

## WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A KEY DECISION CABINET

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>MAJOR INVESTMENT IN HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS</b>
Members Present:	Councillors: AW Johnson (Leader), H Bramer, RB Hamilton, J Millar, PM Morgan, GJ Powell, PD Price (Deputy Leader).
Date of Decision:	Thursday 25 July 2013
Exempt:	No
Confidential	No
<p>This is a key decision because</p> <p>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.</p> <p>And/or</p> <p>It is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on-</p> <p>Two or more Wards or electoral divisions;</p> <p>One Ward (unless the number of those affected is very small or it is impractical to treat this as a key decision).</p> <p>A notice was served in accordance with Part 3, Section 9 (Publicity in connection with key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.</p>	
Urgency/Special Urgency: (As defined in Constitution)	No
Purpose:	To highlight and agree the need for additional investment in improvement in county road conditions and to delegate the approval of the detailed case and programme for such investment to officers.
<b>Decision:</b>	<p><b>THAT:</b></p> <p>(a) <b>The Director for Places and Communities (in consultation with the Chief Officer Finance and Commercial), be authorised to develop the detailed business case for investment in improvement in road conditions.</b></p> <p>(b) <b>the detailed business case and associated programme of works shall be developed to enable works to commence from the spring of 2014; and</b></p> <p>(c) <b>the Director for Places and Communities be authorised subject to the Chief Officer Finance and</b></p>

	<p><b>Commercial being satisfied that that the business case for investment represents value for money, to proceed with the delivery of the programme of works to improve the condition of roads in accordance with the key performance parameters established in the detailed business case;</b></p>
<p>Reasons for the Decision:</p>	<p>Strategic modelling of the condition of the carriageway asset over its lifecycle identifies that the up-front investment in the order of an extra £20Million (this equates to £34Million approx. of capital highway maintenance works over 2 years, as opposed to the typical £7Million per annum that is typically invested in this area of work) in highway maintenance would deliver significant benefits. This would create an environment where road condition can be sustained across all asset groups by on-going investment at current levels.</p> <p>As a consequence the demand for reactive repairs in response to safety defects should be reduced. This in turn would reduce the risk to the travelling public, enhance public satisfaction with roads and support the local economy.</p> <p>Further benefits are anticipated as this will reduce the demand on the Council’s revenue budgets through reducing the risk associated with fixing roads that are deemed to be out of repair and claims by third parties for damages.</p>
<p>Options Considered:</p>	<p>That additional investment is not made and the Council continues to maintain Herefordshire’s roads in accordance with sound asset management practices but wholly within the maintenance allocations and grant funding made available by Central Government.</p>
<p>Conflict of Interest ■ (See below):</p>	
<p>Date the key decision is due to take effect:</p>	<p>2 August 2013</p>

<p><b>COUNCILLOR AW JOHNSON</b> .....Date: 25 July 2013  <b>LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p>
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- 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 by the relevant local authority’s head of paid service.

<p><b>To be completed by officer:</b></p>	
<p>Date consent received from Chairman of General Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</p>	
<p>Subject to Call-in:</p>	<p>This Decision was not called in</p>
<p>Was the decision modified?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>If yes Cabinet Member (.....) decision reference:</p>	
<p>If no any comment(s) to be noted</p>	
<p>Date original decision took effect:</p>	<p>2 August 2013</p>