

City of Westminster Committee Report

Meeting Westminster Scrutiny Commission

Date: Tuesday 6 July 2010

Status: For General Release

Title: Exemptions to Call-in

Wards Affected: Not Applicable

Policy Context: Management of the Council

Financial Summary: There are no financial implications

Report of: Mick Steward, Head of Council, Cabinet and

Committee Secretariat

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report advises the Westminster Scrutiny Commission of the occasions during the last municipal year on which the call-in provisions have been exempted by the Chief Executive due to special circumstances.

2. Recommendation

That the report be noted.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 The City Council's Constitution sets out provisions which allows, in urgent circumstances, that the call-in provisions may be exempted by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
- 3.2 The City Council's Constitution previously provided that reports showing how many times the call-in provisions had been exempted be reported to full Council. Following a review of the Constitution the responsibility for monitoring the use of this provision transferred to the Westminster Scrutiny Commission from the full Council.
- 3.3 During the municipal year 2009/10 the call-in provisions have been exempted on 4 occasions, as follows:

- 1. Cabinet Member Report: Proposal for the Westminster Adult Education Service to move premises to 9 Orange Street, WC2.
- 2. Cabinet Urgency Report Cessation of Parking Enforcement Procurement Process 1 March 2010.
- 3. Cabinet Urgency Report Award of negotiated short term contract to NSL Services 16 March 2010.
- 4. Parking Enforcement and Street-based Management Contract Recommendation to Award 5 May 2010.
- 3.4 In each of these cases the Chief Executive was satisfied that a delay caused by the call-in provision could have seriously prejudiced the Council's or public's interests.
- 3.5 In view of the very limited number of times on which the call-in provisions have been exempted no recommendations for amending the process for making exceptions to call-in are made. The Commission are therefore asked to note this report.
- **4. Other Implications:** None.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Mick Steward: Tel: 020 7641 3134; Email: msteward@westminster.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

• Reports listed in paragraph 3.3 above, which are for the reasons set out in each of the reports exempt from public disclosure.