

Comparative Analysis – 12 English Councils

Arun, Ashfield, Aylesbury Vale

Bexley, Bournemouth Breckland, East Hampshire, Epping Forest, Fenland, Medway

Information sought	Number of Councils	More detailed description for some of the examples
How many receive written Leader's reports that are included in the agenda for each meeting and are open to questioning by Members?	1	Bexley: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Members given the opportunity to discuss and debate any topic included in the report; Time allowed 30 minutes
How many receive written reports from the Leader and all portfolio holders at each meeting and allow questions by any Members on the reports?	3	Fenland: 60 minutes for questions without notice Ashfield: 30 minutes for questions without notice Epping Forest: 20 minutes (<i>but Chairman can extend by a further 10 minutes</i>) for questions without notice on reports or on any other "non-operational matter (see question time below)
How many produce a list of topics for the Leader's report in the agenda and table a fuller version at the meeting?	1	(Medway)
How many receive OSP reports at each meeting?	3	
How many have scope for questions without notice on cabinet / committee reports or minutes?	8	

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How many have a general open question-time?	2	<p>Aylesbury Vale – CPR on questions by Members states:</p> <p><i>“A member of the council may ask the leader, relevant cabinet member or chairman of a committee any question without notice:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Upon an item of the report of the cabinet or a committee when that item is being received or under consideration by the Council; or</i> <i>• During question time which will last for an hour and may be extended at the discretion of the Chairman . . .”</i> <p>Epping Forest (as above)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 minutes for questions on reports by leader and portfolio holders OR any other matter of a non-operational character relating to the powers and duties of the Council or affecting the district or its inhabitants.
How many receive all cabinet and committee minutes/reports?	5	
What is the length of speeches?		
All 5 minutes	5	
Mover 10, others 5	2	
Mover 5, others 3	3	
Mover 8, others 3	1	