

Northamptonshire Police



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Dashcam Policy

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Department Responsible	Specialist Operations		
Author	[REDACTED]		
Senior Owner	X0046 Supt Tom Thompson		
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Date Last Reviewed	08/06/2021	Reviewed By	[REDACTED]

1. Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear process for video evidence of Road Traffic Incidents (RTIs) submitted by witnesses to Northamptonshire Police via OP SNAP or Single Online Home (SOH).

2. Legislative Compliance

This document has been drafted to comply with the principals of the Human Rights Act. Proportionality has been identified as the key to Human Rights compliance, this means striking a fair balance between the rights of the individuals and those of the rest of the community. There must be a reasonable relationship between the aim to be achieved and the means used.

Equality and Diversity issues have also been considered to ensure compliance with current Equality Legislation and policies.

In addition, Data Protection, Freedom of Information and Health Safety issues have been considered. Adherence to this policy or procedure will therefore ensure compliance with all legislation and internal policies.

3. Policy Statement

Accepted submissions

- 3.1 Northamptonshire Police will investigate offences of Dangerous Driving, Driving without Due Care and Attention, Careless Driving, using a mobile phone, not wearing a seat belt, contravening a red traffic light, contravening solid white lines, and other offences where the driver is clearly not in proper control.
- 3.2 Video footage should clearly show the offence being committed and the offending vehicles number plate must be legible.
- 3.3 Every effort will be made to direct submissions through the OP SNAP process using links and banners on the website. In the event that a submission is made through SOH then the witness may be contacted and asked to re-submit through the OP SNAP process. OP SNAP produces a customised MG11 witness statement removing the need for further witness statements and officer time.
- 3.4 When reviewing submissions the manner of driving of both the subject and the witness will be considered. Including the manner in which the footage was obtained.
- 3.5 The Dashcam process is only suitable for offences where there is no victim. Any crime which requires further investigation should be recorded through the control room as normal.

Expectation of Witnesses

- 3.6 Witnesses will have read and agreed to the terms and conditions on the OP SNAP website.
- 3.7 Witnesses will attend Court to provide evidence if required.
- 3.8 Witnesses will retain the original footage in its original format for a period of no less than 6 months. Should the submission be required for Court the witness will be updated with a more appropriate retention period.
- 3.9 Footage will not be shared on social media. Crown Prosecution Service advice is that submissions should not be in the public domain as this may adversely affect any subsequent proceedings.
- 3.10 Where footage has been tagged to a Northants Police social media account, where possible it should be responded to, directing them to the OP SNAP process and asking for the original footage to be removed.

Review of Submissions

- 3.11 Submissions will be viewed by an experienced officer to establish if an offence has been committed and to identify the specific offence. This decision is final.
- 3.12 Offences which are identified will be processed. Resulting in NIP/172 documents being sent to the registered keeper of the vehicle.

Witness Updates

- 3.13 Witnesses will only be contacted should further information be required or for Court procedures.
- 3.14 Witnesses will not be provided with specific updates to their submissions. Information relating to submissions will be published online following processing and will be for the witness to seek the information.
- 3.15 Submission information provided online will be sanitised of any personal identifiers and will allow witnesses to see if their case has been progressed or marked for No Further Action (NFA) with a description where required.
- 3.16 In some cases case outcome data will be made available following the finalisation of the process at 6 months with information being included as part of the camera FOI data also hosted online.
- 3.17 As a force we do not provide updates to other witnesses, so it would be both disproportionate and unethical to provide individual detailed updates for Dashcam submissions.

Data Retention

3.18 Data will be retained in accordance with the Northamptonshire Police Review, Retention and Disposal Policy. With due regard for GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018 and MoPI.

4. Monitoring and review

The senior owner will review the content of this guidance annually to ensure that this is relevant and up to date. The author has agreed that this document will be reviewed within 12 months of the effective date.

5. Related Documents

6. Appendices

7. Document Control History

DATE	VERSION	INDIVIDUAL	CHANGES MADE