

CALL IN REQUEST – Option (a)

A Call In request may be made by:

Any five non-executive Members of council

Date of decision publication: 19th July 2013.

Delegated decision ref:Or

Executive Board Minute no: 56.....

Decision description: ...Decisions made by Executive Board in relation to report entitled 'Outcome of the transport consultation and proposed changes to the children's services transport policy'.....

.....

Discussion with Decision Maker:

Prior to submitting a Call In, a nominated signatory must first contact the relevant officer or Executive Member to discuss their concerns and their reasons for wanting to call in the decision. Part of this discussion must include the Member ascertaining the financial implications of requesting a Call In.

Please identify contact and provide detail.

Director/author of delegated decision report.

Executive Board Member

Detail of discussion (to include financial implications)

Councillor Lamb had a meeting with Sarah Sinclair in Nigel Richardson's absence.

During the discussion Councillor Lamb and Sarah Sinclair had a detailed discussion about the executive board report and decision recommendations. They also discussed the reasoning behind the Call in and what Councillor Lamb wished to achieve by requesting the decision be called in.

The discussion also featured consideration of any financial implications that might arise from a call in.

Leeds City Council Scrutiny Support Unit

Reasons for Call In:

All requests for Call In must detail why, in the opinion of the signatories, the decision was not taken in accordance with the principles set out in Article 13 of the Council constitution (decision making) (principles of decision making) or where relevant issues do not appear to be taken into consideration. *Please tick the relevant box(es) and give an explanation.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Proportionality (ie the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹	Respect for human rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	A presumption in favour of openness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ³	Clarity of aims and desired outcomes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁴	An explanation of the options considered and details of the reasons for the decision
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁵	Positive promotion of equal opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural justice

Explanation

¹⁺⁵ We feel that the decision will limit the choices available to parents in relation to the education of their children. This decision will impact upon low to middle income parents who do not qualify for benefits and will struggle to pay full economic rate for services. This is most relevant to families that have already made these choices who will face a cliff edge cut in two years' time. This decision could cause parents to struggle and fall in to debt or cause parents to make the decision to disrupt the child's education. There appears to be a discrepancy in the new transport policy relating to children who attend a single sex school on the basis of their parent's religion or belief who will continue to be funded past the date when all other faith funding has been removed.

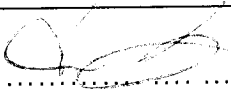
²⁺³ We also believe that the decision was not taken in an open and clear way because the decision was taken to remove funding for discretionary home to school transportation before the consultation took place. The rationale for the decision is related to financial pressures to the authority, insufficient work has been done to identify what cost implications the decision will have on other areas of the budget. Officers have not been able to provide assurances that the savings the decision is meant to make will be realised. The consultation was misleading to the public as great detail was provided about the discretionary elements, very little detail was provided about statutory elements and the options available relating to them.

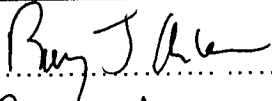
⁴ The consultation feedback to the Executive Board did not fully address the concerns and impacts raised during the consultation period. – The responses/mitigations were unclear as to which concerns they specifically related to and some specifically not addressed.

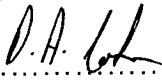
We are aware of the public request for scrutiny but given that this decision has already been taken by Executive Board and the fundamental flaws and concerns we have with that process we think this call in is also a valuable part of the democratic process. We believe that this call in could have been avoided by the Executive Board by allowing scrutiny to undertake an inquiry and inform the decision thereby ensuring that we are making the best decision for the people of the city. We believe that the Executive Board decision should be reversed to enable scrutiny to fully inform the decision – not inform a decision that has already been made.

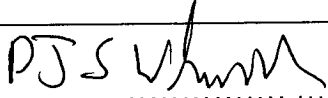
Leeds City Council Scrutiny Support Unit

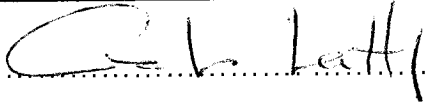
The following signatories request that the above decision be called in:

1) Signature..... 
Print name..... Ann Lewis

2) Signature..... 
Print name..... Barry Anderson

3) Signature..... 
Print name..... DAN COHEN

4) Signature..... 
Print name..... Paul Wadsworth

5) Signature..... 
Print name..... Graham Lattif

This form should be submitted to the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development (Scrutiny Support Unit, 1st Floor West, Civic Hall) by **5.00pm on the fifth working day after the decision publication date**. The office is open from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

(For further information on the Call In procedure please refer to the Scrutiny Support Unit intranet site, or contact the Unit on 39 51151).

Leeds City Council Scrutiny Support Unit

For office use only: (box A)

Received on behalf of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development by:

.....(signature)


Date: 26.7.13..... Time: 13.45.. SSU ref: 2013-14-56-63

For office use only: (box B)

Exemption status checked:

Call In authorised: Yes No

Date checked:

Signed: 

Signatures checked:

Date: 26.7.13

Receipts given:

Validity re article 13

Receipt details: N/A