

Public Questions at the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

The Objective of Public Question Time

- 1 Public Question Time enables the public to engage with the Panel and pose questions on its remit and functions.
- 2 This is not a facility for the public to put questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Commissioner has put in place separate arrangements for dialogue with the public.
3. Anyone wishing to put a question to the Panel is asked to adhere to the following criteria.

Criteria for Questions at Panel Meetings

- 1 Any member of the public who lives, works or studies in the West Midlands (except police officers and police staff) can ask a question to the Panel.
- 2 The question or statement must be put in writing to the Panel 4 days before the Panel meeting to:

The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel
Scrutiny Office
Council House
Birmingham
B1 1BB

Or by email to: wmpcp@birmingham.gov.uk

- 3 The questioner must provide an address and contact telephone number when submitting a request.
- 4 The request must set out the question in full.
- 5 The question / statement:
 - a) must relate to the Panel's role and responsibilities;
 - b) must not be substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting in the past 6 months;
 - c) must not be defamatory, frivolous, vexatious or offensive;

- d) must not require the disclosure of confidential or exempt information; and
 - e) must not refer to any matter of a personal nature.
- 6 Once the question has been approved, the questioner will be contacted to make arrangements to attend the meeting to put the question.
 - 7 The time period for asking and responding to all questions will be limited to 30 minutes. No one question or statement shall exceed 3 minutes.
 - 8 Questioners must attend the meeting personally to put the question. If they do not attend their question will not be answered, although they can re-submit their question at a later date.
 - 9 Any questions will normally be answered at the meeting but in some cases this might not be practicable and a written answer will be provided within 14 days of the meeting.
 - 10 Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, except at the Chair's discretion to permit supplementary questions or permit further debate.
 - 11 The Chair has the discretion as to whether questions or statements can be made.