

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Removal of Suspension for Street Trading (laybys) activity in relation to the covid19 outbreak
Date of decision:	14 May 2020
Decision maker:	Director for Economy and Place
Authority for delegated decision:	Council constitution 3.7.9 all necessary decisions in the case of emergencies
Ward:	Countywide (where applicable)
Consultation:	Emergency consultation between chief finance officer, county solicitor, and cabinet member for Housing, Regulatory services and Community Safety. Details of this change will be communicated to all stakeholders
Decision made:	To remove the temporary suspension of street trading activity for layby traders
Reasons for decision:	Street trading and highways amenity licensing was suspended on 27.3.20 due to the covid-19 outbreak, see http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6734 Government advice on 23.03.2020 indicated that street trading could conceivably continue if they were offering takeaway food/drink. With the revised government guidance, it is timely to permit those street traders that wish to operate to be able to do so, provided they, their staff and their customers can comply with social distancing measures. Layby traders operate in relatively remote locations, so it is relatively rare for queues of customers to occur. If on inspection, social distancing measure aren't in place or seen to be observed, we reserve the right to suspend the licence. Layby traders will provide an outlet for keyworkers travelling to and from their place of work, as well as HGV, van delivery drivers etc
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	There could be a challenge from some traders that the council is reinstating street trading at this time. This is unlikely as traders will be given the option as to whether they wish to trade and those that are not ready to return will incur no fees and have their pitches held for them.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Maintain the position of suspending street trading consents. This may be challenged by some traders that this is now excessive and denying them their right to try and make a living.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed

Richard Ball
Director for Economy & Place

Date: 14 May 2020