

CALL-IN REQUEST FORM

This form must be completed and signed by at least **TWO** members of any Scrutiny Commission or Scrutiny Committee and **MUST** be returned to the *Proper Officer within **3** working days of the decision being published (*not including the day of publication*). Please telephone the Proper Officer to make them aware that the Call-In form is on its way.

**Please note that the Proper Officer can be any of the following Democratic Services Officers: Paulina Ford, Tel: 452508 or Gemma George, Tel 452268. The Call-In Request will only be valid if it has been received in person by any of the above people within the 3 working day deadline. The form may be emailed or hand delivered. If sent in the post you must call the Proper Officer to advise that it has been posted and it will need to be received by the Proper Officer within the 3 working day deadline.*

Decision taker:	Cabinet
Date of publication of decision:	19 January 2015
Title of Decision Called in :	Strategic Partnership Between Peterborough City Council and AVIC International Corporation (UK) Ltd - JAN15/CAB/07
Date Decision Called in:	22 January 2015

	REASONS FOR CALL-IN	Tick which reason applies
1.	Decision contrary to the policy framework?	
2.	Decision contrary or not wholly consistent with the budget?	
3.	Decision is Key but it has not been dealt with in accordance with the Council's Constitution.	
4.	Decision does not follow principles of good decision-making set out in Article 11 of the Council's Constitution.	x
If reason 4, please tick which specific element of Article 11 the decision maker has not followed, did he or she not:		
(a)	Realistically consider all alternatives and, where reasonably possible, consider the views of the public.	x
(b)	Understand and keep to the legal requirements regulating their power to make decisions	
(c)	Take account of all relevant matters, both in general and specific, and ignore any irrelevant matters.	x
(d)	Act for a proper purpose and in the interests of the public.	x
(e)	Keep to the rules relating to local government finance.	
(f)	Follow procedures correctly and be fair.	
(g)	Make sure they are properly authorised to make the decisions.	
(h)	Be responsible for their decisions and be prepared to give reasons for them.	
(i)	Take appropriate professional advice from officers.	

Detailed Reason(s) for Call-in. *Please explain below why one of the reasons for call-in applies (eg. For number 1 - which major policy affected and how/why)*

There is no evidence in the report supporting this item that the cabinet has taken any account of concerns over human rights abuses by the Chinese Government, which Amnesty International considers to be one of the worst records of any country in the World.

The attached link to an Amnesty International USA website lists issues of suppression of free speech, death penalty usage, torture, suppression of minority religions and other groups etc.

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/china>

This company is wholly owned by the Chinese Government and so in entering into partnership with it the Council is entering into a partnership in effect with the Government of China. The Council may therefore suffer reputational damage from this association given the fact that a number of different projects are envisaged in partnership with this company.

There is no evidence presented that the cabinet has sought the views of the Peterborough public on this issue, which is one of great concern to many people in Peterborough and across the UK and the rest of the free world.

This decision has not been discussed with any council scrutiny committee nor with opposition group leaders. That is a major omission for a Key decision which could commit the council to working with this company on many projects over years or even decades to come.

There is no evidence also that the cabinet has considered entering into a partnership with any other company which may be able to provide the services required and which may not be wholly owned by a repressive authoritarian regime.

We would like the relevant scrutiny committee to call in this decision and for it to be referred to a meeting of Full Council to allow wider discussion of the issues raised in this call in notice.

	Name (please print)	Signature	Date
1.	Nick Sandford	N Sandford via email	22/1/15
2.	Asif Shaheed	A Shaheed via email	22/1/15
3.	Richard Ferris	R Ferris via email	22/1/15
4.	Ed Murphy	E Murphy via email	22/1/15