

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

12 FEBRUARY 2015

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

COUNCIL 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 7 January 2015.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet considers the report.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

To consider the proposals 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)

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RECORDING AND WEB BROADCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

SUMMARY

To update Cabinet regarding the outcome of the meeting of the Members' Advisory Panel ("the Panel") on the 7 January 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet considers the report.

DETAIL

1. The Panel previously met on 5 September 2014 and 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.
2. Cabinet endorsed this approach at its meeting on 6 November 2014.
3. Council also agreed with the approach at its meeting on the 19 November 2014.
4. In accordance with these decisions, the Panel considered a report on 7 January 2015 regarding a technical and financial appraisal relating to a particular proposal for the recording and web broadcasting of Council, Cabinet and Planning Committee meetings.
5. A copy of the relevant report to the Panel is attached as an **Appendix** to this report to Cabinet.

6. The Panel agreed with the approach and proposal set out in paragraphs 9-11 inclusively of the report, including that filming first be introduced at the Annual Meeting on the 3 June 2015.
7. The Panel also agreed that a review of the recording and web broadcasting of meetings should be carried out 6 months after the first film of a meeting has been published and that before the first meeting to be filmed takes place there is an appropriate level of publicity about what is proposed.
8. Cabinet is asked to consider this proposal.
9. Council will be asked for its views at the meeting on the 4 March 2015.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial

10. The estimated cost of the proposal is £6,000 per annum, but the actual cost will depend upon the outcome of the proposed procurement exercise.

Legal

11. There are no legal requirements for the Council to record or broadcast its own meetings.

RISK ASSESSMENT

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

COUNCIL PLAN IMPLICATIONS

13. Organisational and operational effectiveness and strong local democracy.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

14. Whether or not an assessment will be necessary will be determined as the proposal, if agreed, is developed.

CONSULTATION

15. All Members will have an opportunity to comment on the proposal, as they did on the principle of the Council recording/web-broadcasting its own meetings.

Head of HR and Communications

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| <u>Background Papers:</u> | None |
| <u>Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:</u> | Not Ward Specific |
| <u>Property Implications:</u> | None at this stage |