

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	To Implement the Herefordshire Council Streetworks Permit Scheme as set out in the cabinet member report signed on the 1 March 2021
Date of decision:	2 March 2021
Decision maker:	Director for Economy and Place
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>Cabinet member report: Herefordshire Streetworks permit scheme, recommendation (d) The director for economy and place, in consultation with the council's s151 officer, is authorized to implement the scheme.</p> <p>Link Below http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=7671</p>
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	Prior to the cabinet member decision to implement the councils permit scheme, an 8 week open consultation with key stakeholders which was also open to the public. Members and group leaders were also consulted as part of the decision making process
Decision made:	To implement the councils streetworks permit scheme no later than the 1 April, 2021 as set out in the cabinet member report
Reasons for decision:	<p>The decision to introduce the permit was made by the Cabinet Member on the 29 October 2020 and becomes effective on the 5 November 2020.</p> <p>The benefits of the permit scheme is outlined in the Cabinet Members report, the scheme will aim is to improve the strategic and operational management of the highway network through enabling better planning, scheduling and management of activities to minimise disruption to highway network users. The scheme will enable better coordination of activities throughout the highway network.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>The financial resource required for implementation is £45,000, this is identified within the existing s278 s38 budgets.</p> <p>Legal have responded to the cabinet member report setting out the legislation that enables the implementation of the permit scheme and confirming there are no problems with doing what is proposed.</p> <p>The implementation of the scheme will have no detrimental impact in relation to equality, the scheme will enable better management of the network and provide a better environment for all.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<p>Not to introduce the permit scheme and continue with the existing Noticing Scheme. This is not recommended as this would not be consistent with legislation, national guidance and best practice. This would miss the opportunity to manage the network and put conditions to the works which will ensure compliance or initiate a penalty. The majority of England are now using permitting and all are using Streetmanager, the DfT have requested all authorities in England be permitting authorities.</p> <p>To have permits and notices in parallel, permits to apply to traffic sensitive streets, this is not recommended as mismanaged street works can impact on the locality whether designated as a traffic sensitive street or not. All streets have an impact on the locality and can be problematic if not managed positively.</p> <p>To utilise existing permit schemes, this has been explored, the alternative permit schemes have been in operation for a number of years, they can be generic and</p>

	<p>cover urban and rural environments. The Herefordshire Scheme is taking the best from all options and will be bespoke to Herefordshire needs.</p> <p>To consider Herefordshire Council delivering the permit scheme directly, currently the function and resource is with the streetworks team which is currently managed by BBLP. This would require further Cabinet consideration at the appropriate time and a further governance report.</p>
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed

Richard Ball
Director for Economy & Place

Date: 2 March 2021