

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member environment, economy and skills

Title	Acceptance and implementation of Sustainable Warmth funding project
Decision maker	Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 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	25 March 2022
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	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.
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	The report seeks approval for the Council to accept Sustainable Warmth grant funding of up to £2,442,000 via the signing of a Grant agreement with the Midlands Energy Hub. Sustainable Warmth is a combination of two grant funding streams- Local Authority Delivery phase 3 (LAD 3) and Home Upgrades Grant phase 1 (HUG 1) This funding will be used to enable an estimated 150 fuel poor households across Herefordshire to be supported with home energy efficiency and renewable heating measures.
Decision	That: a) The Council signs the Grant letter with the Midlands Energy Hub (MEH) for up to £2,442,000 of Sustainable Warmth grant funding and delivers the

	<p>project as set out in this report across Herefordshire;</p> <p>b) the scheme criteria set out in paragraphs 13 to 16 of this report be approved;</p> <p>c) The Service Director Highways, Environment and Waste is authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to implement the scheme.</p>
Reason for the decision	<p>As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at</p> <p>http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50038688</p>
Options considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not to accept the grant funding- this is not recommended as this would make it difficult for Herefordshire fuel poor households to receive support at the levels stated within the bid, as other funding streams alone are likely to result in significant funding shortfalls for fuel poor households. It would also result in a risk of not achieving the council's strategic objectives within the County Plan 2020 – 2024 and Health & Wellbeing Strategy and will not make progress towards the Council's 2030 net zero carbon ambition for the county. 2. Part accept the grant funding- This is not recommended at this time as the allocated funding is similar to estimates made as to what would be a more measured and realistic delivery profile. This could be considered further into the project if targets and outcomes were not being achieved
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	31 March 2022

<p>Councillor:</p> <p>Cabinet member environment and economy (Councillor Ellie Chowns)</p>	<p>Date 25 March 2022</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.