

Cornwall IFCA
Chi Gallos
Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park
North Quay
Hayle
Cornwall TR27 4DD
Tel: (01736) 336842
www.cornwall-ifca.gov.uk



Body-worn Video Camera Policy

Officers of the Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) may be seen wearing small video cameras, with inbuilt microphones, on their person during patrols and inspections. This document explains the reasons why, when and of whom recording will most likely be carried out, and who will be informed that recording is taking place.

Why do officers require video and sound recording?

Officers will use video and sound recording to enhance evidence capture and to improve the accountability and transparency of their conduct. Cameras may be attached to officers' clothing or equipment and can be switched on during the boarding of vessels or inspection work ashore.

In what circumstances will a video camera be operated?

You will always be able to see body worn cameras as they will never be used in a covert manner. However, just because a camera is worn does not mean that it will be recording. Officers will use their own judgement as to whether to start recording or not.

The skipper of a vessel boarded at sea will be informed as soon as practicable during an inspection if cameras are recording. Other boat crew or passengers on board a boat will be told if a camera is in operation, should they be directly encountered.

In regards to fish or shellfish inspected ashore, any person who is encountered at the scene and believed to own, or to be responsible for, the fish or shellfish will be told if a camera is in operation.

Video recording will not be carried out during the search of a dwelling place, unless prior legal permissions have been granted.

Who can view or listen to a video camera recording?

Only Cornwall IFCA officers, or a person acting in a legal capacity on behalf of Cornwall IFCA, will be allowed to routinely view or listen to recordings. However, during the course of an investigation, recordings may be shown to relevant persons involved in a case, including the Defence in a prosecution. It may be presented as evidence during court proceedings.

How are recordings kept?

The cameras used by Cornwall IFCA record all data to a password protected inbuilt memory. If any recordings are deemed to have material which will be used in evidence, the file will be downloaded to our secure network and stored on dedicated UK based servers. Once a recording is copied from the body worn camera it is immediately deleted from the device.

How long are recordings kept?

Non-evidential recordings which feature stakeholder interactions, or identifiable personal information are destroyed within 31 days of capture.

Recordings that are retained for use in evidence will be retained on our secure local servers for a period of seven years after prosecution, or the acceptance of a Financial Administrative Penalty, caution or written warning.

How can I request a recording?

If you believe you have been recorded by officers wearing body worn cameras you have the right to request a copy of this data. To request this data contact the office and we will supply you with a Right of Access, Rectification and Erasure Request (RARE) form or you can download it from our website.

Please note, we may need to alter the video and or sound recordings to protect the personal information of other people, such as blanking out their faces, or muting the sound.

For more information about how we handle your data, please visit our website.