Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 09 December 2024

Question from: Councillor Blagbrough

Question to: Councillor Dacre

Following the recent Call-In to Place Scrutiny regarding Parking Charges, the result was a disappointment for residents across Calderdale and is likely to erode local democracy and scrutiny. This question seeks clarity about this process of delegated authority. Does this mean that in the future Officers can change the charges at any time in towns with Parking Area Plans, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet members? Furthermore, I request the Cabinet to produce a comprehensive list of all powers that have been delegated and publish a list of all decisions taken under delegated authority each month. This transparency is essential to maintaining trust in Calderdale Council.

In response

The process of delegated authority is well established; with the extent of any decision making authority provided to an officer clearly detailed in any Cabinet or Council decision. That is no different from the authority provided on Parking Charges and it would allow for consideration of future charges to be undertaken in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

The Constitution also sets out the scheme of delegated authority provided to officers that allows for the operational decisions to be taken throughout the Council on a daily basis and providing that level of detail to Members on a monthly basis would not be viable.