



# Bedfordshire

## Fire & Rescue Authority

### STANDING ORDER 6b

#### Call in

1. When a decision is made by the Executive Committee, details of the decision shall be published and distributed to all Members of the Authority by electronic means as soon as possible thereafter (normally within 2 days excluding weekends and bank holidays). In any case where the delay in implementing a decision would, if it were called in, have a serious adverse impact upon the Authority's financial and/or legal position and is so certified by the Chief Finance Officer (in the case of financial impact) or the Monitoring Officer (in the case of legal impact), that decision shall be exempt from the call-in procedure set out below.
2. The notice of the decision will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision(s) will come in to force and may be implemented on the expiry of the fifth day after publication of the decision (excluding weekends and bank holidays) , unless within that time 5 Members of the Authority either collectively or individually give written notice ('the Notice') to the Monitoring Officer (or in the Monitoring Officer's absence, the Business Support Manager) that they wish the decision to be referred to a Task and Finish Group of the Audit and Standards Committee. No decision, nor decision to similar effect, can be the subject of call in more than once in any 12- month period.
3. The Notice must specify the grounds which must comprise at least one of the following:
  - a. the decision appears to be contrary to the Budget or one of the policy framework plans or strategies;
  - b. the decision appears to be inconsistent with any other form of policy approved by the Authority or a Committee;
  - c. the Committee making the decision appears to have:
    - (i) overlooked some relevant consideration in arriving at its decision; or
    - (ii) failed to consult relevant stakeholders or other interested persons before arriving at its decision;
  - d. the decision in question has already generated particular controversy amongst those likely to be affected by it or, in the opinion of Members, it is likely so to do; or
  - e. the decision appears to give rise to significant legal, financial or propriety issues

4. On receipt of a call-in notice the Monitoring Officer or designated nominee shall:
  - a. notify the Chairperson of the Authority in writing of the call in
  - b. ensure that the call in is referred to a Call-in Task and Finish Group constituted in accordance with Standing Order **25.8(b)**
  
5. If, having considered a called in decision, the relevant Call-in Task and Finish Group determines that it is satisfied with the original decision, the Monitoring Officer or designated nominee shall notify the Chairperson of the Authority in writing that the decision(s) of the Executive Committee may be implemented forthwith.
  
6. If, having considered a called in decision, the relevant Call-in Task and Finish Group determines that it has concerns about that decision, then it may refer that decision back to the Executive Committee for reconsideration and shall set out in writing the nature of its concerns. The Executive Committee shall then reconsider the decision in the light of the concerns expressed by the Call-in Task and Finish Group, amending the decision or not before adopting a final decision.