

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Removal of Suspension for Street Market activity in Hereford city centre in relation to the covid19 outbreak
Date of decision:	28 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:	Central
Consultation:	Emergency consultation between Section 151 Officer, solicitor to the Council 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 market activity in Hereford city centre, effective from 3 June 2020
Reasons for decision:	<p>Street Markets in Hereford city centre were suspended on 27.3.20 due to the covid-19 outbreak, see http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6735</p> <p>With certain 'lockdown' measures now starting to be lifted, it is timely to permit those market traders selling products (in line with government guidance) that wish to operate, to be able to do so, provided they and their customers can satisfactorily adhere to social distancing requirements.</p> <p>Revised stall layouts will be in place to ensure social distancing can be maintained. Further measures will include, social distancing 'A boards' pavement markers and additional information signs on market gazebos.</p> <p>Traders will be provided with operating requirements detailing their additional responsibilities</p> <p>If on inspection, social distancing measures aren't in place or seen to be being observed, we reserve the right to suspend the trader/amend the stall layouts as required.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>There could be a challenge from some traders that the council is reinstating markets at this time. This is unlikely as traders will initially 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 the until end of June.</p> <p>Markets were suspended on 27 March 2020. Financial implications from this decision are circa £9,000.</p> <p>It is unknown at this stage what the trading environment will like be going forward</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Maintain the position of suspending market trading. This may be challenged by some traders that this may now be considered 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: 28 May 2020