

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet

Title	Herefordshire's application to be a business rate pool pilot for 2018/19
Decision maker	Cabinet 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 October 2017
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To approve Herefordshire Council's application to be a pilot area for 100% business rate retention in 2018/19 in a pooling arrangement with Shropshire Council and Telford and Wrekin Council.
Decision	That: (a) the chief financial officer be delegated authority to submit an application for Herefordshire Council, together with Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin councils, to be a 100% business rate pool pilot area for 2018/19; and (b) general scrutiny committee be requested, should the application be accepted, to consider the implications for Herefordshire of operating such a pool and to make any such recommendations as it feels appropriate to inform a further decision on participation.
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=50023902
Options considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To not submit an application, this is not recommended because it would not lead to the financial benefit expected from a successful application. 2. Herefordshire could submit an application to be a pilot pool with different councils, this is not recommended as there are existing arrangements with the Marches Local Enterprise Partners supporting the objective of the pool to promote financial stability. 3. The application could be submitted without a request for a no

	detriment clause, this is not recommended as it increases the risk of reduced funding if the application is successful.
Declarations of interest (see ▪ below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	In view of the approaching deadline, the report recommends suitable arrangements for an officer to submit an application. In order to meet the government application deadline an application would need to be submitted before the expiry of the usual call in period. In accordance with the requirements of the constitution the chairman of general scrutiny committee has confirmed his consent for the decision to be taken under the special urgency provisions which have the effect that the decision will not be subject to call in.

<p>Councillor:</p> <p>Leader of the Council (Councillor AW Johnson)</p>	<p>Date 26 October 2017</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.