

## MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

### Council set to live stream meetings

With social media driving community expectations for greater connectedness, access and visibility, Waratah-Wynyard Council has voted in favour of live streaming Council meetings.

At the September meeting Councillors voted to implement live streaming by January 2020, pending a successful trial of equipment prior to the end of the year.

Live streaming is expected to increase the community's access to meetings and connection with Council decision-making processes. It will enable access to meetings by people in the community that may not otherwise be able to physically attend.

"One of the actions from Council's Communications and Engagement Strategy was to encourage more community members to attend Council meetings and have their say," Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh said.

"While Council decisions are supported by agenda papers and minutes of the meetings which are made available to the public via Council's website, Council needs to communicate in a world that is changing."

"The public will have greater transparency than ever before and by watching debate, will gain a deeper appreciation for why some decisions are reached."

Council will undertake internal testing using currently available equipment and software to ensure a quality recording can be achieved and if testing is deemed successful, the January 2020 meeting will be the first to be live streamed.

It is understood four other Tasmanian councils have adopted live streaming: Hobart City, Launceston City, Clarence City and Glamorgan Spring Bay councils, however not all these four provide both video and audio.

**Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Tuesday, October 15.**

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