

## **Leeds City Council**

### **Recording<sup>1</sup> Protocol: Third Party Recording of Committees, Boards and Panels**

**The council wants to be open and transparent in the way in which it conducts its decision-making.**

**Recording is allowed at all meetings of the authority<sup>2</sup> to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings.**

1. Filming or other recording of all meetings of the authority, whilst those meetings are open to the public, is permitted<sup>3 4</sup>.
2. Those wishing to record proceedings should, as a courtesy, inform the chair (or clerk) of the committee of their intentions to record prior to the commencement of the meeting.
3. Recordings may only be taken overtly from the area designated for the public and;
  - a. Recording devices must be in silent mode
  - b. No flash or additional lighting is permitted
  - c. Recordings must be taken from one fixed position and must not obstruct others from observing proceedings
4. The chair of a meeting has the authority to instruct that recordings be stopped where<sup>5</sup>:
  - a. The press and public have been excluded from the meeting due to the nature of (exempt or confidential) business being discussed.
  - b. There is public disturbance or a suspension/adjournment of a meeting
  - c. The recording has become disruptive or distracting to the good order and conduct of the meeting.
  - d. Continued recording is against the wishes of an individual<sup>6</sup>

#### **Use of Recordings by Third Parties– code of practice**

Following representations received from interested third parties, the following code of practice has been drawn up concerning the use of recordings.

- A. Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.
- B. Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.

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<sup>1</sup> This includes both video and audio recording

<sup>2</sup> Including full Council, committees (boards and panels) established by full Council (and sub committees appointed by those committees) and Executive Board.

<sup>3</sup> In accordance with any regulations relating to such matters.

<sup>4</sup> All agendas will indicate that recordings may be made at the meeting by third parties; signage will also be displayed indicating this

<sup>5</sup> In all cases recording equipment must be switched off.

<sup>6</sup> Where members of the public raise an objection to being recorded, then those individuals will not be filmed. However continued audio recording will be permitted where the contributions are material to the resolutions to be made.