

COUNCIL 30th November 2022

Governance and Business Committee 31st October 2022

21 RULE 14 ON NOTICE MOTIONS TO COUNCIL

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a written report which informed Members of a proposed amendment to the current procedural rule dealing with Rule 14 Motions submitted to Council.

The current procedural rule allowed for one motion per party group to be presented to a Council meeting. They appeared on the Council summons in the order they were received. A maximum of 40 minutes was allowed for a debate on each motion, subject to a maximum of 90 minutes allowed for all motions. If a motion ran out of time, then it was put to the proposer of the motion whether to immediately move to the vote with no further contributions to the debate or to carry the motion over to the next meeting. The normal right of reply to sum up at the end of the debate, which was afforded to the proposer of the motion and/or amendment, was lost, as the procedure allowed for no further time to be allocated for those contributions.

The proposed amendment allowed for a further period at the end of the limit which would permit contributions from proposers and the Leader. That time would be a further 15 minutes (5 minutes for the proposer's right of reply and the mover of an amendment's right of reply, if relevant, and 5 minutes for the Leader). The overall period could therefore be extended by 45 minutes.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services added that the right of reply need not be 5 minutes if Councillors wished to suggest an alternative time limit for rights of reply.

During discussions, Members commented that summation was an important part of debates and discussed other measures for allocating response time without extending the current overall limit. Members requested a review of the changes be brought to a meeting of the Governance and Business Committee before the end of the municipal year. Members discussed whether the 'Report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority' and subsequent questions could be incorporated into the 'Reports from the Leader and Cabinet Members on the discharge of their roles and responsibilities since the last meeting of the Council'.

***RESOLVED that:**

(a) it be recommended to Council that procedural Rule 14 be amended to allow 30 minutes for discussions and 3 minutes each for the right to reply of proposers of Motions, proposers of Amendments to Motions, and the Leader, subject to a maximum of 97 minutes allowed for all Motions; and

(b) the Democratic Support Officer be requested to include a review of the amendments to procedural Rule 14 on the agenda of the Governance and Business Committee for 20th March 2023.

(Part 21 (a) only)