

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

<b>Title</b>	<b>Introduction of local controls regarding the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons</b>
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: <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251</a>
Date of decision	20 November 2017
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To consider the executive response to the motion to Council seeking restriction on the use of sky lanterns and to introduce local controls regarding the use of sky lanterns at Council run events, private events that are undertaken on Council owned or leased land. To seek to use a model licensing condition, for applicants to offer on their application or members to apply when applications come before them, as a way to curtail the use of sky lanterns on private sites i.e licensed wedding venues and licensed premises.
<b>Decision</b>	<p><b>That:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) a standard licence condition to allow the council, as the licensing authority, to encourage restricting the use of sky lanterns at licensed premises under the public safety licensing objective, be implemented with immediate effect which applicants may choose to offer within their application or which may be imposed, as appropriate, by the council when considering applications which come before it;</b></li> <li><b>(b) a condition be included in the terms of use for council owned land (highways, parks, new lease or license agreements) to restrict the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons when land is hired or used for events;</b></li> <li><b>(c) a local policy be implemented with immediate effect prohibiting the use of sky lanterns and helium balloons at all council organised events and premises; and</b></li> <li><b>(d) the assistant director of environment and place be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to implement the above recommendations including</b></li> </ul>

	<b>undertaking a publicity campaign to raise awareness of the environmental consequences of balloon and Chinese/sky lantern releases.</b>
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50022972">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50022972</a>
Options considered	To not take the proposals forward and instead review any new proposal should DEFRA or any other government department offer further guidance or restrictions on the use of sky lanterns or helium balloons. This is not recommended because it would not address the concerns raised during debate of the motion at full Council in September 2015.  To consider an alternative policy or control measure, although this would have to comply with the council's obligations and legal powers, as required by the current licensing regime.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	27 November 2017

Councillor: .....	Date 20 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.