

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Officer approval of Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings Grant made by Herefordshire Council at Hereford Museum Resource & Learning Centre (MRLC)
Date of decision:	30 October 2019
Decision maker:	Director for Economy and Place
Authority for delegated decision:	The authority is for the specified officer to take this decision as established under Decision Report dated 21/03/16
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	The Grant application has been recommended for sign off by the project steering group and endorsed by the project board.
Decision made:	Approve (sign-off) applications for ERDF funded Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings Grants and subsequent grant offers.
Reasons for decision:	<p>The Acting Assistant Director for Regulation, Environment and Waste Services is authorised to accept the ERDF funding and to implement the Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings project in accordance with the submitted bid as approved by the Director for Economy, Communities & Corporate under a decision notice dated 21 March 2016.</p> <p>Approval of Grants by the Acting Assistant Director for Regulation, Environment and Waste Services forms part of our agreed Governance process with the managing authority, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG)</p> <p>The Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings Steering Group and Project Board have recommended and endorsed the project for Grant funding.</p> <p>Approval of the grant will contribute capital expenditure and outputs against the project budget and targets respectively, as agreed in the project funding agreement and subsequent approved project change requests.</p> <p>ERDF Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings funding supports the installation of low carbon measures across the Marches public estate, which will reduce revenue costs, contribute to carbon emissions targets and enhance the local low carbon economy.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>As the project lead authority, Herefordshire Council have signed a legally binding project agreement, which details their obligations to ensure that project expenditure is allocated in line with ERDF Programme requirements. Herefordshire Council, are also required to accept the required terms of grant, sign off a project completion document and submit evidence of spend before Grant funding is released by the Managing Authority (MHCLG)</p> <p>Individual building installations will take place in full consultation with relevant property management personnel to ensure health and safety compliance. The appropriate officers will also be required to provide technical sign-off in accordance with the schedule of works.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<p>By continuing with business as usual the revenue savings and associated carbon reduction benefits to Herefordshire Council and partners of the sustainable energy in public buildings project would not be realised. We would therefore be reliant on ad-hoc capital loans to deliver energy retro-fit projects. Due to reductions in public sector budgets and renewable energy/energy efficiency subsidies this is becoming increasingly difficult to justify from a</p>

	business perspective.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	N/A

Signed

Richard Ball
Director for Economy & Place

Date: 30 October 2019