

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet member finance, corporate services and planning

Title	Adoption of the Much Birch neighbourhood plan and consequential updates to the countywide policies map
Decision maker	Cabinet member finance, corporate services and planning 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 <i>Note: following the change in portfolios notified to Council on 28 May, the decision was taken by the cabinet member finance, corporate services and planning in consultation with the cabinet member infrastructure and transport.</i>
Date of decision	7 June 2021
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To make the Much Birch neighbourhood development plan as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire and approve the consequential updates to the countywide policies maps. To fulfil the legal duty to make /adopt the Much Birch neighbourhood development plan and update the countywide policies map as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire. Herefordshire Council has positively supported communities to be involved in producing a neighbourhood development plan and currently has the greatest number being produced in a local authority area within England. There are currently 113 plans in total; 72 of which have now been made. These neighbourhood development plans are produced by parish councils and their local communities and provide locally designed planning policies to support the delivery of the Herefordshire Local Plan – Core Strategy and guide development within the parish until 2031. On 20 May 2016, the Council delegated authority to the cabinet member for decisions on all further neighbourhood development plans adoptions and amendments to the countywide policies map.

Decision	That: a) The Much Birch neighbourhood development plan is made as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire; and b) The required consequential changes are made to the countywide policies map
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=50037520
Options considered	1. There are no alternative options to making or adopting the Much Birch neighbourhood development plan following the legal requirements of a positive referendum result on the 6 May 2021 and compliance with the European obligations and Human Rights conventions, as referred to in this report
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	11 June 2021

Councillor: Cabinet member finance, corporate services and planning (Councillor Liz Harvey)	Date 7 June 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.