

Principles of Broadcasting Public Meetings



05/09/2013

The recording, filming and broadcasting of all public meetings be allowed.

Meetings or parts of meetings from which the press and public are excluded may not be filmed or recorded.

Prior to meetings in official Council rooms, filming and recording may be undertaken from the floor of the meeting but must cease and all filming or recording equipment removed not later than 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the meeting.

During meetings in official Council meeting rooms, filming by broadcasters shall only be from the media area, public gallery or specific designated space. The designated space will be reserved for broadcasters and not available to the public.

At certain venues, there will be designated areas from which filming by broadcasters can take place as the Council may designate and filming must only be from within those designated areas.

Members of the public are permitted to film or record meetings to which they are permitted access in a non-disruptive manner only from public areas.

The use of digital and social media recording tools, for example Twitter, blogging or audio recording be allowed as long as it is carried out in a non-disruptive manner.

The filming or recording of members of the public is prohibited in circumstances where they are not making representations to the meeting and the Council will take such action as it considers appropriate against any person found to be contravening this restriction.

The Chairman of the meeting, or any such Council representative as designated by the Chairman, has the capacity to stop a meeting and take appropriate action if any person contravenes these principles or is deemed to be filming or recording in a disruptive manner.

Any person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the Council, its Cabinet or committees is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them so doing and by choosing to film, record or broadcast proceedings they accept that they are required to indemnify the Council, its members and officers in relation to any such claims or liabilities.

The Council will display the requirements as to filming, recording and broadcasting at its meeting venues and those undertaking these activities will be deemed to have accepted them whether they have read them or not.

The Council will publish the guidance on the filming, recording and broadcasting of meetings on its website.