

Appendix 6

Rule 27: Voting

General

- 27.1 Except where a recorded vote is required by law, or a requisition is made under the next paragraph, the method of voting at meetings of the Council, or Committees and Sub-Committees shall be by show of hands. Voting may also, at the discretion of the person presiding at the meeting, be by an electronic method or by other ways permitted by law. Unless this constitution provides otherwise, any matter will be decided by a simple majority of the Members voting and present in the room at the time the question was put. If there is an equal number of votes for and against the motion, the Mayor or Chair will have a second or casting vote. There will be no restriction on how the Mayor/Chair may choose to exercise a casting vote. If the Mayor/Chair does not exercise his/her casting vote the motion or proposal shall fall.

Recorded Votes

- 27.2 If a requisition is made by the specified number of Members, before a vote is taken on any question, the voting on that question shall be recorded so as to show whether each Member present gave his/her vote for or against that question or abstained from voting. Voting may be by roll call or by an electronic method. ~~in the case of Council meetings.~~

- 27.3 The specified number of Members is one-fifth of the Members entitled to vote at the meeting (11 for Council meetings).

- 27.4 Except where a recorded vote has been taken, any Member who is present when the vote was taken may require that his/her vote or abstention shall be recorded in the minutes by informing the Chair forthwith, immediately after the vote is taken.

- 27.5 In addition to the arrangements set out above, a recorded vote must be taken, and recorded in the minutes, immediately after any vote is taken at a budget decision meeting of the Council, as defined in the Local Authorities (Standing orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014.

Rule 29: Cameras/TV Cameras/Recording at Council

- 29.1 Without prejudice to any power of exclusion to suppress or prevent disorderly conduct or the power to deal with other misbehaviour or interference with proceedings at a meetings, ~~Subject to prior approval, which shall be at the absolute discretion of the Mayor or the person presiding at the meeting, one or more accredited representatives of newspapers* within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972 or~~ any other person shall~~may~~ be permitted to film, video or photograph

the proceedings at Council meetings except for that part of the meeting where the public are excluded pursuant to a resolution passed in accordance with Section 100A(2) or (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

~~[*representatives of news agencies, radio and television organisations etc. are included within the definition of newspaper representative].~~

- 29.2 Any person attending a meeting of the Council or of a Committee or Sub-Committee may use a mobile communication device and audio record and transmit council proceedings provided that:-
- (i) Any mobile communications device shall be kept in silent mode throughout the meeting;
 - (ii) There should be no use of any voice facility to make calls, receive calls or check voice messages. Only text or non-voice uses can be made of mobile phones;
 - (iii) The person presiding at the meeting may order that all mobile phones be switched off and any audio recording cease at any time;
 - (iv) There shall be no recording or transmission of council proceedings when exempt business is discussed or at meetings of the Licensing Committee Panels.
- 29.3 The recording of proceedings by authorised personnel for the purposes of web-casting shall be permitted, providing that the Mayor or person presiding at the meeting may withdraw such authorisation if he/she considers it is not conducive to the efficient despatch of business.