**Policy**

Public Internet Use & Wireless Access

# Policy Type

Council

# Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the City of Cockburn’s commitment to serving the information access needs of the community by providing free access to the internet through its wireless network (Cockburn Free Wi-Fi) and public computers such as those located in the City’s libraries (the service).

This policy is also to ensure that users of the City’s wireless network and public computers are aware of their obligations when using the service.

# Policy Statement

The City of Cockburn (the City) recognises that internet access is of growing importance to an increasingly mobile community and is helping to bridge the digital divide by providing free access to the internet.

The City requires that public users (users) of the service abide by this Policy and the supporting Acceptable Use of Public Wi-Fi Internet Terms and Conditions. By using the public computers and wireless service, users acknowledge that they have read and agree to abide by this Policy and the Terms and Conditions.

Although the internet generally provides access to information that is valuable and enlightening, the user may encounter information that is controversial, offensive, disturbing, inaccurate or illegal. Apart from basic firewall filtration, the City does not actively monitor and has no control over the information available on the internet and is not responsible for the content, accuracy, or quality of information retrieved or images viewed.

The City cannot guarantee the security of the wireless network at all times. The access and use of the internet service is at the user’s own risk. Access to the internet by children under the age of 16 is the responsibility of the child’s parent or guardian.

The City respects the user’s right to privacy and will not capture any personal information while the user is accessing the wireless internet service unless consent is granted.

The service is intended to be used in a fair and “community-minded” manner. The City prohibits use of its public computers and wireless network for illegal purposes. Unlawful activities may result in prosecution.

The following legislative framework underpins the authority of this Policy and the associated Terms and Conditions:

* Privacy Act 1988
* Copyright Act 1968
* Telecommunications Act 1997

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