

Reference Number: CPSC/08/24

Report title: Call-in subsequently withdrawn: Decision to withdraw the Tender for Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure (FP/079/03/24)	
Report to: Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
Date: 26 March 2024	For: Discussion and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions
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County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

1. Introduction

This to consider the call-in process followed for the above proposed decision and the report of an informal meeting held to discuss the call-in. The call-in was withdrawn after the discussion at the informal meeting.

2. Action required

The Committee is asked to note this report and consider any issues arising.

3. Background

On 12 March 2024 the Cabinet Member Decision FP/079/03/24 - Decision to withdraw the Tender for Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure - was called-in by Councillor Mike Mackrory (with the support of Councillors Goldman, King, Newport and Robinson).

A copy of the decision can be found on the website of Essex County Council and can be accessed using the following links:

[Cabinet Member Decision FP-079-03-24](#)

[Equalities Comprehensive Impact Assessment](#)

The grounds submitted for the call-in is reproduced in Appendix A.

In line with the procedure for handling the call in of a decision, an informal meeting was held on 13 March 2024. The note of the informal meeting is attached at Appendix B.

Subsequent to the end of the informal meeting, Councillor Mackrory withdrew his call-in.

4. Action Required

The Committee is invited to note the action taken in this matter and to consider any issues and matters arising.

5. Update and Next Steps

See Appendices.

6. Appendices

- A. Call-in grounds received on 12 March 2024 - FP/079/03/24 - Decision to withdraw the Tender for Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure.
- B. Notes of Informal meeting held on 13 March 2024 for the call-in of the Cabinet Member Decision FP/079/03/24 - Decision to withdraw the Tender for Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure.

APPENDIX A

Grounds stated for the call-in submitted on 12 March 2024

The CMA was misleading in that it did not make clear that funding was to be withdrawn from the individual Essex VCS's

The CMA makes no reference to the impact on funding interdependencies such as with Local Authorities

The ECIA makes no reference to the removal of core funding which will have a destabilising impact and risks closure of activities that support vulnerable people

The CMA options did not consider rolling forward current funding arrangements in the interim whilst considering other procurement arrangements

The CMA makes no reference to any agreement with Essex Community Foundation or Active Essex as to their willingness or ability to manage the current and future commitments of each VCS or what governance arrangements would be put in place