

**Corporate and Scrutiny Management Policy and
Scrutiny Committee (Calling-In)**

25 July 2016

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

**Called-in Item: Better Bus Area Fund - Clarence Street Bus
Improvement Scheme**

Summary

1. This report sets out the reasons for the post decision call-in of the decisions made by the Executive Member for Transport and Planning on 9 June 2016 in respect of the Better Bus Area Fund – Clarence Street Bus Improvement Scheme.

This cover report sets out the powers and role of the Corporate & Scrutiny Management & Policy & Scrutiny Committee in relation to dealing with the call-in.

Background

2. An extract from the Decision Sheet issued after the Executive Member Decision Session is attached as Annex A to this report. This sets out the decision taken by the Executive Member for Transport and Planning on the called-in item. The original report to the Executive Member Decision Session on 9 June 2016 on the called-in item is attached as Annex B to this report.
3. The Executive Member's decision has been called in post decision by Councillors Flinders, Looker and D Myers for review by the Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee (CSMPSC) (Calling-In), in accordance with the constitutional requirements for call-in. The following are the reasons given for the call-in:
 1. The proposed scheme has involved no consultation with Guildhall's ward councillors;
 2. The scheme commits significant public funds for very little change to the status quo, representing poor value for money;

3. The revised scheme draws on two separate funding streams designed specifically to improve bus services; this scheme's measures will make no improvements to bus services in the short to medium term, if at all; and
4. The scheme provides no knock on benefits for motorists or cyclists following the removal of the extended two lane approach to the junction, the removal of the separate signalling for left turns into Lord Mayor's Walk and the removal of the cycle lane and cyclist waiting area at the top of Clarence Street.

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 CSMPSC (Calling-In) Members in relation to dealing with this post decision 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 the Executive in respect of the report. If this option is chosen, the original decision taken on the item by the Executive Member for Transport and Planning on 9 June 2016 will be confirmed and will take effect from the date of the CSMPSC (Calling-In) meeting; or
 - b. To make specific recommendations to the Executive on the report, in light of the reasons given for the post decision call-in. If this option is chosen, the matter will be reconsidered by the Executive at a meeting of Executive (Calling-In) to be held on 25 August 2016.

Analysis

6. Members need to consider the reasons for call-in and the report to the Executive Member for Transport and Planning and form a view on whether there is a basis to make specific recommendations to the Executive 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 2015-19. The contribution of the Clarence Street Bus Improvement scheme to the Council Plan is detailed in paragraph 14 of the report that was considered by the Executive Member (Annex B).

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 the Executive Member for Transport and Planning or refer the matter back for reconsideration and make specific recommendations on the report to the Executive.

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 14 July 2016

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected: Guildhall (site of scheme), Clifton Ward (adjacent to scheme)

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A – Extract from the Decision Sheet produced following the Executive Member Decision Session on the called-in item.

Annex B – Report of the Director of City and Environmental Services of 9 June 2016

Background Papers

None