

ARTICLE 6 – THE CABINET

6.01 Role

The Cabinet will carry out all of the local authority's functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the local authority, whether by law or under this Constitution, as delegated by the Leader.

6.02 Form and Composition

The Cabinet will consist of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader together with at least 1, but not more than 8, councillors appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader, who will report the appointments, and any changes to these appointments, to the Council.

6.03 Cabinet Members

Cabinet Members shall be appointed by the Leader. Each appointment will be subject to a valid enhanced criminal records check.

They will hold office until the day of the post election annual meeting or until:

- (a) they are removed from office, either individually or collectively, by decision of the Leader; or
- (b) they resign from office; or
- (c) they are suspended from being councillors under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (d) they are no longer councillors.

6.04 Cabinet Associates

Other Members may, from time to time, be designated by the Leader as Cabinet Associates. Each appointment will be subject to a valid enhanced criminal records check.

A Cabinet Associate will not be a member of the Cabinet and will not participate in Cabinet decision-making but may work closely with a Cabinet Member(s). He or she will not be a member of any select committee relating to the specific responsibilities of the Cabinet Member(s) he or she is assisting or any other area to which they are assigned, but will be able to serve on unrelated select committees.

Cabinet Associates will not have delegated powers and will not be entitled to vote at Cabinet meetings.

The Leader will advise the Democratic Services Lead Manager in writing of the names of designated Cabinet Associates and of the Cabinet Member(s) they will assist. The Democratic Services Lead Manager will report the designation to the next meeting of the Council.

6.05 Cabinet Procedure Rules

1. How the Cabinet operates

(a) Delegation of executive decisions

The arrangements for the discharge of executive functions are set out in the executive arrangements adopted by the Council. The Leader has responsibility for the discharge of all executive functions. He/she can delegate any/all of these functions (except those reserved functions) to:

- (i) the Cabinet as a whole;
- (ii) a committee of the Cabinet;
- (iii) an individual member of the Cabinet;
- (iv) an officer;
- (v) a local committee;
- (vi) joint arrangements;
- (vii) a local Member in relation to their Division, or
- (viii) another local authority.

(b) Delegation by the Cabinet

The Leader will appoint the Cabinet and will determine the individual portfolios to be allocated to Cabinet Members. A record shall be kept of:

- (i) the names, addresses and electoral divisions of the Members appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader;
- (ii) the terms of reference and constitution of any executive committees that the Cabinet may appoint and the names of Cabinet Members appointed to them;
- (iii) the nature and extent of any delegation of executive functions to local committees, individual Cabinet Members, individual local Members, any other authority or any joint arrangements and the names of those Members appointed to any joint committee.

The Leader, Cabinet or a Committee in relation to decision making by officers within their statutory or delegated authority, may at any time require a particular issue or any aspect of delegated powers within their terms of reference to be referred to them for decision.

(c) **Sub-delegation of executive functions**

Where the Leader, Cabinet, or a committee of the Cabinet, is responsible for an executive function, they may delegate further to a local committee, joint arrangements, an individual Cabinet Member, an individual local Member in relation to their Division, or an officer.

(d) **The Council's scheme of delegation and executive functions**

Subject to paragraph (ii) below:

- (i) The Council's scheme of delegation will be subject to adoption by the Council and may only be amended by the Council. It will contain the details set out in Part 3 of this Constitution.
- (ii) As and when the Leader amends the scheme of delegation in Part 3 relating to executive functions, the proper officer will report to the next meeting of the Council setting out the changes made by the Leader.
- (iii) Table 2 in Part 3 of this Constitution sets out the responsibility for executive functions exercised by Cabinet Members.

(e) **Cabinet meetings**

The Cabinet will meet at times to be agreed by the Leader. The Cabinet will meet at the Council's main offices or another location to be agreed by the Leader. Notice of the time and place of a Cabinet meeting will be published in line with procedure set out in Access to Information Rule 6.05 (k).

(f) **Quorum**

The quorum for a meeting of the Cabinet is not fewer than three voting Members.

(g) **How decisions are taken by the Cabinet**

Decisions on executive functions which have been delegated to the Cabinet as a whole, a committee of the Cabinet or an individual Cabinet Member will be taken at a meeting convened in accordance with the Access to Information Rules.

2. **How Cabinet meetings are conducted**

(a) **Chairing meetings**

If the Leader is present he/she will preside. In his/her absence the Deputy Leader will preside.

(b) **Business at meetings**

The business at Cabinet meetings will include:

- (i) matters referred to the Cabinet (whether by a Select Committee or by the Council) for reconsideration by the Cabinet in accordance with the provisions contained in the Select Committees Procedure Rules or the Budget and Policy Framework Rules;
- (ii) consideration of reports from select committees, local committees, any other committees of the Council, where the subject matter relates to more than one portfolio area or as determined by the Leader, and reports from borough/district scrutiny committees on matters relating to a Local Area Agreement improvement target; and
- (iii) matters set out in the agenda for the meeting, which shall indicate which are key decisions and which are not in accordance with the Access to Information Rules.

The Cabinet will always formally respond to reports and recommendations made to it by any committees of the Council. Responses to reports and recommendations of select committees must be made within two months of receipt of the report. The Cabinet will also respond to reports from borough/district scrutiny committees on matters relating to a Local Area Agreement improvement target within two months.

(c) **Consultation**

All reports to the Cabinet from any member of the Cabinet or an officer on proposals relating to the budget and policy framework must contain details of the nature and extent of consultation with stakeholders and the appropriate select committees, and the outcome of that consultation. Reports to the Cabinet or Cabinet Members about other matters will set out the details and outcome of consultation as appropriate. The level of consultation required will be appropriate to the nature of the matter under consideration.

(d) **Placing items on the Cabinet agenda**

Business for meetings of the Cabinet/Cabinet Member will be agreed by the Leader, together with other members of the Cabinet, the Chief Executive and/or Strategic Directors of the Council.

The proper officer will make sure that an item is placed on the agenda of the next available meeting of the Cabinet/Cabinet Member where a Select Committee, or the full Council have resolved that an item be considered by the Cabinet.

The Monitoring Officer and/or the Chief Finance Officer may include an item for consideration on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting and may require the proper officer to call such a meeting in pursuance of their statutory duties. In other circumstances, where any two of the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer are of the opinion that a meeting of the Cabinet needs to be called to consider a matter that requires a decision, they may jointly include an item on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting.

(e) **Cabinet Member meetings**

Cabinet Members will meet to exercise executive functions delegated to them by the Leader as set out in Table 2 of Part 3 of the Constitution. The business at Cabinet Member meetings will include:

- (i) matters referred to the Cabinet Member (whether by a select committee or by the Council) for reconsideration by the Cabinet Member in accordance with the provisions contained in the Select Committees Procedure Rules or the Budget and Policy Framework Rules;
- (ii) consideration of reports from select committees, local committees, any other committees of the Council where the subject matter relates to the Cabinet Member's portfolio area; and
- (iii) matters set out in the agenda for the meeting, which shall indicate which are key decisions and which are not in accordance with the Access to Information Rules.

The Cabinet Member will always formally respond to reports and recommendations made to him/her by any committees of the Council. Responses to reports and recommendations of select committees must be made within two months of receipt of the report.

6.06 Access to Information Rules:

Part B - Cabinet

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken

(a) **Notice of decisions**

A notice will be published at least 28 clear days before the Cabinet (or its committees), Cabinet Member or other executive decision maker intends to make a key decision.

(b) **Contents of notice of decisions**

The notice of decisions will contain matters which the Cabinet has reason to believe will be the subject of a key decision to be taken by the Cabinet, a committee of the Cabinet, an individual Cabinet Member, or under joint arrangements in the course of the discharge of an executive function. It will describe the following particulars in so far as the information is available or might reasonably be obtained:

- (i) that a key decision is to be made on behalf of the local authority;
- (ii) the matter in respect of which a decision is to be made;
- (iii) where the decision taker is an individual, his/her name and title, if any and where the decision taker is a body, its name and details of membership;
- (iv) the date on which, or the period within which, the decision will be taken;
- (v) a list of the documents submitted to the decision taker for consideration in relation to the matter;
- (vi) the address from which, subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of, or extracts from, any document listed is available;
- (vii) that other documents relevant to those matters may be submitted to the decision maker; and
- (viii) the procedure for requesting details of those documents (if any) as they become available.

The notice of decisions will contain particulars of the key decision but may not contain any confidential, exempt information or particulars of the advice of a political adviser or assistant.

(c) Key decisions

A “key decision” means an executive decision which, is likely either –

- (i) to result in the Council incurring expenditure, or making of savings with a value of £0.5m or over, and which are significant having regard to the budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions in the county.
- (iii) “Key decisions” may only be made in accordance with the requirements of the Cabinet Procedure Rules.

(d) Procedure before taking key decisions

Subject to Rule (e) (general exception) and Rule (f) (special urgency), a key decision may not be taken unless:

- (i) notice has been given to the chairman of the appropriate select committee in connection with the matter in question, and made publicly available at the Council's offices;
- (ii) at least 5 clear days have elapsed since the publication of the notice; and
- (iii) where the decision is to be taken at a meeting of the Cabinet, its committees, or an individual Cabinet Member, notice of the meeting has been given in accordance with Rule (3.02(d)) (notice of meetings).

(e) General exception

Where the publication of the intention to make a key decision via a notice under Rule (a) and (b) is impracticable then subject to Rule (f) (special urgency), the decision may still be taken where:

- (i) the proper officer has informed the chairman of the appropriate select committee, or if there is no such person, each member of that committee in writing, by notice, of the matter to which the decision is to be made;
- (ii) the proper officer has made copies of that notice available to the public at the offices of the Council and on the Council's website; and
- (iii) at least 5 clear days have elapsed since the proper officer complied with (i) and (ii).

As soon as reasonably practicable after the proper officer has complied with the above, he or she must make available at the offices of the Council and on the Council's website a notice setting out the reasons why compliance with Rule (a) and (b) is impracticable.

(f) Special urgency

If there is not time to follow Rule (e) (general exception) then the decision can only be taken if the decision maker obtains the agreement of the chairman of the relevant select committee that the decision cannot reasonably be deferred. If there is no chairman of the select committee, or if the chairman is unable to act, then the agreement of the Chairman of the Council, or in his/her absence, the Vice-Chairman will suffice.

As soon as reasonably practicable after the decision maker has obtained agreement under paragraph (f) that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred, the decision maker will make

available at the offices of the Council and on the Council's website a notice setting out the reasons why the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

(g) Report to Council

(i) When a select committee can require a report

If a select committee thinks that a key decision has been taken which was not:

- (a) included in the notice of decisions; or
- (b) the subject of the general exception procedure; or
- (c) the subject of an agreement with the select committee chairman, or the Chairman/Vice-Chairman of the Council under Rule (f) above;

the committee may require the Cabinet to submit a report to the Council. The power to require a report rests with the committee, but is also delegated to the proper officer, who shall require such a report on behalf of the committee when so requested by the chairman or any 5 Members. Alternatively the requirement may be raised by resolution passed at a meeting of the select committee.

(ii) Cabinet's report to Council

The Cabinet will prepare a report for submission to the next available meeting of the Council. The report to Council will set out particulars of the decision, the individual or body making the decision, and if the Cabinet is of the opinion that it was not a key decision the reasons for that opinion.

(iii) Reports to Council on special urgency decisions

In any event the Leader will submit at least one report annually, and at such intervals as may be determined, to the Council containing details of each of the executive decisions taken in the circumstances set out in Rule (f) above (special urgency) since the last such report. The report will include the particulars of the decisions so taken and a summary of the matters in respect of which those decisions were taken.

(h) Record of Decisions

(a) Recording of executive decisions made at meetings

As soon as reasonably practicable after any meeting of the Cabinet, any of its committees, or an individual Cabinet Member at which an executive decision was made, the proper officer, or if the

proper officer was not present at the meeting, the person presiding, will ensure that a written statement is produced for every executive decision made. This statement will include:

- (i) a record of the decision including the date it was made;
- (ii) a record of the reasons for the decision;
- (iii) details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the decision-making body at the meeting at which the decision was made;
- (iv) a record of any conflict of interest relating to the matter decided which is declared by any member of the decision-making body which made the decision; and
- (v) in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted by the Chief Executive.

(b) Decisions by individual Members

As soon as reasonably practicable after an individual Member has made an executive decision, that Member will produce or instruct the proper officer to produce a written statement of that executive decision which includes :

- (i) a record of the decision including the date it was made;
- (ii) a record of the reasons for the decision;
- (iii) details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the member when making the decision;
- (iv) a record of any conflict of interest declared by any Cabinet Member who is consulted by the Member which relates to the decision; and
- (v) in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted by the Chief Executive.

(c) Decisions by officers

As soon as reasonably practicable after an officer has made a decision which is an executive decision, the officer will produce a written statement which includes:

- (i) a record of the decision including the date it was made;
- (ii) a record of the reasons for the decision;
- (iii) details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision;
- (iv) a record of any conflict of interest declared by any Cabinet Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision; and
- (v) in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted by the Chief Executive.

(d) Inspection of documents following executive decisions

After a meeting of a decision-making body at which an executive decision has been made, or after an individual Member or an officer has made an executive decision the proper officer will ensure that a copy of:

- (i) any records prepared in accordance with individual decisions made under (b) and (c) above; and
- (ii) any report considered at the meeting or, as the case may be, considered by the individual Member or officer and relevant to a decision recorded in accordance with (b) or (c) or, where only part of the report is relevant to such a decision, that part,

will be available for inspection by members of the public, as soon as is reasonably practicable, at the main Council offices and on the Council's website.

(i) Meetings of the Cabinet, Cabinet committees and individual Cabinet Member decision making to be held in public

Meetings of the Cabinet, Cabinet committees and individual Cabinet Member decision making will be open to the public except to the extent that the public are excluded from a meeting during an item of business whenever:

- (a) it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during that item, confidential information would be disclosed to them in breach of the obligation of confidence;
- (b) the decision-making body concerned passes a resolution to exclude the public during that item where it is likely, in view of the nature of the item of business, that if members of the public were present during that item, exempt information would be disclosed to them; or
- (c) a lawful power is used to exclude a member or members of the public in order to maintain orderly conduct or prevent misbehaviour at a meeting.

A resolution under paragraph (b) will:

- (i) identify the proceedings, or the part of the proceedings to which it applies, and
- (ii) state, by reference to the descriptions in Schedule 12A to the 1972 Act (access to information: exempt information), the description of exempt information giving rise to the exclusion of the public.

The public may only be excluded under sub-paragraph (a) or (b) for the part or parts of the meeting during which it is likely that confidential information or exempt information would be disclosed.

Without prejudice to any power of exclusion to suppress or prevent disorderly conduct or other misbehaviour at a meeting, the decision-making body does not have the power to exclude members of the public from a meeting while it is open to the public.

While the meeting is open to the public, any person attending the meeting for the purpose of reporting the proceedings will, so far as practicable, be afforded reasonable facilities for taking their report.

(j) **Procedures prior to private meetings**

(a) **Notice of private meetings – 28 days**

The Cabinet will give notice of its intention to hold all or part of a meeting in private at least 28 clear days before the meeting. This notice will be made available at the Council's main offices, be published on the Council's website and will include a statement of the reasons for the meeting to be held in private.

(b) **Notice of private meetings and response to representations received – 5 days**

A further notice of the intention to hold a meeting in private will be published in the same locations at least five clear days prior to the meeting. This notice will include a statement of the reasons for the meeting to be held in private, a summary of any representations received about why the meeting should be open to the public and a statement of the response to any such representations.

(c) **Exception to requirement to give notice of private meetings**

Where the date by which a meeting must be held makes compliance with this regulation impracticable, the meeting may only be held in private where the Cabinet has obtained agreement that the meeting is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred from:

- (i) the chairman of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee;
or
- (ii) if there is no such person, or if the chairman of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee is unable to act, the Chairman of the County Council; or
- (iii) where there is no chairman of either the relevant overview and scrutiny committee or the Chairman of the County Council, the vice-chairman of the County Council.

As soon as reasonably practicable after the Cabinet has obtained agreement under this provision to hold a private meeting, it will make available at the Council's main offices and on the Council's website a notice setting out the reasons why the meeting is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

(k) Procedures prior to public meetings

Notice of the time and place of Cabinet (including any Cabinet committees) and individual Cabinet Member decision making meetings will be displayed at the Council's main offices and published on the Council's website:

- (a) at least five clear days before the meeting; or
- (b) where the meeting is convened at shorter notice, at the time that the meeting is convened.

An item of business may only be considered at a public meeting—

- (a) where a copy of the agenda or part of the agenda including the item has been available for inspection by the public for at least five clear days before the meeting; or
- (b) where the meeting is convened at shorter notice, a copy of the agenda including the item has been available for inspection by the public from the time that the meeting was convened.

6.07 Budget and Policy Framework Rules

(a) The framework for executive decisions

The Council will be responsible for the adoption of its budget and policy framework as set out in paragraph 4.05 of Article 4. Once a budget or a policy framework is in place, it will be the responsibility of the Cabinet to implement it. In agreeing a budget and policy framework, the Council shapes and to some extent limits the decisions which the Cabinet can take within the context of plans, policies and budgets.

(b) Process for developing the budget and policy framework

- (i) The Cabinet will publicise by publishing details on the Council's website a timetable for making proposals to the Council for the adoption of any plan, strategy or budget that forms part of the budget and policy framework, and its arrangements for consultation after publication of those initial proposals. The appropriate select committee will be formally consulted at this stage.
- (ii) Following consultation, the Cabinet will then draw up firm proposals having regard to the responses to that consultation. The Cabinet will take any response from a select committee into account in

drawing up firm proposals for submission to the Council, and its report to Council will reflect the comments made by consultees and the Cabinet's response.

- (iii) The Council will limit the extent of in-year changes to the approved budget and policy framework which can be undertaken by the Cabinet in accordance with paragraphs 6.06 (c) to (g) of these rules.

Note: Where the Cabinet has submitted a draft plan or strategy to the Council and the Council has any objections to it, the process in Part 4 of Standing Orders shall apply.

(c) Decisions outside the budget or policy framework

- (i) If the Cabinet, a committee of the Cabinet, an individual Cabinet Member, officers, local committees or joint arrangements discharging executive functions want to make a decision which they consider may be contrary to or not in full accordance with the approved policy framework and in-year budget, they shall take advice from the Monitoring Officer and/or the Chief Finance Officer.

If the advice of those officers is that the decision would not be in line with the policy framework or would fall outside the limits of budget virement (as defined in paragraph 6.06 (e)), then the decision must be referred by that body or person to the Council for decision, unless the decision is a matter of urgency, in which case the provisions in paragraph 6.06 (d) below shall apply.

(d) Urgent decisions outside the budget or policy framework

- (i) The Cabinet, a committee of the Cabinet, an individual Cabinet Member, officers, local committees or joint arrangements discharging executive functions may take a decision which is contrary to the Council's policy framework or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the budget approved by Council if the decision is a matter of urgency. However, the decision may only be taken:
 - (a) if it is not practical to convene a quorate meeting of the full Council; and
 - (b) if the chairman of the appropriate select committee agrees that the decision is a matter of urgency.

The reasons why it is not practical to convene a quorate meeting of full Council and the chairman of the select committee's consent to the decision being taken as a matter of urgency must be noted on the record of the decision. In the absence of the chairman of the select committee, the consent of the Chairman of the Council, and in the absence of both, the Vice-Chairman, will be sufficient.

- (ii) Following the decision, the decision taker will provide a full report to the next available Council meeting explaining the decision, the reasons for it and why the decision was treated as a matter of urgency.

(e) **Virement**

The approved in-year budget (as defined in paragraph 4.09) represents the limits within which the Cabinet has discretion to use and allocate resources. Any decision on executive functions which would incur expenditure beyond the approved in year budget, or from any additional income (or savings) achievable, requires the agreement of the Council.

On the advice of the Chief Finance Officer, the Leader shall determine the requirements for and, if required, shall set the financial limit(s) within which budgets may be transferred by officers between budget heads within service areas without reference to and approval of the Cabinet. Such limits will be recorded in the Council's Financial Regulations.

The Cabinet will control virement by reference to the individual service or function budget heads approved by the Council and contained in the published in-year budget book. Officer virement will be restricted to budget transfers between budgets categorised by the Chief Finance Officer as "local risk" budgets.

The Cabinet will determine a framework for determining the treatment of year end budget underspends and overspends, and the limitations on the virement of budgets between years. The framework will be published in the in-year budget book.

(f) **In-year changes to policy framework**

The responsibility for agreeing the budget and policy framework lies with the Council, and decisions on executive functions must be in line with it. No changes to any policy and strategy which make up the policy framework may be made by such decision makers except those changes:

- (i) which will result in the closure or discontinuance of a service or part of service to meet a budgetary constraint;
- (ii) necessary to ensure compliance with the law, ministerial direction or government guidance;
- (iii) in relation to the policy framework in respect of a policy which would normally be agreed annually by the Council following consultation, but where the existing policy document is silent on the matter under consideration;

- (iv) which relate to policy in relation to schools, where the majority of school governing bodies agree with the proposed change.

Such changes should be reported to the next meeting of the Council.

(g) Call-in of decisions outside the budget or policy framework

- (i) Where the appropriate select committee is of the opinion that an executive decision is, or if made would be, contrary to the policy framework, or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the approved in year budget, then it shall seek advice from the Monitoring Officer and/or Chief Finance Officer who shall prepare a report.
- (ii) In respect of functions which are the responsibility of the Leader/Cabinet, the Monitoring Officer's report and/or Chief Finance Officer's report shall be to the Leader/Cabinet with a copy to every Member of the Council. Regardless of whether the decision is delegated or not, the Leader/Cabinet must meet to decide what action to take in respect of the Monitoring Officer's report and to prepare a report to Council if the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer conclude that the decision was a departure, and to the select committee if the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer conclude that the decision was not a departure.
- (iii) If the decision has yet to be made, or has been made but not yet implemented, and the advice from the Monitoring Officer and/or the Chief Finance Officer is that the decision is or would be contrary to the policy framework or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the approved in year budget, and/or virement rules relating to it, the select committee may refer the matter to Council. In such cases, no further action will be taken in respect of the decision or its implementation until the Council has met and considered the matter. At the meeting it will receive a report of the decision or proposals and the advice of the Monitoring Officer and/or the Chief Finance Officer. The Council may either:
 - (a) endorse a decision or proposal of the executive decision taker as falling within the existing budget and policy framework. In this case no further action is required, save that the decision of the Council be minuted and circulated to all councillors in the normal way;

Or

- (b) amend the policy concerned to encompass the decision or proposal of the body or individual responsible for that executive function and agree to the decision with immediate effect. In this case, no further action is required

save that the decision of the Council be minuted and circulated to all councillors in the normal way;

Or

- (c) where the Council accepts that the decision or proposal is contrary to the policy framework or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the in-year budget, and does not amend the existing framework to accommodate it, require the Cabinet to reconsider the matter in accordance with the advice of either the Monitoring Officer or Chief Finance Officer.

6.08 Call-In of local committee decisions by the Cabinet

- (a) The Cabinet may call-in for review and final determination any executive decision taken by a local committee which has significant policy or budgetary implications, subject to notice of call-in being given within 5 working days of publication of the decision.
- (b) Notice of call-in may be given by the Leader or Deputy Leader, or any three or more members of the Cabinet.
- (c) All members of the local committee will be notified that an executive decision taken by the Committee has been called in.
- (d) The decision will be considered by the Cabinet at its next appropriate meeting in discussion with the local committee chairman and no action will be taken to implement it in the meantime.
- (e) The local committee chairman may attend the Cabinet meeting for the consideration of the matter and speak on the item.
- (f) The Cabinet may accept, reject or amend the decision taken by the local committee. A report on the decision taken by the Cabinet will be made to the next appropriate meeting of the local committee, and to the whole Council for information.