

ITEM 4. CALL-IN OF PROPOSED EXECUTIVE DECISION: WALNUT BRIDGE – APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING

NOTE ON PROCEDURE

The usual call-in procedure at the meeting is slightly complicated by the issue of exempt information that should not be disclosed. The exempt information is highlighted yellow on the pink sheets.

Proposed that the first part of the meeting deal only with elements of the call-in that do not relate to the exempt information and the second part of the meeting looks at the elements of the call-in that relate or reference the exempt information. After Part One, the Committee will be invited to formally pass a resolution to exclude the public from Part Two of the meeting (as prescribed under Item 3 of the agenda sheet). The public will be readmitted following the discussion of exempt information.

Suggested process for Part One:

1. Councillors who requested the call-in given opportunity, in turn, to explain their reasons (without repetition and without any reference to exempt information).
2. [Committee formally confirms it wishes to review the proposed decision itself rather than refer it to full Council.]
3. The Leader of the Council to make a statement in response to 1 above.
4. Committee to have the opportunity of asking the Leader/Lead Councillor questions regarding the proposed decision (relating to non-exempt information elements of the call-in).
5. Committee to debate the non-exempt information related elements of the call-in, including possible comment/advice to the Executive.
6. The Leader/Lead Councillor invited to make a statement in response to the Part One debate.
7. Committee consider motion to exclude the public in order to discuss the exempt information.

Suggested process for Part Two:

8. Councillors who requested the call-in given opportunity, in turn, to explain their reasons for call-in (without repetition and with reference to exempt information).
9. The Leader of the Council to make a statement in response.
10. Committee to have the opportunity of asking the Leader/Lead Councillor questions regarding the proposed decision.
11. Committee to debate the exempt information related elements of the call-in, including possible comment/advice to the Executive.
12. The Leader/Lead Councillor invited to make a statement in response to the Part Two debate.
13. Committee to consider its options, including comment and advice to the Executive.
14. Public readmitted.

15. Committee decides whether to:

- Endorse the proposed decision, or not refer the matter back to the Executive, in which case the decision shall take effect immediately; or
- Not support the proposed decision and refer it back to the next appropriate meeting of the Executive for final decision with such comment and advice as the Overview and Scrutiny Committee deems appropriate.

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NOTE ON PRINCIPLES OF DECISION-MAKING

One reason proposed for the call-in is that, 'the decision is not in accordance with the decision-making principles set out in the constitution.' To aid the Committee's deliberations, below is the relevant extract from Article 14 of the Council's Constitution:

Article 14 – Decision-making

14.2 Principles of Decision-Making

All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- (a) proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- (b) due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- (c) respect for human rights;
- (d) a presumption in favour of openness;
- (e) clarity of aims and desired outcomes; and
- (f) providing information on the options considered and giving reasons for the decision taken.