

MEETING:	Council
MEETING DATE:	4 March 2016
TITLE OF REPORT:	Leader's report
REPORT BY:	Leader of the council

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards affected

Countywide

Purpose

To receive a report from the leader on the activities of cabinet since the meeting of Council in December.

Recommendations

THAT:

- (a) the report be noted.

Alternative options

- 1 There are no alternative options; it is a requirement of the council's constitution.

Reasons for recommendations

- 2 To ensure members are aware of the activities of cabinet.

Key considerations

- 3 A list of the decisions taken by the executive since the last report to Council (covering

the period between 1 December and 12 February) is provided at appendix A; four were taken under the general exception provision (less than twenty-eight but more than five days' notice) and the relevant overview and scrutiny committee chairman was notified. None were taken under the urgency provision (less than five days' notice). No decisions were subject to call-in.

- 4 It will not surprise members to know that much of the focus of cabinet has been on ensuring the council has robust and achievable plans and strategies in place to meet the needs of the county now and in the future. The approval by Council in February of a refreshed corporate plan and medium term financial strategy will provide the framework for our work going forward and will guide our future decision making.
- 5 I of course welcome the one-off £4.4m grant Herefordshire Council is to receive as part of its annual settlement in 2016/17. This will afford the council a degree of resilience in the coming years. Regrettably this funding does not assist the base budget position and we will continue, with other rural authorities working collectively as the SPARSE group, to lobby government for a fairer ongoing revenue budget settlement for the county which reflects the particular challenges associated with delivering essential services to people across a large and sparsely populated rural county.

Community impact

- 6 The community impact of any decisions of the executive have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken.

Equality duty

- 7 Cabinet and cabinet members have paid due regard to the public sector equality duty in their decision-making, as set out in the relevant decision reports.

Financial implications

- 8 The financial implications of any decisions of the executive have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken.

Legal implications

- 9 The legal implications of any decisions of the executive have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken.

Risk management

- 10 The risks associated with any decisions of the executive have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken.

Consultees

11 None.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Executive decisions taken

Background Papers

- None identified.