

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet member children and young people

Title	Recommissioning of Herefordshire Intensive Support Service (HIPSS)
Decision maker	Cabinet member children and young people 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	10 October 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 recommissioning of the Herefordshire Intensive Placement Support Service.
Decision	<p>a) To approve the recommissioning of the Herefordshire Intensive Placement Support Service (HIPSS) for a period of up to five years from 1sApril 2024;</p> <p>b) That the Corporate Director Community Wellbeing be authorised to award the contract for the Intensive Placement Support Service up to the value of £2.2M</p>

	c) To delegate authority to the Corporate Director Community Wellbeing to make all decisions to give effect to recommendation a and b and should any changes or amendments need to be made throughout the commissioning process and contract period.
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50045419
Options considered	<p>1) Do nothing and allow the current contract to end in March 2024. This is not recommended. The implications of doing nothing would be that the existing contract would expire on 31 March 2024 and the service would cease. This would immediately reduce clinical support for children with complex needs and increase the risk of placement disruption among the HIPSS cohort. Consequently there will be a greater risk of placement breakdown and the need to accommodate children in residential placements, potentially out of county, and at a significantly higher cost.</p> <p>2) Develop an in-house specialist therapeutic service. This option is not recommended. It would require a significant long term investment by the council, but at the current time challenges remain with regards to staff recruitment and retention. However, as this situation improves, the council may wish to consider this option in the future</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	18 October 2023

Councillor:	Date 10 October 2023
Leader of the Council (Councillor Jonathan Lester)	

- 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.