

ITEM 11

MINUTE EXTRACT

COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY REVIEW BOARD

27 November 2017

19/17 Late items introduced by the Chair

It was put by the Chair that he proposed to move an item under Council Procedure Rule CP42(r), on the basis of urgency and utilising Council Procedure Rule CP42(d), to refer the matter to the appropriate body, namely Council.

It was moved by Councillor Smale, and seconded by Councillor Hudson, that:

"This committee agrees that Councillor Nawaz is to be removed from his membership of the Communities Scrutiny Review Board in respect of the unanimous recommendations of the cross-party Standards Committee. This matter is to be sent to Full Council for debate and consideration in support of this committee's continued integrity on matters under its remit."

The Head of Democracy advised the committee that, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, business was published on committee agendas five clear days in advance of meetings. It was confirmed that members had opportunity to place items on the agenda within the statutory timescales by notifying the Monitoring Officer, or her representatives, in advance under Council Procedure Rule CP96. This had not happened in respect of this matter.

The Head of Democracy advised the Chair that he would need to be satisfied that this matter could be considered excepted from the Access to Information statutory requirements by identifying the cause for urgency; specifically, by identifying the circumstances that had changed between the member having opportunity to put the item on the agenda in accordance with the timescales under CP96 and moving the item at the meeting.

The seconder to the motion responded to this by stating that the matter was urgent because the Conservative Group had wanted to move a similar motion at Council but had been prevented from doing so by the Mayor. The Head of Democracy confirmed his advice that this was insufficient to justify that the matter be considered as 'urgent', but confirmed that it was for the Chair to determine.

Following a question by Councillor Nawaz, the Head of Democracy explained that, if the motion was carried, it would not have the immediate effect of removing him from the board as it was beyond the board's powers to do so. However, it would have the effect of referring the matter to Council, which was empowered to take that action.

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Councillor Nawaz made representations to the committee against the motion but did not participate in the vote.

The Chair deemed that the matter was urgent and did require consideration by the committee.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

Resolved:

This committee agrees that Councillor Nawaz is to be removed from his membership of the Communities Scrutiny Review Board in respect of the unanimous recommendations of the cross-party Standards Committee. This matter is to be sent to Full Council for debate and consideration in support of this committee's continued integrity on matters under its remit.