NOTE RE CALL IN AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Scrutiny Procedure Rules relating to call-in as described in the Council's Constitution (PART 4: The Council's Rules of Procedure: Section E Scrutiny Procedure Rules; para 17).

The Constitution explains that when considering an item that has been "called in" the Scrutiny Committee can:

(a)   note the decision .

(b)   refer the decision back to the Cabinet or Executive Cabinet Member for reconsideration setting out in writing the nature of its concerns.

(c)   refer the decision on to the Council, with a motion in the name of the Chair (or member nominated by the Committee)

Save that if the Committee resolves that (b) is the conclusion any three members from at least two political groups who are members of the Committee present at the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee may require the matter be referred to the Council for consideration, with a motion in the name of one of the Members. i.e member nominated by the Committee.

Note: In order to refer a called-in item to Council the following must be agreed:

(a)   who is referring the item to Council,
(b)   what motion they wish to see on the Council Summons and
(c)   who will move the motion at Council.

If the Council considers a "called-in" matter it can:

(a)   note the report (in doing so the decision of the Cabinet or Executive Cabinet Member will stand and can be actioned by Officers); or

(b)   refer the decision back to the Cabinet or Executive Cabinet Member with or without comment.

When a called-in item is being considered by Council a motion will be placed on the order paper indicating who will move the motion. This motion can be amended in the same way as other motions before Council.

It should be noted that neither the Scrutiny Committee nor the Council can substitute its decision for that of the Cabinet or Executive Cabinet Member (unless, in relation to the Council that the decision is contrary to or outside of the approved Policy Framework or Budget) or direct the Cabinet or Executive Cabinet Member as to the decision which should be made.

Furthermore, the call in procedure can be used only once in relation to a particular decision.

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