

Written statement of a key decision
Cabinet

Title	Report to seek decision on recommended route to deliver registered residential children home provision in county for children and young people 11-18
Decision maker	Cabinet 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	23 November 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	The purpose of the report is to agree the option to commission a single Supplier, through a competitive tender exercise, to deliver two, two bedded children's residential homes within Herefordshire to increase local sufficiency in line with Herefordshire Council's Placement Sufficiency Strategy for Children and Young people.
Decision	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <p>a) Approve the commissioning of two, two bedroomed children`s residential homes within Herefordshire, through a procurement exercise up the maximum projected value of £1.3 million annually</p>

	<p>and £6.3million over a maximum of five years (3yrs with potential extension of 1 year + 1 year) which will provide local placements to four children aged 11-18);</p> <p>b) Delegate authority to the Corporate Director - Children and Young People to approve all tender documentation;</p> <p>c) Delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Children and Young People, in consultation with the Cabinet Member Children and Young People, to enter into a contract with the preferred Supplier following the tender exercise;</p> <p>d) Following Political Group Consultation, approve officers to undertake work to also consider the option to develop an in house provision to further increase local sufficiency for children’s placements. This will require sourcing accommodation via a capital bid, a report will come back to Cabinet at a later date.</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/mglssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50045236</p>
Options considered	<p>1. Do nothing. This is not recommended as it fails to address the identified need to manage arrangements more effectively and to meet the sufficiency requirements.</p> <p>2. Ongoing work with Suppliers is considered business as usual and does not require specific action. There is no reasonable expectation from other Local Authorities to undertake work within our borders within the required timescale.</p> <p>3. Options to purchase properties and run a Council owned Children’s Residential Home, manage the market through local engagement or work in partnership with neighbouring LA were considered. At this stage, these options are not recommended as being viable or sufficiently impactful and use of capital funds will delay implementation. As per Councillor political briefing and CLT feedback phase 1 should focus solely on procurement and consideration as to capital projects should follow as phase 2.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	29 November 2023

<p>Councillor:</p> <p>Leader of the Council (Councillor Jonathan Lester)</p>	<p>Date 23 November 2023</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.