

**Survey results of Webcast meetings and Remote Attendance  
Democratic Services Committee and Constitution Committee  
26 March 2014**

QUESTION	RESPONSES
Do you feel the arrangements impeded or helped the conduct of the meeting and the reasons why?	Awareness of the technology affected the natural flow of business to a very limited effect <i>(Councillor Guest)</i>
	Helped conduct. Members were more aware of how to present points of view (minimised heckling) <i>(Councillor Gay)</i>
	Helped conduct of meeting <i>(Councillor Cox)</i>
	There was a certain novelty. Otherwise nothing either way <i>(Councillor Woolley)</i>
	A little but not too much <i>(Councillor Mackie)</i>
	No view <i>(Councillor Evans)</i>
	Problems needed to be solved but explained later by Public-I rep <i>(Anonymous)</i>
	A great deal of preparation and setting up required for so little advantage <i>(Councillor Bithell)</i>
	My presence, attending the meeting remotely, meant that my view was able to be heard <i>(Councillor Newhouse)</i>

QUESTION	RESPONSES
Do you think there are issues that arose during the trial meetings that would need addressing if we were to pursue either Webcasting or Remote Attendance?	Positioning of the screen(s) with the meeting room <i>(Councillor Guest)</i>
	Members full name. Possibly include ward/town/community where relevant. Remote attendance requests to be considered as norm if Member has good reason for non attendance. 'Burning desire to speak to Committee' <i>(Councillor Gay)</i>
	Yes – as per agenda <i>(Councillor Cox)</i>
	Additional cost? Guarantee of picture/sound quality? Languages? Attendance? Substitution problems? <i>(Councillor Woolley)</i>
	The remote person should be able to indicate electronically that they wish to speak. Could a presentation be seen by the remote person? Voting should be seen <i>(Councillor Mackie)</i>
	Additional cost? Guarantee of picture/sound quality? Languages? Attendance? Substitution problems? <i>(Councillor Woolley)</i>
	The remote person should be able to indicate electronically that they wish to speak. Could a presentation be seen by the remote person? Voting should be seen <i>(Councillor Mackie)</i>
	It is a trial so can expect teething troubles which can be ironed out <i>(Councillor Banks)</i>

	No view <i>(Councillor Evans)</i>
	Some teething problems <i>(Anonymous)</i>
	The sound quality was not good and the picture image was fuzzy – technical issues which no doubt could be improved in time. The Member attending remotely can't see how other Members voted and therefore required a recorded vote <i>(Councillor Bithell)</i>
	When colleagues voted against a decision I didn't have time to see who had voted. Therefore I called for a recorded vote <i>(Councillor Newhouse)</i>

QUESTION	RESPONSES
Any other comments you wish to make about either Webcasting or Remote Attendance?	Limits on circumstances in which it could be used may be needed – absence on business or health grounds possibly? <i>(Councillor Guest)</i>
	21 <sup>st</sup> Century communication for involving residents to assist with understanding of the ways of the 'political engine'. Electronic voting? <i>(Councillor Gay)</i>
	Not against progress but let us have all of the pros and cons please <i>(Councillor Woolley)</i>
	Great idea. Future generations will expect this <i>(Councillor Banks)</i>
	No view <i>(Councillor Evans)</i>
	What is the potential cost to this system <i>(Anonymous)</i>
	I consider this to be a terrible waste of public money at a time of huge cuts in essential front line services on which people depend. At £40k per local authority that amounts to £880,000 over 22 Local Authorities. This is a disgusting waste at such a desperate time for Local Government and its customers. One off funding from WG – we couldn't afford to sustain it in the future nor would we want to <i>(Councillor Bithell)</i>
	Remote attendance should be allowed at all Council meetings for any reason. Not allowing remote attendance is disenfranchising Councillors (and prospective Councillors) who work for a living

(Councillor Newhouse)