

County Council: 17 March 2026

Agenda Item No. 7 - Constitution and Ethics Committee Recommendations – Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Proposed by Councillor Howitt

Seconded by Councillor Bywater

Additions in bold and deletions shown in strikethrough

- (i) The removal of the limit on the number of motions at a Council meeting;
- (ii) The introduction of a total debate time for motions;~~and~~
- (iii) An amendment to the scope of motions, requiring them to only be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility;~~;~~ **and**

(iv) An additional provision to provide the Chair with discretion to accept or prioritise urgent motions, as follows:

- 12.1 Except for motions which can be moved without notice under Rule 13, written or electronic notice of motions for discussion at Council meetings, excluding extraordinary or special meetings and the annual budget meeting of the Council or the first annual meeting of a new Council, must be delivered to the proper officer not later than 12.00 noon 14 days before the date of the meeting. **The Chair may accept a late motion if they consider it to be urgent.** The proper officer will maintain a public record of all motions submitted. Any councillor may give notice of not more than one motion for consideration at any ordinary meeting.