

COUNCIL 26th JULY 2023

Governance and Business Committee 26th June 2023

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT SCRUTINY BOARD MEETINGS (DEPUTATIONS)

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services presented a written report that provided information on public participation at Scrutiny Board meetings following a request by members of the Governance and Business Committee at their meeting in March 2023 on how Kirklees Council facilitated deputations at Scrutiny Board meetings. The report informed on the key elements of the Kirklees approach to deputations at Scrutiny Board meetings and how Kirklees Council dealt with deputations in line with their Council Procedure Rules (Appendix A). It also provided matters for Members to consider should they resolve to recommend to Council to proceed with deputations and or a change to the procedure rules on substitutions at Scrutiny Board meetings.

Members discussed the basis on how the deputations would be conducted, if the deputations were limited to items on the agenda, the number of deputations and timings for those deputations, if the subject was not relevant to the Scrutiny Board sitting how this would be managed, if a deputation could form the basis of a future item on a Scrutiny Board Agenda, and whether the rules on substitutions needed to be amended.

***RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council that:**

(a) All deputations should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

(b) The deputation should not exceed three persons and the speech should not exceed five minutes.

(c) Any deputations received which were not related to the agenda items for that Scrutiny Board meeting be given consideration by Members on whether it was an item which could be included on the relevant Scrutiny Board's Work Programme.

(d) A deputation would not be accepted when information of a personal nature was included, or which was defamatory, offensive, frivolous, repetitive or vexatious.

(e) A deputation would not be accepted when it had the sole or predominant purpose of promoting any company's or individual's own business interests or financial position.