

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Temporary closure of Herefordshire Archive & Records Centre (HARC), Hereford Museum & Art Gallery and Black & White House Museum
Date of decision:	13 November 2020
Decision maker:	Director for Economy & Place
Authority for delegated decision:	In line with section 3.7.9, all necessary decisions in the case of emergencies of the constitution
Ward:	HARC is in Dinedor ward, the two museum sites are in Central Ward. All three sites though provide a service for the whole county
Consultation:	The following have been consulted and are content for this decision to be taken: Legal services, Finance, Cabinet Member for Commissioning, Procurement and Assets
Decision made:	To close Hereford Museum and Art Gallery, Black & White House Museum and Herefordshire Archive and Records Centre (HARC) to public access between November 5 th 2020 and December 2 nd 2020
Reasons for decision:	<p>This is to comply with legal obligations being brought in as part of the England wide lockdown between November 5th 2020 and December 2nd 2020.</p> <p>The Statutory Instrument 2020 No. 1200 entitled 'The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No 4) Regulations 2020 was laid before Parliament on 3rd November 2020 and comes into effect on 5th November 2020. This requires the closure to the public of museums and galleries as well as HARC</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>Not to close these sites would leave Herefordshire Council in breach of the law and liable to a fine.</p> <p>Closure of the sites will lead to a loss of income. Based on recent income figures it is estimated that closure of the museum sites for this period will mean a loss of income from admission fees and shop sales of approximately £1,900. Lost income at HARC is estimated to be around £100 from sale of photography permits and other sundries</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	No alternatives have been considered as to remain open to the public would be a breach of the law.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed

Richard Ball
Director for Economy & Place

Date: 13 November 2020