

## CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**6 NOVEMBER 2014**

**REPORT OF CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

### **CABINET DECISION**

**Leader of the Council – Councillor Cook  
Corporate Management and Finance – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor D  
Harrington**

### **RECORDING AND WEB BROADCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

1. Summary

To update Cabinet regarding the outcome of the meeting of the Members Advisory Panel on the 5 September 2014.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet considers the report.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

To consider the principle endorsed by the Members Advisory Panel regarding the Council recording and web broadcasting its own meetings.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code)

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**6 NOVEMBER 2014**

**REPORT OF CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**CABINET DECISION**

**RECORDING AND WEB BROADCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**SUMMARY**

To update Cabinet regarding the outcome of the meeting of the Members Advisory Panel on 5 September 2014.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Cabinet considers the report.

**DETAIL**

1. At its meeting on the 13 March 2014 Cabinet asked the Members Advisory Panel ("the Panel") to consider issues relating to the possible recording and web-broadcasting by the Council of its own meetings, and to report the findings to a future Cabinet meeting.
2. The Panel considered the matter at its meeting on the 5 September 2014. A copy of an extract of the (draft) minutes of that meeting are attached.
3. The Panel agreed that:-
  - (i) Subject to both a technical and financial appraisal being carried out and reported to members (of the Panel) initially, and thereafter to Cabinet/Council, agreement in principle be given to this Council recording/web-broadcasting the following meetings, being meetings most likely to engage members of the public:-
    - Council
    - Cabinet
    - Planning Committee
  - (ii) A further report on the results of the appraisals be reported to a future meeting following consideration by Cabinet and Council of the proposed approach.
4. Cabinet is asked to consider whether or not it endorses this approach, before further work is undertaken and reported to the Panel meeting scheduled for 10 December 2014.

5. At its meeting on 19 November 2014, Council will also be asked to consider the approach being taken by the Panel.

## **FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial**

6. There are no financial implications at this stage. Costs will arise if the Council decides to record and/or web broadcast its own meetings. These will be reported further in due course, if the principle of recording/broadcasting the Council's own meetings is agreed.

### **Legal**

7. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

8. The risks arising from what is proposed can be categorised as low to medium.

## **COUNCIL PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

9. Organisational and operational effectiveness and strong local democracy.

## **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

10. Should the Council decide to agree to record or broadcast its own meetings an assessment will be carried out at the appropriate time, if thought necessary.

## **CONSULTATION**

11. All Members will have an opportunity to comment on the principle of the Council recording/web-broadcasting its own meetings, and should that be agreed on the detailed proposals for doing so.

Director of Law and Democracy  
Contact Officer: David Bond  
Telephone No: 01642 527060  
E-mail: [david.bond@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:david.bond@stockton.gov.uk)

<u>Background Papers:</u>	None
<u>Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:</u>	Not Ward Specific
<u>Property Implications:</u>	Not applicable