

**OTHER EAST KENT COUNCILS' PRACTICES AND POLICIES – USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND LAPTOPS AT MEETINGS**

EAST KENT COUNCILS	Practice / Policy – mobile phones		Practice / Policy – laptops	
	Committee Members	Members of the Public	Committee Members	Members of the Public
<b>Canterbury</b>	Recording of meetings prohibited.	Recording of meetings prohibited	No limitations on the use of laptops at meetings. Use of ipads being piloted at present	No limitations on the use of laptops at meetings.
<b>Dover</b>	Basic rule is that recording of meetings or anything that would unreasonably disrupt the meeting is prohibited.  [It is intended, however, to review policy in the near future]	Use of mobile phones <u>not permitted</u> as it interferes with the microphone system, and therefore the hearing loop. To that end, mobile phones are required to be switched off by the public when entering meeting rooms.	Laptops/ tablets permitted by councillors to enable them to view agenda information at the meeting.	Same as for councillors; however, it is stressed to members of the public with a laptop that they are not permitted to use any built-in webcams or microphones to record anything.
<b>Shepway</b>	Policy that Councillors' mobile phones are to be <u>turned off</u> before proceedings commence. An announcement is made at the beginning of meetings to that effect.  A review is expected to take place in the near future.	It is expected that members of the public turn off 'phones, but this has not been enforced.	No policy; no-one ever takes a laptop to meetings	Same as for committee members
<b>Ashford</b>	No policy – but committee members are asked to switch their 'phones to be on silent.	Same as for committee members	Some Councillors use laptops at meetings to view meeting agenda information.	No policy; no member of the public has been known to take a laptop to a meeting.