

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member economy and communication

Title	Herefordshire Investment Partnership delivery mechanism
Decision maker	Cabinet member economy and communication 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 October 2018
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	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.
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 obtain approval for the proposed approach to the formation of the Herefordshire Investment Partnership highlighting the suggested structure, scope, and responsibilities. The formation of the Herefordshire Investment Partnership (HIP) will provide the council with a mechanism to engage with key partners involved in the delivery of major regeneration and infrastructure projects. Specifically projects that are included within the Herefordshire economic vision. In addition, the formation of the HIP will provide the council and partners with an element of private sector experience and opinion prior to project implementation. The Economic Vision has been adopted by the council as the county's economic development strategy. Gaining private sector experience and opinions prior to implementation of the

	<p>various regeneration projects will assist in the successful delivery of the economic vision. A dedicated board is required to provide a mechanism where these views can be shared with the council. It is envisaged that the proposals will make a significant contribution to the regeneration of the county.</p>
<p>Decision</p>	<p>THAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the terms of reference for the HIP attached at appendix 1 be approved; (b) the partnership be added to the council’s register of strategic partnerships; and (c) the economic development manager is authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to investigate future governance arrangements for the partnership within a budget of up to £15,000.
<p>Reason for the decision</p>	<p>As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50024081</p>
<p>Options considered</p>	<p>1 Utilising the existing Herefordshire Business Board to act as the delivery vehicle for the economic vision.</p> <p>Advantages As an established, private sector led board facilitated by the council there is an existing working relationship with the council and board members are already well aware of the regeneration priorities for the county.</p> <p>Disadvantages The existing Herefordshire Business Board primarily comprises of business leaders who are sector champions rather than regeneration experts and they do not necessarily hold the breadth of experience required to provide the necessary support and challenge to the council on the delivery of the economic vision. Whilst the board membership could be increased to give the required expertise, this would potentially dilute the scope and remit of the Herefordshire Business Board to the detriment of its core activity of supporting the existing business community within Herefordshire.</p> <p>2 Immediately creating an external delivery company.</p> <p>Advantages The council has experience of this model having previously followed this approach in the delivery of the Edgar Street Grid project, additionally the Hereford</p>

	<p>Enterprise Zone is also an external company tasked with the delivery of the Enterprise Zone project.</p> <p>Disadvantages Forming an external company to deliver the economic vision will require some dedicated council support and legal advice as to the right legal structure to achieve the council's and other Board members aspirations. It is recommended that this option is considered further when the informal HIP is more advanced and the council, and partners, have a greater understanding of the delivery issues and requirements.</p> <p>3 Utilising the existing Hereford Enterprise Zone board to act as the delivery vehicle for the economic vision.</p> <p>Advantages As an established, private sector led board facilitated by the council there is an existing working relationship with the council and board members are already well aware of the regeneration priorities for the county</p> <p>Disadvantages The Enterprise Zone board structure is bespoke to the formation and requirements of the enterprise zone project and circumstances. Utilising the enterprise zone board as the delivery vehicle for the economic vision would necessitate the board having a wider remit and set of responsibilities. This has the potential to dilute the focus of the enterprise zone board away from its very clear set of existing responsibilities and would require a review of its existing legal structure.</p> <p>4 Not establishing any partnership arrangements</p> <p>Advantages This would establish the council as having clear and sole responsibility and ownership of the process of delivering the economic vision. There would be no internal resource required to serve an informal (or formal) partnership or to determine what legal structure to use in setting up partnership arrangements</p> <p>Disadvantages The recommended approach advocates utilising external membership to provide advice and guidance in delivering the economic vision, not establishing a partnership would result in the council not being able to draw on this expertise.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency)	22 October 2018

provisions apply)	
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Councillor:	Date 16 October 2018
Cabinet member economy and communication (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.