

Part Four, Section B

Committee Procedure Rules

COMMITTEE PROCEDURE RULES

VOTING

46. Unless the Constitution provides otherwise, any matter will be decided by a simple majority of those members present and voting in the room at the time the question was put. Voting shall be by a show of hands.
47. Immediately after the vote is taken, a member may require to be recorded in the minutes whether he/she voted for or against the decision or abstained.
48. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair shall have a second or casting vote, unless the constitution of the body as approved by the Council provides otherwise.
49. Proposals carried are recorded as resolutions or recommendations. Proposals lost are not recorded, except as provided for in (2) above.

ATTENDANCE

50. Any member of the Council may attend the public part of all meetings whenever he/she wishes and, with the Chair's consent, may take part in the business of a meeting of which he/she is not a member but may not move a resolution nor vote. Before a member participates in or addresses a meeting under this rule, written notice should be given to the Chair, preferably before the meeting but in any event as soon as the member arrives at the meeting. Members of the Council are not required to complete any form used by the public to request permission to speak at a meeting.
51. With the Chair's consent, any member of the Council may attend the exempt part of meetings whenever he or she wishes and may take part in the business of a meeting of which he or she is not a member but may not move a resolution nor vote. No member, other than the appointed members of the bodies concerned, may attend certain meetings affecting specific individuals, such as Appointments Panels, hearings and appeals where this is prevented in the Constitution or procedure rules of the body or where advised by the Monitoring Officer.

PART FOUR – RULES OF PROCEDURE
Section B – Committee Procedure Rules

52. Apart from at full Council, where every member shall sign his/her name on the attendance sheet, attendance of members at committees will be recorded by the Democratic Services staff.
53. Where a member is proposing to be absent for any reason from a meeting of a particular Committee/Sub-Committee to which they have been appointed they may give notice to arrange for a substitute member in their place. The Chief Whip of a political group may give this notice in place of any member from that group who will be absent.
54. Notice under rule 53 must be given in writing, including e-mail, to the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00 a.m. on the day of the meeting if the meeting commences at 6.00 p.m. or later. Where the meeting commences before 6.00 p.m., the notice must be given by 10.00 a.m. on the previous working day before the meeting.
55. On receipt of notice under rule 53 above, the Democratic Services Manager will notify the Chief Whip for the political group of the member who will be absent. The Chief Whip will make arrangements for the attendance of a substitute member from the list of reserve members for that Committee/Sub-Committee nominated by the group. Where none of the listed reserve members for the relevant Committee/Sub-Committee is available, or where no reserve members have been nominated, then the Chief Whip may select any other member of the group. The provisions of this rule are subject to rule 58 below.
56. The name of the member selected to act as the substitute must be notified in writing, including e-mail, by the Chief Whip to the Democratic Services Manager no later than 3 hours before the time for commencement of the meeting stated on the agenda.
57. If the Chief Whip of a political group is absent or unable to act for any reason, then any action to be taken by the Chief Whip in this rule may be undertaken instead by the group's Assistant Whips, Group Secretary and Group Chair.
58. In the case of meetings of Committees/Sub-Committees where prior member training is required, only those members who have attended appropriate training can be selected as substitutes. Currently these bodies are the Standards Committee and its Sub-Committees, the Planning Sub-Committee, Dismissal Appeals Sub-Committee, and hearings conducted by the Licensing Committee and its Sub-Committees. Reserve members will be trained for the relevant body as soon as possible after their appointment.
59. Substitutes properly appointed will be recorded in the minutes and shall carry full voting and other rights and responsibilities. Rule 53 does not apply so as to allow substitution at meetings of the Cabinet or its Committees or its subordinate bodies.