

Birmingham City Council
Council Business Management Committee
30 May 2023



Subject: Order of 'Notices of Motion' at Future City Council Meetings

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Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 Members will recall that in previous years an informal arrangement in respect of alternating the order in which "Notices of Motion" (Motions for Debate from Individual Members) under Council Procedure Rules (Section B4 G of the Constitution) are considered at City Council Meetings has been in operation.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide the Council Business Management Committee with options in relation to the order of Motions at future City Council meetings.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- (i) Review and discuss the options presented in this report, alongside the current constitutional position in relation to the allocation of Motions to political groups.
 - (ii) Determine which option in relation to the allocation of Motions will be utilised for the 2023/24 municipal year.

3 Options

Option 1:

- 3.1 The Committee agrees to adopt the same approach used during the 2022/23 municipal year.
- 3.2 If this option is chosen, the order for the Notices of Motion for 2023/24 will be as follows:

<u>Council Date</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
13 June 2023	Con	Lab	1 June 2023
11 July 2023	Lab	Lib Dem	29 June 2023
12 September 2023	Lib Dem	Con	31 August 2023
7 November 2023	Lab	Lib Dem	26 October 2023
5 December 2023	Con	Lab	23 November 2023
9 January 2024	Lib Dem	Con	21 December 2023
6 February 2024	Lab	Lib Dem	25 January 2024
27 February 2024	Budget Meeting (No Notices of Motion)		4 April 2024
16 April 2024	Con	Lab	
21 May 2024	Annual Meeting (No Notices of Motion)		

- 3.3 During the municipal year 2022/23, the following table represents the order of Motions as agreed at the 31 May 2022 meeting of the Council Business Management Committee:

<u>Council Date</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Deadline*</u>
14 June 2022	Lib Dem	Lab	1 June 2022
12 July 2022	Lab	Con	30 June 2022
13 September 2022	Con	Lib Dem	1 September 2022
1 November 2022	Lab	Con	20 October 2022
6 December 2022	Lib Dem	Lab	24 November 2022
10 January 2023	Con	Lib Dem	23 December 2022
7 February 2023	Lab	Con	26 January 2023
28 February 2023	Budget Meeting (No Notices of Motion)		
4 April 2023	Lib Dem	Lab	23 March 2023
23 May 2023	Annual Meeting (No Notices of Motion)		

- 3.4 During 2022/23, the Conservative Group had the first Motion twice. The Liberal Democrats had the first Motion three times.
- 3.5 For 2023/24, if option 1 is chosen, the Conservative Group will have the first Motion three times. The Liberal Democrats will have the first Motion twice.

Option 2:

- 3.6 With a total of 16 opportunities available for groups to submit Motions across the municipal year (see the table above), the Committee may wish to use current proportionality calculations to determine the number of opportunities provided to groups to submit Motions to City Council meetings during 2023/24.
- 3.7 Based on the figure of 16 being used (for Committee seats and recognising there are 16 opportunities for the submission of Motions), proportionality calculations show that the following split for motions would be implemented for the 2023/24 municipal year if the Committee chose this option:

Labour: 10 opportunities to submit Motions

Conservative: 4 opportunities to submit Motions

Liberal Democrats: 2 opportunities to submit Motions

Green: 0 opportunities to submit Motions

Option 3:

- 3.8 Regardless of current proportionality, if all groups were provided with an equal number of opportunities to submit Motions during the 2023/24 municipal year, then then the following order would apply:

<u>Council Date</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
13 June 2023	Lab	Con	1 June 2023
11 July 2023	Con	Lab	29 June 2023
12 September 2023	Lib Dem	Green	31 August 2023
7 November 2023	Green	Lib Dem	26 October 2023
5 December 2023	Lab	Con	23 November 2023
9 January 2024	Con	Lab	21 December 2023
6 February 2024	Lib Dem	Green	25 January 2024
27 February 2024	Budget Meeting (No Notices of Motion)		4 April 2024
16 April 2024	Green	Lib Dem	
21 May 2024	Annual Meeting (No Notices of Motion)		

Option 4:

3.9 The Committee may wish to discuss and implement an alternative arrangement.

3.10 The following table outlines the number of Motions allocated to each group across the 2023/24 municipal year depending on the option chosen by the Committee:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Labour	6	10	4	tbc
Conservative	5	4	4	tbc
Lib Dems	5	2	4	tbc
Green	0	0	4	tbc

4 Current Constitutional Position

4.1 As per the existing constitution, the following applies in relation to the allocation of Motions:

4.2 The order of business and the time limit allocated to items on the agenda may be varied by agreement of the three political groups at Council Business Management Committee or, in the absence of such agreement, by a resolution passed on a Motion which, after being moved and seconded, shall be put to the vote without discussion.

4.3 The order of motions submitted for each ordinary meeting will be determined by the Council Business Management Committee at the start of each municipal year. This will be set out on the agenda for each meeting.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from the report.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

7 Public Sector Equality Duty

7.1 There are no immediate equality implications arising from this report.

8 Other Implications

8.1 None.

9 Background Papers

9.1 None.