

CONSENT TO URGENT DECISION	PART 1 (to be completed by the person seeking consent)	
Proposed Decision Maker <i>(please name person or body proposing to take decision, if an officer also state title)</i>	Date for Decision	
Councillor Seccombe	9 September 2020	
Title:		
Devolution and Local Government Reform -Case for Change		
<p>Summary of matter</p> <p>Cabinet decided on 27 August 2020 to submit to Government the Strategic Case for Change for a single unitary Council for Warwickshire so as to preserve the opportunity for Warwickshire to be considered in an early tranche of local government reform, and authorised the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to make any amendments considered necessary in advance of submission. When that decision was taken, early submission of the Strategic Case for Change in advance of full Council having had an opportunity to consider the matter was considered to be necessary to preserve the Council's position. However, it was envisaged that full Council would consider the matter at its meeting on 22 September 2020 and that, depending on the view expressed by full Council, the Strategic Case for Change could subsequently be withdrawn.</p> <p>The Government timescale for submissions has now changed and it is understood that the White Paper will now be published in early October. Therefore there is no longer the same pressing need to submit a Case for Change in advance of the Council meeting on 22nd September.</p> <p>I have also been reflecting on the many views and concerns that have been expressed to me since the Cabinet decision on the 27 August 2020. Given that the matter will be considered by Council on 22nd September, I consider that it is appropriate to ensure that views can be expressed and considered fully before the Council's position on local government reform is confirmed to Government. There is now the opportunity for this to occur.</p>		
<p>Proposed Decision</p> <p>That the decision of Cabinet taken on 27th August 2020 is not implemented by the Chief Executive and that the Council's position on local government reform for Warwickshire be further considered by Cabinet after and in the light of the full Council's consideration on 22nd September 2020.</p>		
<p>Reasons for urgency</p> <p>The Cabinet decision currently has effect and, in order to override that decision, it is necessary for me to take an urgent decision to ensure that the Case for Change is not submitted to Government at this time. The decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred, and it is impracticable to comply with Council Standing Orders 16 and 17, because by its decision of 27 August 2020 the Cabinet mandated the Chief Executive to submit the Strategic Case for Change to MHCLG and, unless and until the proposed decision is taken, the Chief Executive remains subject to that mandate, potentially requiring her to submit the Strategic Case for Change in circumstances where it would no longer be appropriate for her to do so. Any delay that would be likely to be caused by a call-in of the proposed decision would seriously prejudice the council and the public interest because it would perpetuate this state of affairs.</p>		
<p>Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? <i>[please identify relevant plan/budget provision]</i></p>		
No		

PART 2 (to be completed by the person giving consent)

Name Councillor Warwick

Office Held Chair of Resources and Fire and Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee

A. D. Warwick

Date consent is given

8/9/2020