

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member children and young people

Title	Accommodation based support for children in care and care leavers aged 16-25
Decision maker	Cabinet member children and young people Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here: http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251
Date of decision	11 November 2024
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	<p>This is a key decision because it is likely to result in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council's budget for the service or function concerned. A threshold of £500,000 is regarded as significant.</p> <p>This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant having regard to: the strategic nature of the decision; and / or whether the outcome will have an impact, for better or worse, on the amenity of the community or quality of service provided by the authority to a significant number of people living or working in the locality (two or more wards) affected.</p>
A notice was served in accordance with Part 3 (Key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.	
General exception or special urgency (as defined in the constitution)	No
Purpose	To seek approval to commission, by means of a competitive tender process in line with the council's contract procedure rules, an accommodation based service for 16-25 year old children in the Council's care and care leavers. The accommodation based support service is currently delivered by Caring for Communities and People (CCP) and is due to expire on 31 March 2025.
Decision	That: a) the commissioning of an accommodation based support

	<p>service through an open procurement process be approved, for a period of up to 60 months, commencing from the end of the previous contract on 1 April 2025 up to 31 March 2030 with a maximum total cost of £1,864,765 across 60 months;</p> <p>b) authority be delegated to the Corporate Director, Children's and Young People to award a contract for an accommodation based support service, following the completion of a procurement process and;</p> <p>c) that delegated authority is given to the Corporate Director, Children's and Young People to approve any changes to the commissioning process, or subsequent contracts for their duration, including the option to extend, vary and terminate existing contracts.</p>
Reason for the decision	<p>As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at</p> <p>http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50050048</p>
Options considered	<p>1.The service is not re-commissioned. This option is not recommended. This contract supports the council's commitment to its care leavers as Corporate Parent and there would be a lost opportunity to provide local accommodation and improve outcomes for very vulnerable children in care and care leavers if the service is not recommissioned. Additionally this would mean the Council owned properties would not be utilised as intended by the Council.</p> <p>2.The contract with the existing provider is extended. This option is not practicable as the contract does not contain an option to extend. This option would also not enable the council to grow the service which will include additional accommodation and move on support which will provide a holistic end to end service.</p> <p>3.To deliver as an in-house service. This is not recommended at this time due to time constraints that would be required to fully develop this option.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	None made
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	15 November 2024

Councillor:

Date 11 November 2024

Cabinet member children and young people
(Councillor Ivan Powell)

- a record of any conflict of interest declared by any executive member who is consulted by the member which relates to the decision;

and

- in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted.