

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A KEY DECISION CABINET

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| ITEM: | HEREFORD CHILDREN'S CENTRE |
| 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: | 20th September 2007 |
| Exempt: | No |
| Confidential | No |
| This is a key decision because 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 | |
| The item was NOT included in the Forward Plan. | |
| IF NO | |
| A notice was served in accordance with section 15 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) Regulation 2000 | |
| Urgent Decision: | No |
| Purpose: | To seek approval to establish a Children's Centre for North Hereford City on the site of Widemarsh Workshops by converting the current building, and relocating the present services to leased premises. |
| Decision: | THAT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Widemarsh Workshops be used as a Children's Centre following conversion works; b) the conversion works be funded from the ring fenced funds in the General Investment allocation for Children's Centres at a cost of £975,000; and c) two units be leased on the Foley Industrial Estate to facilitate the relocation of the workshops currently located at Widemarsh. |
| Reasons for the Decision: | The existing Widemarsh premises are not fit for their current purpose. Cabinet has previously agreed and endorsed the need to |

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| | <p>modernise the Council’s services for people with learning disabilities based upon the principles of inclusion; this includes promoting employment as a viable option. This recommendation contributes to achieving this key objective along side meeting Government requirements to provide countywide Children’s Centres.</p> <p>The financial allocation for children’s centres must be spent by 31st March 2008, although slippage to 31st August 2008, because of the difficulty in identifying a suitable building, has been agreed.</p> |
| Options Considered: | There are no alternative options identified. |
| Declaration of Interest: | |
| Date the key decision is due to take effect: | 27th September 2007 |

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| <p>COUNCILLOR RJ PHILLIPS.....</p> <p>LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> | <p>Date: 20th September 2007</p> |
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| <p>To be completed by officer:</p> | |
| <p>Date consent received from Chairman of Strategic Monitoring Scrutiny Committee:</p> | |
| <p>Subject to Call-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> | |