

Proposer – Cllr. Thomas Dyer
Secunder – Cllr. Christopher Reid

Review of The City of Lincoln Council's Scrutiny & Decision Making Process

Background

Ensuring that any democratic organisation has an effective scrutiny & decision making process is vitally important. Not only for transparency to members of the public, but to ensure that the best possible decisions are being made.

Over recent years, it has been noted by Councillors of both political groups that the role of the "Full-Council" has become less critical to the decision-making process, with decisions going straight to Executive or being officer delegated decisions. Often cutting out scrutiny committees and the Full Council.

Any 2-member team can use the "call-in" procedure to allow for further scrutiny at a Select Scrutiny committee meeting. This procedure is tightly defined and only offers limited scrutiny.

What this motion intends to achieve is to start an open and transparent conversation. To improve our democratic accountability.

Motion Text

The Full-Council of the City of Lincoln Council calls upon both political groups, senior officers and itself, to fully review the council's scrutiny & decision-making process.

A member and officer working group is to be established to conduct the review, with an ambition to implement the new procedure by May 2022.

The guiding principle of this review is to increase both the transparency and effectiveness of the council's decision-making process. Ensuring that members are given the opportunity to scrutinise policies, whilst reviewing which decisions should be made by the Full Council, Executive and which are officer delegated decisions.