

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	To open the shop area at the Black & White House Museum from the week beginning 12 April 2021
Date of decision:	12 April 2021
Decision maker:	Director for Economy & Place
Authority for delegated decision:	The Chief Executive's Scheme of Delegation – SA42 The Economy & Place Scheme of Delegation – line 17
Ward:	The site is in Central ward but the service is countywide with visitors coming from across the UK
Consultation:	The following have been consulted and are content for this decision to be taken: Legal services, Finance, Cabinet Member for Commissioning, Procurement and Asset
Decision made:	To re-open the shop area at the Black & White House Museum
Reasons for decision:	<p>The Black & White House Museum has been closed in line with regulations enforcing the national lockdown in England.</p> <p>Under the government's proposed roadmap for moving out of Covid-19 restrictions, museums are listed as being eligible to reopen from 17 May. However, guidance for Step 2 activity for 'Reopening businesses and venues' which applies from 12 April states that, at this stage,</p> <p>'Permitted businesses operating in otherwise closed attractions (such as a gift shop or a takeaway kiosk at a museum) may only open where they are a self-contained unit and can be accessed directly from the street'</p> <p>The government has confirmed that proposed changes for step 2 can take place from 12th April and a link to the current guidance is below</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reopening-businesses-and-venues-in-england/reopening-businesses-and-venues#step-2---no-earlier-than-12-april</p> <p>The gift shop at the Black & White House fulfils the criteria of being 'a self-contained unit accessed directly from the street'.</p> <p>The hours of opening at this stage will be Tuesday to Saturday, 10.00 – 16.00.</p> <p>Covid-19 secure certification for the delivery of the service in this manner is in place as is an appropriate system for test & trace.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>A full COVID-19 secure risk assessment has been undertaken to ensure ways of working that will protect both staff and customers.</p> <p>This has been shared with and approved by both Herefordshire Council's Health & Safety team and UNISON and these processes will be adhered to after re-opening.</p> <p>The service's revenue budget includes costs for staff to provide the service. There</p>

	will be a financial implication for the ongoing provision of PPE such as hand sanitizer. Re-opening the sites will, however, enable the resumption of income generation through sales and donations. Based on previous monthly figures this should be in the region of £200 per month.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	The option not to reintroduce the service yet was considered. This was rejected as this element of the service can be reintroduced safely and is in line with national guidance
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed

Richard Ball
Director for Economy & Place

Date: 12 April 2021