

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing

Title	Capital grant for homelessness hub
Decision maker	<p>Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing</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	22 January 2021
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	<p>To approve a capital grant to Citizen Housing for improvement works to enable the launch of a homelessness hub in Hereford, with an associated nominations agreement.</p> <p>The proposal forms part of Project Brave, an initiative developed during the Covid19 response and now evolving to make homelessness in Herefordshire rare, infrequent, non-recurring and short-lived.</p> <p>It is proposed to make a grant of capital to Citizen Housing to enable redecoration and refreshment of the accommodation located west of the City Centre. The grant for works to create a homelessness hub will be funded entirely from a capital grant awarded for the purpose to the council by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)</p> <p>The hub will launch during April 2021 and provide drop-in advice and support, eight units of emergency accommodation and four self contained flats for transition of homeless people towards independent living. Support and advice will be provided by the council's Housing Solutions service and Vennture, with housing management through Citizen Housing. There will be a nominations and operational agreement between the three organisations to support smooth and effective accommodation and support of homeless people at the hub.</p>
Decision	<p>That:</p> <p>(a) Capital funding of £104k on improving and equipping premises in Hereford as a homelessness hub, incorporating a grant to Citizen Housing be approved and;</p> <p>(b) The director for Adults and Communities be authorised</p>

	to approve a nominations and operational agreement with Citizen Housing and Vennture for the provision of accommodation and support at the homelessness hub.
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50036097
Options considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a homelessness hub without any capital spending. This option is not recommended as the spending is necessary to ensure that the premises is appropriate for use as the hub. MHCLG awarded Herefordshire Council a capital grant of £104k expressly for the purpose of establishing a homelessness hub. 2. Spending the capital funds available on a different premises in order to establish a homelessness hub. This option is not recommended as more than one site has already been considered for the hub. The premises offers extensive accommodation, appropriately configured for a hub and requiring only minor works.
Declarations of interest (see below)	None
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	28 January 2021

Councillor:	Date 22 January 2021
Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing (Councillor Pauline Crockett)	

- 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.