

## Record of Officer Decision

| <b>Decision title:</b>                   | Transfer of Herefordshire Council Owned Play Areas to Town and Parish Councils through Community Asset Transfer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
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| <b>Date of decision:</b>                 | 09 October 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| <b>Decision maker:</b>                   | Corporate Director of Economy and Environment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| <b>Authority for delegated decision:</b> | <p>Delegated authority is given to the Corporate Director of Economy and Environment to take all operational decisions over the lifetime of the project, to deliver the investment.</p> <p>Approval was given to draw down and spend the £1 million capital budget for play area investment in 2025/26 and 2026/27 by Cabinet Member on 3 October 2025.</p> <p>A link to the written statement of a key decision is below:<br/> <a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/d10851/Printed%20decision%20Play%20Area%20Investment.pdf?T=5">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/d10851/Printed%20decision%20Play%20Area%20Investment.pdf?T=5</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| <b>Ward:</b>                             | Countywide.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| <b>Consultation:</b>                     | <p>As part of the revised consultation process for key decisions, Political Group Consultations were undertaken. For both Cabinet Member decisions and further details can be found at:<br/> <a href="#">Decision - 2025/26 Capital Investment in Existing Highway Infrastructure - Herefordshire Council</a></p> <p>In Q1 of 2026, all City, Town and Parish Councils were invited to express an interest in the Community Asset Transfer of play areas and to nominate any sites they wished to transfer into their ownership and management.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| <b>Decision made:</b>                    | <p>To approve 15 community asset transfers of Herefordshire Council owned play areas to Town and Parish Councils, as listed below.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Town / Parish Name</th><th style="text-align: left;">Play Areas</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ross-on-Wye Town Council</td><td>Beech Close</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ross-on-Wye Town Council</td><td>Roman Way</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ross-on-Wye Town Council</td><td>Grammar School Close</td></tr> <tr> <td>Leintwardine</td><td>The Criftings Housing Estate</td></tr> <tr> <td>Leominster Town Council</td><td>Barons Cross Estate Play Area</td></tr> <tr> <td>Leominster Town Council</td><td>Ridgemoor Road Play Area</td></tr> <tr> <td>Leominster Town Council</td><td>St Botolphs Play Area</td></tr> <tr> <td>Wigmore Group Parish Council</td><td>Toddler Play Area, Wigmore</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ledbury Town Council</td><td>Browning Road</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ledbury Town Council</td><td>Kemplly Brook</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ledbury Town Council</td><td>Prince Rupert Road</td></tr> </tbody> </table> | Town / Parish Name | Play Areas | Ross-on-Wye Town Council | Beech Close | Ross-on-Wye Town Council | Roman Way | Ross-on-Wye Town Council | Grammar School Close | Leintwardine | The Criftings Housing Estate | Leominster Town Council | Barons Cross Estate Play Area | Leominster Town Council | Ridgemoor Road Play Area | Leominster Town Council | St Botolphs Play Area | Wigmore Group Parish Council | Toddler Play Area, Wigmore | Ledbury Town Council | Browning Road | Ledbury Town Council | Kemplly Brook | Ledbury Town Council | Prince Rupert Road |
| Town / Parish Name                       | Play Areas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Ross-on-Wye Town Council                 | Beech Close                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Ross-on-Wye Town Council                 | Roman Way                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Ross-on-Wye Town Council                 | Grammar School Close                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Leintwardine                             | The Criftings Housing Estate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Leominster Town Council                  | Barons Cross Estate Play Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Leominster Town Council                  | Ridgemoor Road Play Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Leominster Town Council                  | St Botolphs Play Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Wigmore Group Parish Council             | Toddler Play Area, Wigmore                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Ledbury Town Council                     | Browning Road                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Ledbury Town Council                     | Kemplly Brook                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |
| Ledbury Town Council                     | Prince Rupert Road                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                    |            |                          |             |                          |           |                          |                      |              |                              |                         |                               |                         |                          |                         |                       |                              |                            |                      |               |                      |               |                      |                    |

|                                                                       | <table><tr><td>Ledbury Town Council</td><td>Yeomans Close</td></tr><tr><td>Ledbury Town Council</td><td>John Lee Road</td></tr><tr><td>Ledbury Town Council</td><td>Deer Park, Villa Way</td></tr><tr><td>Ledbury Town Council</td><td>Childer Road</td></tr></table>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Ledbury Town Council    | Yeomans Close | Ledbury Town Council | John Lee Road | Ledbury Town Council | Deer Park, Villa Way | Ledbury Town Council | Childer Road |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
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| Ledbury Town Council                                                  | Yeomans Close                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Ledbury Town Council                                                  | John Lee Road                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Ledbury Town Council                                                  | Deer Park, Villa Way                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Ledbury Town Council                                                  | Childer Road                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Reasons for decision:                                                 | <p>Each of the Town and Parish Councils listed above has formally applied for and agreed to the transfer of the identified play areas under the Community Asset Transfer process and put forward detailed plans.</p> <p>Legal Services will progress and complete the transfers in accordance with the agreed Community Asset Transfer terms, subject to approval.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Equality Considerations                                               | <p>The selection of assets for investment is expected to have a positive impact on the protected characteristics of age and disability. The investment proposals are considered to have a neutral impact on all other protected characteristics.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations: | <p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>The total capital budget allocated to this project is £1,000,000, as set out below.</p> <table><tr><th>Capital cost of project</th><th>2025/26</th><th>2026/27</th><th>Future Years</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>£000</td><td>£000</td><td>£000</td><td>£000</td></tr><tr><td>Play Areas Capital Investment</td><td>500</td><td>500</td><td>0</td><td>1,000</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>500</td><td>500</td><td>0</td><td>1,000</td></tr></table><br><table><tr><th>Funding streams</th><th>2025/26</th><th>2026/27</th><th>Future Years</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>£000</td><td>£000</td><td>£000</td><td>£000</td></tr><tr><td>Corporate Funded</td><td>500</td><td>500</td><td>0</td><td>1,000</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>500</td><td>500</td><td>0</td><td>1,000</td></tr></table> <p><b>Legal Implications</b></p> <p>The delegation to the Corporate Director of Economy and Environment is permissible and allows the officer to make changes to the actual services delivered within the budget.</p> <p><b>Risk Management</b></p> <p>The £1 million capital budget allocated for play area investment will enable a reduction in the number of defects identified in play areas across Herefordshire. Any risks will be managed at service level, the Town/Parish Council and escalated in accordance with the Risk Management Plan.</p> | Capital cost of project | 2025/26       | 2026/27              | Future Years  | Total                |                      | £000                 | £000         | £000 | £000 | Play Areas Capital Investment | 500 | 500 | 0 | 1,000 |  |  |  |  |  | TOTAL | 500 | 500 | 0 | 1,000 | Funding streams | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | Future Years | Total |  | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | Corporate Funded | 500 | 500 | 0 | 1,000 |  |  |  |  |  | TOTAL | 500 | 500 | 0 | 1,000 |
| Capital cost of project                                               | 2025/26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2026/27                 | Future Years  | Total                |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
|                                                                       | £000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | £000                    | £000          | £000                 |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Play Areas Capital Investment                                         | 500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 500                     | 0             | 1,000                |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
|                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| TOTAL                                                                 | 500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 500                     | 0             | 1,000                |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Funding streams                                                       | 2025/26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2026/27                 | Future Years  | Total                |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
|                                                                       | £000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | £000                    | £000          | £000                 |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Corporate Funded                                                      | 500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 500                     | 0             | 1,000                |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
|                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| TOTAL                                                                 | 500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 500                     | 0             | 1,000                |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |
| Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:           | <p>Not approving the Community Asset Transfers would prevent Herefordshire Council from enabling the proposed improvements to the listed play areas. As a result, the Council would retain responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of all listed play areas, which would need to be funded from the existing revenue budget.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                         |               |                      |               |                      |                      |                      |              |      |      |                               |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |                 |         |         |              |       |  |      |      |      |      |                  |     |     |   |       |  |  |  |  |  |       |     |     |   |       |

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| <b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b> | None to note. |
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Signed:

Date: 9 October 2026

**Please ensure that signatures are redacted before publishing**