

Appendix A

Amendments to the Constitution to enable questions on the Police and Fire Authorities to be kept to the period when the respective reports are considered.

3.2.1.9	To receive and consider recommendations contained within reports of the Executive and committees and reports of the Bedfordshire Police Authority and Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority and answer questions under Rule number 12.1.
3.2.1.10	<p><u>Members of the Council may also ask any question without notice on matters relating to the functions of the Bedfordshire Police Authority and of Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority. This period of questions and answers shall last no more than 10 minutes.</u></p> <p><i>(The remaining paragraphs in this section shall be renumbered accordingly.)</i></p>

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The provisions of Part B5 paragraph 12.1 referred to in 3.2.1.9 above are set out **below** and if new para 3.2.1.10 above is inserted, should be amended by the deletion of the words “(or of a body referred to in Rule 12.2.1.4) as shown.

Consideration may be given to an additional amendment by adding “or report” after “recommendation” to reflect the customary proceedings at Council (para 27 of the report refers).

12.	QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS	
12.1	On reports or minutes of the Executive or Committees	
	12.1.1	A member of the Council may ask the Leader, a portfolio holder or the chairman of a committee, a question without notice upon a recommendation <u>or report</u> of that forum when that item is under consideration by the Council, or upon any minute of a meeting of that forum which has been published since the last meeting of the Council.

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(see overleaf for additional amendments which would be required if questions on the Police and Fire Authorities are confined to the part of the agenda when the reports are considered.)

Additional Amendments which would be required if oral questions on the Fire and Police Authorities reports were confined to the period when the reports from those authorities were received.

12.7	Oral Questions	
	12.7.1	Questions and Procedure
	12.7.1.1	At each ordinary meeting of the Council (excluding the annual or any extraordinary meeting) there shall be a period of no longer than 45 minutes for oral questions, which shall be questions of the Leader, Deputy Leader and portfolio holders, and chairman of any committee, subject to the following guidelines:-
	12.7.1.2	Questions:-
	12.7.1.2.1	Must be relevant to matters for which the Council has powers or duties or matters that affect Central Bedfordshire or its residents;
	12.7.1.2	Must not relate to an item which is included elsewhere on the Council agenda since they can be raised at that point in the meeting;
	12.7.1.3	Must be capable of eliciting a response (ie must not be a statement);
	12.7.1.4	Should not exceed 2 minutes in length.
	12.7.1.3	Questions should not:-
	12.7.1.3.1	Be incapable of being adequately answered in three minutes
	12.7.1.3.2	Divulge, or require to be divulged, confidential or exempt information.
	12.7.1.4	The conduct of oral question time shall be regulated by the Chairman of the Council having regard to the above guidelines.
	12.7.1.5	Any member wishing to put an oral question should put

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	his/her name on the relevant pro forma and place it in the appropriate receptacle not less than 5 minutes before the start of the meeting. Names will be drawn at random by the chairman during the question time session.

Deleted: All questions drawn within the 30 minutes allocated for questions to an executive member and within the 15 minutes allocated for questions to chairmen or members representing the Police and Fire Authorities, shall be dealt with.

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