

City Council – 4 March 2024

Report of the Leader of the Council

Corporate Director/ Director:

Director of Legal and Governance

Report Author:

Jane Garrard, Senior Governance Officer

jane.garrard@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

0115 8764315

Title: Decisions taken under Urgency Procedures

Does the report form part of the Budget or Policy Framework?

Yes No

Does this report contain any information that is exempt from publication?

No

Relevant Council Plan Key Outcome:

Green, Clean and Connected Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Working	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carbon Neutral by 2028	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safer Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child-Friendly Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Living Well in our Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Moving	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improve the City Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serving People Well	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. Summary

- 1.1 As required by the Council's Constitution, this report informs Council of urgent decisions taken under provisions within the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Article 11) and Access to Information Procedure Rules (Article 13).
- 1.2 During the period since the last report to Council in January 2024, there has been one decision taken under the urgency provisions within the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules and no decisions taken under the special urgency provisions within the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the urgent decisions taken in accordance with requirements of the Council's Constitution, as detailed in the appendices.

3. Reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure compliance with requirements of the Council's Constitution.

4. Other options considered in making recommendations

- 4.1 None. It is a Constitutional requirement that Council is informed of urgent decisions taken under provisions within the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Article 11) and Access to Information Procedure Rules (Article 13).

5. Consideration of Risk

- 5.1 Consideration of the risks associated with the decisions referred to in this report were published as part of each of those decisions.

6. Background (including outcomes of consultation)

- 6.1 Decisions taken under the Call-in and Urgency provisions of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules

The call-in procedure set out in Article 11 of the Council's Constitution does not apply where the decision taken is urgent. A decision is urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The urgency provisions require the Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee (or in the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair; or in the absence of all three, the Chief Executive) to agree that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and that the reasons for urgency are valid. The Constitution requires that decisions taken under these urgency provisions are reported to the next meeting of the Standards and Governance Committee and Full Council.

- 6.2 Decisions taken under the Special Urgency provisions of the Access to Information Procedure Rules

Where it is impracticable to give at least five clear working days notice that a Key Decision is going to be made, a Key Decision may only be made in accordance with the Special Urgency provisions set out in the Access to Information Procedure Rules (Article 13 of the Council's Constitution). The Special Urgency provisions require agreement from the Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee (or in the absence of the Chair, the Lord Mayor as Chair of Council; or in the absence of both, the Sheriff as Vice Chair of Council) that the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred. The Constitution requires that decisions taken under these urgency provisions are reported to the Standards and Governance Committee and Full Council. There have been no decisions taken under the Special Urgency provisions of the Access to Information Procedure Rules since April 2023. This reflects a positive trend since the adoption of the new Constitution in October 2021 of a significant reduction in the use of urgency procedures.

7. Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money)

- 7.1 Comments from Finance colleagues in relation to the decisions referred to in this report were published as part of each of those decisions.

8. Legal colleague comments

- 8.1 Comments from Legal colleagues in relation to the decisions referred to in this report were published as part of each of those decisions.

9. Other relevant comments

9.1 None

10. Crime and Disorder Implications (If Applicable)

10.1 Where applicable, details of the crime and disorder implications of the decisions referred to in this report were published as part of each of those decisions.

11. Social value considerations (If Applicable)

11.1 Where applicable, details of the social value considerations of the decisions referred to in this report were published as part of each of those decisions.

12. Regard to the NHS Constitution (If Applicable)

12.1 Where applicable, details of the social value considerations of the decisions referred to in this report were published as part of each of those decisions.

13. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

13.1 Where required, Equality Impact Assessments were published alongside each decision referred to in the report.

14. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

14.1 Where required, the data protection impact of the decisions referred to in this report was assessed and, where appropriate, details published as part of each of those decisions.

15. Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA)

15.1 Where required, the carbon impact of the decisions referred to in this report was assessed and, where appropriate, details published as part of each of those decisions.

16. List of background papers relied upon in writing this report (not including published documents or confidential or exempt information)

16.1 None

17. Published documents referred to in this report

17.1 Nottingham City Council Constitution

17.2 The committee reports and minutes, and delegated decisions referred to in this report, as published on the Nottingham City Council website.

Leader of the Council

Appendix 1 - Decisions taken under the Call-in and Urgency provisions of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules

Decision Reference	Date of Decision	Subject	Decision Taker	Consultee on Urgency	Reason for Urgency
Minute reference: 92	13/02/24	HRA Business Plan 2024 – 2053, MTFP 2024 – 2028, Budget 2024/25 including rent setting and public sector housing capital programme 2024 - 2029	Executive Board	Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee	To enable the required 28 days notice of a rent increase to be given to tenants.

Appendix 2 – Key Decisions taken under the Special Urgency provisions of the Access to Information Procedure Rules

There were no Key Decisions taken under the Special Urgency provisions of the Access to Information Procedure Rules during the period since the last report to Council in November 2023.