



# CHERBOURG ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

22 BARAMBAH AVENUE  
CHERBOURG QLD 4605

Phone: (07) 4168 1866  
Fax: (07) 4168 2727

## INTERNET, EMAIL AND COMPUTER USE POLICY

### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This policy sets out the standards of behaviour expected of Persons using Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council ("CASC")'s computer facilities, or when making reference to CASC on external sites.

### 2. COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY

- 2.1 This policy will commence from 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018. It replaces all other policies relating to use of CASC's computers, internet and email facilities (whether written or not).

### 3. APPLICATION OF POLICY

- 3.1 This policy applies to all people who use CASC's Computer Network by any means (**Users**). The policy also applies to Users who contribute to external blogs and sites who identify themselves as associated with CASC.
- 3.2 This policy also sets out the type of surveillance that will be carried out in CASC's workplace, relating to the use of CASC's Computer Network.
- 3.3 This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment. Nor does it form part of any other User's contract for service.

### 4. DEFINITIONS

- 4.1 In this policy:
- (a) " **Blogging** " means the act of using web log or 'blog'. 'Blog' is an abbreviated version of 'weblog' which is a term used to describe websites that maintain an ongoing chronicle of information. A blog is a frequently updated website featuring diary-style commentary, audio-visual material and links to articles on other websites.
- (b) " **Confidential Information** " includes but is not limited to trade secrets of CASC; non-public information about the organisation and affairs of CASC such as: pricing information such as internal cost and pricing rates, production scheduling software, special supply information; marketing or strategy plans; exclusive supply agreements or arrangements; commercial and business plans; commission structures; contractual arrangements with third parties; tender policies and arrangements; financial information and data; sales and training materials; technical data; schematics; proposals and intentions; designs; policies and procedures documents; concepts not reduced to material form; information which is personal information for the purposes of privacy law; and all other information obtained from CASC or obtained in the course of working or providing services to CASC that is by its nature confidential.



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- (c) **“Computer Surveillance”** means surveillance by means of software or other equipment that monitors or records information input or output, or other use, of CASC’s Computer Network (including, but not limited to, the sending and receipt of emails and the accessing of websites).
- (d) **“Computer Network”** includes all CASC internet, email and computer facilities which are used by Users, inside and outside working hours, in the workplace of CASC (or a related corporation of CASC) or at any other place while performing work for CASC (or a related corporation of CASC). It includes, but is not limited to, desktop computers, laptop computers, Blackberrys, Palm Pilots, PDAs, other handheld electronic devices, smart phones and similar products, and any other means of accessing CASC’s email, internet and computer facilities, (including, but not limited to, a personal home computer which has access to CASC’s IT systems).
- (e) **“Intellectual Property”** means all forms of intellectual property rights throughout the world including copyright, patent, design, trade mark, trade name, and all Confidential Information and including know-how and trade secrets.
- (f) **“Person”** includes any natural person, company, partnership, association, trust, business, or other organisation or entity of any description and a Person’s legal personal representative(s), successors, assigns or substitutes.

## 5. USE OF INTERNET, EMAIL AND COMPUTERS

- 5.1 Where use is allowed, Users are entitled to use CASC’s Computer Network only for legitimate business purposes.
- 5.2 Users are permitted to use CASC’s Computer Network for limited and reasonable personal use. However any such personal use must not impact upon the User’s work performance or CASC resources or violate this policy or any other CASC policy.
- 5.3 A User must not use CASC’s Computer Network for personal use if that use interferes with the efficient business operations of CASC or relates to a personal business of the User.
- 5.4 CASC gives no warranty or assurance about the confidentiality or privacy of any personal information disclosed by any User in the course of using the Computer Network for the User’s personal purposes.

## 6. REQUIREMENTS FOR USE

- 6.1 Users must comply with the following rules when using CASC’s Computer Network.
  - (a) Users must use their own username/login code and/or password when accessing the Computer Network.



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- (b) Users in possession of CASC electronic equipment must at all times handle the equipment in a responsible manner and ensure that the equipment is kept secure.
- (c) Users should protect their username/login code and password information at all times and not divulge such information to any other Person, unless it is necessary to do so for legitimate business reasons.
- (d) Users should ensure that when not in use or unattended, the Computer System is shut down.
- (e) If a User receives an email which the User suspects contains a virus, the User should not open the email or attachment to the email and should immediately contact the Corporate Services Department for assistance.
- (f) If a User receives an email the content of which (including an image, text, materials or software) is in breach of this policy, the User should immediately delete the email and report the matter to the Corporate Services Department. The User must not forward the email to any other Person.

## 7. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

7.1 Users must not send (or cause to be sent), upload, download, use, retrieve, or access any email or material on CASC's Computer Network that:

- (a) is obscene, offensive or inappropriate. This includes text, images, sound or any other material, sent either in an email or in an attachment to an email, or through a link to a site (URL). For example, material of a sexual nature, indecent or pornographic material;
- (b) causes (or could cause) insult, offence, intimidation or humiliation;
- (c) may be defamatory or could adversely impact the image or reputation of CASC. A defamatory message or material is a message or material that is insulting or lowers the reputation of a Person or group of people;
- (d) is illegal, unlawful or inappropriate;
- (e) affects the performance of, or causes damage to CASC's Computer System in any way; or
- (f) gives the impression of or is representing, giving opinions or making statements on behalf of CASC without the express authority of CASC. Further, Users must not transmit or send CASC's documents or emails (in any format) to any external parties or organisations unless expressly authorised to do so.

7.2 Users must not use CASC's Computer Network:

- (a) to violate copyright or other intellectual property rights. Computer software that is protected by copyright is not to be copied from, or into, or by using



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CASC's computing facilities, except as permitted by law or by contract with the owner of the copyright;

- (b) in a manner contrary to CASC's privacy policy;
- (c) to create any legal or contractual obligations on behalf of CASC unless expressly authorised by CASC;
- (d) to disclose any Confidential Information of CASC or any customer, client or supplier of CASC's unless expressly authorised by CASC;
- (e) to install software or run unknown or unapproved programs on CASC's Computer Network. Under no circumstances should Users modify the software or hardware environments on CASC's Computer Network;
- (f) to gain unauthorised access (hacking) into any other computer within CASC or outside CASC, or attempt to deprive other Users of access to or use of CASC's Computer Network;
- (g) to send or cause to be sent chain or SPAM emails in any format;
- (h) to use CASC computer facilities for personal gain. For example, running a personal business.

7.3 Users must not use another User's Computer Network facilities (including passwords and usernames/login codes) for any reason without the express permission of the User or CASC.

## 8. DETAILS ON BLOCKING EMAIL OR INTERNET ACCESS

8.1 CASC reserves the right to prevent (or cause to be prevented) the delivery of an email sent to or from a User, or access to an internet website by a User, if the content of the email or the internet website is considered:

- (a) obscene, offensive or inappropriate. This includes text, images, sound or any other material, sent either in an e-mail message or in an attachment to a message, or through a link to an internet website (URL). For example, material of a sexual nature, indecent or pornographic material;
- (b) causes or may cause insult, offence, intimidation or humiliation;;
- (c) defamatory or may incur liability or adversely impacts on the image or reputation of CASC. A defamatory message or material is a message or material that is insulting or lowers the reputation of a Person or a group of people;
- (d) illegal, unlawful or inappropriate;
- (e) to have the potential to affect the performance of, or cause damage to or overload CASC Computer Network, or internal or external communications in any way;



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- (f) to give the impression of or is representing, giving opinions or making statements on behalf of CASC without the express authority of CASC.
- 8.2 In the case that an email is prevented from being delivered to or from a User, the User will receive a prevented delivery notice. The notice will inform the User that the delivery of the email has been prevented. The notice will not be given if delivery is prevented in the belief that:
- (a) the email was considered to be SPAM, or contain potentially malicious software; or
  - (b) the content of the email (or any attachment) would or might have resulted in an unauthorised interference with, damage to or operation of any program run or data stored on any of CASC's equipment; or
  - (c) the email (or any attachment) would be regarded by a reasonable Person as being, in all the circumstances, menacing, harassing or offensive.
- 8.3 CASC is not required to give a prevented delivery notice for any email messages sent by a User if CASC is not aware (and could not reasonably be expected to be aware) of the identity of the User who sent the e-mail or is not aware that the e-mail was sent by the User.
- 9. TYPE OF SURVEILLANCE IN CASC'S WORKPLACE**
- 9.1 On a continuous and ongoing basis during the period of this policy, CASC will carry out Computer Surveillance of any User at such times of CASC's choosing and without further notice to any User.
- 9.2 Computer Surveillance occurs in relation to:
- (a) storage volumes;
  - (b) internet sites - every web site visited is recorded including the time of access, volume downloaded and the duration of access;
  - (c) download volumes;
  - (d) suspected malicious code or viruses;
  - (e) emails - the content of all emails received, sent and stored on the Computer Network. (This also includes emails deleted from the Inbox); and
  - (f) computer hard drives - CASC may access any hard drive on the Computer Network.
- 9.3 CASC retains logs, backups and archives of computing activities, which it may audit. Such records are the property of CASC, are subject to State and Federal laws and may be used as evidence in legal proceedings, or in workplace investigations into suspected misconduct.



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## 10. WHAT WILL THE COMPUTER SURVEILLANCE RECORDS BE USED FOR?

- 10.1 CASC may use and disclose the Computer Surveillance records where that use or disclosure is:
- (a) for a purpose related to the employment of any employee or related to CASC's business activities; or
  - (b) use or disclosure to a law enforcement agency in connection with an offence; or
  - (c) use or disclosure in connection with legal proceedings; or
  - (d) use or disclosure reasonably believed to be necessary to avert an imminent threat of serious violence to any Person or substantial damage to property.
- 10.2 For example, use or disclosure of Computer Surveillance records can occur in circumstances of assault, suspected assault, theft or suspected theft of CASC's property (or that of a related corporation of CASC) or damage to CASC's equipment or facilities (or that of a related corporation of CASC).

## 11. STANDARDS IN RELATION TO BLOGS AND SITES NOT OPERATED BY CASC

- 11.1 CASC acknowledges that Users have the right to contribute content to public communications on websites not operated by CASC, such as social networking sites like MySpace, Facebook or YouTube. However, inappropriate use of such communications has the potential to cause damage to CASC, employees, clients and suppliers. For that reason, the following provisions apply to all Users:
- 11.2 As it may not be possible for any user of an external site to conduct a search that will identify any blogged comments about CASC, Users must **not** publish any material which identifies themselves as being associated with CASC.
- 11.3 Users must not publish any material that may expose CASC to any possible legal liability. Examples include, but are not limited to, defamation or discrimination proceedings.

## 12. WARNING

- 12.1 Apart from the potentially damaging effects a blog may have on CASC, inappropriate blogs on internal or external sites can also have adverse consequences for a User in terms of future career prospects, as the material remains widely and permanently accessible to other site users.

## 13. ENFORCEMENT

- 13.1 Users must comply with the requirements of this policy. Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action which may include termination of employment (or, for Persons other than employees, the termination or non-renewal of contractual arrangements).



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13.2 Other disciplinary action that may be taken includes, but is not limited to, issuing a warning, suspension or disconnection of access to all or part of CASC's Computer Network whether permanently or on a temporary basis.

## Variations

CASC reserves the right to vary, replace or terminate this policy from time to time.

## POLICY VERSION AND REVISION INFORMATION

Policy Authorised by: Warren Collins                      Original issue: 24/07/2018

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Policy Maintained by: Julianne Hansen                      Current version: 1

Title: Human Resources Manager

Review date: 24/07/2019

## WORKPLACE PARTICIPANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*I acknowledge:*

- *receiving the CASC Policy;*
- *that I should comply with the policy; and*
- *that there may be disciplinary consequences if I fail to comply, which may result in the termination of my employment.*

Your name:

Signed:

Date:

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