

3 February 2016

Agenda Item	11
Report No	VAL 7/16

Review of Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation

Report by the Clerk

Summary

This report seeks approval of an amendment to the Board's Standing Orders relating to the Conduct of Meetings.

1. Background

1.1 Standing Order 5 of the Board's Standing Orders relating to the Conduct of Meetings provides that the Board will review its Standing Orders (SOs) at the end of each year. It is appropriate to review the Board's Scheme of Delegation at the same time. Both documents were accordingly reviewed at the end of 2015 and a proposed change to Standing Orders is set out below. No changes to the Scheme of Delegation are recommended at this time.

2. SO 27 – Right of Reply

2.1 It is proposed to amend the wording within **Standing Order 27** as follows:-

2.2 Current Version – The mover of an original Motion will have the right to speak for five minutes in reply and in the reply will confine his or her comments to answering previous speakers and will not introduce a new matter into the debate. The mover may, however, seek a point of clarification. After the mover has been called upon by the Convener to reply, no other Member can speak to the question except on the point of clarification raised and once the reply has been given the Board will proceed directly to the vote.

2.3 *Proposed Version* – The mover of an original Motion *and the movers of any Amendments* will have the right to speak for five minutes in reply and in the reply will confine *their* comments to answering previous speakers and will not introduce a new matter into the debate. *The movers* may, however, seek points of clarification. After *the movers* have been called upon by the Convener to reply, no other Member can speak to the question except on the points of clarification raised and once *the replies* have been given the Board will proceed directly to the vote.

3. Recommendation

Members are asked to approve with immediate effect the amendment to the Board's Standing Orders relating to the Conduct of Meetings set out at paragraph 2.3 above.

Designation: Clerk

Date: 5 January 2016