

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic

Wards Affected

Purpose

To receive any questions from members of the public deposited more than six clear working days before the meeting of Council.

Background

- 1 Standing Order 4.24 of the Constitution states that: A member of the public may ask a Cabinet Member or Chairman of a Committee any question relevant to a matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the County as long as a copy of that question is deposited more than six clear working days before the meeting i.e. by close of business on a Wednesday in the week preceding a Friday meeting.
- 2 Any question which contains defamatory material or the publication of which is likely to be detrimental to the Council's interests, may be rejected.
- 3 A total of 25 minutes shall be set aside for the answering of questions from members of the public save that the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman, if presiding, shall have absolute discretion to vary the period of time by making it shorter or longer as he/she considers appropriate. Any questions unanswered at the expiry of the time limit shall be dealt with by way of written reply to the questioner.
- 4 A member of the public who has lodged a written question (or series of questions) to Council is permitted to ask **one** supplementary question only.
- 5 Supplementary questions will be dealt with in the same order as the questions are presented in the Agenda i.e. the order in which they are received by post or electronically. Once each formal written question (or series of questions from the same person) has been answered, the Chairman may invite the person who submitted the written question to raise one supplementary question only, if they wish to do so.

Questions

- 6 Two questions have been received by the deadline and are attached at Appendix 1.