

## **FILMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**At the Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> December 2014 the Finance and General Purposes Committee approved the following protocol for the filming of meetings. This is a temporary protocol as more investigation is carried out.**

**Members of the Public are asked to make the clerk aware in advance of the meeting should they wish to film so that the Chairman can alert all persons present. They are asked to read and abide by the following, failure to do so could result in the meeting being adjourned and their being asked to desist filming.**

### **PROTOCOL ON THE RECORDING AND FILMING OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

(1) The Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014 allows the right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the council, committees and sub committees. This is in addition to the rights of the press and public to attend such meetings. Meetings or parts of meetings from which the press and public are excluded may not be filmed or recorded

(2) Members of the public and press are permitted to film or record meetings to which they are permitted access provided it is do so in a non-disruptive manner. The use of digital and social media (Twitter, blogging or audio recording) is allowed provided that it is done so in a non-disruptive way and that it does not interfere with any person's ability, even where he or she has a disability, to follow the meeting proceedings and debate.

(3) Those attending the meeting are deemed to have consented to the filming, recording or broadcasting of meetings. Those exercising their rights to film, record and broadcast must respect the rights of other people attending under the Data Protection Act 1998. The Chairman of the meeting has the authority to stop a meeting and take appropriate action if any person contravenes these principles or is deemed to be recording in a disruptive manner.

(4) Any person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the Council or committee is responsible for any claims or other liability from them so doing.

(5) The Council ask those recording proceedings not to edit the film or recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation of the proceedings, or infringe the core values of the Council. This includes refraining from editing an image or views expresses in a way that may ridicule, offend or show lack of respect towards those being filmed or recorded.

(6) The Council will display requirements as to filming, recording and broadcasting at its meeting venues and those undertaking these activities will be deemed to have accepted them whether they have read them or not.

(7) The Council may itself photograph, film, record and broadcast meetings and can retain, use or dispose of such material in accordance with its retention and disposal policies.