

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

Labour Group suggestions

1. Part 4 para 11.1 – current time limit for Notices on Motion is that they must be received on the 12th day before the meeting. This is usually the Friday two weeks before Council. Proposal is to reduce this to 7 days i.e. for the motions to be received by the Monitoring Officer by 9 am on the Wednesday of the week preceding the meeting.
2. Part 4 para 11.6 – rules regarding rejection of Notices of Motion – proposal to remove 11.6 (e) i.e. that the Monitoring Officer may reject a notice if “ it is not of a strategic nature”.
3. Part 4 para 11.8 – the ability to use this section to refer a matter to Cabinet or another committee should only be exercised in advance of the time being placed on the agenda and not at a later stage i.e. at the Council meeting itself. If used as intended will then align with 11.10 re putting an explanation of the referral on the agenda.
4. Part 4 para 11.12 – current time limit for debate of motions at Full Council is one hour. Proposal is that this be extended to two hours.
5. Part 4 para 13.6 (a) (i) – amendments to motions – proposal is to remove this ground for amending a motion. Current wording is “ to refer the matter to an appropriate body or individual for consideration or reconsideration.”
6. Part 4 para 13.11 (c) - motion that question be now put to the vote – ability to put this be more strictly defined to stop either the proposer or seconder from being able to have their own motion moved to a vote.
7. Part 4 para 10.3 – Announcements by the Leader – greater clarification needed of what Leaders Announcements should consist of. If it is to include political comments (as opposed to neutral announcements regarding the activities of the Council) then there should be a right of reply.

8. Part 8 para 6 – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – proposed change that the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Board be from the largest non controlling party.