

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet member environment

Title	Executive Response to the ‘Charter for the River Wye’ motion
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	6 March 2026
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	Approve the executive’s response to the ‘Charter for the River Wye’ motion approved at the Meeting of Council held on Friday 5 December 2025
Decision	<p>That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Herefordshire Council consider the principles of the Charter for the River Wye wherever relevant in decision making processes, reviewing the opportunities for integration alongside policy and strategy updates; b) Herefordshire Council reflects the intrinsic value of the River Wye and its tributaries within the new Local Plan, currently being drafted, utilizing the Charter for the River Wye as a reference document in framing ambitions regarding Herefordshire’s rivers; c) Herefordshire Council recognise the priorities relating to freshwater habitats stated in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, including those to safeguard against pollution, restore and reconnect wetland habitats, and restore hydrological functions at a catchment scale, as well as the commitment in the Herefordshire Council Plan 2024 - 2028 to ‘do everything we can to recover the health of our rivers’; d) Herefordshire Council support neighbouring authorities in their will to champion the Charter,

	toward a holistic, cross border and catchment-wide acknowledgement of the intrinsic value of the River Wye and its tributaries, and to publicise the collective response.
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=50053863
Options considered	1. None proposed. It is a Constitutional requirement that all motions by Council are referred to Cabinet
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	12 March 2026

Councillor:	Date 6 March 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.