

**Written statement of a key decision**  
**Cabinet member economy and growth**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Merton Meadows Flood Alleviation - delivery of construction works</b>
Decision maker	Cabinet member economy and growth Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here: <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251</a>
Date of decision	21 August 2025
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 spend the remaining £1.2 million of the £2 million Brownfield Land Release Fund grant awarded by the government for a flood alleviation scheme on the Merton Meadow sites in Hereford to enable them to be released for development. The grant funding will be utilised to deliver the physical flood alleviation works.
<b>Decision</b>	<b>The Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth approves the draw down of the remaining £1.2 million of Brownfield Land Release (BLRF) Grant monies and delegates to the Corporate Director for Economy and</b>

	<b>Environment upon grant of planning permission to use the BLRF Grant to procure, appoint, commission the works and any other operational decision required to deliver the Merton Flood Alleviation scheme.</b>
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50052043">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50052043</a>
Options considered	1. To not take forward the proposed works - not agreeing to the expenditure of the remaining BLRF monies by November 2025 will necessitate the council being required to return all unexpended monies currently held to the Government and have a significant adverse impact on the council's ability to bring the Merton Meadow sites forward for development as the sites are currently within a Category 3 flood zone.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	28 August 2025

Councillor: .....  Cabinet member economy and growth (Councillor Graham Biggs)	Date 21 August 2025
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- 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.