

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member environment, economy and skills

Title	Extension of ERDF Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings programme
Decision maker	Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 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	5 August 2020
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	This is a key decision because it is likely to result in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council's budget for the service or function concerned. A threshold of £500,000 is regarded as significant.
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 authorise acceptance of the offer by the Ministry of Housing Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) of further European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) capital and revenue funding to the council, in order to administer the Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings project covering the Marches local enterprise partnership (LEP) area on behalf of Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin councils. This funding allows public authority applicants to apply for grant funding in order to enable the installation of energy efficiency measures in public buildings.
Decision	That: (a) Subject to the bid being successful, the Assistant Director for Regulation, Environment & Waste Services is authorised to accept the ERDF funding and to implement the project in accordance with the original bid and subsequent project change request for a 3 year

	project extension; and (b) Herefordshire Council continue to act as accountable body and lead partner for the sustainable energy in public buildings project for the Marches LEP area.
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50032547
Options considered	1 Do nothing; by not accepting this funding the revenue savings and associated carbon reduction benefits to the council and partners of the sustainable energy in public buildings project would not be realised. We would therefore be reliant on ad-hoc capital loans to deliver energy retro-fit projects. Due to reductions in public sector budgets and decreased Government subsidies, this is becoming increasingly difficult.
Declarations of interest (see ▪ below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	11 August 2020

Councillor:	Date 5 August 2020
Cabinet member environment, economy and skills (Councillor Ellie Chowns)	

- 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.