

Standing orders - potential amendments

The following amendments are proposed to the Standing Orders. These changes are intended for clarity, and do not substantively affect the meaning or intention of existing procedures. Changes to wording are highlighted in **bold**.

Item number	Suggested amendments
A2 (d)	"All councillors shall: exercise a reasonable degree of self-control in their conduct and behaviour at meetings and shall not make a personal attack on any other Councillor or Officer." Delete " a reasonable degree of "
B44 (1)	Add the word "procedural" to clearly distinguish this type of motion. i. "A Councillor may move without comment the following procedural motions at the end of a speech of another Councillor: ii. Swap (2) and (3) so they read in order with the points above."
C Title	Add reference to Cabinet committees, for clarity "Section C – Cabinet and Committees of the Cabinet - Procedural Standing Orders."
C16	Rewrite this section for clarity on Urgent decisions. Amend title of standing order to: Procedure for dealing with matters of Urgent Business (delete " following an election ", replace with " which cannot await a meeting of the Cabinet ".) Insert a new 16(1) and renumber existing SOs, to read as follows: 16. (1) The Leader (or in his/her absence the Deputy Leader) and the relevant Cabinet member may deal with matters of urgency which cannot await a meeting of the Cabinet. (2) The provisions at Standing Order 16(1) above shall be suspended in the period beginning with the fourth day after the County Council Elections and ending on the date of the first Annual Meeting of the new Council. During that period, the Chief Executive may deal with matters of urgency which cannot await a meeting of the Cabinet where delay would significantly and materially prejudice the interests of the County Council or the inhabitants of the County.

	<p>(3) The Chief Executive shall only exercise the powers at Standing Order 16(2) above following consultation with the Leader (or in his/her absence, the Deputy Leader) of any political group with an overall majority, or if there is no majority political group, the Leader (or in his/her absence the Deputy Leader) of all political groups on the Council. In the event there is no Leader or Deputy Leader of any political group during that period, the Chief Executive shall consult with a representative or representatives of that group as he/she considers appropriate.</p> <p>(4) The implementation of a decision made under Standing Order 16(1) or 16(2) above is subject to Standing Order 28(1), 28 (3) and 29.</p>
C32	<p>Add reference to Leader and Deputy Leader of opposition: "Members of the Cabinet and the opposition Leader and Deputy Leader may, at the discretion of the Chair, speak as often and for as long as the Chair allows."</p>