

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet

Title	Hereford Towns Fund accelerated funding
Decision maker	Cabinet 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	26 November 2020
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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	This report seeks approval to accept this grant funding from government and approval for the funds to be spent on delivering the projects submitted to government. The council has been successful in securing £750,000 Towns Fund accelerated finance from government to deliver a programme of projects across Hereford City that will provide economic and environmental benefit.
Decision	<p>That:</p> <p>(a) The £750,000 funding from government for the Towns Fund accelerated projects be accepted by the council;</p> <p>(b) The spending of the £750,000 funding from government</p>

	<p>on the Towns Fund accelerated projects as detailed within this report is approved; and</p> <p>(c) The Director of Economy and Place be authorised to take all operational decisions to implement recommendation (b) including, but not limited to, the procurement and commissioning of new projects, and, following consultation with the S151 officer, the movement of budgets between projects to ensure the full expenditure of funding.</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/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50035605</p>
Options considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alternative Option 1 – Not accept the funding and do not approve expenditure on the projects contained within the submission to government. 2. Advantage – the council would not be exposed to potential financial risk associated with the delivery of the projects contained within the submission to government. Projects will manage their financial risk at an individual level and at programme level by the Town Investment Plan project board. 3. Disadvantage – the city would miss out on securing £750,000 of government investment to assist in economic regeneration, with associated reputational consequences. 4. This option is not recommended because of the loss of grant income that will deliver projects within the city that help to deliver the council's county plan.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	2 December 2020

<p>Councillor:</p> <p>Leader of the Council (Councillor David Hitchiner)</p>	<p>Date 26 November 2020</p>
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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.