

Annual Report from the Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Committee

Another year has passed and another Annual Report on the work of the Executive Scrutiny Committee, this time for 2017/18.

Milton Keynes Council allows for delegated decisions to be called-in for scrutiny where Members of the Council, Parish and Town Councils or twenty or more residents wish to challenge the decision made. The ability to call-in decisions supports an open and transparent decision making process and holds the Council to account.

When a call-in is made the process allows for mediation to take place between those who have called-in the decision and the decision taker. At mediation the decision taker can take the decision back and agree to review it or confirm the decision, in which case the call-in need not go before the Executive Scrutiny Committee

The Committee has the power to:

- (a) refer the matter back to the decision taker, with reasons and recommendations;
- (b) not refer the matter back; or
- (c) refer the matter and the committee's views directly to the Council for consideration and comment back.

During this Council year, to date, 3 decisions were subject to 'call-in', compared to 7 call-ins in 2016/17. All the call-ins were withdrawn at mediation. The Committee met on one occasion to confirm the outcome from the Mediation meeting. Further details of the call-ins are set out in the **Annex** to this report.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended and contributed to the executive scrutiny process over the year. Input from councillors, the public, officers and representatives of organisations have all been invaluable in assisting our approach to challenging proposals and reaching our conclusions.

Councillor John Bint
Chair, Executive Scrutiny Committee
March 2018