

Council Policy Name: Audio Recording of Council Meetings

Responsible Directorate: Finance and Corporate Services

Version: Current

1. PURPOSE

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

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. This Policy applies to all Council meetings, all recorded Council meeting proceedings and all requests for such recordings.

3. DEFINITIONS

Term	Meaning
Act	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
Policy	this City of Busselton Council policy entitled “Audio Recording 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 the 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 by the City on sound recording equipment, including where Council has resolved to close the meeting to members of the public in accordance with Section 5.23 of the Act and the *City of Busselton’s Standing Orders Local Law 2018*.
- 5.2. The primary purpose of recording Council meetings is to assist in the preparation of the minutes of Council meetings.
- 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. Clear signage will be placed in the Council chamber advising members of the public that the meeting will be audio recorded. Signage will also alert members of the public to the use of any other recording, audio or visual devices in use from time to time.

- 5.5. Other than in accordance with this Policy, a person must not use any electronic, visual or audio recording device or instrument to record the proceedings of a Council (or committee) meeting without the written permission of the Presiding Member.
- 5.6. Members of the public may, by written request to the CEO, purchase a copy of the recorded proceedings, with the fee for purchase set out in the City's fees and charges each year.
- 5.7. Members of the public are not entitled to receive a copy of the recording of that part of the meeting that was declared confidential and closed to the public.
- 5.8. Elected Members may request from the CEO a copy of the recorded proceedings at no charge.
- 5.9. All Elected Members are to be notified when requests for recordings have been received.
- 5.10. Recordings will not be transcribed.
- 5.11. Recordings will be stored in accordance with the *State Records Act 2000*.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTATION / LEGISLATION

- 6.1. *Local Government Act 1995*
- 6.2. *State Records Act 2000*
- 6.3. *City of Busselton Standing Orders Local Law 2018*

7. REVIEW DETAILS

Review Frequency		3 yearly		
Council Adoption	DATE	26 June 2019	Resolution #	C1906/108
Previous Adoption	DATE	N/A	Resolution #	N/A