

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A KEY DECISION CABINET

ITEM:	PUBLIC HEALTH SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT
Members Present:	Councillors: AW Johnson (Leader), H Bramer, PM Morgan (Deputy Leader), GJ Powell, PD Price, P Rone.
Date of Decision:	17 March 2016
Exempt:	No
Confidential	No
This is a key decision because 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 to which the decision relates.	
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.	
Urgency/Special Urgency: (As defined in Constitution)	No
Purpose:	To approve a shared service with Shropshire council for the provision of professional services, which include those of the director of public health.
Decision:	THAT: the director for adults and wellbeing be authorised to take all necessary action to enter into a shared services agreement with Shropshire Council for a period of up to 4 years, at a value of £65k per year (up to £260k in total).
Reasons for the Decision:	To meet the requirements regarding a nominated director of public health for Herefordshire in the most cost effective way.
Options Considered:	<p>To continue with the secondment arrangement for the director of public health from Shropshire. This is not recommended, as the current arrangement does not provide sufficient certainty for either council or for the director of public health himself, would not address the wider issues around joint working in public health to secure best value for money and sustainability of those services, and would be unlikely to be acceptable to Public Health England, which on behalf of the secretary of state for health appoints directors of public health jointly with councils.</p> <p>To commence the recruitment of a director of public health for Herefordshire alone. This is not recommended, as this would involve both significant extra cost and there have been considerable difficulties in attracting appropriate candidates to Herefordshire in the past.</p>

	<p>To seek an alternative shared arrangement with Worcestershire. This is not recommended, as the synergies between public health teams are significantly stronger between Herefordshire and Shropshire than between Herefordshire and Worcestershire.</p> <p>To delete the post of director of public health. This is not recommended, as the role is a statutory requirement for all upper tier councils.</p>
<p>Conflict of Interest ■ (See below):</p>	
<p>Date the key decision is due to take effect:</p>	<p>23 March 2016</p>

<p>COUNCILLOR AW JOHNSON</p> <p>LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p>	<p>Date: 17 March 2016</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.