

Written statement of a non-key decision
Service Director - Communities

Title	BT Consultation on phone box removal Autumn 23
Decision maker	Service Director - Communities 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	5 January 2024
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	To approve the objection to the removal of five public payphones, as proposed by British Telecom (BT). As set out by The Office of Communications (Ofcom), BT has an obligation to consult with Herefordshire Council with regard to the proposed removals. In some cases, a payphone can still be an essential local service, due to local circumstances
Decision	That the council submits an objection to the removal of five public payphones in Herefordshire, due to relevant factors, as detailed in Appendix A
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=50046816
Options considered	There are no alternative options, which are practicable. It is the role of Herefordshire Council to consult locally and to make a decision based on the responses and local information, on whether the payphones can be removed, adopted or are retained. In accordance with section 49 of the Communications Act 2003 ('The Act'), Herefordshire Council is required to make a decision "in response to a proposal by British Telecommunications plc for the removal of public payphones pursuant to Part 2 of the Schedule to a Direction published by Ofcom on 14 March 2006". More detail is set out in Appendix A which includes the list of phone boxes affected.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in)	22 January 2024

where special urgency provisions apply)	
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Corporate Director – Community Wellbeing	Date 5 January 2024
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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.