

SUMMARY OF MEMBER COMMENTS

| PROTOCOL USEFUL? | COVER WHAT ELSE | FULLER GUIDANCE ON |
|--|---|--|
| Yes | It would be useful to have a clear indication of how this fits in with disciplinary procedures should there be unsatisfactory work produced by officers. | - |
| Not terribly. I felt it was rather stating what I would expect. Reasonable to put in writing as a reference document but not particularly informative. | I would prefer this to be covered by a training session not a document. | No |
| Yes, believe the Protocol sets out concisely and clearly Councillor – officer relationships. | Seems to cover most issues fairly comprehensively – a few suggestions for fuller guidance set out → | (1) Remind Members, public criticism of officers should not take place (2) 3.5: may be set out more precisely what level of officers should be approached in which circumstances. (3) Reasonable to expect responses from officers within an agreed timeframe e.g. acknowledgements by certain time, updates/resolution of issues? |
| So far it is useful. | Almost all of it already covered. | Not at present. |
| Yes. Though the Protocol stated is common sense but it does pin down the expectations from all. | When a request cannot be met and the demand in question is refused, rather than just refuse it, a consequential reason would help e.g. in supplying 'A' how much 'B' would suffer | Nil |
| Yes | None at this stage | None at this stage. |
| Yes | (1) Backbenching of Members. (2) Conduction of meeting. | (1) Development Control Committee deliberation. (2) Development Control Committee's Members' representation of ward constituents. |
| Yes | There should be quarterly | Planning and Licensing. |

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| | meeting between Councillor and officer. | |
| Yes | - | - |
| Yes | The Protocol has been covered very well. | No |
| Yes | D/R | D/R |
| Yes, very useful. | The Protocol might usefully cover the code of conduct of 'First Contact' officers of all Departments regarding their duty/duties. | A fuller guidance would be helpful how to deal with the complaints from the residents reported by the Councillor with more understanding and promptness. |
| <p>It is not a question whether it is useful or not, it is whether it sets out clearly and fairly the protocol. In my opinion it does but I will suggest some changes perhaps to more accurately reflect reality.</p> | <p>I think the protocol fails to cover or acknowledge fully the rights of the Executive and the Opposition as opposed to individual councillors or groups.</p> <p>In 3.1, I think the Executive/ Administration has the right to expect a commitment by officers to its policies and programme. Likewise the Opposition has the right to be offered regular briefings on issues facing the Council as they develop. I draw a distinction between the Executive/Opposition and their associated groups. The briefings for the Opposition should be pro-active and <u>not</u> reactive.</p> | <p>See Q2: Rights of executive officers should not carry major policy work or meeting without the agreement of the Executive. Senior officers have an obligation to keep the Executive fully informed of any initiatives they are or are about to take.</p> <p>The rights of the Opposition to proper briefings irrespective of the Executive need to be underlined.</p> <p>Technical points: in 2.4 some Portfolio Holders have statutory responsibilities e.g Adult Services, Children's Services.</p> <p>In 2.5 mention officer statutory responsibilities for Adult and Children's Services.</p> <p>Under 5.5 reports, some clarification: the Executive often commissions reports which are <u>not</u> available to the Opposition – if they are, how does the Opposition know? What information do the Opposition have a right to know about – remember FOI !!!</p> |

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