

COUNCIL REPORTS

	Councillor Steve Tucker Councillor John Nell
328	It was resolved that Item 18, 9 and 13 be brought forward and dealt with in the Ordinary Council meeting prior to moving into Committee of the Whole.

ITEM NO. 18

FILE NO: PSC2011-02748

COUNCIL MEETING WEBCASTING - IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT

REPORT OF: TONY WICKHAM – EXECUTIVE OFFICER
GROUP: GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE

RECOMMENDATION IS THAT COUNCIL:

- 1) Receive and note the report.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 11 DECEMBER 2012

MOTION

329	Councillor Steve Tucker Councillor Ken Jordan
	It was resolved that Council immediately cease broadcasting Council meetings via the internet.

A division was called.

Those for the Motion: Crs Bruce Mackenzie, Paul Le Mottee, Ken Jordan, Chris Doohan, Steve Tucker, John Morello and Sally Dover.

Those against the Motion: Crs Peter Kafer, Geoff Dingle and John Nell.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a status report on the implementation of the webcasting of Council meetings.

Council commenced webcasting Council meetings "live" via the internet on the 27th March 2012.

The statistics shown at **ATTACHMENT 1** provide details of the number of people accessing the "live" broadcast during a Council meeting and also the number of viewers accessing the archived recording.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with the "live" broadcast have increased as a result of the change in the Council meeting cycle. Council resolved to hold two Ordinary Council meeting at its meeting in September 2012.

Source of Funds	Yes/No	Funding (\$)	Comment
Existing budget	No	\$9,900	These costs are not included in the existing budget as this service was introduced after the 2012/13 draft budget was finalised. It is anticipated that these costs will be able to be covered by saving from the changes to Council meeting cycle.
Reserve Funds	No		
Section 94	No		
External Grants	No		
Other	No		

LEGAL, POLICY AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

As Council is aware a number of Councils across Australia are moving towards broadcasting meetings of Council. This however does come with an element of legal risk. Any person speaking at a meeting would need to ensure that they do not breach the privacy legislation and also defamation is a factor. As Council would appreciate, generally speaking once the files are available on the internet they can be difficult to completely remove should there be a breach of legislation. Councillors do not have parliamentary privilege, unlike Federal and State members of Parliament.

Risk	Risk Ranking	Proposed Treatments	Within Existing Resources?
There is a legal risk that needs to be considered with broadcasting Council meeting "live" via the internet. Council maybe liable for any breaches of legislation such as the Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998 and also any defamatory	High	Councillors have been previously advised of the legal risk associated with broadcasting "live" meetings.	Yes

comments or statements made during the meeting.			
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SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Includes Social, Economic and Environmental Implications

The provision of broadcasting via the internet does allow members of the community who are not allowed to attend the meeting, or who reside a distance from the Council Chambers, to view the proceedings. This does provide for greater level of openness and transparency.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OPTIONS

- 1) Adopt the recommendation.
- 2) Amend the recommendation.
- 3) Reject the recommendation.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Viewer statistics

COUNCILLORS ROOM

Nil.

TABLED DOCUMENTS

Nil.

ATTACHMENT 1

The table below provides the statistics of the number of "live" viewers and the number of viewers in the archived state.

Meeting date	Number of views in "live" state	Number of views in archived state
27.3.2012	Data not available due to technology problems from an external supplier	26
24.4.2012	Data not available due to technology problems from an external supplier	40
29.5.2012	Data not available due to technology problems from an external supplier	51
26.6.2012	Data not available due to technology problems from an external supplier	105
24.7.12	No broadcast due to technology problems from an external provider	No broadcast due to technology problems from an external provider
August	No meetings due to the local government election	No meetings due to the local government election
25.9.2012	90	88
9.10.2012	23	146
23.10.2012	40	94
27.11.2012	72	13

Note: Council should be mindful that the number of views can be increased by the same individual accessing the recordings from different computers. (ie. if a person has 3 computers and the same person accessed the recording from each computer it would be counted as 3 views).