

11. Rights to Attend and Speak

Any member of the council may attend any meeting of a committee, including those parts of the meeting from which the public and press are excluded. They do not have a right to vote or move a motion or amendment, but may speak with the consent of the chairman (such consent to be sought before the meeting and should not normally be withheld).

If a committee is considering an item of business in private that relates to the personal or financial affairs of an individual employee or member of the public, it may resolve to exclude from the meeting any member who is not a member of the committee. Before doing so, a member representing a member of the public should be given the opportunity to speak.

To ensure a fair and proper debate, the chairman may:

- (a) prevent any member from speaking more than once on any item, motion or amendment
- (b) require a member to cease speaking if they have spoken for more than five minutes

Members of a committee who have voting rights on that committee but are not members of the council, may propose or second motions and amendments as if they were members of the council.