

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

Title	Holiday activities and food programme (HAF) 2026/27 (amended from 2026-29)
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	26 February 2026
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To seek approval for Herefordshire Council to accept the Department for Education (DfE) grant to continue coordinating the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme, and to confirm the proposed allocation of funds, including authorisation to award grants to successful delivery organisations.
Decision	That: a) That Herefordshire Council accepts the Department for Education (DfE) grant to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme across Herefordshire for 2026/27. b) The scheme criteria is set out in paragraphs 2 to 19 of this report to be approved and; c) The Head of Communities be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to implement the programme in line with the grant conditions.
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=50053968
Options considered	1. Not to accept or part accept the grant. This option is not recommended. Failure to accept the funding would significantly reduce the availability of holiday activities and nutritious food for eligible children and young people. This could increase the risk of isolation, reduced wellbeing and limited access to healthy meals during school holidays. The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme provides structured activities and nutritious food, and

	without this support children may experience less healthy holiday periods and fewer opportunities for social engagement.
Declarations of interest (see ▪ below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	4 March 2026

Councillor:	Date 26 February 2026
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.