

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**Democratic Services Committee
09 January, 2023**

REPORT AUTHOR: Head of Legal Services and the Monitoring Officer

SUBJECT: Constitution – Section 4 - Speaking on Motions

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This matter was referred back to the Committee for further consideration by Full Council at its meeting on 13th October, 2022.

2. Background

2.1 The Committee considered this matter on 9th September, 2022 and its recommendation was considered by the Council on 13th October, 2022. A copy of the report to Council is attached as **Appendix 1**.

2.2 The minute of the Council meeting held on 13th October, is set out below:

“Council considered the recommendations of the Democratic Services Committee on speaking times on motions at Council meetings. For some time the Council had trialled five minutes for proposers and everyone else two minutes and the Democratic Services Committee had recommended that this become a permanent change.

Concern was expressed that two minutes was not long enough to allow for debate and it was proposed that the Democratic Services Committee should look at this again. The Chair of the Committee accepted the point and said that he would be happy for the Committee to look at this again. It was proposed by County Councillor Aled Davies and seconded by County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan and unanimously

RESOLVED to refer this back to the Democratic Services Committee for further consideration.”

2.3 It would appear that there was no dissent by Full Council to the speaking time for proposers of 5 minutes and that the issue is only around the speaking time for seconders and other speakers (including Portfolio Holders) (proposed as 2 minutes).

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
1. That the Committee decides whether it wishes to recommend amend the speaking times in relation to motions to 5 minutes for proposers of motions on a permanent basis.	To revise the speaking time for motions in Section 4 of the constitution following the trial agreed by Council in November 2020.
2. That the Committee decides	

<p>whether it wishes to recommend amending the speaking times in relation to seconders of motions and other speakers on a permanent basis</p> <p>3. That the Committee decides the speaking time allowed for Portfolio holders</p> <p>4. That the Head of Legal Service and the Monitoring Officer be asked to prepare a draft revision of Section 4 of the Constitution to reflect the decisions in 1 to 3 above for consideration by the Council.</p>	
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Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	N/A
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Clive Pinney
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	

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Background Papers used to prepare Report: