

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE PANEL REPORT

Wards Affected: All	Type of Report: Call-in
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OPEN	Portfolio: Leader

Committee: Corporate Performance Panel

Date: 31 October 2022

Subject: Call-in of Cabinet Members Delegated Decision – Council Tax Support scheme 2023/2024: Draft Scheme for Working Age Customers for Consultation

Summary

This report deals with the Cabinet Members Delegated Decision advertised on 18 October 2022. The deadline for call-in was 25 October 2022.

The decision has been called-in and the Chief Executive has determined that the call-in is valid.

The report outlines to Members how the call-in process may be used in this case and what the issues are relating to the matter.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 A Cabinet Members Delegated Decision was advertised on 18 October 2022 with a deadline for call-in of 25 October 2022. A copy of the report is attached at Appendix 1.

2 Grounds for Call-In

- 2.1 Standing Order 12.3 (d) requires grounds to be given for calling-in a Cabinet Members delegated decision, reasons given are set out below.

3 Call-in Requisition

- 3.1 The Call in was made by Councillor C Morley and supported by Councillors A Ryves, C Joyce, J Rust, G Howman, B Jones

Councillor Morley called in the decision as follows:

1. The financial tables are produced in such a way that they highlight the overall burden of the scheme on the taxpayer and includes the adverse economic burdens which are outwith our control.
2. Consultees should be offered a choice and advised of the additional burden on the Council's revenues if, going forward, we try to ameliorate the current inflationary pressures on our citizens, by moving to 100% support for those that are eligible.
3. I would suggest this figure is offered to our Preceptors and their comments put into the public domain as part of the consultation process.
4. I estimate that the additional cost effect on the Collection Fund will be, Borough £0.16m, County £1.22m and Police £0.23m.
5. Both Preceptors should be asked to accept these cuts and the public consultation includes statements from these organisations. We should offer that our portion will be accommodated by a 5% reduction in our cost base including the levy from the combined IDBs.
6. In this way consultees, our citizens, will be able to judge more fairly and evenly the opportunities that could be available. They could, in this way, make a Democratic decision. Do those interested want further cuts to help the vulnerable or do they wish to retain the status quo.

I firmly believe that the current document does not give consultees the ability to make a balanced decision and for this reason alone I believe this call-in should be supported and the necessary alternative calculations made and included in the document.

4 Validity of Call-in

- 4.1 The Chief Executive has made the following ruling:

The call-in is valid in respect of Standing Order 12.4 (a) to (h), has not fairly taken into account the views of Members requesting the call-in.

5 Call-in Process

- 5.1 Standing Orders 15.33 and 15.34 sets out the call-in debating procedure, as follows:

15.33 On receiving valid notice of a call-in under Standing Order 12, the Corporate Performance Panel should follow the steps outlined below (a-f) in debating the subject matter:

(a) The Proposer of the call-in and their supporters address the Corporate Performance Panel about the call-in and why it should be upheld;

(b) The Panel Members receive a submission from the relevant Portfolio Holder;

(c) The Panel Members receive submissions from Officers;

(d) The Panel Members receive submissions from members and, at the discretion of the Chair, other interested parties.

(e) The Panel debates the call-in (in accordance with this Standing Order) during which they may question or seek further information from any of the four parties referred to in (a), (b), (c) and (d) above.

(f) The Proposer shall exercise a right of reply after the debate.

15.34 Following the debate, the Panel will decide (in Accordance with Standing Order 12) either to support the Cabinet/Officer's/Cabinet Member's recommendation(s)/decision(s), or, to uphold the call in.

5.2 If the Panel upholds the call-in it may then take one of three courses of action in accordance with Standing Order 12.9:

(a) report to Council, Cabinet or the relevant Cabinet Member requesting that the Cabinet/Cabinet Member's/officer amend or substitute the recommendation(s) or decision(s); or,

(b) if the issue is considered urgent or straightforward, formulate a counter-recommendation or amendment; or,

(c) investigate the matter further at another meeting within thirty working days (beginning with the day after the issue of the notification of the call-in) and then follow the same process as set out above.

5.3 If the Corporate Performance Panel:

(a) does not end the call-in within 30 days from the date of the decision which has been called in (and the decision remains in dispute); or

(b) refers the call-in directly to Council,

the Council shall determine whether to approve the recommendation that has been called-in or to revoke, vary, amend and/or remit it back to Cabinet for further consideration.