

Please find below a Notice for a Call-In for The Blackburn Reel Cinema Lease Amendments.

BLACKBURN REEL CINEMA LEASE AMENDMENTS

We consider the decision to extend the lease for five additional years, as stated in the report should be subject to Call-In for the following Reasons:-

- This decision has been presented with insufficient information, particularly on safeguarding the councils long term – investment and interest.
- In our opinion, the statements in Part 4 (Key Issues and Links) 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3 cannot be sufficiently substantiated in view of the current commercial and economic climate.
- Part 6 of the report (Financial Implications) reiterates that the council will see an additional five years of rental income secured. This assertion appears to rely solely on Reels business plan being sustained for the full term of the lease. No alternative commercial lease plan has been presented to support councils confidence that this will be the case.
- The fact that the extension is at the behest of Reel Cinemas and there will be no increase in rental over the additional five years demonstrates that all the risk being taken in this project is falling on the council.
- Robust scrutiny of this decision is essential if transparency is to be maintained and public opinion convinced that this project will not turn out to be an expensive failure.