

Rother District Council

Report to	-	Cabinet
Date	-	3 June 2019
Report of the	-	Executive Director
Subject	-	Call-in and Urgency Procedures

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 29 April 2019, considered a report on the Council's Call-in and Urgency Procedures. The recommendation and minute arising is reproduced below.

Recommendation: It be **RESOLVED:** That following the review of the Call-In Procedure, the current arrangements for calling-in an executive decision be confirmed.

OSC18/54. **CALL-IN AND URGENCY PROCEDURES**

The Committee received the report of the Executive Director on the Council's Call-In and Urgency Procedures. In accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Rule 17 (b) of the Constitution, the operation of the provisions relating to call-in and urgency was monitored annually through a report submitted to full Council via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC).

When this matter was considered the previous year, whilst it was agreed that the call-in procedure was working satisfactorily, the Committee requested that the procedure be amended to enable decisions to be called-in by any two non-executive Members of Council who need not be Members of the OSC.

Cabinet agreed to support this recommendation to Council on the proviso that at least one of the two Members requesting a call-in must have been present at the Cabinet meeting in question and have heard first-hand the debate and reasons for decision and be subject to review after one year. This was subsequently agreed by full Council in May 2018 and the Constitution amended accordingly.

The report therefore constituted both the annual requirement to monitor the procedure and carry out a review of the new provision after one years' operation.

The Call-In procedure was the mechanism by which the Council's OSC could challenge decisions made by the Executive that were not yet implemented. Thirteen Executive meetings had been held during the period of the report from 12 March 2018 up until 11 February 2019. Despite the revised provisions, no Executive decisions had been called-in during the period to which the report related; four decisions of Cabinet, within the approved budget and policy framework, had been deemed and resolved as urgent decisions.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the current arrangements for calling-in an executive decision remained satisfactory.

(Overview and Scrutiny Committee Agenda Item 5.3).

Dr Anthony Leonard
Executive Director