



PUBLIC QUESTION RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA DESPATCH

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**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
ON 18 JULY 2022**

Questions received after the Agenda despatch

Tony Johnson has asked the Chairman of the Standards Committee the following question:

Question

Information published as regards the outcome of the public consultation on the Election Cycle appears to be:

- Inadequate for Member (<2 days) or Public (<0.5 day) understanding
- Inconsistent with Rules 3.2.7 & 3.2.8 of WBC's Constitution
- Inconsistent with the provisions of clauses of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960
- An analysis which omits to mention that out of over 1,100 written responses - 39% were in favour of "all-out" and 61% were in favour of "thirds"
- An analysis which gave mis-impression by omitting over 400 responses on topics the summary did mention
- An analysis which failed to acknowledge over 10 public challenges as regards the true costs of elections
- An analysis which omitted any public concern or challenge as to the conduct of the consultation
- "Information Hiding" of Appendix B by publishing on a lower level web-page
- Providing a misleading answer to a public question at a Council Meeting

And where publication of a non-existent clause in WBC's Constitution - Rule 6.3.34 d) - may have led to suppression Call-In of the Executive's decision in January.

Please could the Council explain why this pattern of conduct occurred?

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