

The Council extends a warm welcome to you in attending any meeting of the Council. Council is committed to involving the public in its decision making processes whenever possible, and the ability to ask questions during “Public Question Time” is of critical importance in pursuing this public participation objective.

Council (as required by the *Local Government Act 1995*) sets aside a period of “Public Question Time” to enable a member of the public to put up to two (2) questions to Council. Questions should only relate to the business of Council and should not be a statement or personal opinion. Upon receipt of a question from a member of the public, the Shire President may either answer the question or direct it to a Councillor or an Officer to answer, or it will be taken on notice.

Having regard for the requirements and principles of Council, the following procedures will be applied in accordance with the *Shire of Chittering Local Government (Council Meetings) Local Law 2014*:

1. Public Question Time will be limited to fifteen (15) minutes.
2. Public Question Time will be conducted at an Ordinary Meeting of Council immediately following “Responses to Previous Public Questions Taken on Notice”.
3. Each member of the public asking a question will be limited to two (2) minutes to ask their question(s).
4. Questions will be limited to two (2) per person.
5. Please state your name and address, and then ask your question.
6. Questions should be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer in writing by 5pm on the day before the meeting and be signed by the author. This allows for an informed response to be given at the meeting.
7. Questions that have not been submitted in writing by 5pm on the day before the meeting will be responded to if they are straightforward.
8. If any question requires further research prior to an answer being given, the Presiding Member will indicate that the “*question will be taken on notice*” and a response will be forwarded to the member of the public following the necessary research being undertaken.
9. Where a member of the public provided written questions then the Presiding Member may elect for the questions to be responded to as normal business correspondence.
10. A summary of the question and the answer will be recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting at which the question was asked.

During the meeting, no member of the public may interrupt the meetings proceedings or enter into conversation.

Members of the public shall ensure that their mobile telephone and/or audible pager is not switched on or used during any meeting of the Council.

Members of the public are hereby advised that use of any electronic, visual or audio recording device or instrument to record proceedings of the Council without the permission of the Presiding Member.

PLEASE NOTE

Members of the public should not that no action should be taken on any item discussed at a Council or Committee meeting prior to written advice on the final resolution being received.