

**WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A NON-KEY DECISION
CABINET**

ITEM:	PROPOSAL AND ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT 2007
Members Present:	Councillors: AJM Blackshaw, H Bramer, JP French (Deputy Leader), JA Hyde, JG Jarvis, PD Price, DB Wilcox.
Date of Decision:	18 December 2008
Exempt:	No
Confidential	No
Urgency/Special Urgency: (As defined in Constitution)	No
Purpose:	To update the Cabinet on the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 and to make recommendations on its implementation in Herefordshire in the light of the recent invitation from the Secretary of State to submit proposals under the Act.
Decision:	<p>THAT :</p> <p>(a) the invitation from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to submit proposals under section 2(1) of the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 be accepted;</p> <p>(b) the commencement of a local process for identifying the proposals for submission to the “Selector” by 31 July 2009 be approved; and</p> <p>(c) a briefing note be sent to all Members to identify any potential proposals for submission</p>
Reasons for the Decision:	The Sustainable Communities Act sets up a new process whereby local communities and their councils (parish and unitary) are given the opportunity to influence central government policy and action. The Council, by participating in this process, will be supporting communities and promoting local sustainability.
Options Considered:	There is the alternative of doing nothing proactive and delay any response until the next round, expected in late 2009 or early 2010. However, by accepting the Secretary of State’s invitation in the first round and by being proactive, the Council can demonstrate that it is fulfilling its community leadership role.
Declaration of Interest:	
<p>COUNCILLOR JP FRENCH: Date: 18 December 2008 DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p>	