



BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT

*Working together to make the Bailiwick safe and secure
Nous travaill ensemble pour protéger et sauvegarder le Baillage*

HOW & WHEN BODY WORN VIDEO CAMERAS ARE USED

Body Worn Video (BWV) cameras are small, visible devices worn attached to the officers' uniform (usually on the chest). They're used to capture both video and audio evidence when officers are attending all types of incidents. They're issued to all officers who come into contact with the public.

The position of the camera means those watching the footage see the situation from the officer's perspective. The camera acts as an independent witness.

The camera records the footage onto an internal storage device. At the end of the officer's shift the footage is uploaded to a secure location so it can be used as evidence at court or other legal proceedings or deleted if it's not needed.

When the camera is turned on it will start capturing a rolling 30 second loop of video & audio. This 30 seconds is not saved by the camera unless the officer activates the camera to record. When the camera is activated to record that previous 30 seconds of video & audio is included in the recording.

Officers activate their cameras at the start of an incident or encounter, and under normal circumstances will continue to record until it's no longer 'proportionate or necessary' or another system takes over, eg CCTV within a police station.

The use of BWV is incident specific; unless they're part of a specific operation, officers won't be recording as part of normal patrolling.

When it's recording, a flashing red light will appear on the front of the camera and officers will make people aware that they are being recorded.

Typically officers use the cameras when they:

- provide evidence in the investigation of an offence or suspected offence
- provide transparency, eg during a stop and search or when force is used
- help officers who know they will need to submit a written report of an encounter or incident, an aide-memoire

Officers will almost always use a camera when they are:

- stopping a vehicle
- going somewhere to arrest someone
- searching a property, land or a vehicle
- performing a stop and search

- attending a critical incident
- using force against someone or someone's property
- attending a domestic abuse response

To [find out more about how the police use BWV](#), the College of Policing publish guidance on their website.



PRIVACY & BWV

Under data protection legislation, officers must inform people that they're being filmed and will do so unless the situation means it's not possible.

Otherwise, you'll know you're being recorded when the camera has flashing red lights in the centre of it.

Officers don't have to get your consent to be filmed.

How footage is handled ?

Footage is recorded onto internal storage inside the camera. The cameras have no ability to delete or edit the footage.

When an officer docks their camera to charge the battery, the footage is automatically uploaded to a secure server.

Recordings that aren't categorised as required for evidence at court or in other legal proceedings will be automatically deleted within 60 days.

Footage is only kept as evidence, for disclosure, or for other law enforcement purposes. It is not kept for intelligence.

Access to footage

The Guernsey Police are the data controllers of footage and as such 'own' it.

Recorded material counts as 'police information' so you can request access to it under data protection law, by making a [Right to Access Request](#) (also known as a Subject Access Request).