

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**8<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**Report of the Director of Legal Services**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES –  
Questions on the Report of the Leader of the Council**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To consider a proposed amendment to the Council's Rules of Procedure to allow for questions by Members in response to the Report of the Leader of the Council.

**2. Information and Analysis**

Under the current arrangements, the Rules of Procedure relating to Council meetings do not provide for questions to be asked following the verbal presentation of the Report of the Leader of the Council. At its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014, the Council resolved to amend the Rules to allow Members to ask relevant questions.

It is proposed that the Council's Rules of Procedure (Part 4 of the Constitution) be amended to include a new clause 9A, as follows:

***9A. Questions by Members on the Report of the Leader of the Council***

*9.1 A Member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council a question directly arising from the report.*

*9.2 A Member asking a question under this Standing Order may ask one supplementary question which must arise directly out of the original question or reply.*

The subsequent Standing Orders will be re-numbered accordingly, with the current paragraph 9 becoming 9B.

It is also proposed to amend item 5 on the standard order of business of the Council to provide for 'Report of the Leader of the Council and Members' questions'.

The proposed change to the Rules of Procedure was considered by the Standards Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015. The Committee commended the proposed amendment. Should the amendments be approved by the Council, they will take effect from the next meeting of the Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015.

### **3. Legal considerations**

These proposals described in the report require a change to the Council Rules of Procedure and so require approval by the Council.

### **4. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors have also been considered: financial, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

### **5. Background Papers**

File held by the Director of Legal Services.

### **6. Officer Recommendation**

That the Council approves and adopts the proposed amendment to the Council's Rules of Procedure.

**JOHN MCELVANEY  
DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES**