

BUDGET DEBATE 2014/15 – COUNCIL, 19th FEBRUARY 2014 - TIMINGS AND PROCEDURE

1. **Public involvement** - Lord Mayor invites any members of the public who have asked to address Council on the Budget or to ask questions on it to do so. Addresses limited to 5 minutes. Questions limited to 3 minutes. This Stage to last for a maximum of 30 minutes.
2. **Administration** proposes and seconds its Budget (General Fund, HRA and Capital) by way of moving the recommendation to Council from the CEB meeting on 12th February. Deputy Leader presents Budget and speaks for up to 15 minutes.
3. **Liberal Democrat Group Budget presentation.** Group proposes and seconds its alternative Budget proposals as an amendment to the Administration Budget. Proposer speaks for up to 15 minutes with any unused time being added to the overall time allowance for the debate on the Liberal Democrat Budget.
4. **Liberal Democrat Group Budget debate.** Overall time limit of a maximum of 15 minutes plus any unused time from Stage 2. Speeches limited to 3 minutes. Administration response and Lib Dem summing up included within the overall 15 minute timeframe. Vote on alternative Budget.
5. **Green Group Budget presentation.** Group proposes and seconds its alternative Budget proposals as an amendment to the Administration Budget. Proposer speaks for up to 15 minutes with any unused time being added to the overall time allowance for the debate on the Green Group Budget.
6. **Green Group Budget debate.** Overall time limit of a maximum of 15 minutes plus any unused time from Stage 5. Speeches limited to 3 minutes. Administration response and Green Group summing up included within the overall 15 minute timeframe. Vote on alternative Budget.
7. Depending upon outcome of the voting on the Liberal Democrat and Green alternative Budget amendments Council will either adjourn for the Administration to review their position, or proceed to Stage 8.
8. **Administration Budget debate.** Debate on the Administration Budget with individual amendments being permitted. Any amendments must be written down and circulated before debate upon them commences. Debate on the Administration Budget and amendments to it to last for up to 60 minutes with speeches limited to 3 minutes. Vote on amendments to Administration Budget and then Budget itself.

- 9 If the Administration Budget in unamended form is voted upon and agreed, Council will move on to the next business on the agenda. If the Administration Budget 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 24th February and Council will meet again on 24th February at 5.00 pm to hear from the Board. Council's decision on 24th February on the Budget will be final.

Timings

Stage 1 – 30 minutes

Stage 2 – 15 minutes

Stage 3 – 15 minutes

Stage 4 – 15 minutes

Stage 5 – 15 minutes

Stage 6 – 15 minutes

Stage 8 – 60 minutes

Stage 9 (remaining business) – say, 15 minutes

TOTAL MAXIMUM TIME – 180 minutes (3 hours)