

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A KEY DECISION CABINET

ITEM:	BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE: REBUILDING THE MINSTER COLLEGE LEOMINSTER
Members Present:	Councillors: RJ Phillips (Leader), LO Barnett, AJM Blackshaw, H Bramer, JP French (Deputy Leader), JA Hyde, JG Jarvis, DB Wilcox.
Date of Decision:	6th September 2007
Exempt:	No
Confidential	No
<p>This is a key decision because</p> <p>It is likely to result in the Council incurring expenditure above agreed budgets for the service or function (shown as a line in the budget book) to which the decision relates but allowing for virements between budget heads and savings within budget heads of up to £500,000. It is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in Herefordshire in an area comprising one or more wards</p>	
<p>A notice was served in accordance with section 15 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) Regulation 2000.</p>	
Urgent Decision:	No
Purpose:	To confirm, prior to tenders being sought, the strategic elements of the project namely the size of school, the wider community facilities to be included and the provision for third party use.
Decision:	<p>THAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Minster College be rebuilt as a 6 Form of Entry, 11-16 High School (Mainstream capacity 900) with a Sixth Form of 120 as a single school pathfinder under the Building Schools for the Future Initiative; (a) On completion of the new facilities for the Minster College, the existing design/technology block be converted in part for use as a Youth Centre, subject to a full review of youth provision being undertaken and funding being approved as part of the Council's annual capital planning process; (b) Facilities for use by the Marches Consortium and for industrial enterprise be provided, if the Consortium and Advantage West Midlands respectively provide the necessary funding, and if satisfactory lease arrangements can be agreed.
Reasons for the Decision:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Minster serves the town of Leominster and a large rural area as shown on Appendix 1. A school with an annual entry of 180 will provide sufficient spaces for those children under the age of 11 living in this area, and

	<p>those likely to be living in the area in any new housing in the future.</p> <p>2. Youth facilities in Leominster are poor, and in property leased to 2013. The refurbishment of part of an existing building opposite the Sports Centre and Swimming Pool provides a longer-term solution in an appropriate location.</p> <p>3. All schools in the country are expected to offer extended services, and in the new build opportunities to maintain and extend, adult education, and work training including teacher training on the campus should be exploited.</p>
Options Considered:	<p>A school of a smaller size could be built, but if the school becomes the success that is our objective, this would not meet the needs of the community policy.</p> <p>Use on the site could be restricted to the school, but this would be contrary to central and local party and be a missed opportunity.</p>
Declaration of Interest:	Cllr French declared a personal interest.
Date the key decision is due to take effect:	13th September 2007

<p>COUNCILLOR RJ PHILLIPS.....Date: 6th September 2007 LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p>

<p>To be completed by officer:</p>	
<p>Date consent received from Chairman of Scrutiny Committee:</p>	
<p>Subject to Call-in:</p>	<p>Not called in</p>
<p>If yes was the decision modified?</p>	
<p>If yes Cabinet Member (.....) decision reference:</p>	
<p>Date original decision took effect:</p>	<p>13th September 2007</p>