

ITEM 4(b)

CONSTITUTION COMMISSION

19 APRIL 2017

SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENTS

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To invite a discussion on the submission of amendments to motions in order to determine whether any amendment to the Constitution is required.

2. Context

- 2.1 Rule 13.6 (d) states that amendments to motions will be discussed by the Council 'in the order in which they were submitted to the Monitoring Officer'. The Constitution does not prescribe how they will be submitted and in an extraordinary course of events at the recent Budget Setting Council meeting, the amendments from each opposition party were dealt with as having come in at the same time.
- 2.2 As a result, officer colleagues have been asked to put this item on the agenda and the Chair has indicated his preference for a paper which invites discussion.

3. Constitution

- 3.1 There is no overriding rule in the Constitution that governs how submissions are made.

4. Issue

- 4.1 The Commission is asked whether it considers it necessary to define how an amendment can be submitted in order to eliminate ambiguity and provide direction.
- 4.2 The Commission, could if it believes a change to the Constitution is desirable request officer colleagues to undertake research as to how similar situations are dealt with by the Constitutions of other Council's with a paper being submitted to a future meeting on possible options.

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