

## **BUDGET DEBATE 2013/14 – COUNCIL, 18th FEBRUARY 2013 - TIMINGS AND PROCEDURE - GUIDANCE**

*(NOTE: The Lord Mayor will seek Council's agreement to deal with all the Budget items first (including any addresses and questions by members of the public on the Budget). The Budget items are defined as these items on the agenda:-*

- ❖ *Item 10 – Chief Finance Officer's report*
- ❖ *Item 11 – Budget*
- ❖ *Item 12 – Corporate Plan*
- ❖ *Item 13 – Treasury Management*

1. **Administration** (Board Member, Finance and Efficiency) presents its Budget (General Fund, HRA and Capital) by way of moving the recommendation to Council from the CEB meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February. Speakers from the Administration may speak for up to 15 minutes in total.
2. **Liberal Democrat Group** (Leader or Deputy Leader) **responds** to the Administration's Budget and **presents** its Budget proposals (as amendments to the CEB recommendation). Amendments seconded. Speakers from the Liberal Democrat Group may speak for up to 15 minutes in total. One member from the Administration may respond, speaking for up to 5 minutes.
3. **Green Group** (Leader) **responds** to the Administration's Budget and **presents** its Budget proposals (as amendments to the CEB recommendation). Amendments seconded. Speakers from the Green Group may speak for up to 15 minutes in total. One member from the Administration may respond, speaking for up to 5 minutes.
4. **Opposition budget – voting** - The Liberal Democrat and Green 'alternative budgets' in their entirety may not receive cross opposition-Party support. There may though be parts of the alternative proposals that are supported by both opposition Groups. Those elements should be identified at this stage in the debate and voted upon as separate propositions. Where individual parts of alternative budget proposals that are supported by both opposition groups involve spending, then supporting savings must also be proposed and form part of the proposition voted upon. If any individual parts are carried by Council they should then be taken out of the overall opposition budgets. Then the opposition budgets should be voted upon. All speeches to be limited to a maximum of 2 minutes.

5. **Opposition amendments** - If the opposition budgets or cross opposition Party agreed amendments are carried by Council, Council will move to a vote on the CEB recommendation in amended form. If the opposition budgets or cross opposition-Party amendments are not carried, Council will move to a vote on the CEB recommendation in unamended form. All speeches to be limited to a maximum of 2 minutes.
6. **CEB recommendation** - If the Administration Budget (ie the CEB recommendation) in unamended form is voted upon and agreed, Council will move on to the next business on the agenda.
7. **Adoption of amended CEB recommendation** - If the CEB recommendation in amended form is voted upon and agreed, Council can only reach an 'in principle' decision. The Leader will then indicate, either at the meeting or afterwards, if the Executive accepts the amendments. If it does, Council's decision then becomes a substantive one. If it does not, then the City Executive Board will meet to review the position on 21st February and Council will meet again on 21st February at 5.00 pm to hear from the Board. Council's decision on 21st February on the Budget will be final.
8. **Need for adjournment** - If neither the amendments to the CEB recommendation nor the CEB recommendation itself are carried when voted upon, Council will adjourn for an agreed period of time. After that period of time Council will resume and the Leader will announce the outcome of political group discussions. At this stage, either:-
  - Council will note that the City Executive Board and Council will need to meet again on 21st February, or
  - Amendments agreed between Groups will be voted upon, and the substantive amended CEB recommendation also voted upon.

## **SPEAKING ORDER AND TIMING SUMMARY**

### **1. Administration**

- ❖ Ed Turner – proposes the Administration Budget
- ❖ Another member of the Executive – formally seconds Ed Turner’s proposal
- ❖ Ed Turner (and possibly other members of the Executive on their particular areas of responsibility) – speak for up to 15 minutes

### **2. Liberal Democrat Group**

- ❖ Jean Fooks or Mark Mills propose and formally second the Lib Dem Budget
- ❖ Jean Fooks or Mark Mills (and possibly other members of the Lib Dem Group) – speak for up to 15 minutes
- ❖ Ed Turner or another member of the Administration responds – speak for up to 5 minutes

### **3. Green Group**

- ❖ David Williams or Craig Simmons propose and formally second the Green Budget
- ❖ David Williams or Craig Simmons (and possibly other members of the Green Group ) – speak for up to 15 minutes
- ❖ Ed Turner or another member of the Administration responds – speak for up to 5 minutes

### **4. Opposition Budget – Speeches (Note: this part relates to the parts of the opposition budgets that do not have cross opposition Party support)**

- ❖ All speeches at this part of the debate to be limited to 2 minutes maximum
- ❖ Jean Fooks or Mark Mills sum up at the end of the Lib Dem Budget debate – speak for up to 2 minutes
- ❖ Ed Turner or another member of the Administration speaks last – up to 2 minutes

- ❖ David Williams or Craig Simmons sum up at the end of the Green Budget debate – speak for up to 2 minutes
  - ❖ Ed Turner or another member of the Administration speaks last – up to 2 minutes
5. **Opposition Amendments – Speeches (Note: this part relates to any parts of the opposition budgets that do have cross opposition Party support)**
- ❖ All speeches at this part of the debate to be limited to 2 minutes maximum
  - ❖ A Lib Dem and a Green member proposes and formally seconds agreed cross opposition Party amendments
  - ❖ A Lib Dem or Green member sums up at the end of the debate on agreed cross opposition Party amendments – speak for up to 2 minutes
  - ❖ Ed Turner or another member of the Administration speaks last – up to 2 minutes
6. **Substantive Budget**
- ❖ If the Administration Budget is unamended Ed Turner may speak for up to 2 minutes and Council votes on its adoption
  - ❖ If the Administration Budget is amended a member of the opposition and then Ed Turner each speak for up to 2 minutes and Council votes on its adoption.

**THEN SEE THE PROCEDURE IN 7 AND 8 OF THE NOTE IF THE ADMINISTRATION'S BUDGET IS ADOPTED IN AMENDED FORM**