

Council Policy Name: Recording and Livestreaming of Council Meetings

Responsible Directorate: Finance and Corporate Services

Version: Proposed

**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1. The City of Busselton’s *Standing Orders Local Law 2018* provides for the Chief Executive Officer to record the proceedings of a meeting for the purpose of taking minutes.
- 1.2. The purpose of this Policy is to further outline the City’s position with respect to the recording and Livestreaming of Council meetings and access to the recorded proceedings.

**2. SCOPE**

- 2.1. This Policy applies to the Livestreaming and recording of Council meetings and all requests for such recordings.

**3. DEFINITIONS**

Term	Meaning
Act	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
Livestream	to transmit or receive live video and audio coverage of an event over the internet with the content simultaneously recorded and broadcast in real time to the viewer
Policy	this City of Busselton Council policy titled “Recording and Livestreaming of Council Meetings”

**4. STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

- 4.1. This Policy links to Key Goal Area 6 – Leadership of the City’s Strategic Community Plan 2017 and specifically Community Objective 6:1: Governance systems, process and practices are responsible, ethical and transparent.

**5. POLICY STATEMENT**

- 5.1. All Ordinary and Special Council meetings will, wherever technically possible, be recorded on an audio device and will be made available by Livestream.
- 5.2. The primary purpose of recording and Livestreaming Council meetings is to:
  - a. assist in the preparation of the minutes of Council meetings; and
  - b. facilitate increased engagement of the community in the City’s decision making processes.
- 5.3. The official record of the meeting will be the written minutes prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act and the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*.

- 5.4. Council may resolve to close the meeting to the public in accordance with section 5.23 of the Act. Recording and the Livestream of the meeting will be ceased when the meeting is closed to the public.
- 5.5. Clear signage will be placed in the Council chamber advising members of the public that the meeting will be recorded and Livestreamed.
- 5.6. Other than in accordance with this Policy, a person must not use any recording device or instrument to record the proceedings of a meeting without the written permission of the Presiding Member.
- 5.7. The Presiding Member may rule at any time prior to or during a meeting that the Livestream be stopped.
- 5.8. Recordings of the Livestream of a meeting will be available on the City's YouTube page and / or website for a period of six months after the Livestream.
- 5.9. The City retains copyright over the Livestream and recording of its Council meetings.
- 5.10. Members of the public may, by written request to the CEO, purchase a copy of an audio recording of a meeting, with the fee for purchase set out in the City's fees and charges each year.
- 5.11. Members of the public are not entitled to receive a copy of the recording of any part of the meeting that was declared confidential and closed to the public.
- 5.12. Elected Members may request from the CEO an audio recording of a meeting at no charge.
- 5.13. All Elected Members are to be notified when requests for recordings have been received.
- 5.14. Recordings will not be transcribed.
- 5.15. Recordings will be stored and disposed of in accordance with the *State Records Act 2000*.
- 5.16. Under section 9.57A of the Act, the City is not liable for defamation in relation to a matter published on its website as part of a Livestream or recording of a Council meeting. Elected members and City Officers are not liable in defamation for any statements made in good faith or to which a defence is available under the *Defamation Act 2005*.

## 6. RELATED DOCUMENTATION / LEGISLATION

- 6.1 *City of Busselton Standing Orders Local Law 2018*
- 6.2 *Local Government Act 1995*
- 6.3 *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*
- 6.4 *State Records Act 2000*

## 7. REVIEW DETAILS

<b>Review Frequency</b>		3 yearly		
<b>Council Adoption</b>	<b>DATE</b>		<b>Resolution #</b>	
<b>Previous Adoption</b>	<b>DATE</b>	11 November 2020	<b>Resolution #</b>	C2011/127