasons, the current cameras in use by Police Scotland do not meet the requirements for armed policing, and given technological advances since their purchase are unlikely to meet the criteria for any longer-term national roll-out of BWV.

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***Could you please confirm how members of the public are to access footage from the body worn video cameras?***

In compliance with Information Management legislation there are already procedures in place which allow for members of the public to access information, including BWV footage. An individual can request a copy of footage via subject access procedures by submitting the relevant application in writing, by e-mail or in person at a police station. More information with regard to this process is available online on the Police Scotland internet pages in the section relating to Data Protection. Whilst the Police Scotland Information Management Department is experienced in responding to requests for BWV footage, this is an area which will be monitored by the BWV project team to ensure the relevant policies and guidance are in place to support the introduction of new systems and equipment.

I trust this response clarifies the Police Scotland position on these matters and I look forward to updating the sub-committee further as the BWV project develops.

Yours sincerely



Mark Williams  
Assistant Chief Constable  
Operational Support