

Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 04 November 2024

Question from: Cllr Barnes

Question to: Cllr Dacre

When changes were proposed/made to the system of scrutiny, the leader talked about the vital role that scrutiny plays in Local Government. Yet today's cabinet papers are looking to further delegate powers to officers which would take said decisions outside of the scrutiny process. Resulting in a diminution in democracy. I also note that neither change have no printed rationale behind them (as per the public papers). What has changed and why is the cabinet seeking to reduce the key role that councillors have in helping shape the future of our borough?

Response

The paper in today's Cabinet deals with the Parking Strategy and Charges Review for the Borough. It is appropriate for Cabinet to consider and determine Strategy as it was when the Strategy first came before Cabinet in 2022.

Delegation is regularly given to officers to conduct efficiently the operational processes within the Council. This is the case here.

The role of scrutiny within the democratic process in this Council continues to be vital. Members are always able to consider a review of a policy or process through the relevant Scrutiny Board and there is certainly no intention of reducing the role of councillors.