

AGENDA ITEM 11 : General Fund Revenue and Capital–Final Budget Proposals 2023/24

The following is the recommended process to be followed for the debate relating to the Council's Budget for 2023 – 2024, (Agenda Item 11). The rules of procedure shall be varied accordingly for this item only.

1. The Mayor to propose suspension of the following rules of debate:
 - That the time limit on speeches is relaxed with regard to the following speeches:-
 - Cabinet Member Finance and Assets, when moving the motion to adopt the budget being proposed by the Cabinet (“the Cabinet’s budget”), Stage 2(i).
 - Group Leaders when making Budget Statement on behalf of group, Stage 3(i) – (ii).
 - To permit the Cabinet Member Finance and Assets and Group leaders to speak more than once in the debate, (in addition to any right of reply etc), for the purpose of putting and answering questions at Stage 2(iii).

2. Budget Statement and moving of motion.

- (i) The Cabinet Member Finance and Assets shall deliver the budget statement and formally move the resolutions set out in the report of the Cabinet Member F. (N.B. Not time limited)
- (ii) The seconder shall formally second the motion. (N.B. The seconder may reserve their speech until later in the debate prior to the closing speeches) 5 minute limit applies.
- (iii) Members may then ask questions of the Cabinet Member Finance and Assets (who may refer them to the Chief Finance Officer or relevant Cabinet Member when appropriate), on matters relating to agenda item 11. (N.B. members are limited to one question only, without supplementary, and the Cabinet Member Finance and Assets shall wait until all questions have been put before responding).

3. Statements by Group Leaders

- (i) Statement on behalf of the Conservative Group including tabling but not moving, any proposed amendment to the Cabinet’s budget. (No time limit)
- (ii) Statement on behalf of the People Against Bureaucracy Group including tabling, but not moving, any proposed amendment to the Cabinet’s budget. (No time limit).
- (iii) Statement on behalf of the Green Group including tabling, but not moving, any proposed amendment to the Cabinet’s budget. (No time limit).

4. Formal moving, Seconding, debating, discussion and voting on any amendments tabled in the following order:

- People Against Bureaucracy Group
- Conservative Group
- Green Group

N.B.

- The Cabinet Member Finance and Assets has the right to a speech in reply at the end of the debate on any amendment. (10 mins).
- The mover of an amendment may speak to move the amendment, (10 mins), and also has the right of reply to the debate immediately before the speech of the Cabinet Member F. (10 mins).
- Amendments carried will become part of the substantive motion going forward. Once all proposed amendments have been debated and put to the vote the final version of the motion shall go forward to the next stage.

5. Consideration of Amendments

(a) If the Cabinet's budget has not been amended, the Cabinet Member Finance and Assets to formally propose the budget (no speech), and the final proposal will be debated and voted upon subject to the Cabinet Member Finance's right of reply (10 mins).

(b) If the Cabinet's budget has been amended, before it is further debated and voted upon, the Mayor shall propose a brief adjournment in order that the Cabinet Member Finance and Assets can consider whether:

(i) the amendments are acceptable to the Cabinet - in which case the meeting will proceed as at (a) above; or

(ii) the amendments are not acceptable to the Cabinet - in which case, the meeting will proceed as at (a) above save that, in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Rules, the Council may only make an in-principle decision which will be published and provided to the Leader of the Council for consideration.