

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet

Title	Budget planning and Corporate Plan consultation
Decision maker	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here:</p> <p>http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251</p>
Date of decision	25 July 2019
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	<p>To recommend the approach for consultation to inform the 2020/21 budget and developing the medium term financial strategy (MTFS).</p> <p>Cabinet is required to publish its timetable for making proposals to Council for the adoption of the MTFS, its capital budget and setting a revenue budget, and its arrangements for consultation after publication of those initial proposals.</p> <p>In addition, that the proposed timetable and approach for consultation and production of the new four year Corporate Plan is considered and agreed.</p>
Decision	<p>That:</p> <p>(a) the proposed timetable for the development and adoption of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the 2020/21 budget be approved;</p> <p>(b) the approach for consulting on budget proposals for 2020/21 as set out in paragraphs 12 to 17 be approved; and</p> <p>(c) the timescales and proposals for engagement on the council's priorities for a new corporate plan be approved.</p>
Reason for the decision	<p>As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at</p> <p>http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=50030749</p>
Options considered	<p>It is open to Cabinet to propose alternative timetable and consultation arrangements, but in doing so regard must be had to the council's budget and policy framework procedure rules, the</p>

	<p>legislative requirements for Council to approve a budget and the constitutional requirement for the council to have a corporate plan setting out the objectives of the organisation.</p> <p>Alternative options include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a single consultation window as in previous years, predicated on the current MTFS; this option would allow for limited review of spending and council priorities, • undertake two formal consultation windows; the first consulting on officers' suggested budget and priorities for Cabinet to evaluate before issuing a second consultation on the Cabinet's proposed budget; delivery of this option before the statutory budget deadline would be challenging. <p>Cabinet may wish to consider outsourcing the consultation entirely; this would however have a financial implication outlined below.</p>
Declarations of interest (see ▪ below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	31 July 2019

Councillor: Leader of the Council (Councillor David Hitchiner)	Date 25 July 2019
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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.