

Appendix 1 - Notice of Call in

29 September 2021

We, the undersigned six Members, give notice of our desire to call-in the following executive decision, notice of which was published on 22/09/2021, Financial Monitoring Report 2021/22. Specifically the decision to: “support a transfer of £435k developer contribution within the Highways capital budget from Cheltenham to Bishops Cleeve Cycle Track project to the A435 Bishops Cl' to Racecourse Capacity project.” (Paragraph 51 on page 129 of the 22/09/2021 cabinet papers: <https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/documents/g10151/Public%20reports%20pack%20Wednesday%2022-Sep-2021%2010.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>)

The grounds for the call-in are that the following conditions are satisfied for the reasons specified:

1. The decision would conflict in whole or in part with any existing policy that has been formally approved or adopted by the Council.

The policy with which the decision conflicts and the date of approval or adoption by the Council are: the declaration of a Climate Emergency on 15 May 2019 with the passing of Motion 836 “Carbon action plan”

The wording within the policy with which the decision conflicts is: “This council resolves to: Commit towards an 80 per cent reduction in the Council’s corporate carbon emissions no later than 2030, striving towards 100 percent with carbon offsetting by the same date.” and “This council resolves to: Ensure that our major plans, such as the local transport plan, have clearly identified strategies to reduce carbon emissions.”

The decision conflicts with the policy in the following ways: This decision to defund cycling infrastructure in favour of infrastructure for motor vehicles, is contrary to the policy agreed in that motion. The Capital Programme is a “major plan” within the scope of this formal resolution, and this decision is therefore in conflict with that policy, as this policy proposal lacks a clear strategy, and will result in an increase in carbon emissions compared to the alternative of maintaining funding within the Cheltenham to Bishops Cleeve Cycle Track project. Furthermore there is no commitment in the Cabinet papers or elsewhere to ensure that this funding will be allocated once again to the Cycle Track project at the same level or higher, endangering the realisation of this project, which runs contrary to the policy of a commitment to reduce emissions in the county by 80 per cent by 2030.

2. The Cabinet, Leader of the Council or Cabinet Member acted contrary to the Cabinet Procedure Rules, the Access to Information about the County Council’s Formal Business and/or the principles of decision making set out in Part 2, Article 7.02 of the Constitution.

The matter contravened is: Article 7.02.8, page 15 “[Decisions] should be properly reasoned and alternatives that are discounted should be identified and the reasons for their rejection explained adequately.”

The above matter was contravened in the following ways: This decision has not been properly reasoned in the Cabinet papers, as no reasons are given. No alternatives were identified or discounted.

Dated: 29/9/2021

Signed:

1. Paul Hodgkinson
2. David Willingham
3. Alex Hegenbarth
4. Ben Evans
5. Roger Whyborn
6. Jeremy Hilton