

## 5. Operational Scenarios

### Spontaneous Use of Force (UoF)

- 5.1. The use of a BWVC is a proportionate means of corroborating the facts during any type of incident or situation where the use of force appears to be likely, or where force is being applied. The footage of the incident can prove invaluable during later review and can demonstrate transparency in respect of actions undertaken or not undertaken.
- 5.2. In situations where it is difficult to commence recording prior to force being applied, such as when users face spontaneous and /or unexpected violence for example, the user should activate the BWVC as soon as it is practicable to do so. In such circumstances users should explain why earlier recording was impracticable on the BWVC device and within their written statement.
- 5.3. *Users must be aware that:*
  - *The BWVC is unlikely to capture the whole circumstances of the incident*
  - *The BWVC recordings are unlikely to justify in isolation the reasonableness necessity or proportionality of force used*
- 5.4. *Users must justify their actions, perceptions and decisions as per normal within their written Use of Force statement. The writing of UoF statements will be completed before any captured footage is viewed, this will enable staff to detail the threat perceived at the time of the incident and not on reflection having viewed any footage. Staff must reference BWVC footage was captured within the UoF statement. The use of BWVC is a tool to support and not replace written statements.*
- 5.5. *BWVC footage of UoF must be tagged and retained in line with UoF paperwork.*
- 5.6. *Where a full search occurs under restraint or following a Use of Force, BWVC may be used providing there is a justification to do so and users must set out the justification for use within the accompanying documents.*

### Planned Use of Force (UoF)

- 5.7. *The member of staff planning this type of physical intervention must prioritise the use of their handheld video cameras where available and not rely solely on BWVCs.*
- 5.8. *Where the circumstances require a swift intervention to safeguard the wellbeing of a person(s) then the senior staff member at the scene can make the decision to use only a BWVC to record the intervention. There must be a clear rationale given in the UoF/IRS documentation to account for the decision to use BWVC over hand-held video camera equipment.*
- 5.9. *The use of BWVC in addition to hand-held video cameras, may provide additional helpful material. The on-scene member of staff planning the intervention will consider the circumstances and decide whether BWVC is to be deployed or not and will communicate their decision to BWVC users prior to the start of the Operation and will make a justification statement on the recording. This will ensure transparency and will be available to others to understand at a later date the rationale for the decision. BWVC footage capturing UoF must be tagged and retained in line with UoF paperwork.*