
From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, February 4, 2024 5:32 PM

To: Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Comments regarding the usage of the police budget towards Bodycams

While I do not have financial experience to properly judge if the budget amount is overboard or should be allocated elsewhere by X amount, I still have something to advocate for. Since 2014 there have been multiple attempts to include BWCs into the force, yet despite the research into planning a pilot project for them such as back in 2020, it still hasn't been started. There have been multiple crimes committed by police during all this time without them in use, and possibly more that are swept under the rug. I understand the pandemic got in the way at the time, but now the risk of covid is more manageable. While I agree funds towards other programs is an important idea and should be considered, unless the final proposed budget does end up not freeing room for a pilot program and full deployment of them, I have to disagree that adapting the cameras would not be worth it. Whether they deter crimes or not, so long as there is the rule that turning off the camera during service should provide a hefty or at least measured punishment considering they could try to cover up a potential crime, the ability for increased accountability for police and members of the public is necessary and should stop being delayed.

Here's to hoping this makes a difference, no matter how small, good day to you all,

-S