

4 How decisions are made

The Executive is accountable for most day-to-day decisions. The Executive is made up of the Leader and the Cabinet. The Leader is elected by the Council and is responsible for arranging for the exercise of all executive functions. The Leader appoints the Cabinet. When major decisions are to be discussed or made, these are published in the Leader's Forward Plan. If these major decisions are to be taken at a meeting of the Executive, the meeting will be open for the public to attend except where personal or confidential matters are being discussed. The Executive has to make decisions which are in line with the Council's overall policies and budget. If it wishes to make a decision which is outside the budget or policy framework, this must be referred to the Council as a whole to decide.

While most decisions are taken by the Executive (i.e. by or on behalf of the Cabinet or an individual Cabinet member), some important decisions are also taken by the full Council, or by its committees and sub-committees.