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

15 June 2009

Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

Called-in Item: Petitions for 20 mph Speed Limits on Residential Roads

Summary

1. This report sets out the reasons for the call-in of a decision made by the Executive Member for City Strategy on 2 June 2009 in relation to the receipt of two petitions calling for 20 mph speed limits to be introduced on residential roads, one relating to a city-wide speed limit and the other relating to the South Bank area of the City. The report also explains the powers and role of the Scrutiny Management Committee in relation to dealing with the call-in.

Background

2. An extract from the decision list published after the relevant Decision Session of the Executive Member for City Strategy is attached as Annex 1 to this report. This sets out the decision taken by the Executive Member. The original report to the Decision Session is attached as Annex 2.
3. Following publication of the Executive Member's decision, Councillors Potter, Merrett and Simpson-Laing called in the decision for review by the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) (Calling-In), in accordance with the constitutional requirements for post-decision call-in. The reasons given for the call-in are as follows:-

“The decision is flawed because although some pilot zones have been agreed, they in no way model an authority-wide default of 20 mph. Therefore no meaningful extrapolation may be made from the local area to the city-wide level.”

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 SMC (Calling-In) in relation to dealing with this call-in, in accordance with the constitutional and legal requirements under the Local Government Act 2000:
 - (a) to confirm the decision of the Executive Member, on the grounds that the SMC (Calling-In) does not believe there is any basis for reconsideration. If this option is chosen, the decision takes effect from the date of the SMC (Calling-In) meeting;
 - (a) to refer the decision back to the Executive Member, for him to reconsider or amend in part his decision. If this option is chosen, the matter will be re-considered at a meeting of the Executive (Calling-In) to be held on 16 June 2009.

Analysis

6. Members need to consider the reasons for call-in and the basis of the decision made by the Executive Member and form a view on whether there is a basis for reconsideration of that decision.

Corporate Priorities

7. An indication of the Corporate Priorities to which the Executive Member's decision is expected to contribute is provided in paragraph 22 of Annex 2 to this report.

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 the call-in and reasons for it and decide whether they wish to confirm the decision made by the Executive Member or refer the matter back to the Executive Member for re-consideration at the scheduled Executive Calling-In meeting.

Reason:

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

Contact details:

Author:

Dawn Steel
Democratic Services Manager
01904 551030
email:
dawn.steel@york.gov.uk

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Quentin Baker
Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

Report Approved **Date** 4/6/09

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex 1 – decision of the Executive Member (extract from decision list published 2/6/09)

Annex 2 – report to Decision Session held on 2/6/09