



DELTA POLICE BOARD

Excellence in Policing

DATE 2026-02-03	SUBMITTED BY Harj Sidhu, M.O.M. Chief Constable
SUBJECT Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Program Update and 2025 Audit	
ACTION REQUIRED ☒ For Information ☐ For Approval/Action/Decision	

PURPOSE

To provide the Delta Police Board with an update on the Delta Police Department's (DPD) Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program following full frontline deployment and the results of the 2025 audit.

DISCUSSION

Program Overview and 2025 Update

The DPD has operated a BWC program since 2020 and was the first police department in British Columbia to operationalize BWCs. The program was implemented through a phased approach and intended to support:

- operational effectiveness by capturing evidence for investigative and training purposes
- officer safety
- accountability and oversight
- public trust and transparency

In 2025, DPD completed full frontline deployment of BWCs. As of the end of 2025, approximately 60 body-worn cameras are deployed using a shared-pool model across Patrol Services, Traffic Services, the Tsawwassen First Nations Service Team, and Public Safety Operations. Trained members in specialized units may also deploy BWCs on an as-needed basis. This model supports operational flexibility while managing equipment and lifecycle costs.

As of the end of 2025, more than 100 members had received BWC training. Training is now also embedded in recruit onboarding, with additional on-duty training provided as members rotate into frontline policing roles from specialized roles.

Community engagement and prior consultation have consistently demonstrated strong (86%) community support for the use of BWCs, with feedback indicating an expectation that frontline officers be equipped with cameras in modern policing environments.

Following full frontline deployment, the BWC program entered a sustained operational management phase, informed by an internal operational review conducted in 2025. The operational review identified the following best practices:

- routine supervisory review of incidents where BWC activation is mandatory

- ongoing reinforcement of best practices through training and supervisory messaging
- centralized monitoring of usage trends, transcription requests, and redaction demands
- continued integration of BWCs into investigative and Professional Standards processes

Operational data from 2025 indicates that BWCs are now a routine component of frontline policing, generating approximately 3,500 recordings annually. These recordings support investigations, training, and the assessment of public complaints.

BWC footage has supported complaint assessments by providing objective records of police-public interactions, contributing to efficient and timely review processes. BWC footage formed part of the evidentiary record where early discontinuance was sought through the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner (OPCC).

Annual Audit Results

The DPD conducts an annual audit of the BWC program in accordance with British Columbia Provincial Policing Standard 4.2.1 and DPD policy (OD19). The audit assesses compliance with requirements governing BWC activation, retention, documentation, access, and disclosure.

The 2025 audit reviewed recordings generated between October 1, 2024, and October 1, 2025. During this period, 3,367 BWC recordings were generated across frontline teams. A statistically representative sample of 346 recordings was selected using stratified random sampling, achieving a 95% confidence level with a 5% margin of error. Recordings were assessed against 14 established audit criteria, consistent with prior audit cycles.

The audit demonstrated high compliance with provincial standards and DPD policy. The average compliance rate across all audit criteria in 2025 was approximately 97.4%, representing an improvement over the 95% overall compliance rate reported in 2024.

Table 1: 2025 BWC Program Audit Results

Audit Point	2025	2024	Change
1. Recording was a call or enforcement action-specific and not indiscriminate.	99%	99%	0%
2. Recording related to one of the following circumstances a-i	99%	99%	0%
3. Camera was activated where it was reasonable to expect that the call would involve the use of force, or violent, or aggressive behavior could be anticipated or was displayed.	99%	98%	+1%
4. Recording was not shut off until the accident was concluded.	95%	95%	0%
5. Recording was shut correctly off after the accident was concluded.	97%	95%	+2%
6. If the recording was shut off before the incident conclusion, the member documented exigency circumstances for doing so.	95%	95%	0%
7. Person being recorded was advised of that fact, unless unsafe to do so, and the officer noted reasons.	81%	61%	+20%
8. For each recording a notation is made in the GO that there is an associated BWC recording.	99%	90%	+9%
9. Notes and reports exist about each incident of BWC use.	100%	100%	0%

10. Still retained recordings relate to an offense and are still within UCR retention.	100%	100%	0%
11. All recordings have been retained for at least one year.	100%	100%	0%
12. Any recordings have been only viewed by the investigating officer or supervisor, or for training or a previous audit.	100%	100%	0%
13. Any recording copied for training or other non-investigative purpose has an associated prosecution or Police Act investigation completed and identification characteristics of all non-DPD persons smudged.	100%	100%	0%
14. Storage and any disclosure of recording are per secure processes and by authorized persons.	100%	100%	0%

Key observations include:

- strong overall compliance across all audit categories
- full compliance (100%) in multiple areas related to record retention, authorized access, and secure storage and disclosure
- notification to individuals that they were being recorded improved from 61% in 2024 to 81% in 2025
- documentation of BWC footage availability in General Occurrence records improved to 99%, up from 90% in the previous audit period

While notification rates remain lower than other compliance areas, the upward trend in 2025 despite full frontline deployment indicates progress and remains a focus for continued training.

Despite program expansion, audit results show that compliance has been maintained and, in several areas, improved.

Program Focus for 2026

As the BWC program continues to mature, several areas of focus have been identified:

- improving voluntary activation rates in specific operational contexts, particularly traffic enforcement
- continued reinforcement of best practices through training, supervision, and internal communications
- monitoring resource impacts related to transcription, redaction, and data management
- conducting field trials of an AI-enabled translation feature available through BWC technology to assess potential operational value

Financial and Resource Considerations

As previously approved by the Board in January 2025, the BWC program operates under a subscription-based model with 60 cameras. This model provides predictable annual costs and scheduled hardware refreshes, supporting long-term financial planning.

The total anticipated annual operating cost of the program is approximately \$165,000, which includes camera hardware and subscriptions, software licensing and storage, and transcription support. These costs are incorporated into the 2026 operating budget.

Following full frontline deployment, program costs have stabilized. No additional funding is being sought at this time. Program costs will continue to be monitored through routine budget oversight, with any future material changes to be brought forward to the Board as required.

CONCLUSION

The DPD's BWC program has transitioned to full frontline deployment and continues to operate within a strong governance and compliance framework. This report is provided to the Board in support of its oversight role and to demonstrate compliance with the BCPPS 4.2.1 and internal policy requirements.