

STANDING ORDER 9 - Written Questions, Written Statements and Statements of Opinion

Written Questions

- 9.1 Members may table questions for written answer by:
- (i) the First Minister, a Welsh Minister or the Counsel General, on any matter relating to his or her responsibilities; or
 - (ii) the Assembly Commission on any matter relating to the Commission's responsibilities.
- 9.2 A Deputy Minister may at the request of the First Minister, a Welsh Minister or the Counsel General answer any written question on any matter on which he or she assists the First Minister, a Welsh Minister or the Counsel General (as the case may be).
- 9.3 A question must be tabled at least five working days before it is to be answered.
- 9.4 Questions are accepted at the discretion of the Presiding Officer, who must have regard to any written guidance which the Assembly may adopt.
- 9.5 The answers to accepted questions must be published in the record of proceedings.

Written Statements

- 9.6 The First Minister, a Welsh Minister or the Counsel General may make a written statement on any matter relating to his or her responsibilities.
- 9.7 The Assembly Commission may make a written statement on any matter relating to the Commission's responsibilities.
- 9.8 Any written statement must be published in the record of proceedings.

Statements of Opinion

- 9.9 A Statement of Opinion not exceeding 100 words on a matter affecting Wales may be tabled by any Member other than a member of the government; and any such Statement may be supported, opposed or otherwise subject to comment in writing by any other Member.

- 9.10 If a Statement of Opinion is deemed by the Presiding Officer to be in order it must be published, together with any expression of support or opposition, tabled by any other Member.