

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member environment

Title	Herefordshire Tree, Hedgerow and Woodland Strategy (H-THAWS).
Decision maker	Cabinet member environment 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	9 January 2026
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	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.
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 consider and endorse the new countywide Herefordshire Tree, Hedgerow and Woodland Strategy (H-THAWS).
Decision	That: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Cabinet Member approves the Herefordshire Tree, Hedgerow and Woodland Strategy; and b) the council promotes the strategy and works on the action plan with partner organisations towards the vision to create and sustainably manage a thriving network of trees, woodland, traditional orchards, riparian vegetation, wood pasture and parkland, species-rich hedges and hedgerow trees across the county.
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?IId=50052713
Options considered	1. Not to approve this strategy. This is not recommended as this strategy supports the council's commitment to protect and enhance biodiversity. Whilst the council already has its own adopted Tree and Hedgerow Code of Practice which applies to the council's existing estate. This joint strategy is to work in partnership across the county to enhance the whole treescape.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	15 January 2026

Councillor:	Date 9 January 2026
Cabinet member environment (Councillor Elissa Swinglehurst)	

- 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.