PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The protocol for dealing with call-in was agreed by the Co-ordination & Call-in Committee at its meeting on 10 July 2002 and amended by Council at its meeting on 19 July 2006. Following Council's agreement to a revised scrutiny structure at Annual Council on 25 May 2011, call-ins are considered at Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It was agreed that as a convention the Vice-Chair, a member of the opposition, would chair this part of the meeting, or in his/her absence another member of the opposition on Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The following procedure will be adopted at the meetings where a call-in decision is being considered.

- The Member who requested the call-in to present their case (including if they have already given advance notice any members of the public to speak if appropriate).
- The Scrutiny Committee and the Mayor/portfolio holder or officer whose decision is being questioned can ask questions of the Members requesting the call-in.
- The Mayor/portfolio holder/ officer to present the case for the Cabinet to explain the reason behind the decision.
- The Scrutiny Committee and the Member requesting the call-in can then question the Mayor/portfolio holder/ officer.
- The Scrutiny Committee will then deliberate and make its decision.
- If the Scrutiny Committee ratifies the Cabinet decision it can be implemented immediately.
- If the Scrutiny Committee decides to refer the decision back to Cabinet for reconsideration it will be required to send written notice of the reasons to the Head of Legal and Property Services within 3 working days of the meeting who will forward it to the original decision taker and the Mayor.
- Cabinet must give not less that 7 working days notice to the Head of Legal and Property Services and the Chair and Vice-Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the date and time it intends to re-consider its decision.
- Any member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is entitled to attend the meeting at which Cabinet re-considers the decision, unless they have a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter being discussed.
- Cabinet will be free to take whatever decision it sees fit on re-consideration and the decision will not be open for further call-in except as provided in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, paragraphs 13.11 – 13.17 of the Constitution (page DVi7/8).
- A member who has a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter being called in will not be able to be a party to the call-in request, neither will they be able to participate in the call-in meeting.