

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet member contracts and assets

Title	Smallholdings disposal additional legal spend to complete sales
Decision maker	Cabinet member contracts and assets 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	16 August 2018
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To approve the additional legal expenditure of £25k to facilitate the disposal of the council's smallholdings. The council had previously undertaken a procurement exercise to secure legal specialist support to ensure that sales are able to be completed in a timely manner. This recommendation supports this.
Decision	That: (a) additional legal work to a value not exceeding £25k be commissioned from Weightmans solicitors to complete the disposal of the council's smallholdings.
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=50026331
Options considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do nothing: this is not recommended as the extra expenditure is essential for the disposal of the smallholdings. 2. Re-procure external legal support: this is not recommended because Weightmans have already undertaken the majority of the background work on these contracts and the timescales associated with tendering for and briefing of a new supplier would adversely impact the ability to complete the sales in a

	<p>timely manner and add to the costs.</p> <p>3. Complete the outstanding work in house; this is not recommended because there is insufficient capacity within the in-house team to ensure the completion of contracts in a timely manner.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	22 August 2018

<p>Councillor:</p> <p>Cabinet member contracts and assets (Councillor H Bramer)</p>	<p>Date 16 August 2018</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.