

**Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 14 April 2025**

**Question from: George Pickles**

**Question to: Councillor Dacre, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources**

**QUESTION**

Cabinet will be aware that there is well informed and growing UK opposition to waste incineration.

The EA is currently consulting on reforms to the permitting regimes. Over two thousand residents of Sowerby Bridge and area have signed a petition against Calderdale Council's support for the incinerator in the valley bottom adjacent to the Town.

This Council support is contrary to the judgement of an experienced and appropriately qualified Government appointed Planning Inspector.

If the Court agrees that the Judicial Review can proceed to a Full Hearing, which officer or Council committee will make the decision whether to proceed against the wishes of a substantial element of the electorate, many councillors, local and otherwise, and both local MPs?

What budget has been approved by Calderdale Council and who will pay it?

**Response**

Dear Mr Pickles

Thank you for your question.

The conduct of all civil litigation brought by or against the Authority is delegated to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

In undertaking that function the Head of Legal would provide advice to and seek instructions from the relevant Director who would consult with relevant members of Cabinet. Independent external legal advice may also be taken.

The cost of any litigation comes from the relevant Directorate's operational revenue budget.

Yours sincerely