

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Variation to public realm annual plan 2018/19
Date of decision:	26 th July 2018
Decision maker:	Assistant Director for Environment & Place
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>The authority is for the specified officer to take this decision, in the key decision taken by cabinet member Transport and Regulatory Services in regards to Balfour Beatty Living Places public realm annual plan 2018/18 on 26 March 2018. The decision included:</p> <p>(b) the assistant director environment and place be authorised to agree, through the contract governance arrangements, final adjustments to the programme and budget allocation to each of the annex areas (including, but not limited to, the investment, in accord with the approach set out in this report, of all funds received from the Local Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund for 2018/19 and the capital programme) and any in year adjustments to the plan.</p>
Ward:	'Hereford City and the Market Towns'
Consultation:	Consultation with Balfour Beatty Living Places, Head of Highways and Communities for Herefordshire Council and Cabinet Member
Decision made:	<p>To vary the public realm annual plan 2018/19;</p> <p>To suspend the 5th Amenity grass cut programmed for August, and redeploy the resource onto alternative activities</p>
Reasons for decision:	<p>Over the past 6 weeks the county has experienced warm and dry conditions which has significantly slowed down grass growth throughout the month of July, with grass being burnt off in areas. Conditions are expected to remain dry into early August.</p> <p>The removal of the 5th Amenity cut, in Hereford and all market towns, will enable existing resource to be re-deployed along the amenity grass cutting routes onto other activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weed removal • Curb siding out (urban areas) • Cutting back of hedges/ shrubs
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>There is a potential risk if there are rainy conditions in August which would accelerate grass growth, leading to areas potentially looking overgrown towards the end of the month</p> <p>There is a need to ensure good communication of change to programme and what else will be delivered</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Do nothing; this is not recommended for the variations, as there is an opportunity to carry out work that ordinarily are able to be delivered within budget. If the cut was undertaken in August, it

	would not be a good use of resource and not provide value for money.
Financial Implication	The redeployment of activities is cost neutral as within the budget.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed Assistant Director Environment & Place

Date: 26th July 2018

