
CALL-IN OF EXECUTIVE DECISION
Connecting Leicester Aylestone Road – Putney Road
- Welford Road

OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE - 27 May 2021

COUNCIL - 17 June 2021

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: All
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- Report version number: V1

1. Summary

An Executive decision taken by the Deputy City Mayor Environment and Transport on 14 April 2021 relating to Connecting Leicester: Aylestone Road – Putney Road - Welford Road has been the subject of a five-member call-in under the procedures at Rule 12 of Part 4D, City Mayor and Executive Procedure Rules, of the Council's Constitution.

The procedure rules state that a scrutiny committee or any five councillors may request formally that the decision be called-in for a further review by giving notice in writing to the Monitoring Officer within five working days of the decision.

The five Councillors who signed the call in were: Councillor Kitterick (proposer), Councillor Nangreave (seconder), Councillor Broadwell, Councillor Sangster and Councillor Willmott.

2. Recommended actions/decision

The Overview Select Committee is recommended to either:

- a) Note the report without further comment or recommendation. *(If the report is noted the process continues and the call in will be considered at Council on 17 June 2021); or*
- b) Comment on the specific issues raised by the call-in. *(If comments are made the process continues and the comments and call in will be considered at Council on 17 June 2021); or*
- c) Resolve that the call-in be withdrawn *(If the committee wish for there to be no further action on the call-in, then they must actively withdraw it. If withdrawal is agreed the call-in process stops, the call-in will not be considered at Council on 17 June 2021 and the original decision takes immediate affect without amendment).*

Council is recommended to either:

- a) Support the Deputy City Mayor's decision, and thus confirming the decision with immediate effect; or
- b) Recommend a different decision to the Deputy City Mayor. (The original decision will still stand, unless the Deputy City Mayor takes a further decision to amend the original.)

3. Scrutiny / stakeholder engagement

Consultation has been carried out with the council's cycling and walking special independent advisor on options for improving cycling and walking links in this area. Discussions have taken place with key stakeholders including Leicester City Football Club and University of Leicester to ensure cycling and walking links can be made with their current and emerging development schemes.

4. Background and options with supporting evidence

The Executive Decision Report and Decision Notice are attached at Appendix A and Appendix B.

5. Detailed report

The call-in submitted to the Monitoring Officer was in the following terms:

"We wish to call in the following decision "Executive Decision: Connecting Leicester: Aylestone Road - Putney Road - Welford Road" as we believe this matter needs to have further scrutiny. This is as the cost of the project has increased substantially and calls into question the value of the Putney Road project to the city compared to other transport schemes.

The benefits of the re-opening of Putney Road to through traffic was debatable prior to the cost increases proposed but now this is due to increase by £2.9 million, a fundamental re-examination of the choice of spending on this road project compared to more environmentally sustainable transport project needs to be debated."

The Monitoring Officer has confirmed that the call-in satisfies the requirements of the procedure rules and it has therefore proceeded as per the process set out at Rule 12 of Part 4D, City Mayor and Executive Procedure Rules of the Council's Constitution.

Where a call-in has been made, officers are to take no further legally binding action and the matter shall be referred to a meeting of the full Council. Prior to this it shall be referred to the relevant Scrutiny Committee if one is programmed or a special scrutiny committee if one is convened.

The call-in may however be withdrawn if:

The decision maker and the relevant scrutiny committee (or via the Monitoring Officer, the scrutiny committee chair and vice chair unanimously) come to an agreement;

The relevant scrutiny committee makes a resolution to withdraw; or

The sponsor and seconder of the call-in inform the Monitoring Officer that they wish the call-in to be withdrawn.

Following consideration of a call-in by full Council, the original decision will be deemed to be revived in its entirety. Any agreement by the decision maker to change the original decision will require a further formal Executive Decision.

6. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

6.1 Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the call-in.

Colin Sharpe, Deputy Director of Finance, Ext. 37 4081

6.2 Legal implications

The legal implications arising from the call-in are explained in section 2 above.

Two Executive Decisions have been made in relation to Putney Road. A £4.9m link road scheme was approved in November 2017 and subsequently added to the Council's Capital Programme, as explained in section 3.1 of the Executive Decision Report attached. That matter cannot be subject to call-in as time has lapsed.

The matter presently subject to call-in is the expenditure of £2.9m on the matters highlighted in section 3.4 to 3.6 of the Executive Decision Report.

Kamal Adatia, Monitoring Officer, Extn 371401

6.3 Equalities implications

There are no equality comments arising from this report.

Surinder Singh, Equalities Officer, Extn 374148

6.4 Climate Emergency implications

There are no climate change implications in addition to those in the decision report associated with this report, as it is solely concerned with financial issues.

Aidan Davis, Sustainability Officer, Ext 372284

6.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

None

7. Background information and other papers:

None

8. Summary of appendices:

Appendix A Executive Decision Report – Connecting Leicester Aylestone Road – Putney Road - Welford Road dated 14 April 2021.

Appendix B Decision Notice - Connecting Leicester Aylestone Road – Putney Road - Welford Road dated 14 April 2021.

9. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?

No