

# Scrutiny Management Committee (Calling – In)

21 March 2011

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

Called-in Item: Local Sustainable Transport Fund

## Summary

1. This report sets out the reasons for the call-in of the decisions made by the Executive Member for City Strategy on 1 March 2011 in relation to a report which sets out a proposed approach for the submission of an application to the Department of Transport's (DfT) Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). The report also sought approval of the approach and delegated authority to complete and submit the bid to the DfT by the Director of City Strategy. This covering 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 Executive Member Decision Session is attached as Annex A to this report. This sets out the decisions taken by the Executive Member on the called-in item. The original report and annexes to the Executive Member Decision Session are attached as Annex B.
- 3. The Executive Member's decisions have been called in by Cllrs Merrett, Potter and Simpson-Laing for review by the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) (Calling-In), in accordance with the constitutional requirements for call-in. The reasons given for the call-in are on the grounds that:
  - Any final submission delegated to officers should only follow consultation with all Groups' transport spokespersons as well as the Executive Member given the importance of this bid for future transport funding in the city. This has not been confirmed.
  - The report and decision for an area-based approach offer no evidence for how sustainable change will be achieved city-wide, given the funding is only one-off funding.
  - There is no evidence of action to address the five air quality management area hotspots as part of this area-based approach.

- There is a lack of emphasis on improving local bus services, the highest resident priority after tackling congestion. Also insufficient focus on the most effective measures on bus priorities, cycling and travel campaigns.
- The Library Square scheme has been retained resulting in the loss of disabled parking spaces and is no longer affordable in the current climate.

#### 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) 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 confirm the decisions 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 original decisions will be confirmed and will take effect from the date of the SMC (Calling-In) meeting.
  - b. To refer the matter back to the Executive Member, for him to reconsider his original decisions. The reference back may include specific recommendations to the Executive Member. If this option is chosen, the matter will be reconsidered at a meeting of the Executive (Calling-In) to be held on 22 March 2011.

## **Analysis**

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

## **Corporate Priorities**

7. An indication of the Corporate Priorities to which the Executive Member's decisions are expected to contribute is provided in paragraph 25 of Annex B 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 for reconsideration and make specific recommendations on the report to the Executive Member for City Strategy.

**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:**

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email: dawn.steel@york.gov.uk	Report Approved	10 March 2011
Specialist Implications Officer(s)	None	
Wards Affected:		All 🗸
For further information please contact the author of the report		

#### Annexes

Annex A – Decision of the Executive Member on the called-in item (extract from the decision list published on 2 March 2011).

Annex B – Report to the Decision Session of the Executive Member for City Strategy on 1 March 2011.

## **Background Papers**

Agenda relating to the above meeting (published on the Council's website)