

Notice of motion proposed changes

Further to the current motions procedure that is detailed in the Constitution at Part 4, Section A, paragraphs 8.3 and 13 the following are suggested as enhancements to ensure that the process for the submission of motions and amendments is open and transparent:

1 Submission of motions

Except for motions which can be moved without notice under paragraph 13, written notice of every motion must be delivered to the Monitoring Officer no later than 5pm four clear days before the date of the meeting. These will be open to public inspection. For example by 5pm on the Monday of the week when the Combined Authority meeting takes place on the Friday (i.e. this deadline will match that of the submission of public questions).

In urgent cases, motions will be allowed to be tabled at the meeting as is the case currently.

2 Competency of motions

Once received the motions will be judged by the Monitoring Officer on their competency, and if appropriate, then they will be circulated to Members as part of a supplementary agenda on the Wednesday before the day of the meeting. This report will also contain the public questions that are deemed competent.

The Monitoring Officer may, after consultation with the Member, who has submitted a notice of motion or proposed amendment amend the wording of the motion /amendment, either for the purpose of clarification or to ensure that it does not offend the requirements of competency.

3 Absence of Member who has submitted a notice of motion

A notice of motion or proposed amendment shall not be competent for debate by the Combined Authority if the Member who gave notice of his/her intention to move it is unable to do so because of his/her absence or otherwise (part 4 section A paragraph 8.2).

If the Member who intended to second the motion is unable to do so because of his/her absence or otherwise; the Member who gave notice of his/her intention to move has the right to find another seconder at the meeting.

4 Speaking on a motion

In accordance with paragraph 13.5 (Part 4, Section A) it is suggested that the mover of the motion will have 5 minutes to propose the motion.

The seconder of a motion may speak to second or reserve the right to speak until later in the debate on the motion (this right may be lost if an amendment is accepted).

Members may only speak once on the motion.

Members are also reminded of the following two provisions: -

Points of Order

A Member may at any time raise a point of order, relating only to an alleged breach of these Meetings Standing Orders or the law. The Member must indicate the rule or law and the way in which he/she considers it has been breached. The Metro Mayor will hear them immediately and his/her ruling on the matter will be final.

Personal Explanation

A Member may at any time request the Metro Mayor to allow them to make a personal explanation, relating only to some material part of an earlier speech by that Member which may appear to have been misunderstood in the present debate. The ruling of the Metro Mayor on the admissibility of a personal explanation will be final.

Process for the submission of motions and amendments (see flowchart on following page)

