

## GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

### (8) REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION:

#### SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE: STATEMENTS AT FULL COUNCIL

The Council's Constitution (Council Procedure Rules) currently states -

*"(2) ...Ordinary meetings will:*

*(vii) receive statements, if any, from the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holders and Chairpersons of all Committees, and receive questions and answers arising from those questions. A statement may arise in two ways –*

*(a) the Leader, a Portfolio Holder or a Chairperson may decide to make a statement by noon, three working days before the meeting of the Council; or*

*(b) a PDS Chairperson and one other Member, a Group Leader and one other Member or any five Members may request that a statement be made by the Leader, a Portfolio Holder or a Chairperson.*

*Statements must be requested by noon, three working days before the meeting (i.e. on the previous Thursday for a Monday meeting); requests for statements on matters of urgency may be allowed at the discretion of the Mayor."*

The same wording is translated into Chapter 2 – The Full Council, of the proposed new Constitution being recommended to GP&L/Council.

The deadline for receipt of requests for statements is currently noon, three working days before the meeting (noon on Thursday for a normal Monday evening meeting). The Mayor can accept requests for statements later than this if the matter is urgent.

If Members wanted to allow more time for preparation of statements, the following deadlines could be inserted at (2) (vii) –

*5pm, ten working days before the meeting (same as questions and motions);  
5pm, five working days before the meeting (i.e. a week in advance)  
5pm, two working days after normal publication day (same as for late questions clarifying reports);*

If Members are minded to set a new deadline, it would be sensible to make the deadline clear and if possible to avoid confusion by linking the statements deadline to one of the existing deadlines for questions or motions. If requests for statements are submitted early enough they could be published in the main agenda pack.