

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 19 July 2016
Report of: Director of Legal Services
Title: Review of Available walking Routes to School

1.0 Report Summary

This report sets out the procedure for the Call-in of the decision of the Cabinet made on 14 June 2016.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers whether or not it wishes to offer advice to the decision maker(Cabinet)in response to the Call In.

3.0 Wards Affected

- 3.1 All Wards

4.0 Local Ward Members

- 4.1 All Members for the above Wards.

5.0 Policy Implications

- 5.1 Contained within the attached report.

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 Contained within the attached report.

7.0 Legal Implications

- 7.1 Contained within the attached report.

8.0 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 Contained within the attached report.

9.0 Background and Options

- 9.1 In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 12.3 any six or more Councillors can call in a decision. Six Members submitted a call-in

form which was validated on 20 June by the Monitoring Officer in respect the above decision for the reasons identified in Appendix 1.

- 9.2 In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 12.8 the Committee has two options in respect of any further action. The Committee may decide to offer no advice, in which case the decision may be implemented. Alternatively, the Committee may decide to offer advice, in which case, the matter must be referred to the decision maker, in this case Cabinet. In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 12.10, the decision maker is not bound to accept any advice offered to it and will have sole discretion on any further action to be taken. Such action may include:

- (1) Confirming with or without amendment the original decision; or
- (2) Deferring the matter pending further consideration; or
- (3) Making a different decision.

- 9.3 Where the Overview and Scrutiny Committee decides to offer advice, this must be clearly documented in the minutes

- 9.4 If the Overview and Scrutiny Committee decides not to offer any advice, then the decision of the Cabinet can be implemented immediately.

- 9.5 Full details of the Call-In Procedure can be found at Scrutiny Procedure Rule 12

- 9.6 The Cabinet Member for Children and Families and relevant officers will attend the meeting to explain the background and reasons for the decision and to answer any questions the Committee may have.

- 9.7 The following records the decision of the Cabinet of 14 June 2016:

“That Cabinet

- 1. notes the reclassification of routes that have been re-assessed as available walking routes to school and agrees that free school transport for those routes be withdrawn from April 2017; and
- 2. authorises the Executive Director – People to spend £150,000 from the Local Transport Plan budget allocation for 2016/17 to improve further walking routes to school to bring them up to required standard so that free school transport for those improved routes may be subsequently withdrawn.

- 9.8 The Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director People considered by the Cabinet is attached at Appendix 2.

9.9 A response to the issues raised in the Call-In Notice is attached at Appendix 3.

10.0 **Appendices**

Page 5 – Call In Notice(

Page 7 - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director People

Page 17 – Response to the issues raised in the Call-in Notice)

Page 21 - Walking Routes Policy

Page 39. Route assessments

Page 77. Two FAQ documents

11.0 **Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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