
QUESTION FROM A MEMBER (NO. 3) – Membership of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

To: **Council – 7 February 2013**
By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**
Classification: **Unrestricted**
Ward: **N/A**

Summary: Councillor Driver to receive a question from Councillor Cohen in relation to membership of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1. Council Procedure Rule No. 14 governs the process for questions to be submitted by Members of Council.
- 1.2 The following question, addressed to Councillor Driver, has been validly received from Councillor Cohen.

"A Thanet District Councillor, cautioned by the Police under the malicious communications act, has not made an unconditional apology to the victim.

"Do you agree that, under these prevailing abhorrent circumstances, it would be most inappropriate that this councillor may be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee?"

- 1.3 Council Procedure Rule 14.2 states that a Member of the Council may ask

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee

a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district.

- 1.4 Council Procedure Rule 14.6 states that an answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated within three working days to the questioner.

- 1.5 A Member may, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.7, ask one supplementary question without notice to the Member to whom the first question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

1.6 The questioner shall have two minutes for the initial question and one minute for the supplementary question and the respondent shall have five minutes for the initial reply and two minutes for the supplementary reply. (Council Procedure Rule 14.8 refers)

2.0 Corporate Implications

2.1 Financial

2.1.1 None arising at this stage

2.2 Legal

2.2.1 None arising at this stage

2.3 Corporate

2.3.1 Council Procedure Rule 14 enables Members of Council to ask a Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee questions on matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the district. No Member, however, can submit more than one question to one meeting.

2.4 Equity and Equalities

2.4.1 None arising at this stage

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 This report is for information only.

4.0 Decision Making Process

4.1 This report is for information only.

Contact Officer:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Reporting to:	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager and Monitoring Officer

Annex List

None	
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	n/a
Legal	n/a