

## Appendix 3

### Public Participation at Council meetings – summary of responses from participants - 4 questionnaires returned

As this is a new process for the Council, we would be grateful if you could answer the following questions, which will help us to review the process

1. From which of the following sources did you find out that the Council was inviting members of the public to submit questions to Council meetings?	
Council's website	2
Council's Facebook page	
Council's Twitter page	
Local press	1
Word of mouth	1
Other [please state]	

2. The Guide to Public Participation at Council meetings and the Protocol - Public Participation at Council meetings are available on the Council website - <http://powys.moderngov.co.uk/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=SD672&ID=672&RPID=523659>

**2.1 – Was The Guide to Public Participation at Council meetings easy to understand?**

**Yes - 2**

**No - 1**

**No answer – 1 did not consult these**

**If No please provide comments as to how this could be improved:**

- There was no advertised link to either the guide or how to submit questions. I had to search various parts of the council's website and externally to find an email address that might work.

**2.2 – Was the Protocol - Public Participation at Council meetings easy to understand?**

**Yes – 2**

**No –**

**No answer – 1 did not consult these**

**Comment:**

- Communication with Steven Boyd and his careful preparation were excellent
- See 2.1 above – I did not find the Protocol prior to submission.

**3. How did you submit a question?**

By the email address - [publicquestions@powys.gov.uk](mailto:publicquestions@powys.gov.uk)

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By post

**4. When you submitted a question, were the responses back to you helpful?**

**Yes - 2**

**No - 2**

**If No, please provide comments regarding what information would have been more helpful:**

- The reply only reiterated what we already know.
- No, I got the answer I expected I would. I did not feel that it was taken seriously, just batted back.
- It would have been helpful to know on what criteria are used to select questions. This may have been in the Guide/Protocol, but I was not directed to those.

**5. When you were advised that your question had been accepted for the Council Agenda, was the information sent to you about attending the meeting to ask a supplementary question or about how to submit a supplementary question, where you could not attend the meeting, helpful?**

**Yes – 4**

**No -**

**If No, please provide comments:**

**6. Please take this opportunity to provide any further comments on the process the Council is using for Public Participation.**

[Please do not include comments about the responses received to the questions you submitted or submit any further questions].

- This does engage members of the public.
- I feel there needs to be a genuine desire to change things as a result of questions being asked, or at least put in train an investigation or

process. The Public Participation Scheme needs to be kept as simple as possible or people won't get involved. My question appeared as a 'letter' on the MyWelshpool Website, along with the reply from Phyl Davies. How did this happen?

- I was quite happy with the assistance I received to help me submit a written question and the oral supplementary question I asked when I attended the meeting.
- Public participation enhances democracy, but the Council need to make it much easier and clearer how to access the relevant information.