

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Flood Response Programme – scheme delivery
Date of decision:	19 March 2026
Decision maker:	Chief Operating Officer Resident Services
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>A Cabinet Member decision was taken on 24 September 2025 relating to how the £2,055,000 additional budget allocated in the Capital Programme for flood risk mitigation across 2025/26 and 2026/27 is proposed to be spent and to seek the necessary approvals to do so.</p> <p>Full details of the decision taken can be seen at the following link:</p> <p>Decision - Herefordshire Flood Risk Mitigation - Herefordshire Council</p> <p>(a) approval is given to draw down the £2,055,000 additional budget allocated in the Capital Programme for flood risk mitigation across 2025/26 and 2026/27; and</p> <p>(b) delegated authority is given to the Chief Operating Officer Resident Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Local Engagement and Community.</p>
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	As part of the revised consultation process for key decisions, Political Group Consultations were undertaken for the Cabinet Member decision. Officers will provide timely updates to members as the Flood Response Programme progresses.
Decision made:	To allocate £150,000 to advance the implementation of NFM measures.
Reasons for decision:	<p>£1,580,000 of the £2,055,000 budget has been allocated to scheme delivery. The implementation of nature-based schemes has been identified as one of our preferred approaches to scheme delivery, and we therefore intend to initially allocate £150,000 to support the implementation of Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures, following a similar approach adopted for our NFM Capital Grant Scheme used in the Herefordshire NFM Project.</p> <p>Under this proposal, Herefordshire Council’s Flood Risk Management and Drainage Team will engage with landowners and communities to advise them as to how they can implement NFM measures. We would provide grant funding to support landowners and farmers in adapting their land and water management practices to slow the flow of water and reduce flood risk to downstream communities. Grant awards would be in accordance with the scheme criteria and approach set out under the Herefordshire NFM Project.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>Financial Implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total budget of £1,580,000 has been allocated for scheme delivery. We intend to initially allocate £150,000 specifically to support the implementation of NFM measures.

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	The alternative option would be not to allocate funding specifically for NFM measures. This is not recommended, as it would be contrary to the Council resolution passed on 7 February 2025 .
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed..... Date: