

**Agenda Item No:** **Supplementary** **Report No:** **108/14**

**Report Title:** **Update to Constitution: Recording and Filming Council meetings**

**Report To:** **Council** **Date:** **17 July 2014**

**Ward(s) Affected:** **All**

**Report By:** **Assistant Director of Corporate Services**

**Contact Officer(s)-**

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### **Purpose of Report:**

To update the Constitution to reflect the requirements of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 with regard to recording, filming, broadcasting and reporting Council meetings.

### **Officers Recommendation(s):**

- 1 That the changes to Part 4 - Rules of Procedure - Council Procedure Rules, as set out in the Appendix to this Report, be approved; and
  - 2 That the Assistant Director of Corporate Services updates the Constitution to reflect the changes set out in this Report.
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### **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 1 To ensure that the Constitution is kept updated in light of the Council's arrangements and current legislation.

### **Information**

- 2 The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 come into force on 31 July 2014. The regulations allow any person attending a public local government meeting to take photographs, film and audio-record the proceedings, and to report on the meeting.
- 3 The key change is that the regulations allow for reporting of meetings via social media of any kind, such as tweeting, blogging or via Facebook.
- 3 The Council's Constitution already allowed for recording and filming at Council meetings. The proposed changes in this Report take advantage of the new legislation to include reference to social media tools, and to draw the attention

of those who may be filming a meeting to the Data Protection rights of other members of the public attending the meeting.

- 4 In accordance with this change, some text will be added to Council and Committee meeting agendas in future highlighting that public meetings may be recorded, filmed, broadcast or reported.

### **Financial Appraisal**

- 5 There are no significant financial implications arising from these recommendations.

### **Sustainability Implications**

- 6 I have completed the Sustainability Implications Questionnaire and there are no significant effects as a result of these recommendations.

### **Legal Implications**

- 7 None, other than those set out in the body of the Report.

### **Risk Management Implications**

- 8 There are no risk management implications arising as a result of these recommendations. If the recommendations are not implemented, the main risk will be that the Constitution is not updated and does not reflect the Council's current arrangements and legislative requirements.

### **Equality Screening**

- 9 I have completed the initial Equality Analysis screening exercise and no potential negative impacts were identified as a result of these recommendations. Therefore, a full Equality Analysis is not required.

### **Background Papers**

- 10 None

### **Appendix**

- 11 **Appendix** – Part 4, Rules of Procedure, Council Procedure Rules, paragraph 23, page D19