

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets

Title	Acquisition of a strategic site in Hereford to deliver affordable housing
Decision maker	Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets 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	31 January 2022
Report exemption class	Part exempt
Purpose	To approve the strategic purchase of land in the Widemarsh ward within a defined budget and to authorise officers, following appropriate consultation and due diligence, to proceed with the acquisition. The proposed purchase will be a strategic acquisition which supports the council's aspiration to create a pipeline of affordable housing and accords with the council's County Plan 2020-2024.
Decision	That: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The purchase of the freehold of the land set out in appendix 5 is approved subject to completion of all due diligence process and the Chief Finance Officer being satisfied that the purchase provides value for money; b) A budget of up to £400k is agreed to complete the purchase and all other associated fees; and c) The Chief Finance Officer, following consultation with the Cabinet Member Commissioning, Procurement and Assets, be authorised to take all operational decisions to complete the purchase.
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=50038590
Options considered	1. Not to proceed with the purchase. This option is not recommended as the land, which is subject to full residential planning permission, has been on the open market for a period of time. If the council does not acquire the land it is highly likely that housing that could be provided on this land will remain undelivered by private

	developers.
Declarations of interest (see ▪ below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	4 February 2022

Councillor:	Date 31 January 2022
..... Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets (Councillor Gemma Davies)	

- 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.