

Council, 8 September 2009

Opposition Policy Item: Councillor Jack Cohen

Videoing (webcast) of Council Meetings

Council notes that many residents are unable to attend meetings of Council. On the other hand often when there is considerable public interest there is not enough seating available in the public gallery. Other Councils are now beginning to introduce videoing of Council meetings. This provides for both live and archived transmission of meetings. Council also note that the BBC series "The Planners are Coming "contained much footage of the planning sub committee. It is generally recognised that the series enhanced the role and reputation of both Members and Officers.

Council believes that we should optimise all the technology at our disposal to improve our engagement with our residents and beyond. Council therefore asks Cabinet to develop a strategy to provide live webcams of Council and Committee meetings with the objective of introducing this as soon as possible.