

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>Friday 12 July 2019</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Leader's report to Council</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Leader of the Council</b>

## **Classification**

Open

## **Decision type**

This is not an executive decision

## **Wards affected**

(All Wards);

## **Purpose and summary**

To provide an update on the work of the Cabinet since the meeting of Council held on 8 March 2019.

A brief summary of decisions taken by the executive is provided at appendix 1, including those taken by the previous executive; all decision reports and notices are available on the council's [website](#). Additionally the objectives established for the Chief Executive in the current year are reported at appendix 2. Appendix 3 provides information about newly established cabinet portfolios and appointments.

## **Recommendation(s)**

**That:**

- (a) the report be noted.

## **Alternative options**

1. There are no alternative options; the constitution requires the Leader to provide Council with reports on the activities of the executive, and to report to Council the objectives set for the Chief Executive.

## Key considerations

2. I am pleased to provide to Council my first report as Leader of this council.
3. A list of the decisions made by cabinet and cabinet members since the last report to Council (covering the period between 15 February and 21 June) is at appendix 1; the appendix identifies those decisions taken by the previous administration, and those taken by the current administration. Details of all these decisions, and of those made by officers under delegated authority, are published on the councillors and democracy pages of the council's website. No key decisions were made under the general exception provisions (giving more than five but less than 28 days' notice) or under the urgency provisions (less than five days' notice). One decision was subject to call in – being the then Cabinet Member Infrastructure's decision taken on 11 March regarding progression of detailed design and consultation to inform future decisions about the Hereford Transport Package. Having reviewed the spend profile provided, the then General Scrutiny Committee resolved not to refer the decision back to the cabinet member for further consideration.
4. In line with the framework for assessment agreed by the employment panel, the annual personal performance and development programme for the chief executive was undertaken by the previous Leader, with external facilitation as is required every third year. A summary of the objectives agreed is attached at appendix 2 for information.
5. Since taking office as Leader on 24 May, I have confirmed the appointment of seven cabinet members and three cabinet support members; appendix 3 details the scope of their respective portfolios or support remit. The elections held in May returned no overall political control of this council and the cabinet team is drawn from members of the Herefordshire Independents, The Green Party, and It's Our County (Herefordshire) political groups.

## 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. Reporting to Council the activities of the executive demonstrates the council's commitment to the code of corporate governance principle of implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability

## Equality duty

7. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As this report provides a summary of activity undertaken, we do not believe that it will have an impact on our equality duty. However these considerations are set out in each of the relevant reports informing the decisions listed at appendix 1, and will inform any future decision making

## **Resource implications**

9. There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The financial implications of any decisions of the executive listed at appendix 1 have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken and will inform any future decision making

## **Legal implications**

10. The council and committee, and cabinet rules within the constitution require the Leader to provide a report to Council on the work of the Cabinet since the last meeting of Council and, at the first meeting to follow the annual meeting of Council, on the priorities of the cabinet and (except in a year when there are ordinary elections) progress made in meeting those priorities. Appointment of cabinet members and allocation of portfolio responsibilities are responsibilities of the Leader of the Council, and the constitution requires that any changes are subsequently reported to Council. This report ensures these requirements are met.
11. There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The legal implications of any decisions of the executive listed at appendix 1 have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken

## **Risk management**

12. There are no risks arising from the recommendations of this report. The risks of any decisions of the executive listed at appendix 1 have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken and will inform future decision making

## **Consultees**

13. None

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Summary of executive decisions made between 15 February and 21 June 2019.

Appendix 2: Chief Executive's Objectives 2019/20

Appendix 3: Cabinet member portfolios and cabinet support member remits.

## **Background papers**

None identified.