

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A KEY DECISION CABINET

ITEM:	PROPOSED REVISED APPROACH TO PROVIDE THE CENTRAL LIBRARY, HEREFORD
Members Present:	Councillors RJ Phillips, GV Hyde, Mrs LO Barnett, PJ Edwards, JC Mayson, DW Rule, RV Stockton, DB Wilcox, RM Wilson
Date of Decision:	25th Nov 2004
This is a key decision because It is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in Herefordshire in an area comprising one or more wards	
The item was included in the Forward Plan	
Purpose:	To receive a report on a revised approach to the development of The Central Library, Hereford and access to Council Services in Hereford City. To formally approve the preferred site for a new Central Library, based in Hereford City.
Decision:	THAT (a) approval be given to develop an outline design for a new Central Library and associated services on the Edgar Street Grid Hereford; and (b) further more detailed work be advised as part of the Edgar Street Development Implementation Plan..
Reasons for the Decision:	The Council's current formal position for a new Hereford Central library supports the development of a new library on the Kemble House site, Broad Street, Hereford (28th September, 2000). This approach cannot be realised without significant capital investment from Council funding. This position is regarded as no longer sustainable and an alternative approach is needed. The Council has committed itself to a major redevelopment on the Edgar Street grid Hereford. This can potentially include a new Library and One Stop Shop (INFO in Herefordshire). Significant work will be required to ensure any plan is co-terminus with the overall Edgar Street development.
Options Considered:	1. Maintain existing provision at Broad Street. This is not sustainable and retention of the current service in the long term will have a significant detrimental effect. The Council's public assessment is likely to be significantly affected in respect of its Cultural Services provision. The existing library is general regarding as one third of the required provision. 2. Pursue Kemble House as original preferred option. This matter is regarded as not sustainable for reasons of

	capital funding and long term investment.
Declaration of Interest:	None.
Date the key decision is due to take effect:	6 December 2004

RJ PHILLIPS Date:..... LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

<p>To be completed by officer:</p>	
<p>Date consent received from Chairman of Scrutiny Committee:</p>	
<p>Subject to Call-in:</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>If yes was the decision modified?</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>If yes Cabinet Member (.....) decision reference:</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Date original decision took effect:</p>	<p>6 December 2004</p>