

Thurrock Council

Request to call-in an executive decision

Decision title	1.1 It is recommended that the Council enter into a contract for services with PWC through to February 2024 for the value specified in the financial implications to support the Council's change and budget process.
Date of decision	11/10/2023
Who took the decision – for example, Cabinet	Cabinet
Reason for making the call-in – continue on a separate sheet, if necessary	<p>It was taken without reference to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was held just days before, at which the portfolio holder advised councillors almost all the required savings for 2023-24 had been identified and the council was 'well on the way' to identifying the £18m savings required for 2024-5.</p> <p>So why the need for the matter to be suddenly brought up as urgent business?</p> <p>Either way, councillors are not being given the opportunity to discuss in detail vitally important matters and they are being given information in a disingenuous way.</p> <p>In his report Cllr Snell spoke of ongoing work with PWC, so they are clearly already engaged with the council which is confusing. As far as I can see there have been no payments to them to date in the list of payments to suppliers.</p> <p>That is only posted to the end of August so payment may have been made in September.</p> <p>So did cabinet vote through something that had already been agreed?</p> <p>That is one question, there are many more and I believe they need to be asked at O&S.</p> <p>This smacks of the sort of decision-making that we were promised was long gone.</p> <p>Having called this in, it is my understanding that no progress should happen towards drawing up a contract with PWC.</p> <p>I sincerely hope that has not already happened.</p>
Date of call-in request	17/10/2023

You can only make a request to call-in a decision if there is evidence that the decision taken was not in accordance with the principles of decision-making, as set out in the Constitution.

Which of the following principles do you believe the decision did not take into account?

- Due regard for the individuals and communities served by Thurrock Council
- Proportionality – this means the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome
- Due consultation in line with the council’s consultation strategy
- Respect for human rights
- A presumption in favour of openness
- Clarity of aims and desired outcomes – the link between strategy and implementation
- Consistency with the council’s budget and policy framework

Additional Information to support the call-in –
continue on a separate sheet, if necessary

This is a decision that reflects the lack of integrity in the decision-making process

Alternative proposal

Alternative proposal –
continue on a separate sheet, if
necessary

Persons making this call-in

I am / we are:

- An individual elected member for a ward particularly affected by the decision
- The chair of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee
- Any 2 members of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee
- Any 3 non-executive members of the Council
- Any 10 members of the public, working or studying within the Thurrock Council area
- A voluntary group with interest in the Thurrock Council area
- A local business situated in the Thurrock Council area –
not allowable where the decision relates to procurement of goods and services

Contact information

Name	Neil Speight
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When the relevant overview and scrutiny committee considers your call-in, would you like to make a statement or representation at the meeting?

- Yes
- No

Supporters of the call-in

Details of each person indicated as 'persons making this call-in' on page 2 must be entered below.

Number	Name in block capitals, and signature	Address, in block capitals
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
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10.		

Please return this form to either:

- direct-democracy@thurrock.gov.uk
- Democratic Services, Thurrock Council, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, RM17 6SL

How we will use your information

We will use your information to provide the service requested. We may share your personal data between our services and with partner organisations, such as government bodies and the police. We will do so when it is of benefit to you, or required by law, or to prevent or detect fraud. To find out more, go to thurrock.gov.uk/privacy. Get free internet access at libraries and community hubs.

For Monitoring Officer use only

Monitoring Officer's decision on the call-in request:

- Allowed in full
- Allowed in part
- Not allowed

Monitoring Officer's reasons for decision	
Monitoring Officer's comments on the alternative proposal	
Signature	
Date	