

Appendix 2

Responses to Consultation

1. "4.1 (d) How will this work? I suggest a formal letter to the councillor acting as the petition sponsor asking for a formal response to the request. What would though trigger such a request and who would make the request? I would also say that just because one councillor may be happy to do this, it would not set a precedent for other petitions. For example, a similar issue or number of signatures. I would want something in the constitution to reflect this."

Answer - An agreed process would be introduced as a result of any amendment to the current custom and practise. This would make it clear how the consultation with the Councillor/petition organiser would be carried out. The proposed amendment is clear that a petition would only be dealt with or responded to without the need for formal consideration by a City Council body with the agreement of the relevant Councillor/Petition Organiser and this would be done on an individual basis.

2. "6.6. Does this include planning and licensing? How will it be done? In writing I assume?"

Answer - The proposed amendments do not relate to Licensing and Planning petitions, which would continue to be dealt with in the current manner. An agreed process to seek agreement would be introduced.

3. "10.2. Isn't this a repeat of 4.1.9 (d)? How is it different?"

Answer - This paragraph is a cross reference to paragraph 4.1.9 (d).

4. "10.4. What does this mean? If it has been referred in the first instance to council, it will go to the relevant body otherwise, why go there in the first place? Why put this clause in about "if a petition will be formally considered...."

Answer - This paragraph indicates how the petition will be dealt with if it is to be formally considered by a City Council body. A petition may be heard by full Council prior to a decision being taken about how it will be considered/ dealt with.

5. "The only point I would make relates to 4.1(b), which I know, isn't in red! Two minutes is fine for the Council Chamber but it is normal for a Councillor to have more time to develop an argument when it goes to other meetings"

Answer – It is not proposed to make any changes to the timing of speaking on petitions, custom and practise is that this is done at the discretion of the Chair/Cabinet Member at the meeting.