

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet member corporate strategy and budget

Title	Council tax discount for care leavers
Decision maker	Cabinet member corporate strategy and budget 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	2 October 2018
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To approve a new council tax discount to care leavers from the age of 18 until their 25th birthday. The new council tax discretionary relief award is aimed at reducing housing costs that may be experienced by care leavers by granting up to 100% discretionary relief from council tax.
Decision	That: (a) the council tax discretionary relief award attached at appendix 1 be approved for implementation from 1 November 2018.
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?IID=50026960
Options considered	1. To not approve the discount award If not approved then council tax relief for care leavers would not be implemented. This is not recommended due to the policy being recommended in line with supporting the council's corporate priorities of: a. Enable residents to live safe, healthy and independent lives, and b. Keep children and young people safe and give them a great start in life In particular for looked after children and care

	<p>leavers the council has a responsibility as corporate parent. Herefordshire Council's Corporate Parenting Strategy sets out the council's approach including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accepting responsibility for children in the council's care (and care leavers) • making their needs a priority • seeking for them the same outcomes any good parent would want for their own children. <p>2. To offer a varying method of discount. This is not recommended because it would be costly to administer.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	8 October 2018

Councillor:	Date 2 October 2018
Cabinet member corporate strategy and budget (Councillor JG Lester)	

- 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.