

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

<b>Title</b>	<b>Spend the accepted Stronger Towns Funding for Hereford Museum and Art Gallery</b>
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: <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251</a>
Date of decision	2 December 2022
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 accept the Stronger Towns £5m funding, and approve up to a further £0.5m of expenditure related to the completion of the design stage of the project, and the appointment of a Design and Build contractor following procurement.
<b>Decision</b>	<p><b>That:</b></p> <p><b>a) To accept the £5m (capital) of Stronger Towns funding offered by government via the Accountable Body;</b></p> <p><b>b) To approve up to a further £0.5m of expenditure</b></p>

	<p>from the allocated capital programme required to complete the design stage of the project;</p> <p>c) Authority is delegated to the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment, following consultation with the Cabinet Member Commissioning, Procurement and Assets and Deputy S151 Officer, to make all operational decisions required to complete the design stage of the project, and to appoint a contractor on a Design and Build basis (initially completing the design stage) following the conclusion of the procurement process; and</p> <p>d) Authority is delegated to the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment, following consultation with Deputy S151 Officer and the Cabinet Member Commissioning, Procurement and Assets, to submit a £5m grant application for the project to the National Heritage Lottery Fund.</p>
Reason for the decision	<p>As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at</p> <p><a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50043297">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50043297</a></p>
Options considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Not to progress the project, or implement the decision to spend in relation to funding which has been awarded to Herefordshire Council by Stronger Towns. This would mean the significant economic challenges identified in the Hereford Town Investment Plan would not be addressed.</li> <li>2. The project is scaled back to a reduced funding envelope. It is unlikely the scale of change required could be achieved from a project so significantly reduced in scale.</li> <li>3. The council could seek alternative funding. The council has already approved the submission of the Stronger Towns business case and funding has been awarded. In addition, the council have amended the capital programme and approved an £8m funding contribution from capital receipts reserve. No other funding routes of the scale required are available at this time.</li> </ol>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	8 December 2022

<p>Councillor: .....</p> <p>Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets (Councillor Gemma Davies)</p>	<p>Date 2 December 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.