

Extract from Powys County Council – Protocol for Public Participation at Council Meetings [October 2016]

Reasons for rejecting questions

- 1.7.1 The Chair of the Council may reject a question if it:
- (i) is not about a matter for which the County Council has responsibility / powers or duties or which affects the County; and / or
 - (ii) is defamatory, frivolous or offensive; and / or
 - (iii) is substantially the same as a question which has been considered at a meeting of the Council in the past six months (including questions raised by Members and answered); and / or
 - (iv) requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information; and / or
 - (v) relates to a complaint (complaints should be presented through the Council's complaints procedure); and / or
 - (vi) relates to a matter which is the subject of legal or enforcement proceedings or an appeal to a court or tribunal or to a Government Minister or the National Assembly or an investigation by the Local Government Ombudsman; and / or
 - (vii) relates to a Regulatory Decision or a specific application for permission, a licence, consent, approval or registration, or any enforcement action relating to such a matter; and / or
 - (viii) relates to a decision which has been made by the Council in exercise of its regulatory functions in respect of which there are legal rights of redress; and / or
 - (ix) relates to the activities and aims of a political party or organisation; and / or
 - (x) relates to an individual / group / business or the questioner's own particular circumstances (where the Council's complaints process should be utilised); and / or
 - (xi) relates to the personal circumstances or conduct of any officer and Councillor or conditions of service of individual employees; and / or
 - (xii) is a statement or otherwise and is not a genuine enquiry; and / or
 - (xiii) would require the expenditure of a disproportionate amount of time, money or effort to prepare the answer; and / or
 - (xiv) relates to a local matter that has no wider significance to the County, in which case the question will be forwarded to the local County Councillor.

- 1.7.2 The ruling of the Chair in the above matters shall be final.