

Protocol for Call-in

Item	Guidance Description	Notes
1.	Chair to seek a proposer and a seconder for agreement of the attached Call-in protocol. Committee members to vote on the proposed protocol.	
2.	<p>Chair to introduce the Call-in and the Committee to agree the scope of the Call-in based on the points made in the Call-in Notice:</p> <p>1. Consideration of Environmental Implications</p> <p>1.1 The cabinet report MCa/21/32 stated at “11. <i>Environmental Implications: 11.1 The recommendation to switch to Hybrid and Fully Electric Vehicles could mean that either the Hackney Carriage ranks in the Mid Suffolk district need to be adapted or infrastructure will be needed nearby to support the change to Greener energy efficient vehicles.</i>” This statement appears to only consider some potential infrastructure implications and does not encompass or examine the wider environmental implications of the proposed policy. The Council declared a climate emergency motion in July 2019 which stated the aim: “<i>to work with partners . . . towards the aspiration of making the County of Suffolk carbon neutral by 2030.</i>” However, the proposed new policy proposes little that moves Hackney carriages and private hire vehicles toward more environmentally friendly or zero-carbon choices, apart from the “strong recommendation” that new taxis should be electric vehicles or hybrids.</p> <p>1.2 There is no deadline by which these changes should be made, and no support or encouragement offered to assist owners to adapt. The new policy states at 6.1.1 that the council, “<i>will look to research and develop an incentive scheme</i>” – however no plan or timetable is presented to take this forward. It is not shown how the policy contributes towards the Council’s stated aim of achieving carbon-neutrality by 2030.</p> <p>2. Full Depiction of the Licensing and Regulatory Debate</p> <p>2.1 The cabinet made a decision to adopt the policy without a full depiction of the debate on the draft report which had taken place at the Licencing and Regulatory committee on 16th August 2021, where opposition members pressed for electric vehicles and hybrids to be given a higher priority in</p>	

	<p>the recommendations. Those calls were not accepted, and the draft report was eventually voted through on the chair's casting vote.</p> <p>2.2 Cabinet members did not explore or seek to understand why some members of the Licencing and Regulatory Committee had been unable to support the draft policy when it was debated on August 16th.</p>	
3.	Once the scope has been agreed the Lead Signatory will present the reason for the Call-in and why the Committee should scrutinise the decision, this will be up to a maximum of 10 minutes which the clerk will time. (The Lead Signatory may choose to call other councillors from those listed on the Call-In notice, but the maximum amount of time will remain ten minutes collectively)	
4.	The Chair will then ask the Cabinet Member (s) to present the reason (s) why the decision was taken by Cabinet (this will be no greater than 10 minutes)	
4.1	The Chair to invite Committee Members to ask questions of the Lead Signatory and the Cabinet Member(s) for further information.	
4.2.	The Chair to invite Committee Members to ask questions of officers and other Members of Cabinet (if present)	
4.3.	The Chair to invite Committee Members to ask further question in light of new information provided.	
4.4	The Chair to invite the Cabinet Member(s) followed by the Lead Signatory to provide a summary of the respective cases (Allowing each summary 5 minutes)	
4.5	Members of the Cabinet and Lead Signatory to leave the meeting.	
4.6	<p>The Committee will then be asked to debate the issue and take one of the following courses of action: -</p> <p>(1) Refer the matter back to the Cabinet for reconsideration, together with the observations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Cabinet will then take a final decision and that decision cannot be called in.</p> <p>(2) Seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer as to whether the decision is contrary to, or not wholly in accordance with the policy framework or the budget and if</p>	

	<p>applicable refer the matter to full Council for a final decision.</p> <p>(3) That the decision be upheld and implemented immediately.</p> <p>In each case setting out in writing the nature of its concern.</p>	
4.7	There will be a vote given the reason for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's decision (if the Cabinet Members have indicated that they are prepared to take the matter back to the Committee that will be noted and referred to together with the reason)	
4.8	The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will have the discretion to operate the above process flexibly where it is considered that changes would be conducive to the effective performance of the Scrutiny role.	
4.9	Any motion must be proposed and seconded and only one motion can be debated at a time. When the debate has finished the motion will be put to the vote.	
4.10	Individual Councillors can ask for their own vote to be recorded and this will be noted by the Clerk. If Committee request a recorded vote this will need to be proposed and seconded and supported by up to three or more councillors.	
5.	Once motions have been agreed the meeting will close.	