

**Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee  
(Calling – In)**

**19 May 2014**

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

**Called-in Item: Improving City Centre Competitiveness**

**Summary**

1. This report sets out the reasons for the call-in of the decisions made by Cabinet at their meeting on 23 April 2014 relating to changes to parking charges for the 2014/15 financial year, on a temporary basis, to provide an incentive to residents and visitors to encourage day time use of the car parks. This cover report sets out the powers and role of the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee in relation to dealing with the call-in.

**Background**

2. An extract from the Decision Sheet issued after the Cabinet meeting is attached as Annex A to this report. This sets out the decisions taken by Cabinet on the called-in item. The original report to the Cabinet meeting on the called-in item is attached as Annex B to this report.
3. The Cabinet decision has been called in by Councillors D'Agorne, Runciman and Taylor for review by the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC) (Calling-In), in accordance with the constitutional requirements for call-in. Whilst they support measures that help city centre businesses with sensible arrangements for parking, they consider this proposal as ill thought out and would encourage more traffic on already congested roads during the rush hour period. The following are the reasons given for the call-in:
  - Impact on revenues and city centre congestion on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings is uncertain and provisos to curtail the measure before Mar 31<sup>st</sup> 2015 in the event of difficulties adds to customer uncertainty about the scheme.

- The funding for the pilot would be taken from S106 money specified for transport, highways and access mitigation measures directly related to traffic generated by the Vangarde Development.
- At the time of planning approval Highways officers stated that the allocation 'fell significantly short of the required level' indicating that it is already inadequate for the work which is required to ameliorate the traffic impact of the development.
- The decision fails to identify which measures will not now be provided.

## **Consultation**

4. In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, the calling-in Members have been invited to attend and/or speak at the Call-In meeting, as appropriate.

## **Options**

5. The following options are available to CSMC (Calling-In) Members in relation to dealing with this call-in, in accordance with the constitutional and legal requirements under the Local Government Act 2000:
  - a. To decide that there are no grounds to make specific recommendations to Cabinet in respect of the report. If this option is chosen, the original decision taken on the item by Cabinet at their meeting on 23 April 2014 will be confirmed and will take effect from the date of the CSMC (Calling-In) meeting; or
  - b. To make specific recommendations to Cabinet on the report, in light of the reasons given for the call-in. If this option is chosen, the matter will be reconsidered by Cabinet at a meeting of Cabinet (Calling-In) to be held on 27 May 2014.

## **Analysis**

6. Members need to consider the reasons for call-in and the report to Cabinet and form a view on whether there is a basis to make specific recommendations to Cabinet in respect of the report.

## Council Plan

7. There are no direct implications for this call-in in relation to the delivery of the Council Plan and its priorities for 2011-15.

### Implications

8. There are no known Financial, HR, Legal, Property, Equalities, or Crime and Disorder implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matter before Members; namely, to determine and handle the call-in.

### Risk Management

9. There are no risk management implications associated with the call in of this matter.

### Recommendations:

10. Members are asked to consider all the reasons for calling in this decision and decide whether they wish to confirm the decisions made by Cabinet or refer the matter back for reconsideration and make specific recommendations on the report to Cabinet.

**Reason:** To enable the called-in matter to be dealt with efficiently and in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

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**Report  
Approved**



**Date** 6 May 2014

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** None

**Wards Affected:**

**All**



**For further information please contact the author of the report**

## **Annexes**

Annex A – Extract from the Decision Sheet produced following the Cabinet meeting on the called-in item.

Annex B – Improving City Centre Competitiveness, Report of the Leader and Cabinet Member for Transport, 23 April 2014.

## **Background Papers**

None