

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11

11.0 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

11.1 Questions on Notice

- (a) At each meeting of the Council (except the Annual Meeting, any Extraordinary Meeting or the Budget Meeting) a continuous period of not more than 30 minutes from the commencement of the first question shall be available for oral questions.
- (b) During question time, a Member may ask the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader, any Executive Member¹ or the Chair of any committee² established under Rule 1.1(g), through the Lord Mayor, any question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties, or which affects the City of Leeds, or to a Member of the Council who is a nominated representative of the West Yorkshire Authorities for Integrated Transport, Police or Fire and Rescue, on the discharge of the functions of the relevant joint Authority or who has been nominated to answer questions about the activities of a company in which the Council have an interest.
- (c) A question shall not be asked in the absence of the Member in whose name it stands unless they have given authority in writing to the Chief Executive for it to be asked by some other Member of the Council.

11.2 Notice of Questions

Notice in writing of the question must be given to the Chief Executive before 10.00am on the Monday preceding the Council meeting.

11.3 Response

- (a) Every question shall be put and answered without discussion but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer.
- (b) A Member to whom a question is addressed shall have discretion to nominate a Member to answer such question where the Member considers that the answer would most appropriately be given by such nominee.

¹ In relation to any matter within their portfolio.

² In relation to any matter within the committee's terms of reference.

11.4 Form of Response

An answer may take the form of:

- (a) a direct oral answer, or where the desired information is contained in a publication of the Council or of the relevant Joint Authority or Joint Committee, a reference to that publication; or
- (b) where the reply to the question cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated to Members of the Council. Written answers wherever possible should be sent out by the Chief Executive within 10 working days.

11.5 Supplementary Question

The Member who asked a question during question time may ask one supplementary question, arising directly out of the original question, but not so as to extend question time.

11.6 Expiry of Question Time

Where the answer has not been commenced during question time, it shall be answered by written answer circulated to Members of the Council. If the answer to such question has been commenced orally but has not been completed within question time it may be completed orally including any supplementary to that question and the response thereto.