

Governance and Ethics Committee

20 October 2022

Report title	Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield, Governance and Equalities	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Democratic Services	
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Report to be considered by	Council	2 November 2022

Recommendation for decision:

The Governance and Ethics Committee is recommended to recommend that Council:

1. Approves the Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public and implement from December 2022.
2. Authorise the Chief Operating Officer to publicise the Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public on the Council's website.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose a Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Council, at its meeting on 20 July 2022, agreed revisions to the constitution which permitted questions by members of the public. It was noted that a protocol would be drafted to detail the practicalities of how questions by members of the public will be dealt with.

2.2 As set out in the Full Council Meetings Procedure Rules, Questions by Members of the Public can currently be asked to the Leader or member of the Cabinet.

2.3 15 minutes are set aside for questions from members of the public.

3.0 Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public

3.1 The proposed protocol for questions by members of the public is enclosed at Appendix 1.

3.2 The purpose of this protocol is to provide guidance to members of the public, Councillors and officers on how the public can submit and ask questions at Full Council meeting and how questions at Council meetings shall be dealt with.

3.3 It is intended the protocol be read alongside, and to be complementary to, Part 4 of the Constitution – Full Council Meetings Procedure Rules.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendation within this report.
[GE/11082022/Q]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising the recommendation within this report.
[SZ/12082022/P]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 There no equalities implications arising from the recommendation within this report.

7.0 All other Implications

7.1 There are no other implications arising from the recommendation within this report.

8.0 Schedule of background papers

8.1 [Agenda for Council on Wednesday, 20th July, 2022, 6.00 pm :: Wolverhampton City Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/Agenda/Agenda-for-Council-on-Wednesday-20th-July-2022-6.00-pm-::Wolverhampton-City-Council)

9.0 Apprentices

9.1 Appendix 1: Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public