

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	To appoint Public Analysts, Agricultural Analyst and deputy agricultural analysts
Date of decision:	27 July 2020
Decision maker:	Director of Economy and Place
Authority for delegated decision:	Herefordshire Constitution 3.7.12 The Chief Executive's Scheme of Delegation updated 16 July 2020 Appendix A SA58 (Environmental health and trading standards)
Ward:	County wide
Consultation:	Legal Services, Procurement team and finance services
Decision made:	To enter into a partnership agreement with Hampshire and Kent Scientific Services and appoint their Public Analysts, Agricultural Analyst and deputy Agricultural Analysts as the councils public analysts and agricultural analyst and deputy Agricultural Analysts in accordance with the Food Safety Act 1990 – Section 27 and the Agriculture Act 1970 – Section 67. The contract will commence on 1 August 2020
Reasons for decision:	Under the Food Safety Act 1990 – Section 27 and the Agriculture Act 1970 – Section 67 the council is required to appoint one or more public analysts for food safety and an agriculture analyst and deputy agriculture analysts as needed. Following the closure of Worcestershire Scientific services which was part of Worcestershire County Council the council lost both its Public Analyst and Agricultural Analyst. Hampshire and Kent scientific services are part of Hampshire County Council and Kent County Council and they have the same aims, objectives and responsibilities in regard to food safety act and agricultural act matters
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	No legal risks identified as this contract allows the council as required by statute. Expenditure is covered within the normal operational budget and business as usual. The costs for analysis is contained in the current price list
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	There are 2 other local authority analysts in the UK including one in Scotland. The Scottish analyst work in a different way to England and the other English local authority analyst did not respond to a request for information. There are 2 private sector analysts but there were dismissed as possible conflict of interest
Details of any declarations of interest made:	

Signed:

Richard Ball
Director for Economy & Place

Date: 27 July 2020