

APPENDIX C

Statement from the Chairman of the Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee: Case of special urgency

The decision under discussion in this report is a key decision which must ordinarily be publicised 28 days in advance as per regulation 9 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012/2089, or alternatively, 5 days in advance as set out at regulation 10 of the Regulations.

The timescale imposed upon the Council in this instance, coupled with the strong public interest in favour of making this decision within that timescale, means that this is a case of special urgency for the purposes of both regulation 11 of the Regulations and section 7.12 of Part 4A of the Council's Constitution and it is necessary for the Chairman of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money) Committee to agree that the decision can be taken in the absence of the usual period of advance notice.

I am content that the Council's proper decision making procedures have been adhered to, which means by extension that it is unnecessary to call-in this decision. In the case of all urgent decisions where a delay caused by the use of the call-in procedure would seriously prejudice the public interest it is within the power of the Chairman of the relevant Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision will be exempt from call-in.

As already stated, there is strong public interest in making this decision within the timescale imposed on the Council since the Council will otherwise be unable to benefit from the additional windfall income referred to at paragraph 6 of the report. A delay caused by the use of the call-in procedure would cause the Council to miss the deadline for submission of the application to participate in the Business Rates Retention Pilot Scheme.

Councillor D Goodfellow

Chairman Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee