Policy C13 – Public Computer Use – Murray Library

1. Policy Intention

To provide effective and efficient use of public computers (PC), online and wireless services whilst ensuring Council is not legally compromised by its provision of these services.

2. Policy

2.1 Access

The Murray Library provide access to computers and online information services as one method of satisfying the information, recreation and cultural needs of the community. Policy guidelines are in place as set out below, and contravention of these may result in a patron being prohibited from using the Murray Library computers or wireless network. Illegal use may incur prosecution.

2.1.1 Access to the public computers will be in half hour blocks on a first-come first served basis unless a prior booking has been made. Charges apply for some services including printing, scanning and photocopying.

2.1.2 The Shire of Murray (Shire) cannot guarantee continuous internet access during the computer or wireless internet time booked.

2.2 Internet Use

2.2.1 On its public access PCs, the Shire uses filtering software with the intention of avoiding access to material which may contravene the *WA Censorship Act 1996.* However, no such software is guaranteed secure, or can guarantee blocking of what may be considered to be “objectionable” material.

2.2.2 All users of the internet must not knowingly access sites containing objectionable material under the *WA Censorship Act 1996*. A copy of the *WA Censorship Act 1996* is displayed at the public computers.

2.2.3 All users of the internet must abide by the *WA Censorship Act 1996*, section 102 which bans the use of the internet to transmit restricted material to a minor or to make restricted material available to a minor.

2.2.4 Restriction of a child’s access to the internet is the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

2.2.5 The Shire takes no responsibility for any damages, direct or indirect, arising from use of its server. Patrons are required to make their own assessment of the truth, completeness, accuracy or suitability of internet information.

2.2.6 It is the responsibility of patrons to familiarise themselves with relevant copyright legislation to enable them to use online and other resources appropriately. A copy of the *Copyright Regulations 1969* is displayed at the public computers.

2.2.7 The internet is not a secure, private environment. Patrons undertaking financial transactions or other activities that require confidentiality do so at their own risk. Information sent on the wireless service may be accessed by another wireless device. Security and antivirus measures are the

responsibility of the wireless device owner.

2.2.8 The Shire respects users' rights to privacy but will comply with law enforcement agencies that issue warrants to inspect library electronic systems and logs. These are also subject to monitoring by network administrators in the usual performance of their duties.

2.2.9 Prohibited activity includes but is not restricted to accessing sexually explicit material, games, personal and dating sites, gambling, criminal activity, hacking, phishing, proxies and translators, sending unsolicited bulk email, defamation.

2.2.10 Download limits apply.

2.3 Other

2.3.1 Patrons are not permitted to modify the installed hardware or software in any way.

2.3.2 Data may be saved to removable storage devices, but the Shire makes no assurances about the integrity of data.

2.3.3 Library staff will only provide basic access assistance in the use of the public online services.

2.3.4 The terms and conditions for using the Murray Library computers to access the internet are displayed and all users must comply at all times.

Policy Detail		
Responsible Directorate	Community and Economic Development	
Responsible Department	Community and Library Services	
Responsible Officer	Manager Community and Library Services	
Next Policy Review / Schedule	2027 (3-yearly)	
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