

19. Towards Paperless Council Meetings - A proposal

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The Council incurs significant costs (both environmental and financial) in the production of printed papers for meetings. This proposal aims to facilitate a partial switch to paperless meetings in order to reduce those costs.

Proposal

1. The council shall encourage the use of private laptops at all council meetings in order to reduce paper usage by:

a. Making available a power socket available at each seat at the council table (under or on the table.) Cost: this should be achievable by the purchase of 2 or 3 multi-sockets on extension leads. The cost would be very modest and both the financial and environmental costs could be expected to be recouped in a relatively short time (by the saving in paper and printing costs.)

b. Inviting those councillors able and willing to make this change to make themselves known to the admin team in order to reduce the number of paper copies made.

Notes

1. It might be required to have the multi sockets and the private laptops PAT tested. Presumably we have facilities to do this in-house.

2. There are currently 3 pairs of wall sockets in the Council Chamber and they are not conveniently situated for this purpose. Connection of trailing multi-socket leads to at least four of those sockets would present a trip hazard both for councillors and for visiting members of the public. The trip hazard would be ameliorated by the purchase and use of trip-hazard mats to cover the leads.