

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member children and young people

Title	High Needs Budget 2024/25
Decision maker	Cabinet member children and young people Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here: http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251
Date of decision	1 May 2024
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	This is a key decision because it is likely to result in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council's budget for the service or function concerned. A threshold of £500,000 is regarded as significant.
A notice was served in accordance with Part 3 (Key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.	
General exception or special urgency (as defined in the constitution)	No
Purpose	To approve the High Needs Budget for 2024/25 as recommended by Schools Forum.
Decision	That the Forum: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Notes the High Needs forecast outturn position for 2023/24; b) Notes the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation for 2024/25 for the Schools, High Needs and Early Years blocks; c) Considers the recommendations of the Budget Working Group (BWG) held on 11 March 2024; and d) Recommends a High Needs Budget of £29.7 million for 2024/25 for approval by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People as set out in Appendix 1, noting the funding gap in 2024/25 of £6.5 million.

Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50046274
Options considered	1. The Budget Working Group (BWG) has been consulted on the proposed budget plan and options considered are included at Appendix 2. The Children and Families Act (2014) requires the council to ensure that the needs of pupils are met and the council is required to adhere to the Department for Education (DfE) prescribed arrangements for school and Local Authority as set out in regulations. No alternative options were identified.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	8 May 2024

Councillor:	Date 1 May 2024
Cabinet member children and young people (Councillor Ivan Powell)	

- a record of any conflict of interest declared by any executive member who is consulted by the member which relates to the decision;
- and
- in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted.