



## Report to Scrutiny

Item No:

<b>Contains Confidential OR Exempt Information</b>	No
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<b>Subject of Report:</b>	Call-in: Delivering 10 new parks: Future of Perivale Park Golf Course
<b>Meeting:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Thursday 28 March 2024
<b>Service report author:</b>	Sam Bailey – Head of Democratic Services 020-8825 7497 <a href="mailto:baileysa@ealing.gov.uk">baileysa@ealing.gov.uk</a>
<b>Scrutiny Officer:</b>	Sam Bailey – Head of Democratic Services 020-8825 7497 <a href="mailto:baileysa@ealing.gov.uk">baileysa@ealing.gov.uk</a>
<b>Cabinet Responsibility:</b>	Cllr Deirdre Costigan (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate Action) Cllr Polly Knewstub (Cabinet Member for Thriving Communities)
<b>Director Responsibility:</b>	Peter George (Strategic Director for Economy & Sustainability)
<b>Brief:</b>	To consider the Key Officer Decision report attached, with reference to the purpose and reason for it being called in.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, decide whether to uphold the decision, or to refer it back to the decision maker for reconsideration.

## 1. **Call-In: Delivering 10 new parks: Future of Perivale Park Golf Course**

Cabinet considered a report recommending a creation of a regional park at its meeting of 13 September 2023, titled 'Creation of a Regional Park'. The purpose of the report was to set out the statement of ambition, vision and principles for the creation of a regional park in the borough of Ealing. The report recommended the appointment of landscape architects and land use consultants to develop the vision and to deliver a business case for the regional park. The report also sought authority to engage residents on the proposal to permanently close Perivale Park Golf Course to enable the transformation of the course into a new publicly accessible park that was ultimately going to form part of the regional park. The report set out that transforming the golf course supported the Council Plan objective to create ten new parks, to increase tree canopy and respond to the Council's key priorities. This decision was taken and the decision subsequently call-in at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 5 October 2023. The Committee considered the reasons for call in and upheld the Cabinet decision.

One of the Cabinet decisions was that Cabinet:

Delegates authority to the Strategic Director of Economy & Sustainability following consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Climate Action and Thriving Communities to make any final decision to close Perivale Park Golf Course following consideration of the representations received as part of the consultation.

A consultation has been carried out and the Strategic Director for Economy and Sustainability has now taken the decision to close Perivale Park Golf Course. This is the Key Officer Decision that has been called in to the meeting being held on 28 March 2024.

### 1.1. **Recommendations agreed by Strategic Director of Economy and Sustainability**

After considering the report, the Strategic Director of Economy and Sustainability agreed the following:

1. Following consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holders, to close Perivale Park Golf Course in June 2024.
2. Following the closure, to open the land to the public as a new park.
3. To re-purpose the land as a park adding benches, wildflower meadows, signage and grass paths during the summer and autumn.
4. To keep the café and toilets open pending a decision in the Autumn as to their future.

#### **Reason for Decision and Options Considered:**

The reasons for decision and options considered are contained in the decision report, which can be found on the Council's website here:

[Decision - KOD - Delivering 10 new parks: Future of Perivale Park Golf Course \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://moderngov.co.uk/Decision-KOD-Delivering-10-new-parks-Future-of-Perivale-Park-Golf-Course)

## **1.2 Reasons for Call-in**

The reasons for call-in, and the details of the Councillors who have requested call-in of the decision, can be found attached as an Appendix to this report.

## **1.3 Purpose of Call-In**

The Constitution identifies the purpose of call-in. A decision may only be called-in for one of the reasons set out in paragraph 15(e) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

## **2 Legal Implications**

Part 2 Article 6.03 of the Constitution gives the Overview and Scrutiny Committee authority to hear called in decisions. Paragraphs 15(f) and (g), of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out the Call-In procedures.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may either confirm the decision, or refer it back to the Cabinet, setting out the nature of the Committee's concerns.

## **3 Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications to Overview and Scrutiny Committee hearing called-in decisions. Scrutiny has a role in supporting democratic renewal.

Value for money is obtained through scrutiny enabling and supporting transparent decision making and ensuring that debate on called in topics is heard in a timely manner and in a public forum.

The Cabinet report attached, identifies the financial implications with respect to the issue under discussion.

## **4 Other Implications**

Any other implications relating to the matter under discussion are also dealt with in the Cabinet report, which is attached at Appendix 1.

Appendix 1 – Key Officer Decision: Delivering 10 new parks: Future of Perivale Park Golf Course

Appendix 2 – Call-in form

## **5 Background Papers**

Background papers are identified in the Key Officer Decision report.