

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet

Title	Herefordshire Capital Investment Strategy 2021-2030 For Specialist Settings Educating Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities SEND
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	22 April 2021
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	<p>This is a key decision because 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>This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant having regard to: the strategic nature of the decision; and / or whether the outcome will have an impact, for better or worse, on the amenity of the community or quality of service provided by the authority to a significant number of people living or working in the locality (two or more wards) affected.</p>
A notice was served in accordance with Part 3 (Key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.	
General exception or special urgency (as defined in the constitution)	No
Purpose	To approve the approach and recommendations within the attached (Appendix 1) 'Herefordshire Capital Investment Strategy 2021-2030 for specialist settings educating children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)' and for Herefordshire Council to support implementation of the proposed capital improvements to specialist SEND education accommodation therein.
Decision	That: a) Cabinet adopts the approach and recommendations

	within the ‘Herefordshire Capital Investment Strategy 2021-2030 for specialist settings educating children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)’ (hereafter referred to as ‘the strategy’)
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50036846
Options considered	1. There are no alternative options to the above recommendations that avoid unnecessary reactive spending on accommodation maintenance, and mitigate the risk of a reduction in the quality of education and a lack of pupil places for SEND children and young people with education health and care plans. However Cabinet could decide not to agree the approach and investment proposed in the strategy. The advantage to this would be that there would be no immediate requirement for prudential borrowing for investment. It is proposed that this is not the chosen option, as the disadvantages of a lack of planned improvement to these settings would be to: increase commissioning of specialist places out of county for SEND pupils, incurring higher cost and greater travel implications for children; increase reactive maintenance spending which would not propose good value use of funds, and; increase risks to good health and safety of pupils within deteriorating school buildings.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	28 April 2021

Councillor: Leader of the Council (Councillor David Hitchiner)	Date 22 April 2021
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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.