

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet

Title	Q2 2025/26 Budget Report
Decision maker	Cabinet 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	20 November 2025
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To report the forecast position for 2025/26 at Quarter 2 (June 2025), including explanation and analysis of the drivers for the material budget variances, and to outline current and planned recovery activity to reduce the forecast overspend. To provide assurance that progress has been made towards delivery of the agreed revenue budget and service delivery targets, and that the reasons for major variances are understood and are being addressed to the cabinet's satisfaction. The forecast 2025/26 outturn shows a net overspend of £7.0 million at Quarter 2, before management action estimated at £3.3 million to reduce the forecast overspend for 2025/26 to £3.7 million
Decision	That: Cabinet a) Reviews the financial forecast for 2025/26, as set out in the appendices A-D, and identifies any additional actions to be considered to achieve future improvements; and b) Notes the management action identified to reduce the forecast outturn position for 2025/26; and c) Agrees the continuation of management actions to reduce the forecast overspend as identified in this report.
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=50053121
Options considered	Cabinet may choose to review financial performance more or less frequently; or request alternative actions to address any identified

	areas of variance from budget, including referral to the relevant scrutiny committee.
Declarations of interest (see ▪ below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	26 November 2025

Councillor: Leader of the Council (Councillor Jonathan Lester)	Date 20 November 2025
--	------------------------------

- 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.