

**Written statement of a key decision**  
**Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Domestic Abuse Commissioning - 2024</b>
Decision maker	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing 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	17 July 2023
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 re-commissioning of domestic abuse services, via a competitive tendering process, commencing in April 2024.
<b>Decision</b>	<p><b>That:</b></p> <p><b>a) Approval is given for the re-commissioning of domestic abuse services commencing in April 2024.</b></p> <p><b>b) That delegated authority is given to the Corporate Director, Community Wellbeing to approve contract award, any changes to the commissioning process and subsequent operational management of contracts for their duration, including the option to extend.</b></p>

Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50045164">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50045164</a>
Options considered	<p>1. Not to commission support services for victims of domestic abuse. This is not recommended. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 introduced a range of new duties for councils. The Government has supplied new burdens funding to support council's to deliver the new duties which include establishing a domestic abuse local partnership board, assessing need, developing a domestic abuse strategy and ensuring that victims and their children are able to access safe accommodation with support.</p> <p>2. To award all of the funding to a single provider via a direct award. This is not recommended as it is not in line with the council's contract procedure rules. The combined value of the tender opportunities is above the relevant UK threshold. Contracts with a value in excess of the relevant UK threshold must be let in accordance with the relevant procurement legislation. Formal tender documents must be used and the entire process of advertising, selecting suppliers to tender, through to final award, is highly prescribed under UK law for all procurements over the relevant threshold.</p> <p>3. To deliver the domestic abuse service within the council. This option is not recommended. Providing services for domestic abuse victim-survivors safely requires specialist knowledge and expertise, plus access to the national refuge network, intelligence systems and data sharing with key partners, all of which exist through the commissioned provider. At present, the council does not have existing expertise or capacity to deliver the services in-house.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	21 July 2023

Councillor: .....	Date 17 July 2023
Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing (Councillor Carole Gandy)	

- 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.