

Written statement of a non-key officer decision
Corporate Director - Community Wellbeing

Title	Approval for draw down of Budget for Equipment and Aids within the Sensory Impairment Service Procurement
Decision maker	Corporate Director - Community Wellbeing
Date of decision	28 September 2026
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To approve the draw down of the additional equipment budget for the Sensory Impairment Service.
Decision	That: a) an equipment and aids budget of up to £259,000 (£37,000 per annum) be approved for inclusion within the Sensory Impairment Service procurement; and b) the total approved value of the procurement be increased to £780,000 over the initial five-year term and £1,092,000 over the full potential seven-year term, inclusive of any extensions.
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=50055912
Consultation	
Options considered	1. Do not approve the equipment and aids budget for inclusion within the procurement. This option is not recommended. Specialist equipment and aids form an established part of the Sensory Impairment Service and support residents to maintain their independence and manage the effects of sensory loss. Excluding the budget would mean that the approved contract value did not reflect the full scope and potential value of the procurement. It could also restrict the future provider's ability to supply equipment to people following an assessment of their needs. 2. Procure equipment and aids separately from the

	Sensory Impairment Service. This option is not recommended. The requirement for equipment is identified through specialist assessment and rehabilitation activity undertaken as part of the Sensory Impairment Service. Retaining the budget within the service provides a direct link between assessment, identified need and supply of appropriate equipment. A separate arrangement could create additional administration and fragmentation.
Declarations of interest	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	2 October 2026

Officer: Corporate Director - Community Wellbeing (Hilary Hall)	Date 28 September 2026
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