

## WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A KEY DECISION CABINET

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>OPTIONS FOR MUSEUMS, CUSTOMER SERVICES AND LIBRARIES</b>
Members Present:	Councillors: AW Johnson (Leader), H Bramer, RB Hamilton, PM Morgan, RJ Phillips, GJ Powell, PD Price (Deputy Leader).
Date of Decision:	Thursday 19 September 2013
Exempt:	No
Confidential	No
<p>This is a key decision because</p> <p>It is likely to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function concerned. A threshold of £500,000 is regarded as significant.</p> <p>And/or</p> <p>It is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on-</p> <p>Two or more Wards or electoral divisions;</p> <p>One Ward (unless the number of those affected is very small or it is impractical to treat this as a key decision).</p>	
<p>A notice was served in accordance with Part 3, Section 9 (Publicity in connection with key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.</p>	
Urgency/Special Urgency: (As defined in Constitution)	No
Purpose:	The purpose of this report is to present to Cabinet the options for the future operation of Museums, Customer Services and Libraries and in the light of budget pressures and changing trends in accessing services; and for Cabinet to make a decision based on the options presented.
<b>Decision:</b>	<p><b>THAT:</b></p> <p>(a) <b>For Customer Services and Libraries, Option 2 (Core Service with Top Up) be implemented as a preliminary decision;</b></p> <p>(a) <b>For the Museum service, Option 2 (Reduced Service Option) as a preliminary option be implemented whilst Option 3 (discussions with existing trusts) be commenced; and</b></p> <p>(b) <b>The Director for Economy, Communities and Corporate services, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Enterprise and Community and Corporate and Assets, be delegated to finalise details of the options to be implemented.</b></p>

<p>Reasons for the Decision:</p>	<p>To enable actions to be progressed to deliver in year budget savings and ensure that council resources are prioritised to support those in need of services. The recommendation considers the findings from the equalities impact and needs assessment, and specifically the customer feedback via the impact survey and comments from stakeholder focus groups.</p> <p>For the museum service the chosen option will realise achievable financial savings, satisfies the obligations to the Heritage Lottery Fund, maintains the integrity of the Herefordshire collection and provides the platform for a sustainable future for the service within a model which is delivered by preferred external partner to the council.</p> <p>The recommendations are seeking approval for preliminary service changes. Further changes to the services will need to be considered in the context of future financial pressures across the local authority, and having due regard to the impact on service users and local people. Therefore whilst the recommended options are immediately instigated, the future level of the services will be evaluated next to wider impacts for residents when setting the budget for the whole authority</p>
<p>Options Considered:</p>	<p>That a decision is delayed until further research and consultation has taken place. This will have an impact on meeting savings targets for 2013/14 and future years.</p>
<p>Conflict of Interest ■ (See below):</p>	
<p>Date the key decision is due to take effect:</p>	<p>27 September 2013</p>

<p><b>COUNCILLOR AW JOHNSON</b> .....Date: 19 September 2013  <b>LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p>
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- 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 by the relevant local authority's head of paid service.

<b>To be completed by officer:</b>	
Date consent received from Chairman of General Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	
Subject to Call-in:	This Decision was not called in.
Was the decision modified?	No
If yes Cabinet Member (.....) decision reference:	
If no any comment(s) to be noted	
Date original decision took effect:	27 September 2013