



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	The live streaming and archiving of Council proceedings on the internet
Date:	Friday, 18 November, 2011
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
Contact Officer:	Gareth Quinn, Senior Democratic Services Officer

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Members will recall that the Committee, at its meeting on 21 October 2011, was advised that the tendering system had been completed and the successful tender had been approved by the Assistant Chief Executive/Town Solicitor. The system has now been installed and was tested during the Council meeting on 1 November 2011. The live webcasting will begin at the Council meeting on 1 December 2011.

2	Key Issues
2.1	Members had previously indicated that thought should be given as to how the conduct of the Council meetings might be impacted upon when the live broadcasts commence. In particular Members were keen to ensure that the reputation of the Council would not be adversely affected.
2.2	Members are advised that a Protocol for the live streaming and archiving of Council proceedings on the internet has been developed which is attached as Appendix 1. More detailed discussion on the conduct of Council meetings will take place as part of the forthcoming review of Council Standing Orders.
2.3	Once the system has been in operation for a period of 3 months, the protocol will be reviewed to ensure its relevance.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	N/A

4	Equality Implications
4.1	N/A

5	Recommendations
5.1	Members are asked to agree the Protocol attached.

6	Decision Tracking
Officers responsible: Gareth Quinn, Senior Democratic Services Officer Dec 2011	

7	Key to Abbreviations
N/A	

8	Documents attached
Appendix 1 – Protocol for the live webstreaming of Council Meetings	