

REQUEST FOR CALL-IN OF EXECUTIVE OR CABINET MEMBER DECISION, OR OFFICER KEY DECISION

WHAT TO CONSIDER BEFORE CALLING-IN A DECISION

An Executive Decision, a Cabinet Member Decision, or an Officer Key Decision, may only be called-in within three working days of the publication of that decision.

Members are advised to contact Mark Towers in Democratic Services (Tel: 477127) to discuss the timing of submission of any call-in request. This will enable officers to ensure the efficient administration of called-in decisions. Democratic Services Officers will also be able to advise about the wording of the call-in request.

NOTE: If the original decision has been marked as urgent, it is essential that the call-in request is submitted as quickly as possible, otherwise the decision may be implemented without further restriction. A decision cannot be called-in after it has been implemented. Where a decision has not yet been implemented, the approval of the Chairman of the relevant Scrutiny Committee will normally be required determine whether the matter is in fact urgent.

CALL-IN REQUEST

I (<i>Insert Name</i>)	Cllr. Tony Williams		
In accordance with Paragraph 15 (c) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules at Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, give notice of a request to call-in the following decision:			
Decision Name:	Parking Fees and Services 2022/23		
Decision No.	PH23/2022	Decision Maker:	Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Job Creation

GUIDANCE ON REASONS FOR CALL-IN

Members must provide (overleaf) a summary of their reasons for the call-in request. The reasons given should be clear and concise and, in so far as it is possible, include enough information to enable the relevant Scrutiny Committee to understand fully the grounds for the call-in and to be made aware of any relevant facts, prior to the meeting.

Reasons for calling in a decision may include the following:

- A fundamental disagreement with the initial decision taken
- A disagreement about one or more elements of the decision taken
- Concern about the timing, extent or implications of the decision taken
- Concern about the way in which the decision has been taken

- Concern about the levels of consultation prior to taking the decision
- Concern that the full facts were not taken into account when making the decision
- Concern that the decision is insufficiently clear
- Concern that the decision is outside policy or not within the budget

The above list is not exhaustive.

REASONS FOR CALL-IN

My reasons for requesting the call-in of the above decision are as follows:

A fundamental disagreement with the initial decision taken.

At a time when the council has announced several road closures within the town centre, and when car parks associated with these closed roads and access have been de-commissioned during various developments for an extensive period, the council is expecting shoppers and visitors to use peripheral car parks and walk the extra distance to the main shopping areas and charge vehicle owners to pay more for much less.

Residents who have just been affected by the biggest council tax increase allowed and a 5% rent hike during a period where fuel and energy costs are at record high levels, will have less disposable income and look at larger out of town discount food and clothing retailers

Small businesses are most likely to become eligible to pay council tax and together with larger town centre traders they will most certainly be negatively affected by these road closures.

Add to that the increase in parking charges and we are guilty of adding more reasons not to shop in Blackpool.

If cheap car parking doesn't work, then why do we reduce charges every Christmas period.

We must believe that by reducing the cost to park it will increase retail and business in the town and provide additional support to traders during the shoulder months of the year, otherwise we wouldn't do it.

The financial benefit to the council is reported to be £900,000 additional revenue, but this is by no means guaranteed as the increase parking charges may in fact have an adverse effect on income.

There are many other ways that the council can improve on revenue, penalising those who choose to visit our town during a disruptive level of development is counterproductive, false economy, demonstrates a negative attitude and completely demoralises local business owners whilst contradicting the council's own policy and mission statement

The UK's number one family resort with a thriving economy that supports a happy and healthy community.

This decision to increase parking charges should be either scrapped completely to demonstrate our support for our struggling town centre businesses or at the very least put on hold until the town has advanced more in its development and offer.

MEMBER RECOMMENDATION TO THE RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Members are asked to recommend a particular course of action for the relevant Scrutiny Committee to consider when deciding its response to the call-in, which may be either:

- To refer the matter to the original decision maker, or
- To refer the matter to Council

In either case, Members may also recommend a form of words for the Committee to consider including with any referral.

NOTE: The relevant Scrutiny Committee may decide to take no further action in respect of the called-in decision.

I wish to recommend that the relevant Scrutiny Committee undertake the following action in respect of the call-in:-

Refer the matter to council as the decision has a major impact on the Council's stated mission statement about economy and growth.

ATTENDANCE AT THE RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

I intend to be present at the relevant Scrutiny Committee meeting	Yes
I wish for the following person to speak at the relevant Scrutiny Committee meeting on my behalf:	

MEMBER AUTHORISATION

Signed:		Date:	4 March 2022
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