

**Written statement of a key decision**  
**Cabinet member young people and children's wellbeing**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Regional Joint Commissioning, Supported Accommodation Framework for 16/17 year olds</b>
Decision maker	Cabinet member young people and children's wellbeing Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here: <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251</a>
Date of decision	6 September 2017
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	<p>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 concerned. A threshold of £500,000 is regarded as significant.</p> <p>This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant having regard to: the strategic nature of the decision; and / or whether the outcome will have an impact, for better or worse, on the amenity of the community or quality of service provided by the authority to a significant number of people living or working in the locality (two or more wards) affected.</p>
A notice was served in accordance with Part 3 (Key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.	
General exception or special urgency (as defined in the constitution)	No
Purpose	To seek approval to enter into a partnership with other West Midlands Councils but in particular Staffordshire County Council (acting as lead procurement council) and deliver a Framework for Supported Accommodation Provider Agencies to provide a list of providers and rates for Supported Accommodation Services to be used when 16/17 year olds who are accepted as homeless and treated as in care under section 20 of the Children Act. It also so seeks approval to delegate the decision to enter into contractual arrangements with successful providers in line with the framework terms should it be deemed appropriate to do so.

	<p>The framework will not commit the council to any expenditure unless a young person is placed with an agency. The council will utilise the framework on a tiered basis with the most effective providers (in terms of cost and quality) being approached first. However it allows the council certainty in terms of clearly identified fees obtained through a competitive tender process.</p> <p>Whilst this seeks to reduce the overall cost of supported accommodation care to the council from independent agencies the council will reserve the right not to accept or enter into contractual arrangements with any individual or all providers.</p>
<b>Decision</b>	<p><b>That:</b></p> <p><b>(a) Herefordshire Council join the West Midlands Councils Framework for supported accommodation provider agencies, terminating no later than 8 January 2021; and</b></p> <p><b>(b) the director for children’s wellbeing be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to maintain Herefordshire Council’s participation in the framework having regard to the favourability of the fees, terms and conditions established by the framework and provider performance.</b></p>
Reason for the decision	<p>As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at</p> <p><a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50022874">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50022874</a></p>
Options considered	<p>Do nothing. A framework for providers came to an end in December 2016 since when Herefordshire Council has been undertaking spot purchases as and when required. Due to the very small number of placements currently made by the council this arrangement does not bring any cost certainty or control and may not even be commercially viable to a provider, if they were to set up a provision within the county.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	12 September 2017

<p>Councillor: .....</p> <p>Cabinet member young people and children's wellbeing (Councillor JG Lester)</p>	<p>Date 6 September 2017</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.