

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member economy and corporate services

Title	Continued resourcing for legal disputes
Decision maker	Cabinet member economy and corporate services Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here: http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251
Date of decision	9 November 2017
Report exemption class	Part exempt
A notice was served in accordance with Part 2, Section 5(2) (Procedures prior to private meetings) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. Further notice was served in accordance with Part 2, Section 5(4) of the same regulations.	
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, Section 9 (Publicity in connection with 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 approve the additional allocation of resources required to effectively respond to a legal dispute, over and above that already agreed in February 2017, January 2016 and February 2015.
Decision	That:

	(a) authority be delegated to the director for economy, communities and corporate to draw down and deploy additional funds from the agreed litigation reserve to resource the ongoing legal dispute as detailed in exempt appendix 1.
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?50022863
Options considered	That the additional resources are not allocated towards the resolution of this significant legal dispute. This is not recommended as, whilst the outcome of any dispute process is by its nature uncertain, failing to resource resolution is likely to result in a significantly worse financial outcome for the council.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	15 November 2017

Councillor:	Date 9 November 2017
Cabinet member economy and corporate services (Councillor DG Harlow)	

- 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.