

Budget Meeting - Procedure

Budget papers will have been available to Members since the meeting of the Executive prior to the Budget Meeting.

Prior to the Budget Meeting, the Chairman of Council will invite the Political Group Leaders or their duly nominated representatives, together with the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance, to a pre-council briefing to support the effective operation of the Budget Meeting.

- The standard items of business shall (only) be to:
 - elect a person to preside if the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of Council is not present;
 - receive apologies for an inability to attend the meeting;
 - receive any declarations of interest from Members;
 - public questions which must relate to items on the agenda;
 - debate the proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS);
 - debate the proposed Investment Strategy;
 - debate the proposed Capital Strategy;
 - debate the proposed Revenue Budget.
 - debate relevant reports and appendices in relation to the budget.
- Proposed Amendments to items on the Agenda must be tabled by the Political Groups, and:
 - where there has been no substantive change to the item (for example, excluding any minor grammatical, typographical, etc, amendments) following the meeting of the Executive prior to the Budget Meeting:
 - must be submitted to the S151 Officer by no later than 17:00, nine Clear Working Days before the meeting; and
 - following submission, the S151 Officer will add an opinion to the proposed Amendments and will distribute to all Councillors at least three Clear Working Days before the meeting; or
 - where there has been any substantive change to the item following the meeting of the Executive prior to the Budget Meeting:
 - must be submitted to the S151 Officer by no later than 17:00, seven Clear Working Days before the meeting; and
 - following submission, the S151 Officer will add an opinion to the proposed Amendments and will distribute to all Councillors at least two Clear Working Day before the meeting.
- Prior to an Amendment being voted upon, the Proposer of the Amendment may request that the Meeting Chairman permit that there be separate votes in respect of parts of the Amendment. Subject to any comments from the Council's Statutory Officers, it shall be

within the Meeting Chairman's discretion to permit separate votes on items within a proposed Amendment.

Definitions

Motion

Motion to insert or alter or omit words in the resolution under discussion. A direct negative is not an amendment.

Budget

The budget agreed by Council for the upcoming financial year at the Budget Meeting as delegated to Budget Holders to manage in accordance with the powers given to them.

Budget Meeting of Council

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council taking place in February or March each year which considers the Budget.