Herefordshire Council

Corporate Support Centre
Alistair Neill – Chief Executive Officer

To: All members of the Council

our ref: Council - 12 October 2018
contact: Matthew Evans, Democratic Services
telephone: 01432 383690
email: matthew.evans@herefordshire.gov.uk

4 October 2018

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Herefordshire Council to be held on **Friday 12 October 2018** at the The Council Chamber - The Shire Hall, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX at **10.00 am** at which the business set out in the attached agenda is proposed to be transacted.

Yours sincerely

C Ward

Claire Ward

Solicitor to the council

Herefordshire Council

AGENDA

Council

Date:	**Friday 12 October 2018**
Time:	**10.00 am**
Place:	**The Council Chamber - The Shire Hall, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX**

Notes: Please note the time, date and venue of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

Matthew Evans, Democratic Services
Tel: 01432 383690
Email: matthew.evans@herefordshire.gov.uk

If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format or language, please call Matthew Evans, Democratic Services on 01432 383690 or e-mail matthew.evans@herefordshire.gov.uk in advance of the meeting.

Agenda for the Meeting of the Council

Membership

Chairman	**Councillor DB Wilcox**
Vice-Chairman	**Councillor PJ Edwards**

Councillor SP Anderson
Councillor BA Baker
Councillor WLS Bowen
Councillor H Bramer
Councillor ACR Chappell
Councillor MJK Cooper
Councillor PGH Cutter
Councillor CA Gandy
Councillor KS Guthrie
Councillor DG Harlow
Councillor EL Holton
Councillor TM James
Councillor AW Johnson
Councillor JLV Kenyon
Councillor MD Lloyd-Hayes
Councillor RI Matthews
Councillor MT McEvilly
Councillor PD Newman OBE
Councillor CA North
Councillor AJW Powers
Councillor P Rone
Councillor A Seldon
Councillor WC Skelton
Councillor D Summers
Councillor LC Tawn
Councillor SD Williams
Councillor PA Andrews
Councillor JM Bartlett
Councillor TL Bowes
Councillor CR Butler
Councillor EE Chowns
Councillor PE Crockett
Councillor BA Durkin
Councillor DW Greenow
Councillor J Hardwick
Councillor EPJ Harvey
Councillor JA Hyde
Councillor PC Jinman
Councillor JF Johnson
Councillor JG Lester
Councillor PP Marsh
Councillor RL Mayo
Councillor SM Michael
Councillor FM Norman
Councillor RJ Phillips
Councillor PD Price
Councillor AR Round
Councillor NE Shaw
Councillor J Stone
Councillor EJ Swinglehurst
Councillor A Warmington

Agenda

		Pages
	(The meeting will be preceded by prayers.)	
1.	**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** To receive apologies for absence.	
2.	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** To receive any declarations of interest by Members in respect of items on the Agenda.	
3.	**MINUTES** To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2018.	9 - 38
4.	**CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** To receive the Chairman and Chief Executive's announcements.	39 - 42
5.	**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** To receive questions from members of the public. *Deadline for receipt of questions is 5:00pm on Monday 8 October.* *Accepted questions and answers will be published as a supplement prior to the meeting.*	
6.	**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL** To receive any written questions from members of the Council. *Deadline for receipt of questions is 5:00pm on Monday 8 October.* *Accepted questions and answers will be published as a supplement prior to the meeting.*	
7.	**APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES** To decide the allocation of seats on committees and other bodies to political or other groups in accordance with the political balance rules.	43 - 48
8.	**YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2018/19** To approve the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19.	49 - 94
9.	**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW** To consider recommendations arising from community governance reviews.	95 - 162
10.	**REQUEST BY CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL TO CHANGE NAME TO CRADLEY AND STORRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL** To approve the making and publication of a Notice, Under Section 75 of the Local Government Act, 1972 to a change of name of Cradley parish Council to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council.	163 - 170
11.	**LEADER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL** To receive a report from the leader on the activities of the executive (cabinet) since the meeting of Council in July 2018.	171 - 182
12.	**NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDERS** To consider Notices of Motion.	183 - 186
13.	**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** The next meeting of Council takes place on 15 February 2019.	

The Public's Rights to Information and Attendance at Meetings

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO: -

- Attend all Council, Cabinet, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings unless the business to be transacted would disclose 'confidential' or 'exempt' information.
- Inspect agenda and public reports at least five clear days before the date of the meeting.
- Inspect minutes of the Council and all Committees and Sub-Committees and written statements of decisions taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members for up to six years following a meeting.
- Inspect background papers used in the preparation of public reports for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting. (A list of the background papers to a report is given at the end of each report). A background paper is a document on which the officer has relied in writing the report and which otherwise is not available to the public.
- Access to a public register stating the names, addresses and wards of all Councillors with details of the membership of Cabinet and of all Committees and Sub-Committees.
- Have a reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports (relating to items to be considered in public) made available to the public attending meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Sub-Committees.
- Have access to a list specifying those powers on which the Council have delegated decision making to their officers identifying the officers concerned by title.
- Copy any of the documents mentioned above to which you have a right of access, subject to a reasonable charge (20p per sheet subject to a maximum of £5.00 per agenda plus a nominal fee of £1.50 for postage).
- Access to this summary of your rights as members of the public to attend meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Sub-Committees and to inspect and copy documents.

Public Transport Links

- The Shire Hall is a few minutes walking distance from both bus stations located in the town centre of Hereford.

Recording of meetings

- Anyone is welcome to record public meetings of the council using whatever, non-disruptive, methods you think are suitable. Please note that the meeting chairman has the discretion to halt any recording for a number of reasons including disruption caused by the recording, or the nature of the business being conducted. Recording should end when the meeting ends, if the meeting is adjourned, or if the public and press are excluded in accordance with lawful requirements.

- Anyone filming a meeting is asked to focus only on those actively participating.

- If, as a member of the public, you do not wish to be filmed please make a member of the governance team aware.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the event of a fire or emergency the alarm bell will ring continuously.

You should vacate the building in an orderly manner through the nearest available fire exit and make your way to the Fire Assembly Point in the Shire Hall car park.

Please do not allow any items of clothing, etc. to obstruct any of the exits.

Do not delay your vacation of the building by stopping or returning to collect coats or other personal belongings.

The Chairman or an attendee at the meeting must take the signing in sheet so it can be checked when everyone is at the assembly point.

Herefordshire Council

Minutes of the meeting of Council held at The Council Chamber - The Shire Hall, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX on Friday 13 July 2018 at 10.00 am

Present: **Councillor DB Wilcox (Chairman)**
Councillor PJ Edwards (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: SP Anderson, PA Andrews, BA Baker, JM Bartlett, WLS Bowen, TL Bowes, H Bramer, CR Butler, ACR Chappell, E Chowns, PE Crockett, PGH Cutter, BA Durkin, CA Gandy, DW Greenow, KS Guthrie, J Hardwick, DG Harlow, EPJ Harvey, EL Holton, TM James, PC Jinman, JF Johnson, JLV Kenyon, JG Lester, MD Lloyd-Hayes, PP Marsh, RI Matthews, RL Mayo, MT McEvilly, SM Michael, PD Newman OBE, FM Norman, CA North, RJ Phillips, AJW Powers, PD Price, P Rone, A Seldon, NE Shaw, J Stone, D Summers, EJ Swinglehurst, LC Tawn and SD Williams

Officers: **C Baird, A Brookes, J Coleman, M Evans, G Hughes, A Lovegrove, C Marshall, A Neill, Vickers and C Ward**

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors MJK Cooper, JA Hyde, AW Johnson, AR Round, WC Skelton and A Warmington.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor RJ Phillips declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item no. 10, notices of motion, in relation to the motion concerning the Hereford Justice Centre, as a Justice of the Peace.

12. MINUTES

A point of order was raised regarding the timing of the publication of the questions from the public and councillors and the responses. The Chairman undertook to see if arrangements for earlier publication ahead of the meeting could be introduced.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

13. CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council noted the Chairman and Chief Executive's announcements as printed in the agenda papers.

The Chairman provided the following updates:

- Congratulations to the Hereford Cathedral Choristers who had recently performed at the Vatican in front of the Pope;

- A recognition of the volunteers who had recently been involved in Britain in Bloom locally; and
- A tribute to Geoff Hughes, Director of Economy, Communities and Corporate who was leaving the Council after a number of years of service.

The chief executive highlighted those points below from his announcements attached to the agenda:

- The appointment of two care leavers to apprenticeships in Adults Wellbeing Directorate;
- The commendations recently received regarding the Council's model of adult social care;
- The award won by the Fastershire project;
- The proportion of young people attaining level 2 qualifications which now exceeded the national average;
- The narrowing attainment gap for children eligible for free school meals; and
- The recent appointments of Assistant Directors in the Children's Wellbeing Directorate.

14. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Pages 11 - 26)

A copy of the public questions and written answers, together with supplementary questions asked at the meeting and their answers, is attached to the Minutes at Appendix 1.

15. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (Pages 27 - 30)

A copy of the Member questions and written answers, together with supplementary questions asked at the meeting and their answers, is attached to the Minutes at Appendix 2.

16. TREASURY MANAGEMENT - 2017/18 OUTTURN

Council considered a report from the Cabinet Member Corporate Strategy and Budget concerning the Treasury Management outturn for 2017/18. The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services who reported that the underspend currently reported was attributable to early reporting of budget receipts. There was an intention to improve spend profiles and the recent LGA challenge process had determined that the balance sheet was relatively healthy. A note of caution was sounded regarding the greater degree of uncertainty in the financial affairs of the country caused by current circumstances.

Councillor NE Shaw proposed and Councillor RJ Phillips seconded the recommendation to approve the treasury management outturn 2017/18.

Members of the Council made the comments below in the discussion that followed:

- The exposure to the increased rates from the Public Works Loan Board was raised and whether capital receipts could be used to repay the loans. *The Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services confirmed that methods of paying off the loans as early as possible were being investigated.*
- A query was raised regarding an ethical investment framework at the Council. *The Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services explained that he would investigate whether any of the Council's investments would be potentially classified under an ethical framework.*

- The projected growth rate was disappointing and external borrowing should be closely monitored. *The Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services agreed that external borrowing should be kept to acceptable levels.*
- The utilisation of usable reserves was queried and internal borrowing. *The Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services confirmed that if internal borrowing was not available then external borrowing would be considered within prudent limits.*
- Clarification was sought regarding those Council-owned properties and assets sold over the last 18 months and the income gained from the sales. *The Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services confirmed that a written response would be provided.*

RESOLVED: That Council approves the treasury management outturn for 2017/18 at appendix 1.

17. CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

Council considered an update to the Capital Programme. The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services who moved the recommendation with an alteration to recommendation f in the report to refer to paragraphs 37 and 38. The Cabinet Member explained that the capital programme update was required following additional grants awarded by central government and the allocation of section 106 monies to capital projects.

The recommendations in the report were seconded by Councillor BA Durkin.

The Cabinet Member Economy and Communications introduced detail of the capital projects concerning the cyber security centre and the Shell Store business incubation facility. The cyber security centre was a project being undertaken in partnership with the University of Wolverhampton and would provide a facility for research and development. The Shell Store would provide space for up to 30 local business start-ups and would be the only business incubation facility in the Marches LEP area. The Cabinet Member Children and Young People presented detail of the capital projects concerning the Children's Wellbeing and the Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing outlined detail of the investment in the redevelopment of the Hillside Rehabilitation Centre.

Councillor Greenow left the meeting at 11.16 a.m.

Members made the comments below in the discussion that followed:

- It was queried when the Cyber Security Centre would be completed and how many jobs would be created. *The Cabinet Member Economy and Communications explained that it was anticipated that building would start in Q3 of the current year and a 12 month build was likely. It was not the purpose of the Cyber Security Centre to create jobs; the facility enabled businesses to test cyber security products.*
- The lack of grant funding for the Ross Enterprise Park was queried. *The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services explained that the project had been assessed by the Local Enterprise Partnership and there had been some positive feedback. Unfortunately there was a lack of funding to dedicate to the scheme; an application for funding could be made under a future round of LEP funding but there was uncertainty when this would occur.*

- It was noted that the projected cost of the Shell Store project had increased which had also been experienced in other projects. Better initial estimates of capital projects were urged in future. *The Cabinet Member Economy and Communications explained that it was a complex project and the increase in cost was frustrating. The Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services explained that an element of the increase in costs was attributable to inflation in construction costs.*
- Assurance was sought that after the refurbishment of the Hillside Centre the asset would be retained and not sold. *The Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing explained that the need for care facilities and provision would double in the future therefore there were no plans to sell the facility once constructed.*
- It was noted that opportunities for business incubator facilities also existed in market towns including Bromyard and Leominster.
- It was requested that the risk register concerning the multiple funding streams for the Cyber Security Centre be made available. Assurance was sought that the Council would not be exposed to liabilities arising from the investments of partner organisations. *The Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services explained that he would investigate this request with colleagues. The risks to the Council would be contained and managed in the risk register.*
- The business case for the Cyber Security Centre was queried in light of the detail that the project would not assist in the creation of jobs. It was noted that the project required considerable investment and evidence was requested to demonstrate why the facility was an economic development priority. It was queried whether there was potential duplication between the functions of the Cyber Security Centre and the Shell Store. The requirement for better infrastructure around Rotherwas, particularly improvements to the condition of Holme Lacy Road was raised. *The Cabinet Member Economy and Communications explained that the Cyber Security Centre would help to increase the number of better paid jobs locally. It was not the role of the Council to create jobs but to help facilitate employment opportunities by establishing infrastructure locally which encouraged business investment. Evidence to support the Cyber Security Centre would be shared. The importance of utilising European Funding promptly was emphasised in the context of national circumstances.*
- The Hillside Centre project was welcomed and the need for facilities for Elderly Mental Infirm (EMI) patients. The facility would also provide an opportunity for training for carers. There was concern regarding parking at the site and that significant investment of £1.5 million was for a facility of only 28 beds. *The Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing confirmed the long term nature of the investment; the facility would be utilised for a generation which provided value for money.*
- Following the closure of 1 Ledbury Road it was queried whether investment similar to the amount dedicated to the Hillside Centre would be forthcoming for respite facilities in Herefordshire? Alternative provision for respite care provided locally was highlighted by members. *The Leader explained that changes to short breaks provision in the county had produced a redesigned service; the number of families requiring respite care had increased significantly which required a different model of care. The Cabinet Member Children and Young People confirmed that she would be prepared to consider proposals for other forms of respite care.*
- The investments dedicated to economic development would result in higher quality jobs but detail was requested regarding accompanying lower paid jobs; such forms of employment were often not favoured. *The Cabinet Member Economy and Communications understood the issues raised and had discussed with the LEP the difficulty of filling low paid jobs; he would be in contact to discuss the matter with the member further.*

A recorded vote was conducted and the recommendations were approved: For 42; Against 0; and Abstained 3.

For (42): Councillors SP Anderson; PA Andrews; BA Baker; JM Bartlett; WLS Bowen; TL Bowes; H Bramer; CR Butler; ACR Chappell; PE Crockett; PGH Cutter; BA Durkin; PJ Edwards; CA Gandy; KS Guthrie; J Hardwick; DG Harlow; EPJ Harvey; EL Holton; TM James; PC Jinman; JLV Kenyon; JG Lester; MD Lloyd-Hayes; PP Marsh; RL Mayo; MT McEvilly; SM Michael; PD Newman OBE; CA North; RJ Phillips; AJW Powers; PD Price; P Rone; A Seldon; NE Shaw; J Stone; D Summers; EJ Swinglehurst; LC Tawn; DB Wilcox; and SD Williams.

Against (0):

Abstained (3): EE Chowns; RI Matthews; and FM Norman;

RESOLVED: that:

(a) The addition of £6.711m grant funding and s106 contributions to existing project budgets within the existing capital programme as detailed in the table below be approved;

Scheme Name	**2018/19** **New Budget/ Grant**
Economy, Communities and Corporate	
Local Transport Plan (LTP)	3,198
Fastershire Broadband	1,674
ECC's S106	756
Total ECC Capital Projects	**5,629**
Children's wellbeing	
Schools Capital Maintenance Grant	33
CYPD's S106	589
Special Provision Capital Fund	167
Healthy Pupils	99
Basic Needs Funding	48
Total CWB Capital Projects	**936**
Adults and wellbeing	
Disabled facilities grant	147
Total AWB Capital Projects	**147**
Total	**6,711**

(b) the special provision capital fund be increased by £167k in each of 2019/20 and 2020/21 capital budgets for the new grant allocation;

(c) additional provision of £1.116m be made to support development of the Hereford Enterprise Zone Shell Store making the total provision for this project £7.316m;

(d) provision of £1.5m be made to support conversion of the Hillside Rehabilitation Centre to provide a nursing home facility;

(e) provision of £3.5m be made to support delivery of a Cyber Security Centre at Rotherwas;

(f) the changes set out at paragraphs 37 and 38 to funding streams for Ross

Enterprise Park and Children's Wellbeing projects and adjustments across directorate projects with an overall reduction of £476,000 be approved;

(g) the revised 2018/19 capital budget of £145.315m detailed in appendix 1 be adopted, which consists of £40.816m 2017/18 brought forward balances and previous approved budgets of £92.148m, along with the above items be approved; and

(h) the chief finance officer be authorised, following consultation with the Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services, to make in year amendments to the capital programme to reflect additional external funding secured in year.

18. LEADER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

Council received a report from the Leader of the Council concerning an update on the work of the Cabinet since the previous ordinary meeting of Council in March 2018 and an annual report on the priorities of the cabinet and progress made in meeting those priorities. The Leader introduced the report and informed Council of the proposal for a council tax reduction for care leavers which would be the subject of a forthcoming decision. The Leader also outlined the significant infrastructure projects currently in progress within the context of the financial challenges faced by the Council.

The issues below were raised in the discussion that followed:

- It was asked whether the Leader supported a meeting with Highways England (HE) to discuss safety concerns on the A49. *The Leader expressed sympathy for local residents affected by recent accidents on the road and supported a meeting with HE. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Regulatory Services confirmed that there would be three seminars with HE in September concerning the road;*
- An update on the inquiry concerning the Southern Link Road was requested. *The Cabinet Member Infrastructure explained that the inquiry concerned the compulsory purchase arrangements and side road orders. Such inquiries routinely took place when objections to compulsory purchases were lodged;*
- Detail concerning the targets for the proportion of households able to access faster broadband and the actual uptake was requested. *The Cabinet Member Economy and Communications explained that a written response would be sent to the member;*
- Franklin House had been purchased for £1.5m but a recent valuation had valued the building at £500k. *The Cabinet Member for Contracts and Assets explained that the property had been purchased with grants and property prices had steadily reduced in value in recent years;*
- The Leader was encouraged to work with new public transport franchise holders to advance the priority of an integrated transport network in the county;
- It was noted that one of the reasons cited for the failure of the bid for the City of Culture was a lack of local authority support for the project.

Councillor AJW Powers proposed a motion without notice under paragraph 4.1.92 (d) of the constitution to refer to the appropriate body or individual to consider an additional objective for the Chief Executive's objectives 2018/19 as follows: *Champion high standards of conduct and a strong commitment to public service throughout the Council.*

There was a brief adjournment at 12.24 p.m.; the meeting reconvened at 12.36 p.m.

Councillor A Seldon seconded the motion.

The motion was debated with the following points raised:

- The proposal was adding to a process that had already been undertaken with the Group Leaders;
- The additional objective should be added to the Chief Executive's objectives in the following year 2019/20; and
- The motion was supported as a public statement to represent principles already in place at the Council.

The motion was put to the vote and carried by a simple majority of the Council.

RESOLVED: that Council refers the list of objectives for the Chief Executive for 2018/19 back to the Leader to consider an additional objective as follows: *Champion high standards of conduct and a strong commitment to public service throughout the Council.*

RESOLVED: that the Leader's report to Council is noted.

19. NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDERS

Council considered the notices of motion set out in the supplement published on 11 July 2018.

Council considered a notice of motion concerning verge parking.

In moving the motion Councillor BA Baker made the following points:

- There was significant frustration regarding verge parking in the county and the damage caused;
- Underground services were vulnerable to the damage caused to verges;
- The introduction of restrictions would have resource implications for civil enforcement officers;
- Legal exemptions would need to be established for certain circumstances such as broken down vehicles; and
- Parking on verges was an unsightly and unregulated activity which required action.

In seconding the motion Councillor SP Anderson made the following points:

- The issue was a significant issue across the county; and
- The motion proposed a positive way forward to address the problem.

The following principal points were raised by members in the debate:

- It was recognised by members that this was a significant issue;
- There would be an issue in determining land owners and where restrictions on verges could be enforced;
- Wider consideration was also required in market towns to understand and make provision for cars displaced by the introduction of restrictions on verge parking;
- It was queried whether the cost of new enforcement would be affordable to the Council; and
- It was important to undertake other methods of deterring people from parking on verges including tree planting;

Councillor D Summers proposed and Councillor P Rone seconded an amendment to the motion to include restrictions on parking on pathways in the motion.

The proposed amendment was discussed with the following points raised:

- There would be resource implications involved with imposing restrictions on pathways as well as grass verges; and
- The problems caused to people with wheelchairs and prams by cars parking on pathways was significant. The proposed amendment would positively address problems caused by cars parking on pavements.

The amendment was put to the vote and was carried by a simple majority.

The substantive motion was put to the vote, as amended with inclusion of reference to pathways, and was carried.

RESOLVED: The damage caused by vehicles being parked carelessly on grass verges and pathways is not only unsightly but can add to the costs of maintaining the verges and highways at a time when council resources are already stretched. In light of this largely unregulated activity. I move that the executive be asked to consider putting in place suitable controls to restrict parking on grass verges and pathways, including the introduction of by-laws.

Council considered a notice of motion concerning the Development Partnership.

In moving the motion Councillor EE Chowns made the following points:

- The motion was a cross-party initiative to help shape the direction of development in the County;
- The motion provided a framework for development to follow;
- The motion built on an earlier motion to Council in 2014;
- Consultation had been conducted with officers and other members; and
- Two alterations to the motion were outlined by the proposer: the inclusion of the wording '…development designed and constructed through…' in place of '…housing built through…'; and an additional bullet point, as follows: 'designed to promote walking, cycling, public transport and car sharing.'

A further alteration was requested by Councillor PJ Edwards to include the wording '…with maintenance thereof.' at the end of the first bullet point. The alteration was accepted by the proposer and seconder.

In seconding the motion Councillor SP Anderson made the following points:

- The motion would ensure the development partnership would be sustainable;
- The motion would incorporate social responsibilities and environmental considerations into the development partnership; and
- The intention was for the selected development partner to demonstrate evidence of sustainable principles in development activities.

The following principal points were raised by members in the debate:

- The Council was compliant with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Core Strategy and Policy Framework incorporated relevant elements and principles from the NPPF;

- The contract management team at the Council would produce Key Performance Indicators for the Development Partnership. The proposed principles would need to be balanced against an assessment of value for money; and
- The motion proposed valuable principles to incorporate in the development partnership at an early stage.

The motion was put to the vote and was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: that -

Noting that Herefordshire Council has recently mobilised a large amount of capital from the sale of its farm estate, and plans to invest this in a 'Development Partnership' which will significantly shape the growth and development of the county, we call on the council to resolve:

That the Development Partnership should be designed to be a Sustainable Development Partnership, with equal consideration given to social, environmental, and economic dimensions of planned development.

That the executive be asked to consider ensuring that all development designed and constructed through the Development Partnership should be:

- **planned to maximise residents' health and wellbeing, including through shared green space and opportunities for outdoor exercise and social interaction, with maintenance thereof;**
- **built to the highest possible standards of energy and water efficiency in order to ensure affordability for residents and low environmental impact;**
- **sourced using local procurement wherever possible, in order to maximise local economic benefit and employment opportunities;**
- **designed to support and enhance wildlife habitats, in line with Herefordshire's identity as a beautiful rural county; and**
- **designed to promote walking, cycling, public transport and car sharing.**

Council considered a notice of motion concerning the Hereford Justice Centre.

In moving the motion Councillor ACR Chappell made the following points:

- Remand cases were now being sent to Kidderminster;
- Magistrates in Kidderminster were unfamiliar with the local area in Hereford and the circumstances in the town;
- The travel involved for solicitors would be a 70 mile round trip;
- Many of those in front of magistrates experienced mental health problems or a limited income and if it is found that there is no case to answer they would be released in Kidderminster;
- A motion had also been approved unanimously by Hereford City Council calling on the Lord Chancellor & Secretary of State for Justice to reverse the transfer of remand cases from Hereford to Kidderminster Justice Centre ; and
- The hearing of remand cases at Kidderminster was counter to principles of local democracy and local application of justice.

In seconding the motion Councillor CA Gandy made the following points:

- It was a long and convoluted journey to Kidderminster if there was no case to answer. People with Mental Health problems and learning disabilities would need to make the journey back;

- Depending on the time of arrest some people would spend 24 hours in custody awaiting transportation to Kidderminster.

The following principal points were raised by members in the debate:

- There was a cost to West Mercia Police, solicitors, defendants and others;
- Some defendants may think it cheaper to plead guilty than have to make the journey back from Kidderminster;
- The savings proposed by the Department of Justice were not felt to be acceptable and would cost others additional time and expense; and
- The need for savings have caused the Department of Justice to make an unreasonable decision.

The motion was put to the vote and was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: that

Earlier this year, the judicial system was changed so that remand cases throughout West Mercia are automatically sent to Kidderminster Justice Centre, thus removing local justice from the county, and locating hearings for all remand cases to a court in a town some 35 miles from Hereford's Justice Centre. Local justice should be administered locally, by magistrates who know the area, and local factors, and defence solicitors who are aware of the circumstances and some of the background issues.

That Herefordshire Council deplores the transfer of remand cases from Hereford to Kidderminster and calls on requires the Leader of the Council to call on the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, to right a wrong and return such cases to the 'Hereford Justice Centre', (Magistrates Court) to be dealt with by Herefordshire Justices dealing with Herefordshire cases.

20. MEETING DATES 2018/19

The date of the next meeting was 12 October 2018.

The meeting ended at 1.45 pm **Chairman**

Agenda item no. 5 - Questions from members of the public

Question Number	Questioner	Question	Question to
PQ 1	Mr Jeremy Milln, Hereford	The Department of Transport provides a support package to local authorities like Herefordshire Council to assist the development of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans. Given the relative lack of provision in Hereford, highlighted by the public event at the University Centre on 17th May and the Declaration from Hereford Civic Society which followed, what is the Council doing to engage with Hereford Transport Alliance and other involved third sector organisations to ensure these plans are properly progressed so the 'sustainable urban expansions' proposed in Local Plan for Bobblestock, Three Elms and Holmer West are genuinely sustainable in transport terms?	Cabinet member infrastructure

Response:

We have ambitious plans to increase walking and cycling provision in the city building on the extensive cycle network that includes over 20 miles of off-road cycle routes, advanced stop lines at signalised junctions, and excellent cycle parking at key destinations. Cycle levels in the city are well above the national average and this is reflected in census data and travel surveys. Something Hereford should be proud of.

There has been extensive consultation and opportunities to engage on policies and proposals relating to new development and cycle infrastructure including in relation to the Local Transport Plan and the stage 2 consultation on the Hereford Transport Package. Consultation has been open to local residents, groups and council members.

Our positive approach to supporting cycling is reflected in the success of our bid to take part in the government's local cycling and walking infrastructure plans (LCWIP) programme. We are one of only 36 local transport authorities to be selected from a total of 78 applicants. We are working closely with the government's appointed consultants, WSP, to progress the technical stages of the LCWIP process which takes into account current and future demand for cycling and walking including that resulting from planned development such as the sustainable urban extensions. We will be consulting on draft LCWIP proposals, and there will be further consultation in respect of any housing developments as part of the planning process. I would encourage all interested parties to engage in these consultations.

Supplementary Question

How will the Council focus on Active Travel Measures to improve air quality?			
Response to Supplementary Question As the Hereford Transport Package progressed the active travel measures would be built including cycling and walking facilities.			
PQ 2	Mr Norman Baker, Ledbury	Why did the Council introduce street parking charges to deter people from shopping in Hereford?	Cabinet member transport and regulatory services
Response: In accordance with our Local Transport Plan, street parking charges help mitigate traffic growth, relieve congestion and promote sustainable travel in the city centre. On street parking provides shorter term opportunities whilst longer term parking remains available off street. Our parking charges are set at a level that remains competitive with neighbouring cities, but also encourages people to use alternative active travel options. Businesses and residents are consulted on all on street parking schemes to ensure that schemes are effective in both managing traffic flows and supporting vibrant town centres. We also want to encourage people to make use of public transport networks, or to walk or cycle as an alternative to using their car and, as demonstrated in the answer to question 1 above continue to develop sustainable transport opportunities in the city.			
Supplementary Question Would the Council acknowledge that introducing parking concessions would aid footfall in Hereford?			
Response to Supplementary Question The Council is considering alternatives.			
PQ 3	Mrs Victoria Wegg-Prosser, Breinton	Reference budgets for the capital programme, Local Transport Plan, total allocation is £23,880,000 including an additional sum this year of £3,198,000. £1,253,000 of this is earmarked to rectify potholes which have increased five-fold this year, apparently. How can Council evaluate the benefits of this expenditure when there has been no published analysis of the efficacy of the current Local Transport Plan since March 2016? The promised amalgamated Report for 2016/17 and 2017/18 is still awaited.	Cabinet member for infrastructure
Response: The council does not wait for the publication of the annual progress report to evaluate effectiveness of its investments; I am advised this report will be published in August. Performance information relating to both strategic transport indicators (such as road traffic casualties and highway condition) and operational indicators (such as responding to defects and customer complaints) is monitored and reported throughout the year through the normal corporate reporting processes; and the public realm annual plan takes into account this performance. The total allocation within the current capital programme reflects the normal annual government grant of around £10m for each of two years, payable annually, and some additional funding secured for the current year.			

PQ 4	Mrs Clare Palgrave, How Caple	What is the Council planning to do to increase recycling rates for domestic waste (41.2% in 2017) to at least achieve the current Government target of 50%?	Cabinet member contracts and assets

Response:
Herefordshire Council is committed to contributing to the 2020 UK national target of 50% recycling and composting. Improving our recycling and composting rates requires a whole community response and the council provides information and support to residents and businesses to achieve this improvement both on our website and through specific initiatives, to help reduce waste, improve performance and reduce costs. Current initiatives include:

- Encouraging communal developments to recycle. The council's waste management team is encouraging residents in flats, traveller sites and houses of multiple occupancy to make the best use of the recycling services available. This not only helps improve the county's recycling performance but helps reduce waste collection problems at these premises.

- Targeted campaigns to promote recycling at Christmas, during recycling week and in association with national and events such as the football world cup, with videos, press releases, and social media advertising. The aim of these campaigns is to help people to make best use of our recycling services, improving both the quantity and quality of materials recycled.

- Promoting composting at home by providing information, guidance and low cost home compost bins. This helps encourage people to deal with organic garden waste and compostable kitchen waste in the most environmentally sustainable way.

- Increasing waste awareness in schools by providing information, guidance, school assemblies, visits by the lorry and crews, and free tours and activities at our recycling facility.

PQ 5	Mr Robert Palgrave, How Caple	The notes taken by DfT at a meeting with Herefordshire Council in October 2017 record that Council had bid for £95m from the Housing Infrastructure Fund for the Hereford Bypass, against an estimated total cost of £177m (assuming a dual carriageway road). The note also states that "the gap of £82m will be narrowed with capital receipts from land assets, developer contributions" and that the "Remaining gap of £65m would need to be found locally or borrowed (with future additional council tax payers paying this back), or further money obtained from government."	Cabinet member infrastructure

		If the HIF bid is unsuccessful, will local residents fund the missing £95m as well as the 'remaining gap' of £65m?	
Response: I expect central government to make a substantial contribution to delivery of this vital scheme and we are working actively with the DfT and other government departments to this end. As identified in the quote provided by the questioner any gap in a final scheme package would need to be either found locally, borrowed or further funding obtained from government. The council continues to pursue all funding opportunities for the project.			
Supplementary Question In the context of the church commissioners response and the Three Elms development what is more important affordable housing or a new road?			
Response to supplementary Question Developers would be required to fully commit to allocations of affordable housing on developments.			
PQ 6	Mr Andrew Morawiecki, Brienton	Herefordshire Council's bid for financial support from the Housing Infrastructure Fund stated "The Hereford and Herefordshire community are supportive of the proposals within this bid as they are fully in line with the adopted Local Plan, the Herefordshire Core Strategy 2011-31. This includes the proposed housing delivery and the requirement for a bypass to the west of the city." Can the Cabinet member explain this statement given the considerable opposition to the Bypass raised by a large number of residents during the recent HTP consultation, in questions to Cabinet, and in local newspaper coverage?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: The statement is taken from a supporting document submitted with Herefordshire Council's Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) application that explained the consultation undertaken as part of the Herefordshire Core Strategy 2011-2031 development process. Responses to this consultation at the Developing Options stage, demonstrated overwhelming support for a transport package including an "outer distributor road" (as the new road was known at the time). Subsequent to the submission of the HIF application, the Hereford Transport Package consultation was undertaken with 59% of respondents supportive of a western bypass being included as part of the Transport Package. There are those who either do not support the building of any new roads, or would prefer the route to be different; however the weight of opinion remains in support not only of a by-pass, but a western route for that by-pass.			
Supplementary Question How much has the Council bid for as part of the cycling and walking strategy?			
Response to supplementary question			

A written response would be provided to the questioner.

Written response – sent 08/08/2018:

The council has a strong track record in bidding for additional funds to improve transport in the county. In terms of funds which support walking and cycling we have secured the following sums in recent years:

- Local Sustainable Transport Fund Tranche 1 (£4.973M)
- Transition Fund (£419K)
- Access Fund (£1.5M),
- Cycle Safety Fund (£80k)
- Sustrans Connect 2 (£350K)
- Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans – technical support

We have also secured £43M from the Local Growth Fund towards two transport packages which include walking and cycling schemes in addition to the city and southern link roads:

- South Wye Transport Package (£27M)
- Hereford City Centre Transport Package (£16M)

In addition to these successful bids, the council has submitted additional bids which government has not supported:

- LSTF Tranche 2 (£0.999M)
- National Productivity Investment Fund (£4.987M)

PQ 7	Mrs Liz Morawiecka, Breinton	In answer to a public question in November 2017 about the Western Relief Road the Cabinet member for Infrastructure said “to the end of October 2017 £2.6m has been spent on the project, funded by annual revenue budgets, reserve funding of £0.6m and external funding contributions of £0.7m.” By the end of this financial year over £5.4Million will have been spent on this project. Why is the expenditure of £2.6Million in 2017/18 previously spent on this capital project not reflected in the Capital programme presented to Herefordshire Councillors today?	Cabinet member finance and corporate services

Response:

There is no reported spend on the Hereford Transport Package Capital Project because, as identified by the questioner in the quote from the response given previously by my cabinet colleague, expenditure to date has been funded and reported through revenue budgets.

Supplementary Question When will an economic assessment or business case be available which provides the economic justification for the Council to borrow close to £3m for the bypass?			
Response to supplementary Question There appeared to be confusion around capital and revenue funding and potential funding for the road project. A business case would be completed in due course which would provide detail on the sources of expenditure.			
PQ 8	Ms Jaqui Tonge, Hereford	The Southern Link road, if it is to be the first part of the proposed "bypass" and to be adopted as the new A49 trunk road, has to be built to standards set down in the Design Manual for Roads & Bridges. Would the Cabinet member please confirm that the Southern Link road will comply with these design Standards?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: Yes; I can confirm that the Southern Link Road is being designed using the Design Manual for Roads & Bridges highway design standards.			
PQ 9	Mrs Melanie Iron, Kimbolton	As a new resident I would like to ask what the Council propose to do to control the excess speeding through the village of Kimbolton. Despite the 30mph speed restriction signposting and road signage, drivers continually abuse this, causing danger, excessive noise and additional pollution. As a driver, I and other residents are fully aware of drivers who continually abuse the speed limit in fact during the early evening and weekends it is obvious that cars are being driven at twice the limit imposed. It is very apparent that more traffic calming needs to be put in place. The local police advised me to contact you regarding this matter.	Cabinet member transport and regulatory services
Response: Through the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership we work closely with the Safer Roads Partnership for West Mercia and local policing teams to identify areas where speeding is considered a particular problem for local residents, with a view to making Herefordshire's roads safer.			

While West Mercia Police are responsible for the actual enforcement of speed limits, I have asked officers to work with your ward member Councillor Stone and the parish council to find alternative ways of influencing driver behaviour and help reduce speeds in Kimbolton.			
PQ 10	Ms Kate Sharp, Hereford	The Hereford Transport Package relies on the Southern Link Road being approved at the public inquiry which will take place for 7 days from 30th October 2018. What is the risk to the Hereford Transport Package, in particular the proposed "bypass", should the Council be unsuccessful at the public inquiry?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: The public inquiry you refer to will consider the council's reasons for the acquisition of land needed for the Southern Link Road scheme. It will not consider the planning case for the scheme – which has already been determined. I do not believe this represents a significant risk to the bypass.			
PQ 11	Mr Emil Morfett, Breinton	From the notes dated 3 October 2017 of a meeting with Herefordshire Council, the Department for Transport recorded that "Herefordshire Council suggest that most people consulted are not concerned whether an eastern or western route is adopted. Apparently most of those favouring the eastern route have been easily persuaded of the greater merits of the adopted western corridor when the arguments are explained to them. They claimed that less than 10 properties are affected whichever alignment is chosen, and it is those handful of individuals who form the bulk of objectors". Given that a 38 degrees petition asking Herefordshire Council to scrap plans for the bypass now has over 1600 signatures, can the Cabinet member explain the comment that there is only a handful of objectors?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: I refer to the response give to question 6 above.			
PQ 12	Mrs Carole Protherough, Birch Hill	Cabinet report 16th June 2016 on the Hereford Relief Road (Hereford Bypass) notes in para 26 and 27 that the bypass will enable the delivery of new homes and communities in the western urban expansion (Three Elms) and in the northern urban expansion (Holmer West) There is no mention of the third urban extension at Lower Bullingham. Can the Cabinet member clarify that it is now accepted that the Bypass is not a prerequisite for house building at Lower Bullingham?	Cabinet member infrastructure

Response: I cannot. The proposed urban extension at Lower Bullingham can't be fully developed without the provision of the bypass. Policy HD6 of the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy sets out the adopted policy for the development of the Lower Bullingham urban extension. As with the other policies for the strategic urban extensions in the Core Strategy, there is an explicit link in the policy to Appendix 5 of the document which sets out the relationship between the development of the urban extensions and the provision of key infrastructure, including the bypass. Appendix 5 of the plan indicates that around 50% of the housing on the urban extension (as a proportionate share) can be delivered prior to the provision of the critical infrastructure and this would be the basis of any negotiation on a planning application for a proposal on this site.			
PQ 13	Ms Helen Powers, Brienton	Every route of the proposed Hereford Bypass has significant adverse impact on the countryside, environment, historic buildings, historic parkland, landscapes and visually to the West of Hereford. How will the environmental damage that this road will cause be mitigated to provide the net environmental gain?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: Cabinet is shortly due to consider a report setting out the recommended route for the bypass. A suite of technical documents informs the recommended route and this includes a Stage 2 Environmental Assessment Report (EAR). These reports are all available to view on the council's website. It is not accurate to say that all routes have significant adverse impact on all the elements you state in your question. The EAR report sets out the assessment of the environmental impact of each route. This will vary depending on the route and the results of this assessment are used to compare all routes and to ensure that the preferred route recommended is that route which has the least impact across a range of criteria. Subject to cabinet approval the red route is recommended as the preferred route for further development. The detailed design of the scheme will include mitigation proposals to compensate for the impact of the road. The design of these mitigation measures will be in accordance with the Net Positive impact guidance / approach to ensure that the mitigation measures outweigh the impacts of the scheme.			
Supplementary question Is the Council aware that its consultants advise an increase in traffic congestion resulting from development associated with the bypass?			
Response to supplementary question Yes the consultants are aware of increasing traffic and are providing advice.			
PQ 14	Dr Nicola Geeson, Hereford	In the Hereford Times of 21 June Mr Box, Head Teacher of Lord Scudamore Academy, is very concerned about air pollution near schools, but mistakenly asserts that "the new bypass will solve many of Hereford's traffic problems and provide all Hereford residents with cleaner air to breathe". Please can you confirm, as has been admitted publicly recently by Council Officers, that this particular bypass will do no such thing? It must	Cabinet member infrastructure

		be clear to most people that large new housing developments to be built along the "bypass" will generate much more traffic in the centre of Hereford than there is now.	
Response: The delivery of the bypass will help improve air quality in Hereford city. The bypass will provide an alternative route for through traffic including HGVs that does not need to travel into the city. The removal of these vehicles from city routes close to homes, schools and leisure facilities will contribute to lower air and noise pollution in the city centre. Without a bypass growth in traffic will continue on city roads with no alternative routes for through traffic with associated air quality impacts across the city and in particular in the current air quality management area. Delivery of the bypass and accompanying active travel measures including those associated with new housing developments will help to address Hereford's traffic problems.			
Supplementary Question Prevailing Westerly winds, new estates and more cars will add to pollution in Hereford.			
Response to Supplementary Question Air quality issues would be addressed through active travel measures in the Hereford Transport Package (HTP) and a bypass would remove HGVs from Hereford centre. The improvement to air quality was a long term project which would be advanced through the Local Transport Plan and HTP.			
PQ 15	Ms Julie Orton-Davies, Moreton on Lugg	Historic England's Urban Design Panel's report following their visit to Hereford contains many recommendations regarding the state of the city and the effects of the development of the University and the urgent actions needed by both University and Council if this 'ground breaking project' is to be successful and be of benefit rather than harmful to the city. They particularly emphasize the need for a Masterplan for the city but also: [1] A joint Design Code for the new University buildings [2] Obtaining independent design review advice [3] A strategic review of car parking [4] Archaeological studies [5] Improvement of the environment around the station and city walls	Cabinet member infrastructure

		What has the Council done, or is it doing, to implement the Panel's recommendations and to set up the necessary cooperation with the University?	
Response: A central Hereford design guide is in the process of being commissioned, with funding from both the Council and University. In addition, a Historic Area Appraisal of the central Hereford has been undertaken and will be published shortly, detailed archaeological studies will be undertaken as required in key areas of development interest. These documents will provide key evidence to guide the preparation of the Hereford Area Plan (HAP) and they will address a number of the recommendations included within the Urban Panel report. The council continues to work closely with NMiTE (the university) to enable the development of a university within Hereford. The university are fully engaged members of the HAP reference group which is helping to progress the preparation and delivery of the plan. In terms of other areas of collaboration, a Joint University Development Board operates to support the University's establishment in Hereford; Herefordshire Council both supported NMiTE in the development of the Green Book Business Case which secured significant government funding and acts as accountable body for that funding. The current Local Transport Plan (LTP) recognises the need for a reduction and rationalisation of the parking supply, a review has been commissioned to consider the redistribution of public parking based on future needs, this will in turn inform redevelopment opportunities. The council is currently developing plans for a transport hub in the station area which will see further regeneration following the opening of the city link road. Delivery of this hub will include the provision of good quality hard landscaping and planting. We will be consulting on this later this year to ensure users of the station and bus users and others have an input into the design. We are also working with the Hereford BID team to implement wayfinding signing throughout the city and this will include signing to city destinations from the train station. The council has this year invested in removing potentially damaging vegetation and making good those elements of the city's historic walls which the council is responsible for maintaining.			
PQ 16	Mrs Alison Wright, Kingstone	In drawing comparisons between the summer of 1976 and the current drought situation, I have a question regarding the long term water supply provision given the water demands to be met by the extensive house building program currently underway in Herefordshire. How do the planning authority and their partners aim to continue to serve the water requirement needs of all existing and new households with bore holes and rivers running dry and water being brought in by tankers to supplement supply in some areas already?	Cabinet member infrastructure

Response: The council and the water companies actively engaged throughout the development plan process, in particular with regard to proposed housing trajectories and targets with a view to overcoming infrastructure constraints which might delay or prevent development. The council paid regard to the representations of the water industry, as well as those of other statutory consultees, in preparing our local plan. The water companies capital investment programme is undertaken through a rolling asset management programme (AMP) which seeks to fund large scale utility (water/sewerage/wastewater treatment works) infrastructure works. Currently the water companies are implementing AMP6 (2015-2020) and some settlements within Herefordshire have seen/are seeing investment as part of this. For example, there are significant capital works currently being implemented by Welsh Water in Hereford to reinforce supplies to the city. In addition, the water companies are preparing for AMP7 covering the period 2020-2025 in order to safeguard both the quality and quantity of water in the longer term.			
PQ 17	Dr Patricia Ronan, Hereford	If Herefordshire Council are serious about improving air quality in Leominster and Hereford, how much did they request from the £40million Government grant scheme to fund the provision of electric buses in Herefordshire?	Cabinet member transport and regulatory services
Response: There are a number of government grant schemes to support clean air technologies and I am unsure which particular scheme is referred to. A bid for £10m was submitted to the "Go Ultra Low Cities Fund" to establish a number of exemplar cities for electric vehicles; regrettably our bid was unsuccessful. We have however had a number of successful funding applications for both electric vehicle and air quality funds. For example • Last month (June 2018) we secured funding to develop a network to rapid electric vehicle charging points along the A49. This will complement the existing network of EV charging points across the county and will enable residents to fully charge in 30mins. • In 2016 we secured £2m for our active travel programme "Destination Hereford" which runs until 2020. This behavioural change programme seeks to improve air quality through increasing levels of walking and cycling. • In May 2018 the council committed to investing in a fleet of fully electric and hybrid pool cars which will soon be in operation. We will continue to pursue funding opportunities to support improvements in air quality.			
PQ 18	Ms Jane Jackson, Hereford	As the Herefordshire Women's Equality Group we welcome the passing at the Council meeting in May 2018 of Amendment 3 to Registrable interests for councillors. In connection with this we would like to know how many councillors have declared additional interests as a result of those constitutional changes and which organisations they have declared membership of.	Chairman of Audit and Governance Committee

I am advised by the Monitoring Officer that, as of 10 July, 21 members have amended their register of interests since the Council meeting in May 2018 to include the organisations listed below. It is not possible to say whether all the amendments were as a result of the constitutional change; all members are required to update their register to reflect any changes in the interests that they may have at any one time. All councillors' registers' of interest are published together with declarations made during meetings and can be viewed on the Your Councillors pages of the council's website.

Organisations

Badger Faced Welsh Mountain Sheep Society
Bobblestock and Westfield Community Association
British Academy of Composers Songwriters and Authors
British Association for Shooter and Conservation
Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England
Camping and Caravan Club
Caravan and Motorhome Club
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.
Chartered Institute of Marketing
Conservative Councillors Association
Conservative Party
Coppett Hill Trust
Countryside Alliance
English Heritage
Friends of Coppett Hill
Friends Of Leominster Library
Goodrich Afternoon Club
Halo
Hereford and South Herefordshire Conservative Association
Hereford City Council
Hereford Civic Society
Hereford Community Land Trust
Herefordshire Conservative Business Forum
Herefordshire Independents
Herefordshire Tree Forum
Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (The Governance Institute)
Institution of Mechanical Engineers
It's Our County Party

Kololi Beach Club (The Gambia) Time Share Leominster Civic Society Leominster in Bloom Leominster Town Council Lugg Drainage Board Magistrates Association. Masonic Charitable Foundation Trust & Vellum & Palladian Lodges. National Association of Retired Police Officers National Farmers Union National Trust North Herefordshire Conservative Association North Herefordshire Green Party Orleton Village Hall Management Trust Redditch Conservative Association River Wye Preservation Trust Ross Betzdorf Twinning Association Ross Conservative Club Ross-on-Wye Civic Society Royal British Legion Royal Edward Lodge South Herefordshire Conservative Association Transition Leominster Tregate Anglers Club United Grand Lodge of England Vitrivian Lodge Whitchurch History Society
Supplementary Question 21 Councillors have now made declarations following the May meeting of Council. Can he confirm that Councillors that should have declared have not and is Council in breach of the code?
Response to Supplementary Question Council is not in breach of code; changes to declarations do not necessarily correlate to the change in the constitution but to many members it may be of relevance. The constitutional change was a positive change to introduce.

PQ 19	Ms Diana Toynbee, Hereford	In 2016 The Local Transport Plan report to full council presented the results of the last public consultation. The public's top priority for revenue spending was buses, followed by maintenance. The public's top priorities for capital spending were maintenance, walking and cycling. Would the Cabinet member please describe what our current capital programme is doing to respect the people's priorities of investing in safe, segregated walking and cycling across the County?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: The current capital programme includes significant investment in cycling and walking including schemes within the Hereford, South Wye and city centre transport packages. The Highway Asset Management and Local Transport Plan provision will also support footpath and cycling improvements across the county during the year.			
Supplementary Question It was understood that funding had been taken from the maintenance and winter weather reserve to fund the building of the new road.			
Response to supplementary question (Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services) That was not understood to be true.			
PQ 20	Mr Phil Chapman, Breinton Common	Guidance in 'The Design Manual for Road Building' calls for an Agricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) where more than 20ha of "best or most versatile land" (defined as Grades 1,2 and 3a) is to be lost. It has been noted that planning for other road schemes elsewhere have properly followed this Guidance and have included an AIA – eg Cornwall A30 Temple to Higher Carblake Improvement (where only 12ha of lower grade land was to be lost), and Port of Immingham (20ha of land permanently lost). The intended Southern Link Road and Western Relief Road both cross the highest grades of agricultural land, deemed nationally to be a scarce resource of great importance, where can the Agricultural Impact Assessments be found for these road proposals?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: The published planning application documents for the Southern Link Road set out the assessment of agricultural impact associated with that scheme and detailed negotiations with landowners have taken place over recent years to assess impacts and compensation. Subject to further design of the Hereford bypass and approval to submit a planning application the planning application documents for the bypass project will include the appropriate agricultural impacts assessments and will also be published on the council's website when available.			
Supplementary Question Previous replies to questions on the agricultural impact assessments had produced the response that the information would be shared when available. It was asked when the impacts would be understood and when the information would be available?			
Response to supplementary question			

Assessments for the Southern Link Road had been completed and would be made available to Mr Chapman immediately following the meeting.

Written response – sent 17/07/2018:

The agricultural impacts of the Southern Link Road (SLR) project are explained within the SLR Environmental Statement (see links below):
https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents?id=9db74be5-fd46-11e4-a64b-0050569f00ad
https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents?id=cc5c5390-fd4c-11e4-a64b-0050569f00ad
https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents?id=ee183fdf-fd4e-11e4-a64b-0050569f00ad
https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents?id=712f0539-fd45-11e4-a64b-0050569f00ad

They are further explored within the committee report (Paragraphs 6.236 – 6.248 (pg. 215 of the report). This can be seen by following the following link:

https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents?id=08356e2a-23e4-11e6-96d8-0050569f00ad

PQ 21	Ms Julia Lagoutte, Hereford	Many people in our county rely on buses, but I can find very little about them in the council's transport plans. What are the council's plans to improve bus services this year?	Cabinet member transport and regulatory services

Response:

The council's priority, as set out in the local transport plan, is to continue to support a core bus network which serves the rural areas and provides access to Hereford and the market towns and I am happy to confirm that we are continuing to maintain this commitment in spite of the continuing pressures on the council's revenue budgets. Bus services across the county are operated by private companies on a commercial footing; the council is investing £1.3m subsiding service provision where key routes are not commercially viable and a further £1.3m supporting concessionary travel.

In addition the council is supporting a further roll out of real time public transport information which will take place through the remainder of this year. This includes real time displays in Ross and Hereford and inclusion of wider range of services during. In addition, real time information will also be available by smart phone application meaning that it will be much widely accessible by the end of the year.

Agenda item no. 6 - Questions from members of the council

Question Number	Questioner	Question	Question to
MQ 1	Councillor Matthews, Credenhill	In 2012, this administration brought into being a system for the development of NDP. Each Parish Council was allocated a relevant number of houses to be constructed within their parish boundaries by 2031. They were clearly given the impression that having met their allocated targets, no further development expectations would be enforced upon them. Quite a few parishes, with early approved NDP's, have more or less already met their full quotas, and I understand they are soon to be reviewed, obviously with the intention of increasing greatly the development in their areas. Did the Cabinet Member for Development and Infrastructure at the time totally mislead members and the public, when he assured us all that the initially allocated figures would be strictly adhered to?	Cabinet member infrastructure

Response:
Neighbourhood plans have been successfully applied throughout Herefordshire and have provided the additional local planning policies to ensure that the growth required in the Core Strategy meets local aspirations.

Each parish council undertaking a Neighbourhood Development Plan was given a proportional growth housing requirement to ensure that their plan contributed and supported the growth within the Core Strategy. This was based on the overall housing requirements within the Core Strategy. All neighbourhood plans are adjudged against their conformity with the Core Strategy at examination and therefore it is important that the housing growth numbers can be achieved and neighbourhood plans are seen to positively promote growth. These growth housing requirements are being adhered to.

Government has recently consulted on a revised National Planning Policy Framework and we await the publication of the outcome of that consultation and a new framework. Any future review of Herefordshire's Core Strategy may require an adjustment to current housing figures to ensure continued compliance with evolving national policy; this is a normal part of the national development plan process. At this stage, there is no specific indication of any housing numbers or future settlements/parishes to which this will apply.

Supplementary Question: When the NDPs were reviewed what percentage of growth would be imposed on Parishes in future years?

Response to Supplementary Question: The Core Strategy set the expected level of growth in the County and if this needed to be increased or changed this would happen in the future. Government policy provided growth levels but was usually challenged.			
MQ 2	Councillor Bartlett, Leominster East	On 3rd July following General Scrutiny decision on 2nd July to call the Hereford Transport Package Route decision in for pre scrutiny, a 'Partners and Businesses HTP Route decision' letter was sent out by recorded delivery. The final paragraph reads: *The Cabinet papers, including a proposed response to any recommendations made by General Scrutiny Committee will be published on or before 19 July.* This suggests there will be very little consideration of General Scrutiny's responses, or none at all if papers are published before 19th July as stated in the letter. All together how much money was spent on these first class 'one day delivery and signed for' recorded delivery letters?	Cabinet member infrastructure
Response: Cabinet will, as it always does, give full and due consideration to any recommendations determined by General Scrutiny Committee. The cost of letters informing potentially affected residents and businesses of when information will be made available was £1,598. The tone of the question seems to suggest this was wasted money; I hope that was not the intention but if so I can only wholeheartedly disagree. The by-pass is something this county has been calling for for many years and the benefits of building it have been well-rehearsed. However those whose home or business may be directly impacted may understandably have different views and will above all want certainty about their future. To ensure that they are kept informed of the process is, to me, an essential and therefore worth the small cost.			
Supplementary Question: How will the scrutiny recommendations be given proper consideration ahead of the Cabinet meeting on 27 July?			
Response to Supplementary Question: The timings had been worked out with officers and there would be time for the recommendations to be taken to the Cabinet meeting.			
MQ 3	Councillor Crockett, Queenswood	Now that it has been decided that the Council owned property Hillside, is to be refurbished and an amount of £1.5million has been reserved for this project, can the Cabinet member ensure Council, that work quotations will meet this target and not become another 'Blueschool House' fiasco?	Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing

Response: Council is being asked to make provision in the capital programme for this exciting opportunity to explore the development of nursing home provision at Hillside that meets the need of Herefordshire's ageing population, particularly those with complex Elderly Mental Illness needs, that delivers quality care and is financially sustainable. However a decision to implement the scheme has not been taken and will be informed by the feasibility work currently underway, and a developed business case which will include refined cost estimates. I don't accept the description of the customer services hub at Blueschool House being a fiasco given the benefits it is bringing to our residents in terms of improved access to essential services in a quality environment. Whilst there were indeed failures in reporting of cost increases which have been fully recognised, the revised business case remains sound. Lessons have been learnt from that experience and there are more robust controls in place to prevent unauthorised expenditure once a capital project has been approved for implementation.
Supplementary question: Please advise the number of people at the Hillside Centre?
Response to supplementary question: A written response will be provided.

Chairman's Announcements – Council Meeting – 12th October 2018
Events attended by the Chairman since the last Council meeting on 13th July 2018

18th July – Wye Valley Trust AGM, Three Counties Hotel
19th July – Herefordshire College of Art Graduation Ceremony, Hereford Cathedral and The Left Bank
28th July – Three Choirs Opening Service - Hereford Cathedral
29th July – Powys Civic Service, St David's Church, Powys
1st August – Three Choirs Festival Reception, Town Hall
6th August – Hereford Peace Council, Hereford Crematorium
*13th August – Citizenship Ceremony
14th August – H&W ACF Annual Camp, Otterburn Training Camp
30th August – Orchard House Gardening Opening and Presentation, Withington
8th September – 75th Anniversary - Llanwarne Agricultural Society – Ploughing Match & Sheep Dog Trials
9th September - Bodenham Flood Alleviation Group Summer BBQ, Bodenham
9th September - Orleton Village Scarecrow Competition and Fun Day, Orleton
10th September – Citizenship Ceremony
11th September - Space to Engage Big Share Event, The Courtyard
16th September – Battle of Britain Service, Hereford Cathedral
18th September – Health & Social Care Awards, Lyde Arundel
20th September – ECHO AGM, Leominster
21st September – Plaque dedication and statue unveiling of Lance Corporal Allan Leonard Lewis VC, Hereford Cathedral and The Old Market
22nd September – Mayor of Bromyard's Charity Dinner, Bromyard
25th September – Herefordshire CCG Annual General Meeting – RNCB
29th September – Herefordshire Centre for Community Led Housing Inaugural Event - RNCB
30th September – Waterworks Museum
30th September – Ledbury Community Celebrations, Ledbury
*5th October – Herefordshire Business Awards, Three Counties Hotel
7th October – Shrievalty Service, Hereford Cathedral
8th October – Citizenship Ceremony
11th October – What Has Been Achieved Though Support - St Michael's Hospice

*Attended by the Vice-Chairman

- **Chief Executive's Announcements – 12 October 2018**

- Poppies: Weeping Window has won the Visit Herefordshire Best Event Award for 2018, having attracted 196,000 visitors at Hereford Cathedral in March/April.
- The refurbishment of High Town continues with Commercial Street (Phase 2) well progressed since May. Work will pause at the end of November for Christmas shopping, and recommence in January, to be completed by end March 2019.
- Dignitaries and members of the memorial fund commemorated the death of Lance Corporal Allan Leonard Lewis VC on 21 September, 100 years to the day of his passing. Following a dedication at Hereford Cathedral to honour his memory, and all those awarded the Victoria Cross during The Great War, a bronze statue was unveiled at the Old Market.
- The Herefordshire Museum Service, working with Trustees of the Waterworks Museum have relocated 'Emma', the council's vintage steam road roller, to her new home at Broomy Hill. Built in 1920, Emma is of great interest to enthusiasts as one of just two remaining road rollers historically owned by the council.
- The 40th neighbourhood development plan has been adopted, re-inforcing Herefordshire Council's position as having the most adopted NDP's in the country.
- Upheld complaint against GMTV - Ofcom have partially upheld the council's complaint regarding the conduct of a prominent TV presenter who decided not to read out a statement from the council, resulting in viewers of GMTV not being given the opportunity to understand the Council's position.
- On 7 September, a very positive Guardian report featured Herefordshire's welcome to families coming to the county as refugees - entitled "From darkness to the light: Syrian families find peace in rural England", the report recorded the support of agencies and the welcome people have received from residents of the county.
- We have joined a regional approach to recruit children's social workers. This remains the most challenging area for us as a council in terms of permanent and agency recruitment, just as it is challenging for councils nationally.
- We have developed an action plan in response to the Ofsted report and the service is closely monitoring progress on our key actions to improve. Performance information has been updated and is being monitored on a weekly basis. It was pleasing to see the praise from Ofsted for some of our services and staff, and that no child seen was seen to be at risk of significant harm and where there were concerns these were dealt with promptly. We recognise that we need to improve our children's services and particularly create the conditions for good social work practice to flourish.
- Following some really good school attainment results for our children and young people in Herefordshire over the summer, appropriate letters of congratulations, or of encouragement, were sent from the council to schools across the county with some schools placing these letters on their websites. Officers continue to work with our schools and settings to ensure our results keep improving.
- Over the summer holidays around £393k of maintenance work was completed at schools across the county. This has improved safeguarding arrangements, fire precautions and other necessary works to help schools deliver a high quality and safe education.
- We will be carrying out flu vaccinations for council employees in the next few weeks with the aim of increasing uptake through onsite clinics.
- We are delighted that our social care community brokers were winners of the Care Innovation award at the recent Health and Social Care awards.

- Our Homefirst service staff consultation has been completed, enabling us to move to '7 day extended hours' from 1 Oct. This will greatly increase the capacity of this important service.
- Last year, Herefordshire Council took part in a pilot initiative aimed at the 'smartphone generation': broadcasting experts, healthcare professionals and young people were brought together to make a series of magazine-style audio podcasts that address key themes in teen health. The series has just been nominated for 'Best Podcast' in the Audio & Radio Industry Awards (ARIAS) 2018 - the principal awards of the UK's audio and radio industry - a fantastic achievement for everyone involved in the project. It is brilliant that school nursing, other healthcare services for teens and young people from around the country will be noted alongside familiar household names like Chris Evans, Eamon Holmes and Nicky Campbell. The awards event is on 18th October 2018
- All older people in Herefordshire care homes now benefit from the "Red Bag" scheme. This is a nationally recognised programme of best practice to support people during hospital admissions and transfers of care. Herefordshire is one of only a few local authorities to have such a wide reaching scheme.
- Our new partner for the housing allocation system (which replaces Homepoint) is Civica. The new system is more user friendly and will help people to find and apply for affordable housing. The system will go live in February 2019.
- Our new project management system (called VERTO) is now being fully rolled out from this month across directorates. The system is already up-and-running in the adults and communities directorate. Verto will enable us to ensure that major projects are delivered well and efficiently, and communicated in an effective way.
- Look out for the "Care Heroes Flash Mob" at the Old Market on Saturday, 13 Oct !

Herefordshire Council

Meeting:	**Council**
Meeting date:	**Friday 12 October 2018**
Title of report:	**Appointments to Council Committees and Outside Bodies**
Report by:	**Solicitor to the Council**

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose and summary

To exercise the power reserved to Council to approve the allocation of seats to political groups following changes in group affiliations in the elected membership.

Recommendation(s)

That:

(a) the allocation of committee and outside body seats to political groups as set out at paragraphs 7 and 8 be approved.

Alternative options

1. The council has a statutory responsibility to ensure that appointments to committees are undertaken proportionately in line with the political composition of the council. Following changes to political group affiliations in the elected membership at the council there has been a change in political proportionality necessitating a review of the allocation of seats. There are no alternative options proposed as this report and its recommendations ensures compliance with statutory duties.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Matthew Evans, Tel: 01432 383690, email: Matthew.Evans@herefordshire.gov.uk

2. Council could decide, by a nem con vote, to suspend the rules of political proportionality to those bodies affected by this report, namely the planning committee and the standing advisory council for religious education (SACRE). The circumstances that have led to this reallocation do not justify such an approach and would not be in the spirit of the legislation.

Key considerations

3. Council is required to review its political composition and allocate seats proportionately to political groups. At the annual meeting of council on 25 May 2018 the following was resolved in respect of political proportionality and appointments to committees:

- the committees at the council and their terms of reference;
- the number of seats on each committee and the allocation of seats to political groups;
- the allocation of seats on outside bodies to political groups;
- appointments to outside bodies to be determined by the chief executive in consultation with group leaders; a delegation to the Leader of the council to appoint the chairperson of the health and wellbeing board;
- the suspension of the rules of proportionality in respect of the standards panel, the River Lugg Internal Drainage Board, the Wye Valley AONB Joint Advisory Committee; and
- the appointment of committee chairpersons and vice-chairpersons.

4. Since the annual meeting of council there has been a change of political affiliation in the Council's membership: one member moved from the Conservative group to the Herefordshire Independents Group. The current membership of the respective political groups at the council is shown in the table below:

Group	**Number**
Conservative group	27
Green group	4
Herefordshire Independents	9
It's Our County	9
Liberal Democrats	2
Not aligned	2
Total	*53*

5. Council is under a duty to ensure membership of its committees covered by the relevant rules reflects the political composition of the council, as far as practicable, by allocating seats on the committees to the political groups in proportion to their numerical strength on the council, whilst also maintaining a similar proportional balance of overall seat numbers. Once Council has approved the allocation of seats to political groups, it is a matter for the relevant political group leaders to confirm which of their members will take up any seats allocated to their group. Cabinet (as the executive) and the health and wellbeing board (with a membership set out by statute) are both exempt from the requirements of political proportionality. Any member who is not aligned is not entitled to an allocation of seats within these rules

6. In addition to the health and wellbeing board where minimum membership is determined by statute, Council has agreed to establish committees of council as listed in the table below. The terms of reference for these committees are set out within the functions scheme of the constitution.

Committee	Seats
Adults and wellbeing scrutiny	7
Audit and governance	7
Children and young people scrutiny	7
Employment panel	5
General scrutiny	7
Planning and regulatory	15
Total seats	*48*

7. Because there are now two political groups with the same number of members (Herefordshire Independents and It's Our County) strict application of the rules governing political proportionality result in the need for a degree of compromise regarding allocation of seats to those two groups in relation to the Planning and Regulator Committee, and (see paragraph 7 below) to the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE); this has been resolved following consultation with the two relevant political group leaders. The following table details the proposed allocation of seats on the above committees based on the political proportionality of the council as set out in paragraph 3 above and following discussions with political group leaders and result in Herefordshire Independents gaining one seat on Planning and Regulatory Committee.

	Conservative	**Green**	**Herefordshire Independents**	**Its Our County**	**Liberal Democrats**	**Total committee seats**
Adults and wellbeing scrutiny	4	0	1	1	1	7
Audit and governance	4	1	1	1	0	7
Children and young people scrutiny	4	1	1	1	0	7
Employment panel	3	0	1	1	0	5
General scrutiny	4	1	1	1	0	7
Planning and regulatory	8	1	3	2	1	15
Total	*27*	*4*	*8*	*7*	*2*	*48*

8. Those outside bodies to which three or more appointments are currently made on a politically proportionate basis are detailed in the table below, with the allocation of seats based on the political proportionality of the council as set out in paragraph 3 above and following consultation with the political group leaders has resulted in It's Our County retaining its seat on SACRE.

	Conservative	Green	Herefordshire Independents	Its Our County	Liberal Democrats	Total seats on body
Fire authority	4	0	1	1	0	6
Standing advisory council for religious education	2	0	0	1	0	3

Total	*6*	*0*	*1*	*2*	*0*	*9*

Community impact

9. In accordance with the council's adopted code of corporate governance, Herefordshire Council is accountable for how it uses the resources under its stewardship, including accountability for outputs and outcomes achieved. In addition the council has an overarching responsibility to serve the public interest in adhering to the requirements of legislation and government policies. The report and the decisions it enjoins enables the council to meet it statutory duties and fulfil the objective in the corporate plan to secure better services, quality of life and value for money.

Equality duty

9. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

   A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –

   (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
   (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
   (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

10. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As this is a decision on the administrative functions of the Council, we do not believe that it will have an impact on our equality duty.

Resource implications

11. There are no resource implications arising from the recommendation.

Legal implications

12. The council is required to ensure that the allocation of seats to committees is compliant with relevant rules contained in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and regulations made under that act.

13. In summary these regulations require that in determining the allocation of seats the council must apply the following four principles as far as reasonably practicable:

    a. that not all the seats on the body are allocated to the same political group; that the majority of the seats on the body is allocated to a particular political group of the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary committees of a relevant authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary

committees of that authority as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority; and subject to paragraphs (a) to (c) above, that the number of the seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority.

14. The proposals in this report comply with these requirements.

Risk management

15.

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Failure to obey the rules of political proportionality could render a committee or body unlawful.	The recommendations in this report mitigate these risks.

Consultees

16. Relevant political group leaders were consulted on the allocation and the recommendation reflects their views.

Appendices

None

Background papers

None identified.

Herefordshire Council

Meeting:	**Council**
Meeting date:	**Friday 12 October 2018**
Title of report:	**Youth Justice Plan 2018-2019**
Report by:	**Cabinet member young people and children's wellbeing**

Classification

Open

Decision type

Budget and policy framework

This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in areas comprising of one or more wards in the county.

Notice has been served in accordance with Part 3, Section 9 (Publicity in Connection with Key Decisions) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

Wards affected

All Wards

Purpose and summary

To approve Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 at appendix a.

The Youth Justice Plan (the plan) forms part of the council's budget and policy framework and is reserved to full council to approve.

The plan is prepared on an annual basis on behalf of Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin and Worcestershire councils. The basic plan preparation is undertaken by the West Mercia Youth Justice Service according to the deadlines and content requirements set by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB).

The plan sets out how youth justice services across West Mercia are structured and resourced and identifies key actions to address identified risks to service delivery and improvement.

Under section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, each council has a duty to produce a plan setting out how youth justice services in their area are provided and funded and how the youth

offending service for the area is funded and composed, the plan is submitted to the YJB.

The plan for 2018/19 was prepared in June 2018 in line with guidance issued by the YJB in May 2018. The draft plan was agreed by the West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board on 12th July 2018.

Recommendation(s)

That:

(a) The Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 (appendix a) is approved.

Alternative options

1. There are no alternative recommendations because it is a function of the committee to make reports or recommendations on matters within the budget and policy framework of the council.

2. The Youth Justice Plan is required to be produced on an annual basis and the draft has been approved by West Mercia Youth Justice Service management board; one alternative option would be to amend the contents of the plan prior to approval being sought by full council, however the practical implications of this would be that any amendments would need to be approved by the management board, as required by the Youth Justice Plan Guidance issued on behalf of the secretary of State by the Youth justice Board for England and Wales, and by the Councils of the three other Local Authorities in West Mercia.

3. The Youth Justice Plan be recommended to full council for approval but with recommendations for the management board to consider in preparing the Youth Justice Plan for 2019/20.

4. In addition the council could choose not to endorse the adoption of the youth justice plan 2018/19; however, this is not recommended as it is a statutory requirement for the plan to be approved by full council; therefore there are no practical alternative options.

Key considerations

5. West Mercia Youth Justice Service is a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary service which delivers statutory youth justice services across West Mercia. Youth justice services are defined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, but in summary carry out joint decision making with Police for second and subsequent Youth Cautions and all Conditional Youth Cautions, provide reports and information to the Courts to aid remand and sentencing decisions, provide bail information and supervision, carry out case management of community sentences and manage and provide through care of young people receiving custodial sentences. The services are delivered from community based teams aligned to each of the four Local Authority areas. The Herefordshire team is based in Hereford.

6. The service is accountable to a management board comprising senior officers from each of the statutory youth justice partnership agencies. Herefordshire Council's management board representative is the Director for children and families.

7. The annual Youth Justice Plan sets out how the service is structured and resourced and outlines the 2018/19 improvement action plan for the service addressing the priorities agreed by the management board. A short review of 2017/18 and commentary on the

service's performance against the national youth justice indicators is also provided along with some specific data on Herefordshire at appendix 4.The key priorities for 2018/19 and 19/20 are:-

Priority 1: Our People

1.1 Promote in-service progression and ensure that appraisals are used effectively

1.2 Strengthen staff development programmes

1.3 Improve staff morale, motivation and encourage engagement

Priority 2: Our Partnerships

2.1 Improve multi-agency engagement at high risk and decision making meetings

2.2 Ensuring young people's mental health needs are met

2.3 Review and improve policy and practice in relation to out of court disposal decision making thereby contributing to a reduction in the number of first time entrants

Priority 3: Our Performance, Quality and Practice

3.1 Develop our quality assurance and performance framework in collaboration with our partners

3.2 Ensure adequate interface with Children Services information systems

3.3 Develop our practice and encourage innovation

Priority 4: Our Governance

4.1 Communicate our vision and priorities to our staff, partners and stakeholders

4.2 Develop Board Member links to WMYJS to support service development and improve engagement with staff and service users

4.3 Anticipate and mitigate future risks to the long term delivery of our vision

Actions addressing each of the priorities are also included in the delivery plan on pages 15 to 17 of the plan.

8. Although there is overlap in the priorities from the 2017/18 plan the 2018/19 plan provides a greater emphasis on developing the staff of the service, and more focussed on areas for improvement identified through the management board workshops and the independent scrutiny provided through the pilot inspection.

9. The Youth Justice Service is subject to three national indicators. Performance against the indicators is outlined in the plan and actions identified to address the risks to performance improvement. The Herefordshire specific information is set out on pages 24 to 27 of the plan.

10. First time entrants. There were 72 in 2017, which is a decrease of 14 from 86 in 2016. This is out of 16,101 young people aged 10-17 in Herefordshire and represents less than half of one percent of this group ie fewer than one in every 200. The actual numbers are therefore very small. The general trend in Herefordshire has been downward since 2012.

11. For the purposes of the youth justice service the indicator is expressed as the number of first time entrants to the youth justice per 100,000 youth population. This rate was 447 for Herefordshire in 2017, continuing a year on year reduction that sees the 2017 rate statistically significantly lower than in 2012. The Herefordshire rate is higher than the rate for West Mercia, 354 and for England 295. Given the small numbers and expression as a rate, the comparison with West Mercia is not statistically significant, but the comparison with the rate for England is.

12. The reasons for the higher than expected rates of first time entrants in West Mercia is not fully understood, and given the very small actual numbers it is difficult to draw conclusions from individual years. HMI Probation judged that the joint decision process for out of court disposal in West Mercia is the main driver. Out of court disposals are a method of resolving offences without prosecution before the court, and include the informal disposal of community resolution and the formal Police sanctions of Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions. It is planned to implement revised out of court disposal decision making processes during 2018/19.

13. The second indicator is about the use of custody, which is measured as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 youth population. The use of custody performance for 2017 was 0.06, this is an improvement on 2016 when it was 0.19, and better than for West Mercia, 0.16 and England 0.39. However, due to the small numbers involved (one custodial sentence in Herefordshire in 2017 and three in 2016), none of these differences are statistically significant.

14. The third indicator is re-offending. There are two measures which both measure re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed that young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency rate, is the average number of re-offences per offender who re-offends. The second measure is the proportion (%) of the cohort who re-offended. Due to the way the Ministry of Justice measure this indicator there is a delay in the results being published. The most recent data available for the preparation of the plan was for the cohort identified between July 2015 and June 2016, whose re-offending was tracked for 12 month period until June 2017.

15. The frequency measure for Herefordshire for this period was 3.47 offences per re-offender compared to the West Mercia and England performance of 4.04 and 3.83 respectively. The proportion of the cohort re-offending was 43.0%, not significantly different to West Mercia's 33.9% and England's 41.9%. When taken together although there are proportionately more young people re-offending in Herefordshire than West Mercia as a whole, they are re-offending with less frequency. The service is participating in research to identify the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in young people in the youth justice system. There is a growing evidence base suggesting that young people who have experienced ACEs need to have those issues addressed before any work to prevent re-offending is likely to be effective. The research outcomes will be used to inform changes in practice in the future.

16. The service was subject to a pilot joint inspection at the end of 2017/18. As the primary purpose of the inspection was to test a new inspection methodology and framework the inspectorate did not publish an inspection report. Commentary on the inspectorate's findings is provided in section 2.4 of the plan. Although the service was judged as

requiring improvement overall, across the 12 inspection standards, one was rated inadequate, four requiring improvement and seven rated good. An improvement plan to address the findings of the inspection has been and agreed by the management board, and the actions from the improvement plan have are included in the delivery plan on pages 15 to 17 of the Youth Justice Plan.

Community impact

17. The principal aim of the youth justice system is the prevention of offending and re-offending by children and young people. The plan sets out an action plan to address the significant risks identified.

18. The plan directly supports two Herefordshire Council corporate priorities;

    Enable residents to live safe, healthy and independent lives and to keep children and young people safe and give them a great start in life.

19. The plan supports the council's corporate plan priorities to keep children and young people safe and give them a great start in life; and enable residents to live safe healthy and independent lives. In addition the plan supports priority two of the council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy, in working to reduce offending, anti-social behaviour and re-offending by young people.

20. Reducing the number of first time entrants and the number of repeat young offenders in the youth justice system has been adopted as a key priority area in the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership strategy for 2017/20 and the Youth Justice Plan directly supports this priority.

Equality duty

21. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

    A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

    (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

    (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

    (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

22. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. Our providers will be made aware of their contractual requirements in regards to equality legislation.

23. The plan will support the council in its overall duty to promote equality. In particular, the plan makes proposals to improve the outcomes of children and young people who are in conflict with the law, by ensuring their individual needs are assessed and assisting them in accessing services that meet their needs.

Resource implications

24. The council's 2018/19 financial contribution to YOS is £197,475. This is budgeted for in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and is sufficient to deliver the youth justice plan.

Legal implications

25. This is a budget and policy framework item, which is recommended from cabinet to full Council in line with the Part 3, section 3 of the council's constitution.

26. The council has a statutory duty, as set out under section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, to formalise and implement for each year a Youth Justice Plan, following consultation with the relevant persons (police, probation and health services) as set out in section 38(2) of the Act. The plan must set out how youth justice services in the local council area are to be provided and funded; and how the youth offending team established by the local council are composed, funded, how they are operated and what functions they are to carry out. Plans must be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales in a form and by a date set by the Secretary of State.

27. The plan appended to this report, have been submitted to the Youth Justice Board, and meets this statutory duty.

Risk management

28. The risks are identified in the plan, together with the actions to mitigate them.

Consultees

29. Herefordshire Council, Shropshire Council, Telford and Wrekin Council, Worcestershire County Council, West Mercia Police, the National Probation Service, CCGs and the Office of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner have been consulted through their YJS management board representatives who agreed the plan on 12th July 2018. The Herefordshire Council management board representative is the Director for Children's Wellbeing.

30. The content of the plan was informed by two workshops attended by the management board representatives or their delegates.

Appendices

31. Appendix A – West Mercia Youth Justice Plan 2018/19

Background papers

32. None identified

WEST MERCIA YOUTH JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP



YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN

2018/19

Herefordshire Council NHS Shropshire Council John Campion Police and Crime Commissioner West Mercia Telford & Wrekin Council CO West Mercia Police Serving - Protecting - Making the Difference National Probation Service worcestershire county council

CONTENTS

1.0	**INTRODUCTION**	3
1.1	Approval of the Plan	4
2.0	**REVIEW OF 2017/18**	5
2.1	Changes in Service Delivery	5
2.2	Review of Key Developments	5
2.3	Thematic Inspections	7
2.4	Pilot Inspection	7
2.5	Views of Young People	8
2.5	Performance	9
3.0	**YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2018/19 SERVICE PRIORITIES AND RISKS TO FUTURE DELIVERY AGAINST NATIONAL OUTCOME MEASURES**	12
3.1	Priorities 2018/19 to 2019/29	12
3.2	Safeguarding	13
3.3	Risks to the Future Delivery against the National Outcome Measures	13
3.4	Delivery Plan	15

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1	Resources	18
Appendix 2	Staffing and Structure	20
Appendix 3	Governance and Partnerships	21
Appendix 4	Area Profile – Herefordshire	24
Appendix 5	Area Profile – Shropshire	28
Appendix 6	Area Profile – Telford and Wrekin	32
Appendix 7	Area Profile – Worcestershire	36

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Introduction from Karen Bradshaw, Chair of West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board and Director of Children Services, Shropshire Council



West Mercia Youth Justice Service (WMYJS) is partnership between the Local Authorities, National Probation Service, West Mercia Police, NHS organisations across West Mercia and the Office for the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner. The service is accountable to the WMYJS Management Board, comprised of senior officers from each partner agency. The service is hosted, on behalf of the Local Authorities and the partnership by the Office of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

During 2017/18 the service, whilst still embedding the changes to the information system, assessment framework and service re-structure, also experienced churn within the leadership team, so it was pleasing to see, in the pilot inspection undertaken at the end of the year, that our assessments were rated as good and despite the changes within the management team throughout the year staff reported that they found managers supportive in carrying our their role. More information on the pilot inspection is provided in section 2.4, and there is an agreed inspection improvement plan, the actions from which have been incorporated in the delivery plan in section 3.4 of this plan.

There is a mixed picture in respect to the service's performance against the national outcome indicators. Performance in relation to the rate of young people receiving a custodial sentence has improved between 2016/17 and 2017/18 from 0.27 to 0.11 custodial sentences per 1,000 youth population, and this rate is significantly below the national rate of 0.38. The first time entrant (FTE) rate for 2017 is at 354, which is above the national rate of 295, however the performance is an improvement on the previous year when it was 408. The inspection team judged that the higher than might be expected rate of FTEs in West Mercia is due in large part to the out of disposal system in West Mercia and one of our key actions for 2018/19 is to revise that system, further commentary on this is provided in section 2.6. The proportion of young people re-offending (July 15 to June 16 cohort) is 33.9% which is significantly lower the national rate at 41.9%, and an improvement on the previous year when it was at 36.9%.

The priorities for 2018/19 and 2019/20 are a result of joint management board and management team workshops, informed by a range of information including a review of the Youth Justice Plan 2017/18 and the unpublished pilot inspection report, and are based on the four themes of;

Our People
Our Partnerships
Our Performance, Quality and Practice; and
Our Governance

The service and management board do not work in isolation in reducing offending by children and young people and improving the outcomes for children and young people who have entered or at risk of entering the youth justice system. The board are committed to promoting better joint work between the service and other agencies at a local level. A particular focus for the year is better sharing of information between the children social care services of the Local Authorities and the service and securing better engagement of partner agencies in the planning for high risk offenders.

1.1 Approval of the Plan

This plan was approved at the West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board held on 12th July 2018

Signed: Karen Bradshaw Date: 12th July 2018

Karen Bradshaw
Chair – West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board

2.0 Review of 17/18

2.1 Changes to Service Delivery Arrangements

When the service was re-structured in November 2016 the Management Board agreed to keep the structure under review. The experience throughout 2017/18 demonstrated that the service has limited capacity within the management team. The team managers and senior practitioners were primarily engaged, during 2017/18, in building the new teams and embedding and improving the quality of AssetPlus, and capacity in the management team to progress other service development tasks and Youth Justice Plan actions was limited. As a result the Management Board have agreed to the establishment of an additional 2.0 fte management and administrative posts and adopted a two year financial plan until March 2020 in order to support these.

2.2 Review of Key Developments

The Youth Justice Service Management Board agreed seven main priorities for 17/18. The following developments were achieved during the year:-

Priority: Reducing First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

- Completed the bureau evaluation
- Developed a screening tool to be used in a revised out of court disposal system
- Scoped a FTE analysis

Priority: Reduce custody and young people entering the adult criminal justice system

- Revised the Management of Risk Policy
- At a local team level work has commenced to map the pathways into other services
- Commenced research on prevalence of adverse childhood experiences in young people in justice system

Priority: WMYJS Interventions are of a consistently good quality

- Revised the assessment and planning quality assurance tool
- Partnered with Worcester University to recruit students as learning mentors for young offenders
- Reviewed reparation activities and implemented a reparation development plan
- Developed a new gate keeping tool for reports

Priority: We have systems in place to understand young people's journey through our services.

- Reviewed youth justice substance misuse provision and implemented recording on the NDTMS
- Undertook a detailed analysis of the mental health needs of young people in the justice system
- The Management Board reviewed actions being taken to secure appropriate education placements for young people
- In partnership with the national Youth Justice SEND project commenced a SEND self assessment

Priority: The voice of service users directly impacts on service delivery

- Commissioning ViewPoint and work to develop service user feedback questionnaires

Priority: Team morale is good, staff feel enabled and have the tools required to do their job effectively

- Development of an in-service progression pathway to enable unqualified staff to progress to management
- Delivery of assessment and planning training
- The arrangements for covering out of hour courts have been reviewed and revised
- Development of a service domestic abuse policy and guidance

Priority: The Management Board and operational staff are working together with clear collective responsibility for improving outcomes for young people

- Key management board member visits to area teams

2.3 Thematic Inspections

The WMYJS Management Board considered the findings of the thematic inspection report “The Work of Youth Offending Teams to Protect the Public” and approved an action plan addressing the main recommendations.

2.4 Pilot Joint Inspection

WMYJS was subject to an unpublished pilot joint inspection in late March/early April 2018. The Inspectorate found:

“There are many strengths of the youth justice practice in West Mercia. Staff carry out assessments of children and young people and implement and review court orders well. Their planning is not as strong, although managers have taken recent action to improve the planning skills of their workforce. Staff have a strong focus on the safety and well-being of young people and place a high priority on continuity of the relationship between professional practitioner and the child or young person. That relationship is the basis for achieving positive change for children and young people who have offended. Work to protect victims and apply restorative justice principles is less well developed…..

There is a well-supported management board; however, there were areas where the board could have done more to drive the service. They had not developed an effective response to the relatively high number of first-time entrants, and information-sharing between the Youth Offending Team and children’s services was short of current best practice. Additionally, West Mercia does not have a clearly stated vision for its service.”

Overall the service was judged to be requiring improvement, however across the 12 main standards; there was one inadequate, four that required improvement and seven good. The seven good ratings were for quality of practice standards in assessment, implementation and delivery of interventions and for joint working on out of court disposals. The inspectorate made five main recommendations:

1. Develop a clear vision for the service, outlining its underpinning values.
2. Reconfigure its decision-making process on out of court disposals to make sure that children and young people are considered for the full range of disposals available.
3. Identify ways that information-sharing between YOT practitioners and local authority children’s services departments can be improved through the use of technology underpinned by an effective information-sharing agreement.

4. Develop the intervention planning skills of the workforce to make sure the plans drawn up between children and young people and their supervisors to implement court orders are comprehensive and based on the assessment.
5. Make sure that practitioners understand child and adolescent mental services thresholds and are able to help those children and young people who do not meet the criteria for mental health services

The findings of the inspection have informed the planning process and priorities for 2018/19 and there is an inspection improvement plan in place. The actions from the inspection improvement plan are included in the delivery plan in section 3.4.

2.5 Views of Young People

Previous plans have included information taken from the annual HMI Probation survey of young people on court orders held by West Mercia Youth Justice Service. The last survey was conducted in the last quarter of 2016/17 and was reported on in the Youth Justice Plan 2017/18. The service has commissioned ViewPoint, an internet based service user feedback tool, in order to collect service user feedback for the future. The service has been working with ViewPoint in the latter part of 2017/18 to develop the specific questionnaires, and implementation will be in 2018/19.

Young people, however, complete a self-assessment as part of the YJS assessment, review and closure process. From an analysis of self assessments completed in 2017 young people identified the following areas that YJS helped most with in relation to stopping offending:

- Understanding the risks of offending and the consequences for themselves and others
- Managing anger and controlling temper
- Finding an appropriate job/ETE placement
- Managing problems and problem solving
- Reducing drug use
- Addressing mental health issues and reducing stress

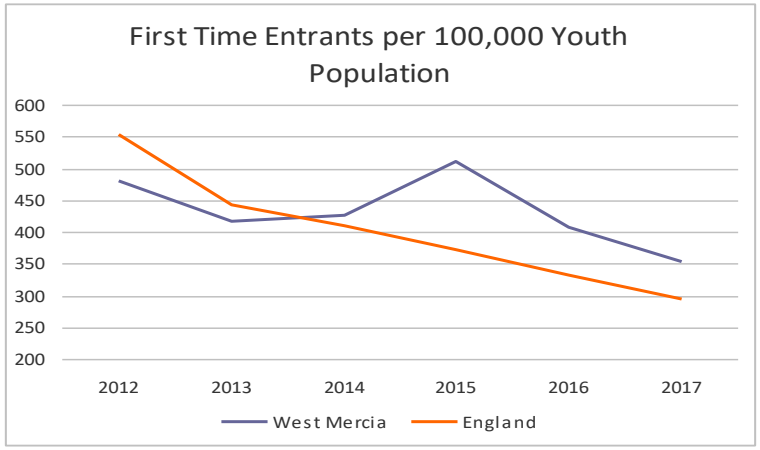
In relation to what the young person liked about the YJS a number identified the importance of the relationship with their worker who had been a significant source of support.

2.6 Performance

Youth Justice Partnerships are subject to three national outcome indicators;

- First Time Entrants (FTE) to the Youth Justice System
- Use of Custody
- Re-Offending

(i) First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System (FTE)



The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (Youth Caution, Youth Conditional Caution or Conviction). A lower figure denotes good performance.

The rate of FTEs across West Mercia for 2017 was 354, which is an improvement on the performance for the previous year when the FTE rate was 408. The rate in West Mercia is higher than the national rate of 295.

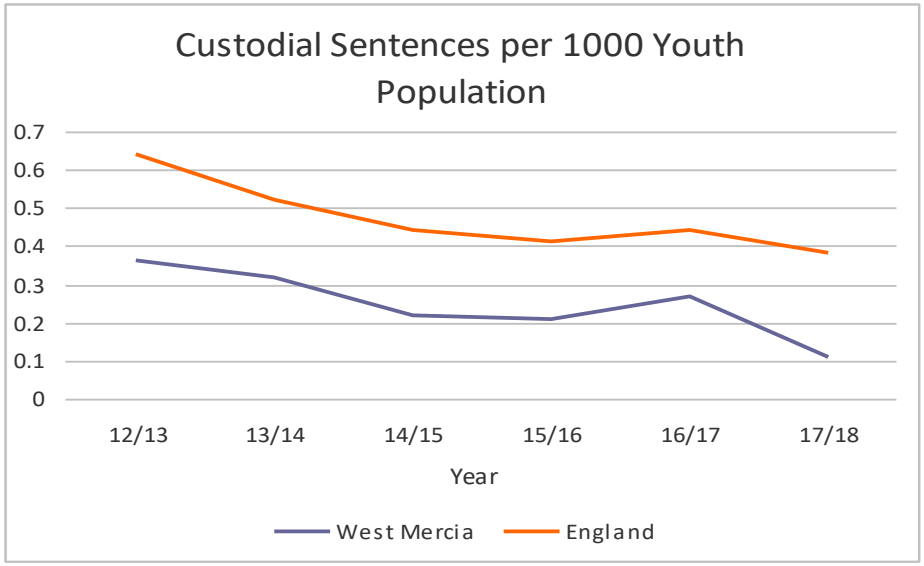
The percentage reduction in the rate of FTEs in West Mercia over the period 2012 to 2017 has been 26%.

Within West Mercia there are differing FTE rates between the four Local Authority areas, with the highest being 447 and the lowest 308. WMYJS was subject to a pilot joint inspection at the end of 17/18, and the inspection team judged that the higher than might be expected rate of first time entrants in West Mercia is in large part due to the out of court decision joint decision making processes within West Mercia. Although the process meets statutory requirements, there is a cohort of young people currently receiving cautions, who could be appropriately diverted from the formal justice system through the use of an informal response to their behaviour, such as a community resolution.

Informal disposals, used at the right stage in the system, are an effective and efficient method of dealing with the onset of criminal behaviour. In 2016 there were 723 community resolutions associated with 657 young people. Typically a young person will only receive a single community resolution but, as the figures highlight, a small number of young people will be subject to two or more resolutions. All young people subject to Community Resolutions in 2016 were followed up to ascertain the proportion who re-offended within a year of the outcome.

It was found that only 15.7% of young people subject to a Community Resolution committed a further offence in the 12 month follow up period. This is a lower rate of re-offending than that found for first time entrants and also typically found for young people subject to youth cautions. There was, for example, a re-offending rate of 29% for youth cautions (n=610) included in the 2014/15 cohort.

(ii) Use of Custody

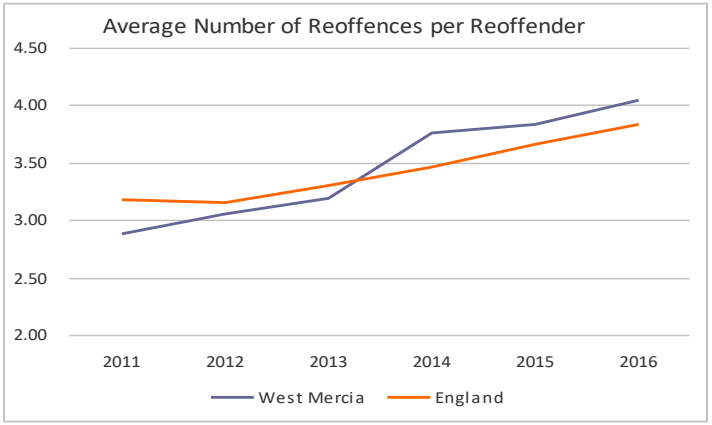


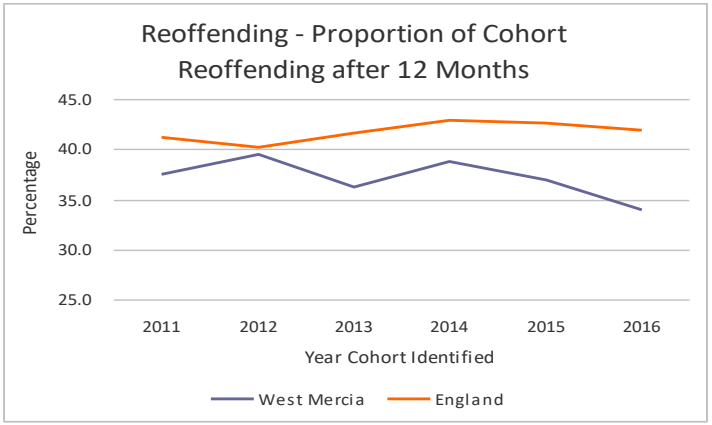
The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of the 10 to 17 year old population. West Mercia has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences. A lower figure denotes good performance.

For 2017/18 the use of custody rate for West Mercia was 0.11 against the rate for England of 0.38, West Mercia performance is, therefore, significantly better than the national performance. The West Mercia rate for 2017/18 has improved from 2016/17 when it was 0.27.

Over the six year period to 2012/13 to 2017/18 the rate has reduced from 0.26 to 0.11, a reduction of 58% which is better than the reduction nationally which was 41% over the same period. The actual decrease in the number of sentences between these two periods is from 41 in 12/13 to 12 in 17/18.

(iii) Re-Offending





There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per re-offender in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

For the year July 15 to June 16 the frequency measure performance for West Mercia was 4.04, compared to national performance 3.83. The binary measure performance for the same period for West Mercia was 33.9% compared with national performance of 41.9%.

A comparison over a five year period shows that this measure is volatile varying year on year in a range between 34% and 39%. The national rate also shows a year on year variation within the range of 40% and 43%.

The cohort size is falling, from 1750 young people in the year ending June 2011 cohort compared to 930 young people in the year ending June 2016. The number of re-offences has also decreased over the same period from 1886 to 1273 a decrease of 33%.

In 2017/18 and continuing into 18/19 the service is participating in research to identify the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in young people in the youth justice system. There is a growing evidence base suggesting that young people who have experienced ACEs need to have those issues addressed before any work to prevent re-offending is likely to be effective. The research outcomes will be used to inform changes in practice in the future.

3. YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2018/19
SERVICE PRIORITIES AND RISKS TO FUTURE DELIVERY AGAINST THE NATIONAL OUTCOME MEASURES – 2018/20

3.1 Priorities for 2018/19 to 2019/20

Two joint Management Board and Leadership Team workshops have been held to identify the service priorities for 2018 to 2020. The priorities have been informed by the annual service performance assessment, a review of the youth justice plan for 2017/18 and the findings and recommendations of the pilot inspection of the service. There is a delivery plan supporting the priorities and addressing the findings of the pilot inspection at section 3.4 of the plan.

Priority 1: Our People

- 1.1 Promote in-service progression and ensure that appraisals are used effectively
- 1.2 Strengthen staff development programmes
- 1.3 Improve staff morale, motivation and encourage engagement

Priority 2: Our Partnerships

- 2.1 Improve multi-agency engagement at high risk and decision making meetings
- 2.2 Ensuring young people's mental health needs are met
- 2.3 Review and improve policy and practice in relation to out of court disposal decision making thereby contributing to a reduction in the number of first time entrants

Priority 3: Our Performance, Quality and Practice

- 3.1 Develop our quality assurance and performance framework in collaboration with our partners
- 3.2 Ensure adequate interface with Children Services information systems
- 3.3 Develop our practice and encourage innovation

Priority 4: Our Governance

4.1 Communicate our vision and priorities to our staff, partners and stakeholders
4.2 Develop Board Member links to WMYJS to support service development and improve engagement with staff and service users
4.3 Anticipate and mitigate future risks to the long term delivery of our vision

3.2 Safeguarding

Safeguarding remains a key area of focus for the service. WMYJS has a key role in safeguarding young people, in terms of assessing and reducing the risk of harm to young people either from their own behaviour or the actions of others and reducing the risk of harm they may pose to others.

During 2017/18 the service undertook critical learning reviews (CLRs) as part of the YJB safeguarding and public protection reviewing process (CSPPI). Learning from these reviews has informed service planning. WMYJS will continue to undertake CLRs, even though the CSPPI process was ended by the YJB in the latter part of 17/18. During 2017/18 the service revised its management of risk policy and procedures, however the pilot inspection identified that the involvement of other agencies in the process could be improved and work will be undertaken in 2018/19 to better secure the engagement of other agencies in high risk panel meetings. The service is taking part in research to identify the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in young people who are in the justice system, the work will inform the implementation of trauma informed practice within the service. The service has completed S11 compliance audits for each of the LSCBs and there are S11 action plans in place.

3.3 Risks to the Future Delivery against the National Outcome Measures

The current performance against the national outcome measures are contained in section 2.6 of this plan. As the section notes although the FTE rate is higher than the national rate, the most recent performance is an improvement on the previous year. The rate of custodial sentences remains very low, at 0.11 per 1,000 population. Re-offending performance is volatile and rises and falls within a range of 34% to 39%. It is intended to implement trauma informed interventions to assist in reducing re-offending of young people who have experienced adverse childhood experiences.

Outcome Measure	Performance Indicator	Risk	Key Mitigating Actions	Other Relevant Delivery Plan Actions
First Time Entrants	The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system per 100,000 youth population	The current out of court disposal joint decision making process is the cause for the higher than might be expected rate of FTEs in West Mercia	Develop and implement a new system of joint decision making	2.3.2 2.3.3 2.3.4
Custody	The number of custodial sentences per 1,000 youth population	Absence of a remand management strategy may lead to an increase in young people being remanded	Development of a remand management strategy	3.3.4
Re-Offending	(i) The average number of re-offences per re-offender (ii) The proportion of offenders (%) re-offending within 12 months	Inconsistent and poor quality planning leading to factors for desistance not be adequately addressed	Commissioning staff training in planning	2.1.1 2.1.2 3.1.2
		Poor quality assessments, plans and delivery against local/national standards	Continued work on embedding AssetPlus.	3.1.2
		Interventions are not focussed on the most significant factors or are not delivered with integrity	Implementation of trauma informed interventions Review Aim2 programme work	3.3.4 3.3.6

3.4 Delivery Plan for 2018 to 2020

Ref	Action	Owner	Timescale
1.0 Our People			
1.1 Promote in-service progression and ensure that appraisals are used effectively			
1.1.1	Appraisals to be completed in Q2 18/19 and then annually	Supervisors	Q2 18/19
1.1.2	Annual report on outcome of appraisals	HoS	Q4 19/20
1.1.3	Investigate use of apprenticeship levy to support in house progression	DCSs	Q3 18/19
1.2 Strengthen staff development programmes			
1.2.1	Development of a revised Learning and Development Framework	Train'g Lead	Q4 18/19
1.2.2	Training plan to address training needs identified in the inspection (including intervention planning and A+ refresher)	Train'g Lead/ A+ Lead	Q2 18/19
1.2.3	Access to LA training: LA training link for WMYJS to be identified in each LA	DCSs	Q2 18/19
1.2.4	Access to LA training: LA link and WMYJS Team Manager to agree training plan (LA training that includes YJS staff)	TM/LA Link	Q3 18/19
1.2.5	Annual reporting on access to training for each LA area	TM/LA Link	Q2 19/20
1.3 Improve staff morale, motivation and encourage engagement			
1.3.1	Conduct staff survey	HoS	Q3 18/19
1.3.2	Use survey responses to develop action plan	HoS	Q4 18/19
1.3.3	Develop staff recognition scheme	HoS	Q3/4 18/19
2.0 Our Partnerships			
2.1 Improve multi-agency engagement at high risk and decision making meetings			
2.1.1	Secure the attendance of key agencies at high risk panels through: DCSs ensuring there is a named officer responsible in within ChSC	DCSs	Q2 18/19
2.1.2	Secure the attendance of key agencies at high risk panels through: Regular reporting of agency attendance/non attendance to management board	DCS/HoS	Q4 18/19
2.2 Ensuring young people's mental health needs are met			
2.2.1	Arrange events in each area to raise awareness of E&MH services available, referral criteria and processes	Train'g Lead	Q3 18/19
2.2.2	Agree a minimum common core role for mental health workers within WMYJS	Health Lead	Q3 18/19
2.2.3	Refresh or replace WMYJS/CAMHS protocols in each area	Health Lead	Q4 18/19
2.2.4	Commission training for practitioners on supporting young people with emotional and mental health issues	Train'g Lead	Q3 18/19

Ref	Action	Owner	Timescale
2.3 Review and improve policy and practice in relation to out of court disposal decision making thereby contributing to a reduction in the number of first time entrants			
2.3.1	Business case to be prepared for new out of court decision making system which brings more decisions into the scope of the process	HoS	Q2 18/19
2.3.2	Agree new OoCD process jointly with West Mercia Police	Head of CJ	Q3 18/19
2.3.3	Develop and agree a new screening tool/assessment for decision making panel process	HoS	Q2 18/19
2.3.4	Review the recording of Community Resolutions on ChildView	B.S. Admin	Q2 18/19
3.0 Our Performance, Quality and Practice			
3.1 Develop our quality assurance and performance framework in collaboration with our partners			
3.1.1	Development of a new performance and quality assurance framework to include: role of SPs in cross service QA and learning reviews, role of management board members in practice oversight and ETE monitoring and reporting.	PQA Lead	Q4 18/19
3.1.2	Review of A+ QA tool to ensure it addresses assessment/planning deficits indentified in the pilot inspection	A+ & PQA Leads	Q3 18/19
3.1.3	West Mercia Police to develop a mechanism and a process to ensure WMYJS Police Officers are notified when new information emerges on young people on YJS caseloads	Head of CJ	Q3 18/19
3.1 Ensure adequate interface with Children Services information systems			
3.2.1	LAs to nominate a lead officer	DCSs	Q2 18/19
3.2.2	LAs to explore the solutions to and implement WMYJS practitioners access to the Social Care information systems.	DCSs	Q2/4 18/19
3.2.3	Agreements to be put in place in each area in relation to WMYJS staff accessing children social care systems	DCSs	Q4 18/19
3.2 Develop our practice and encourage innovation			
3.3.1	Implementation of trauma informed interventions	Prog Lead	Q4 18/19
3.3.2	Review remand management strategy	Court Lead	Q1 19/20
3.3.3	Develop a resettlement framework	Court Lead	Q1 19/20
3.3.4	Further develop the work of the attendance centres	TM – S Wide	Q4 18/19
3.3.5	Review AIM2 arrangements		Q3 18/19
3.3.6	Commission VSS RJ Co-ordinator to assist in developing the service strategy for victim work and RJ	RJ Lead	Q1 18/19
4.0 Our Governance			
4.1 Communicate our vision and priorities to our staff, partners and stakeholders			
4.1.1	Alternative draft vision statements and underpinning values to be developed	MB Chair	Q1 18/19
4.1.2	Staff consultation on draft vision statements	HoS	Q2 18/19
4.1.3	Management Board agreement of vision and underpinning values for 2018/20	MB Chair	Q2 18/19
4.1.4	Development of a service communication plan	HoS	Q4 18/19
4.1.5	Develop a WMYJS website	HoS	Q2 19/20

Ref	Action	Owner	Timescale
4.2 Develop Board Member links to WMYJS to support service development and improve engagement with staff and service users			
4.2.1	Agree role of management board members as leads for priorities or key areas of work	Chair MB	Q3 18/19
4.2.2	Agree role of management board members in oversight of practice within QA framework	PQA Lead	Q4 18/19
4.3 Anticipate and mitigate future risks to the long term delivery of our vision			
4.3.1	Risks to be a standing MB agenda item	Chair MB	Q1 onwards
4.3.2	Management Board to maintain risk register	Chair MB	Q1 onwards

Appendix 1

West Mercia Youth Justice Service
Resources 2018/19

Income

The Youth Offending Service has a complex budget structure comprising of partner agency cash, seconded staff and in kind contributions and the Youth Justice (YOT) Grant from the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. The table below outlines the agreed contributions for 2017/18.

Agency	Staffing costs Secondees (£)	Payments in kind – revenue (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
Local Authorities[1]			1,228,499	1,228,499
Police Service	237,892		63,000	300,892
National Probation Service	63,033		15,000	78,033
Health Service	129,860		36,894	166,754
Police and Crime Commissioner			180,293	180,293
YJB Youth Justice (YOT) Grant			1,195,802	1,195,802
Total	430,785		2,719,488	3,150,273

The grant to run the Attendance Centres, £50,519, is included in the total for the YJB Youth Justice Grant in the table above

[1] Where YOTs cover more than one local authority area YJB Youth Justice Plan guidance requires the totality of local authority contributions to be described as a single figure.

The YJB Youth Justice (YOT) Grant

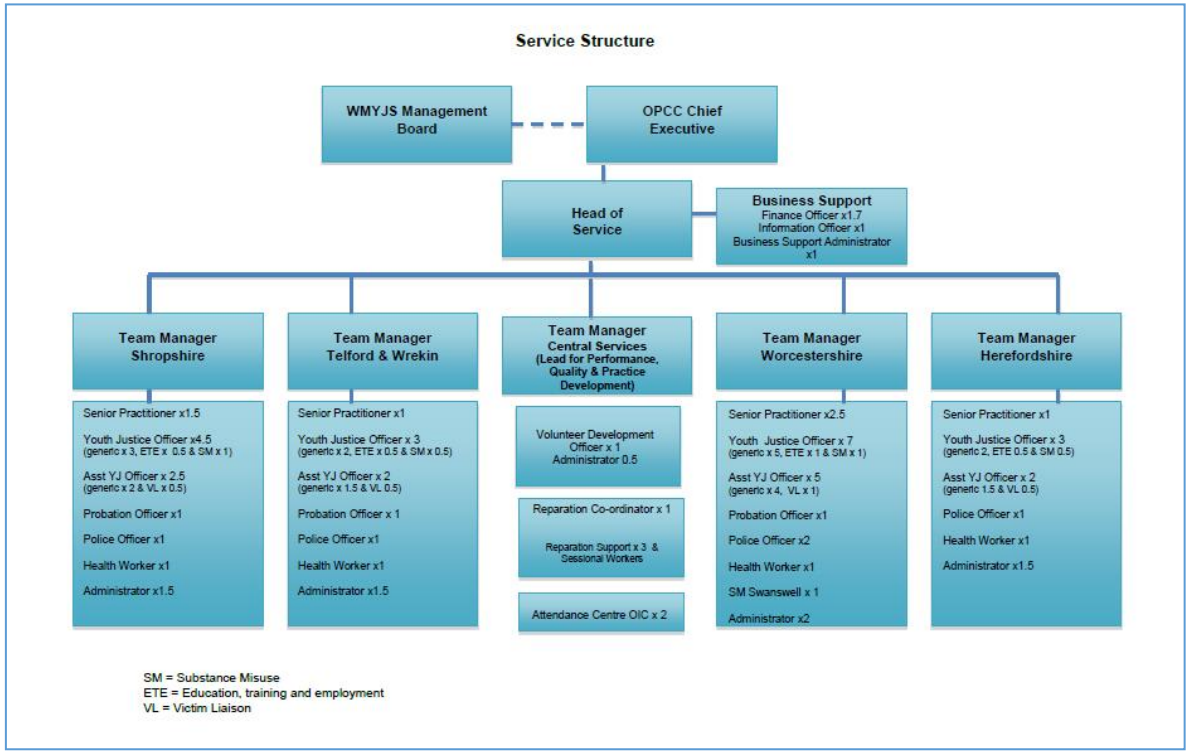
The YJB Youth Justice (YOT) Grant is provided for the provision of youth justice services with an aim of achieving the following outcomes; reducing re-offending, reducing first time entrants, reducing the use of custody, effective public protection and effective safeguarding. The grant will form part of the overall pooled partnership budget for WMYJS, which is used to deliver and support youth justice services across West Mercia. The outline draft budget for 2018/19 is provided below; the expenditure against the Youth Justice Grant is included in this budget.

Category	**Budget (£)**
Employee Costs	2,012,840
Other Employee Costs	30,000
Premises	175,299
Supplies and Services	67,279
ICT	106,974
Third Party Payments	220,109
Transport	106,987
TOTAL	**2,719,488**

Appendix 2

West Mercia Youth Justice Service
Structure and Staffing Information

The West Mercia Youth Justice Service comprises four multi-agency service delivery teams, aligned to the Local Authority areas to deliver the majority of services. The reparation service and volunteer services are co-ordinated centrally across the whole service, as are the finance and data and information functions.



WMYJS is compliant with the minimum staffing requirements outlined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as can be seen from the structural diagram above. There are four HCPC registered Social Workers within the staffing group.

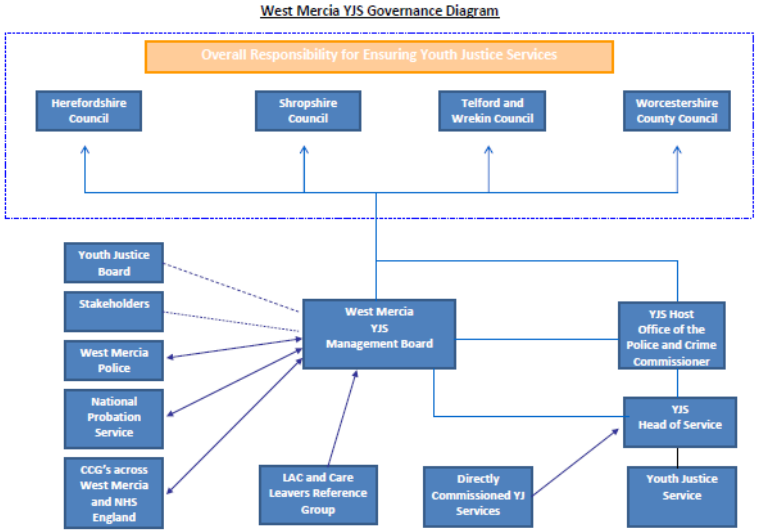
Appendix 3

West Mercia Youth Justice Service
Governance and Partnership Information

Governance

WMYJS is managed on behalf of the Local Authorities and the WMYJS partnership by the Office of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). Day to day management of the Head of Service is provided by jointly the Chief Executive of the OPCC and the Chair of the Management Board (DCS Shropshire). The Youth Justice Service is accountable to the WMYJS Management Board and the Management Board is accountable to each of the Local Authorities for the commissioning and delivery of youth justice services.

The partnership Youth Justice Plan is approved by the Management Board and by each of the four top tier Councils. The diagram below outlines the governance arrangements of West Mercia Youth Justice Service.



The Youth Justice Service Management Board is currently chaired by the Director of Children Services for Shropshire Council. The Membership of the Board at 1st April 2018 is outlined in the table below:

Agency	Representative	Role
Worcestershire County Council	Catherine Driscoll	Director of Children, Families and Communities
Shropshire Council	Karen Bradshaw	Director of Children Services
Telford and Wrekin Council	Clive Jones	Director of Children, Family and Adult Services
Herefordshire Council	Chris Baird	Director of Children's Wellbeing
National Probation Service	Jackie Stevenson	Head of West Mercia
West Mercia Police	Dawn Hartland	Head of Criminal Justice
West Mercia Clinical Commissioning Groups	Dawn Clarke	Director of Nursing, Quality and Patient Experience, Shropshire CCG
Office for the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner	Andy Champness	Chief Executive

The Management Board meets every two months and monitors the performance and quality of the service through regular reporting. Where necessary the Management Board will monitor compliance with the YJB Grant conditions through exception reports. There is an agreed process of reporting community safeguarding and public protection incident reviews into the Management Board and the Board monitors the progress of critical learning review action plans as a standard agenda item. The Management Board is supporting a process of continuing to commissioning learning reviews for incidents which previously qualified for CSPPI notification now that notifications to the YJB have been ended.

The Management Board has a schedule of thematic deep dives and practice presentations, the purpose of which is to identify any issues, in particular with regards to provision of services and multi-agency working, and agree actions for the Management Board or individual board members in order to improve services for young people in the youth justice system.

Management Board members ensure that, where relevant, commissioning across partner agencies takes account of the needs of young people in or at risk of entering the youth justice system, and where appropriate explore joint commissioning arrangements.

Partnerships

The Youth Justice Service only has one outsourced service, the provision of Appropriate Adults for young people in Police custody. The service is provided by a local voluntary sector organisation YSS.

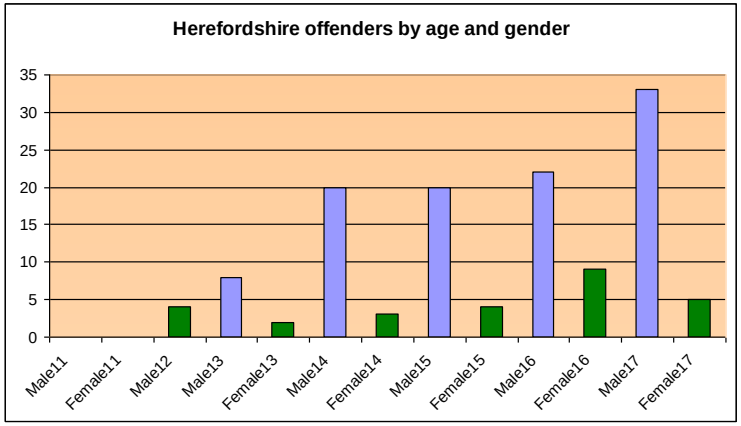
WMYJS is a member of the four Safeguarding Children Boards and several of the board's sub groups and the Children's Trusts or equivalent partnerships. WMYJS is represented on the Crime and Disorder reduction partnerships at the unitary or top tier authority level. WMYJS is an active member of the West Mercia Criminal Justice Board, the West Mercia Crime Reduction Board, the West Mercia Victim and Witness Board and the MAPPA Strategic Management Board.

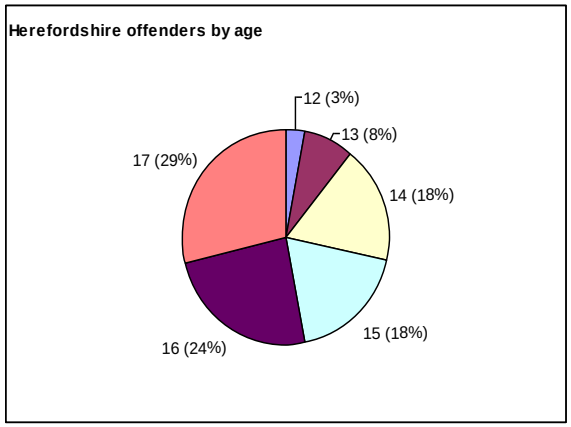
WMYJS is represented on the Channel Panels across West Mercia established as part of the Prevent strategy. WMYJS staff have undertaken WRAP training in most areas. The service are participant members of the area reducing re-offending groups and the Serious and Organised Crime Joint Agency Groups.

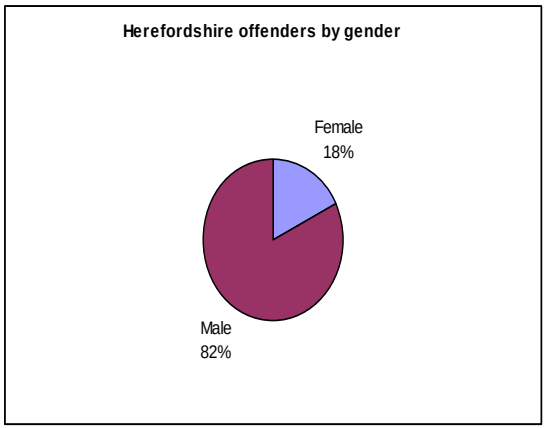
APPENDIX 4 - AREA PROFILE – HEREFORDSHIRE

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

There are 16,101 young people aged 10 to 17 in Herefordshire. In 2017/18, according to the Youth Justice Service records, there were 156 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Herefordshire young people. A total of 130 individual young people accounted for these 156 outcomes, 0.81% of the youth population.



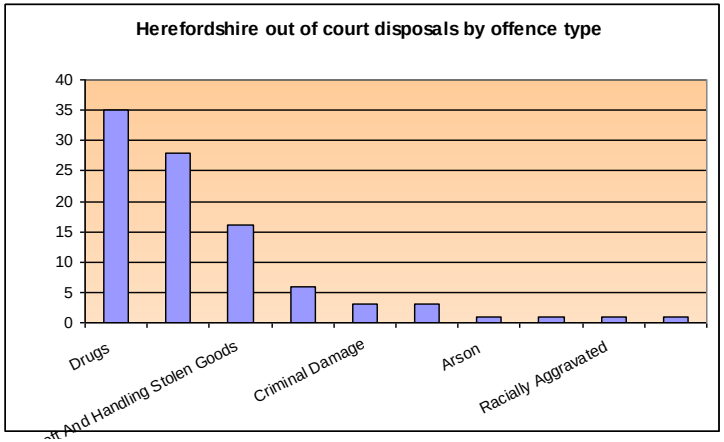




Of the 130 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 82% were male. The majority, 72%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for young males was 17 years and young females 16 years.

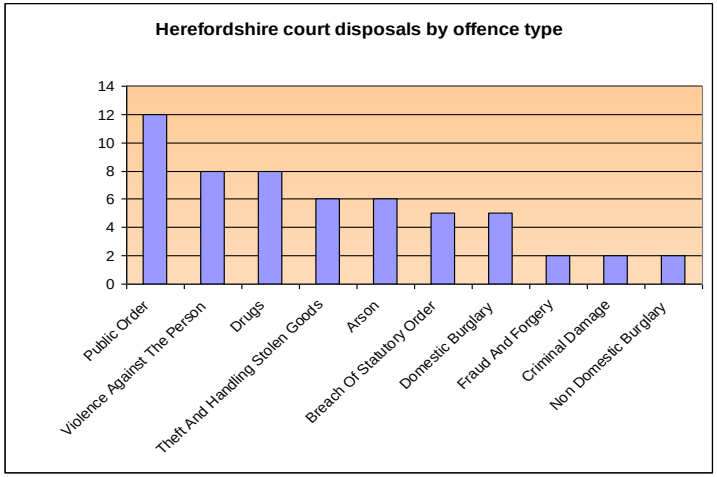
Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

During 2017/18 there were a total of 95 pre-court disposals made on 40 Herefordshire young people, 88 of these were Youth Cautions and 7 Youth Conditional Cautions. WMYJS is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Cautions and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 15 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offences for out of court disposals were drug offences, 37%, violence against person, 29%, and theft and handling, 17%. In the previous year the most frequently occurring offence was violence against the person accounting for 28% of primary offences, followed by drug offences 24%.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 90 Herefordshire young people accounted for 61 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 40 of the 61 court outcomes.

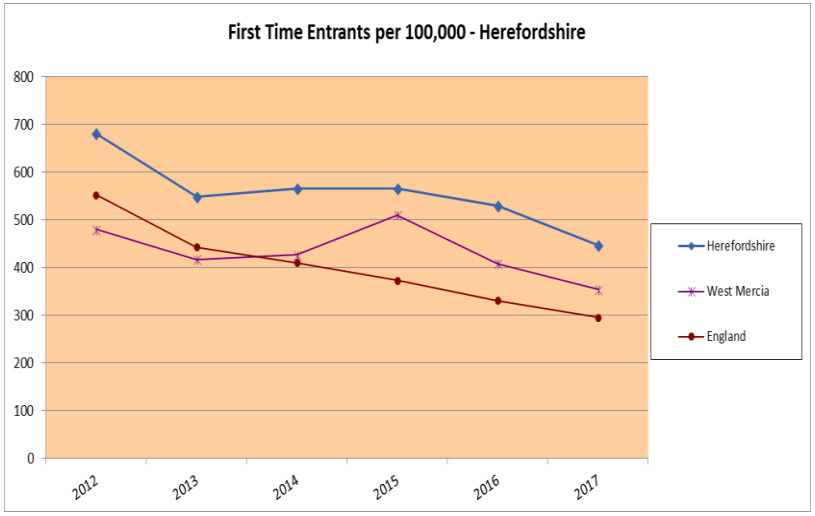
The majority, 84% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 16 year olds accounting for 46% of young people receiving a court sentence.

The most frequently occurring primary offences for court sentences were public order offences, accounting for 20% of all offences. Violence against the person and drug offences were the next frequently occurring offence type at 13% for each, followed by theft and handling and arson at 11%.

Performance against the National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicted by a lower rate.



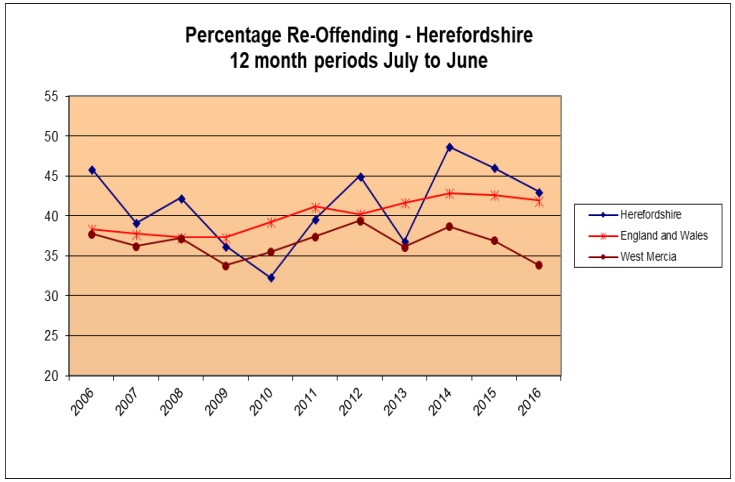
In 2017 there were 447 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Herefordshire, representing a reduction of 34% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 26% over the same period. The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 was 72, compared to 86 in 2016. The rate of 447 is an improvement in performance on the previous year when the rate was 529.

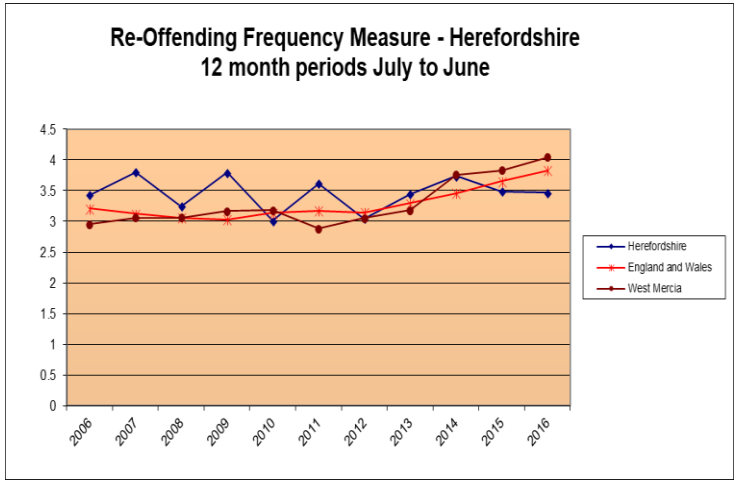
At 447 Herefordshire has the highest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, the range in rates across the West Mercia authorities is 304 to 447. The reduction of youth offending has been adopted as a priority by Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership, and some analysis of the FTE cohort is planned. During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. Herefordshire has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences. There was 1 custodial sentence during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.06 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents a reduction in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 3 custodial sentences equating to a rate of 0.19. The 2017 rate of 0.06% compares to a West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending





There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per re-offender in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

The frequency measure performance for Herefordshire for the period is 3.47, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.83. Herefordshire is, therefore, performing better than England and West Mercia as a whole. The performance has slightly improved from the previous year when it was 3.49.

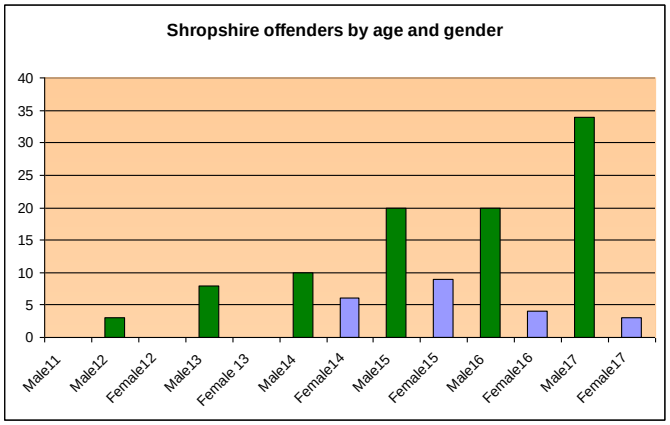
For the year July 2015 to June 2016 the binary measure for Herefordshire is 43.0% compared with a West Mercia performance of 33.9% and a national performance of 41.9%. For the period, therefore, there were a greater proportion of the cohort re-offending than for West Mercia, but they were, on average, re-offending with less frequency. The performance of 43.0% represents an improvement on the performance for the previous period when it was 46.1%. It should also be noted, that the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year. In 2011/12 there were 255 offenders in the cohort and 344 re-offences and compared to a cohort size of 179 and 267 re-offences in the 12 month period ending June 2016.

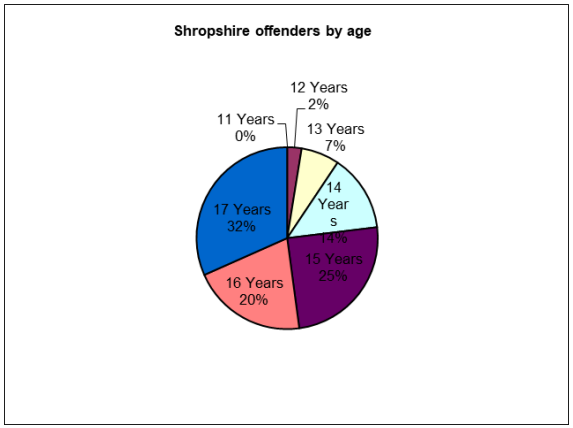
Reducing youth offending has been adopted a priority for the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership and a delivery plan is currently being developed.

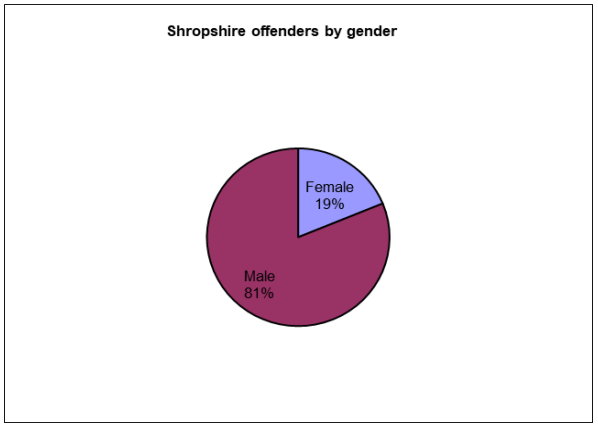
APPENDIX 5 - AREA PROFILE – SHROPSHIRE

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

There are 27,663 young people aged 10 to 17 in Shropshire. In 2017/18, according to WMYJS records, there were 123 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Shropshire young people. A total of 117 individual young people accounted for these 123 outcomes, 0.42% of the youth population.



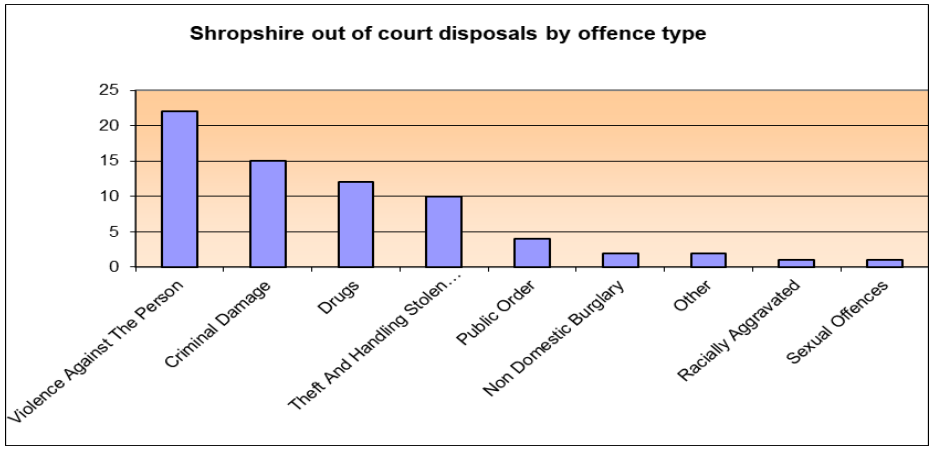




Of the 117 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 81% were male. The majority, 77%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for young males was 17 years and young females15 years.

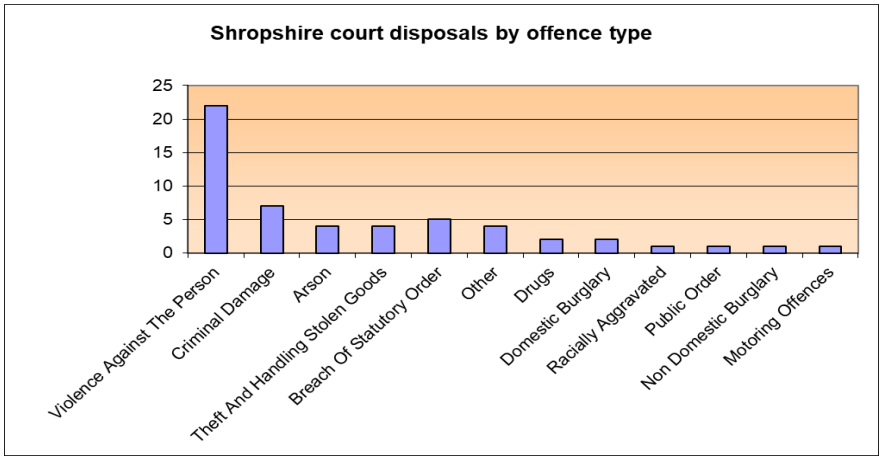
Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

During 2017/18 there were a total of 69 pre-court disposals made on Shropshire young people, 58 Youth Cautions and 11 Youth Conditional Cautions. The youth justice service is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Caution and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 30 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offences for out of court disposals were violence against the person, 32%, followed by criminal damage, 22%, drug offences, 17%, and theft and handling 14%.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 45 Shropshire young people accounted for 69 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 51 of the 69 court outcomes.

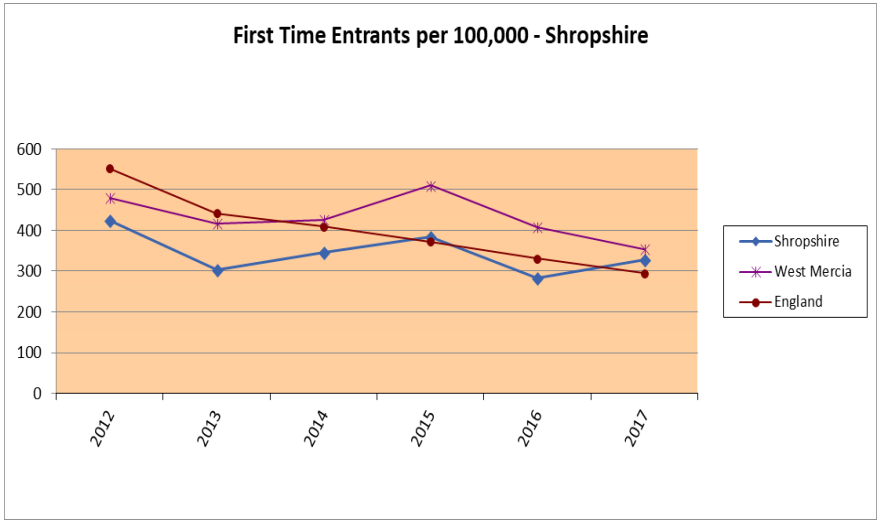
The majority, 85% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 17 year olds accounting for 43% of young people receiving a court sentence.

The most frequently occurring offence for court sentences was violence against the person, accounting for 41% of all outcomes. Criminal damage was the next frequently occurring offence, 13%, followed by breach of a statutory order 9%.

Performance against National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (a Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicted by a lower rate



In 2017 there were 329 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Shropshire, representing a reduction of 23% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 34% over the same period. It should be noted that the rates in 2012 for England and West Mercia were significantly higher than for Shropshire (552, 680 and 426 respectively). The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 is 91, compared to 128 in 2012.

At 329 Shropshire has the second lowest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, in the range of 304 to 447. The Shropshire rate is higher than the national rate, 295 but lower than the West Mercia rate of 354. The 2017 rate of 329 represents deterioration of performance from the previous year when the rate was at 282.

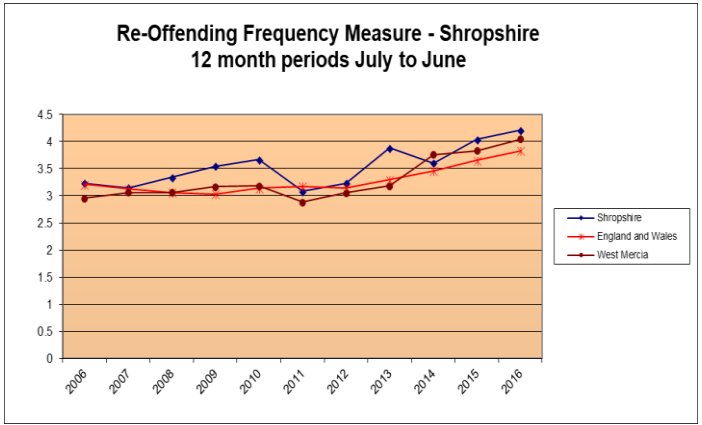
During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

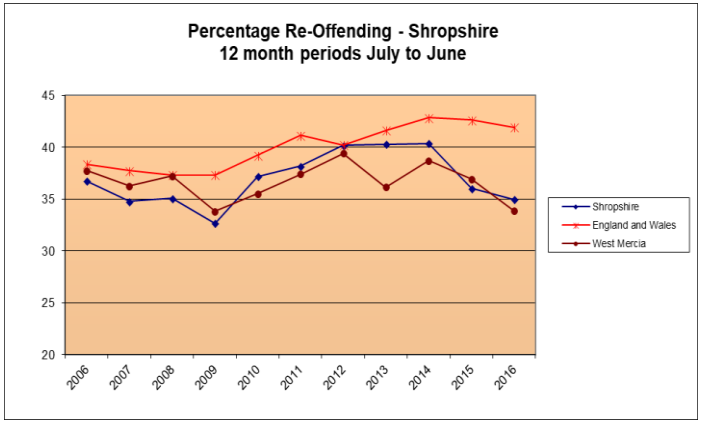
(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. Shropshire has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences.

There were 7 custodial sentences during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.25 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents a decrease in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 8 custodial sentences. The 2017 rate of 0.25 compares to a West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending





There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per offender who re-offends in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

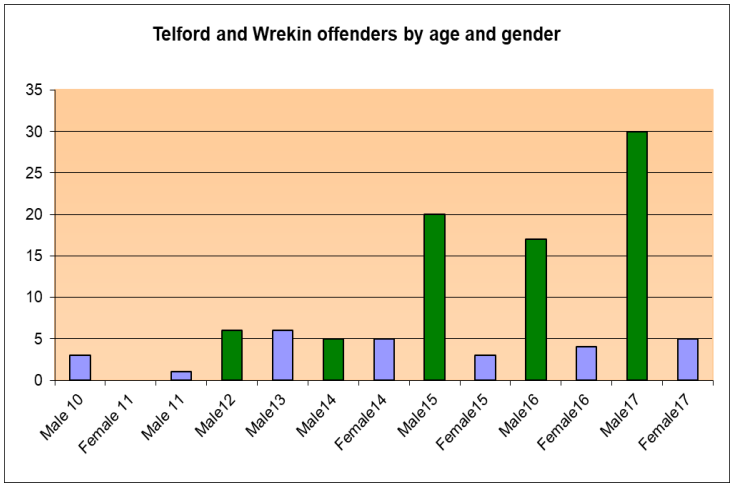
The frequency measure performance for Shropshire for July 2015 to June 2016 is 4.21, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.82. Shropshire is, therefore, performing slightly worse than for West Mercia and for England and the performance represents a slight but not significant deterioration on the previous year when it was at 4.04. The general pattern of a rise follows both that of the West Mercia and national rates. The rises since 2014 are partly a result in changes in the methodology used by the Ministry of Justice to calculate this measure.

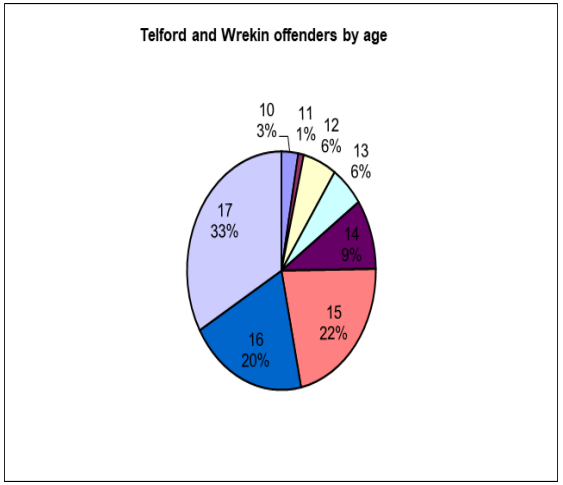
For the period the binary measure for Shropshire is 35.0% which is in line with the West Mercia performance of 33.9% and significantly better than the national performance of 41.9%. It should also be noted that the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year, in the current period there were 168 offenders in the cohort and 240 re-offences compared to a cohort size of 341 with 443 re-offences in period ending June 2012. The number of actual re-offences has therefore decreased by 46% between the two periods.

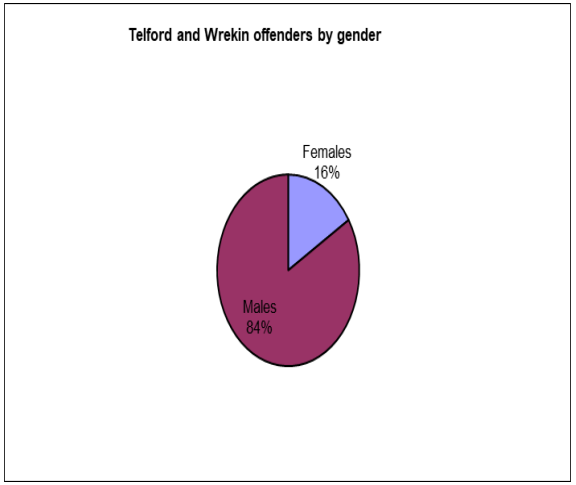
APPENDIX 6 - AREA PROFILE – TELFORD AND WREKIN

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

There are 16,444 young people aged 10 to 17 in Telford and Wrekin. In 2017/18, according to WMYJS records, there were 135 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Telford and Wrekin young people. A total of 105 individual young people accounted for these 135 outcomes, 0.64% of the youth population.



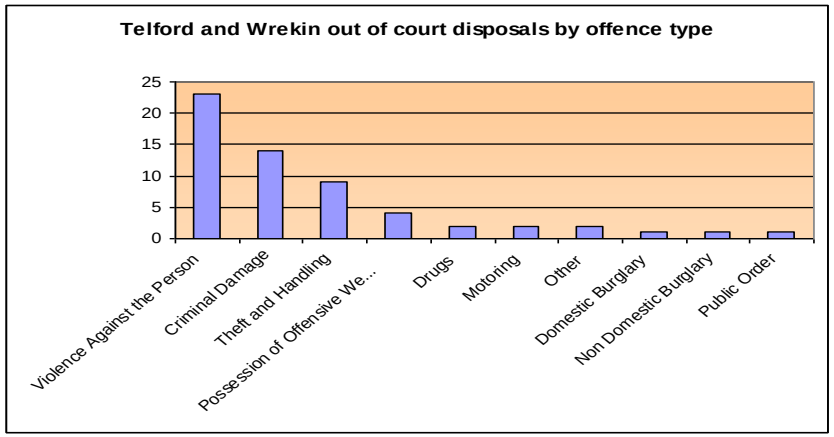




Of the 105 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 84% were male. The majority, 75%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for both young males and young females was17 years.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

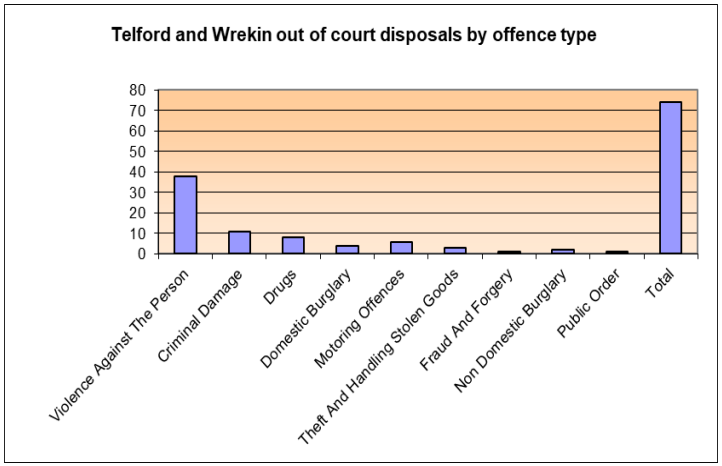
During 2017/18 there were a total of 74 pre-court disposals made on 64 Telford and Wrekin young people, all of these were Youth Cautions. WMYJS is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Cautions and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 28 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offence for out of court disposals was violence against the person, 51%, followed by criminal damage, 15% and drug offences, 11%.

87

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 41 Telford and Wrekin young people accounted for 61 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 51 of the 61 court outcomes.

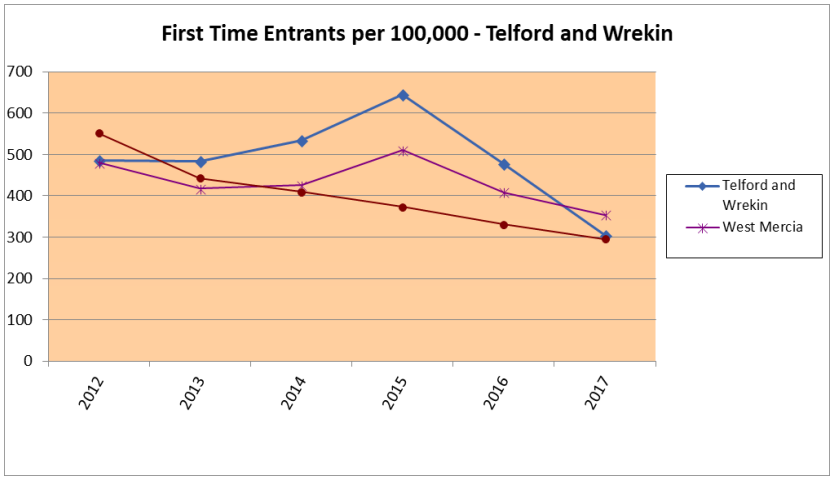
The majority, 82% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 17 year olds accounting for 41% of court outcomes.

The most frequently occurring offence for court sentences was violence against the person, accounting for 31% of all outcomes. Arson was the next most frequently occurring offences, 10%, followed by criminal damage, 8% and theft and handling 8%. These four categories of offences accounted for 57% of all sentencing outcomes.

Performance against National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (a Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicted by a lower rate.



In 2017 there were 304 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Telford and Wrekin representing a reduction of 37% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 26% over the same period. The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 was 50, compared to 86 in 2012.

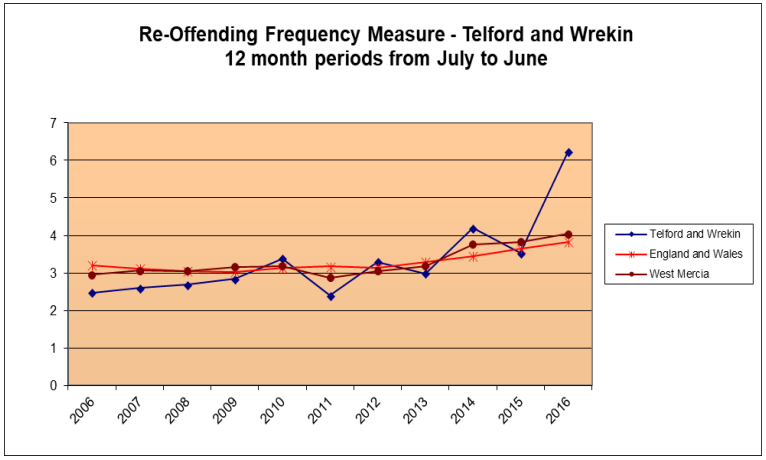
At 304 Telford and Wrekin has the lowest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, the range of rates across West Mercia being 304 to 447, but slightly higher than the rate for England which was 295. The rate in Telford and Wrekin has decreased from the previous year when it was significantly higher at 478. The number of FTEs has reduced from 79 to 50 between the two years, a decrease of 37%.

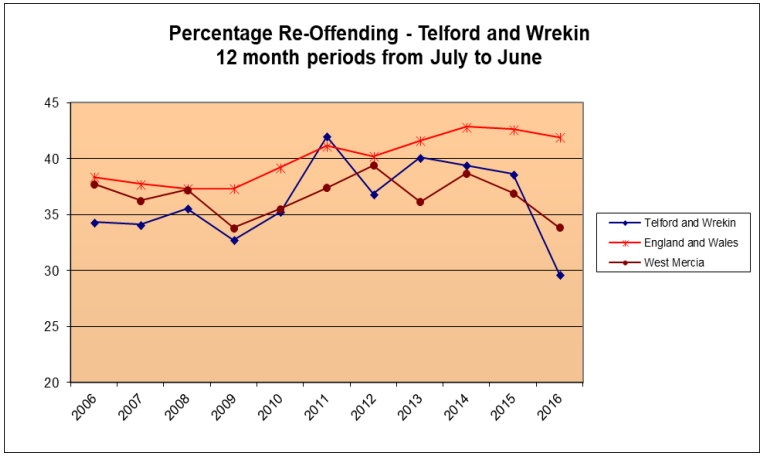
During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. Telford and Wrekin has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences. There were 5 custodial sentences during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.30 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents a increase in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 2 custodial sentences equating to a rate of 0.12. The 2017 rate of 0.30 compares to a West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending





There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per offender who re-offends in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for cohort identified in the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

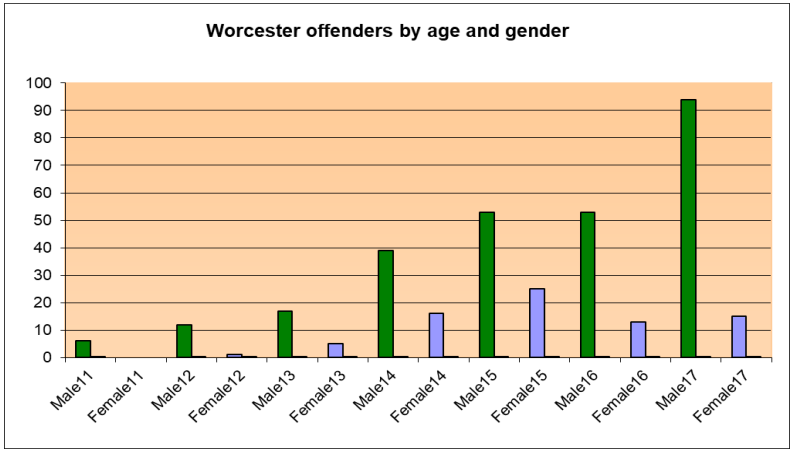
The frequency measure performance for Telford and Wrekin for period is 6.22, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.83. The frequency measure of 6.22 represents a significant rise from the year ending June 2015 when it was 3.53.

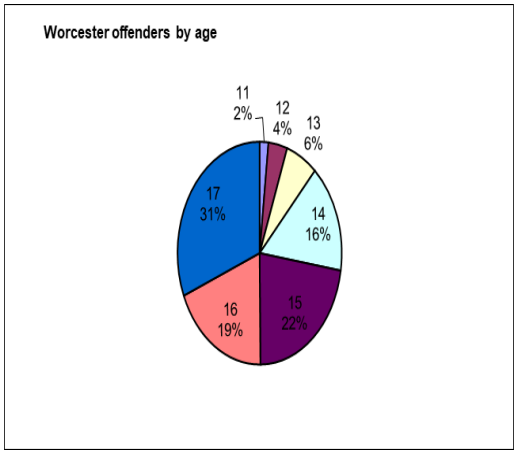
For the year ending June 2016 the binary measure for Telford and Wrekin is 29.7% compared with a West Mercia performance of 33.9% and a national performance of 41.9%, Telford and Wrekin is therefore performing better than West Mercia and England. The current performance has significantly improved from the previous year where the performance was 38.6%. When the two measures are consider together, there are, proportionally, less young people re-offending in Telford than in West Mercia as a whole, however those who are re-offending are committing more offences. It should, however, be noted the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year. In the year ending June 2010 there were 451 offenders in the cohort and 531 re-offences compared to a cohort size of 182 with 336 re-offences in the current period. The number of actual re-offences have therefore decreased by 36% over the seven year period.

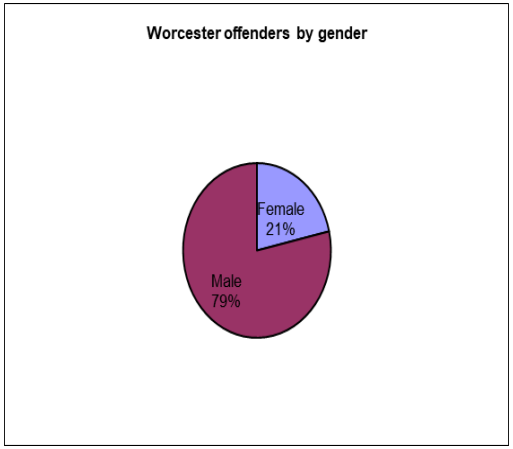
APPENDIX 7 - AREA PROFILE – WORCESTERSHIRE

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

There are 50,812 young people aged 10 to 17 in Worcestershire. In 2017/18, according to WMYJS records, there were 404 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Worcestershire young people. A total of 349 individual young people accounted for these 376 outcomes, 0.69% of the youth population.



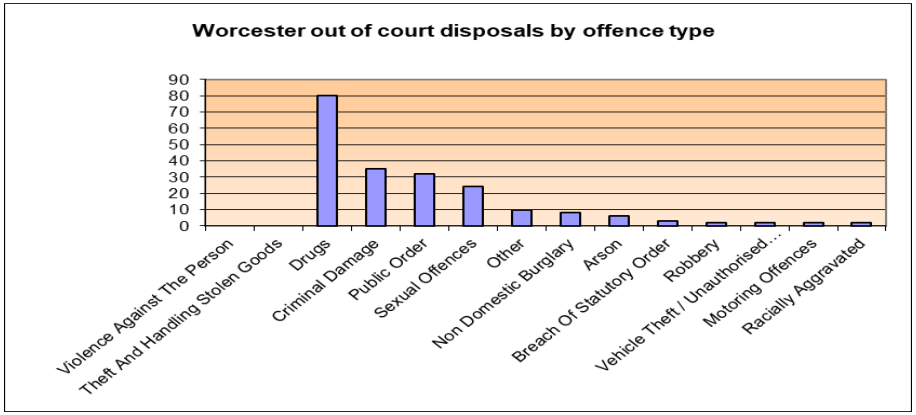




Of the 349 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 79% were male. The majority, 73%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for young males was 17 years and young females 15 years.

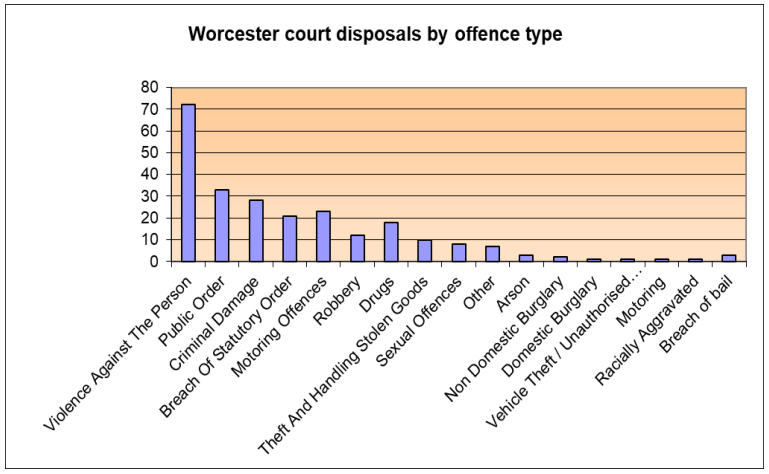
Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

During 2017/18 there were a total of 208 pre-court disposals made on 194 Worcestershire young people, 189 of these were Youth Cautions and 19 Youth Conditional Cautions. WMYJS is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Cautions and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 74 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offences for out of court disposals were violence against the person, 38%, followed by theft and handling, 17%, drug offences, 15% and criminal damage 12%.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 155 Worcestershire young people accounted for 244 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 208 of the 244 court outcomes.

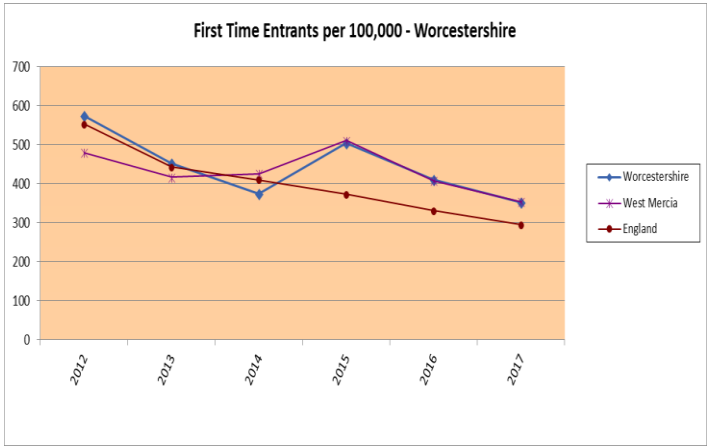
The majority, 82% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 17 year olds accounting for 43% of young people receiving a court sentence.

The most frequently occurring primary offence for court sentences was violence against the person, accounting for 30% of all outcomes. Public order offences were the next frequently occurring offences, 14%, followed by criminal damage, 11%.

Performance against National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (a Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicted by a lower rate.



In 2017 there were 352 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Worcestershire, representing a reduction of 39% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 34% over the same period. The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 was 179, compared to 313 in 2012.

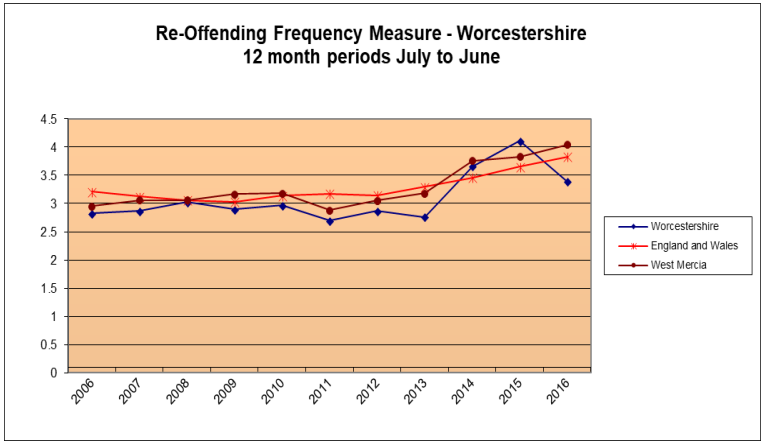
At 352 Worcestershire has the second highest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, with the highest rate at 447 and lowest at 304. The rate is higher than the national rate which is 295. The rate in Worcestershire has decreased from the previous year when it was 410. The number of FTEs has reduced from 209 to 179 between the two years, a decrease of 14%.

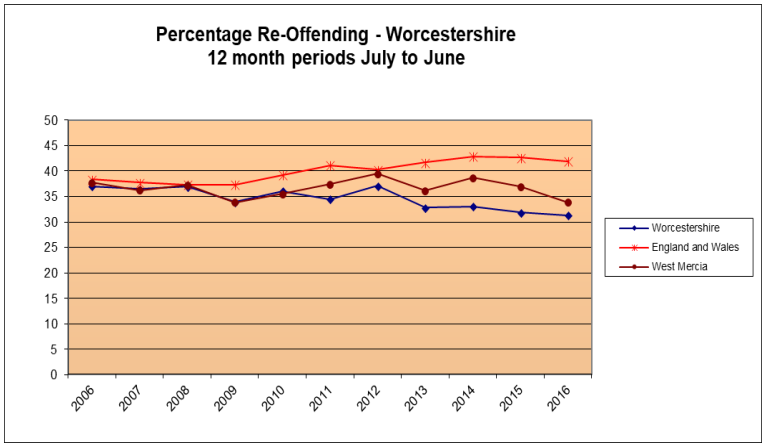
During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. There were 9 custodial sentences during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.17 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents a decrease in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 16 custodial sentences equating to a rate of 0.31. The 2017 rate of 0.17% compares to the West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending





There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per offender who re-offends in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for cohort identified in the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

The frequency measure performance for Worcestershire for year ending June 2016 is 3.39, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.83. Worcestershire has, therefore, a better performance than West Mercia and England for this measure. The current performance is an improvement on the performance for the previous year where it was at 4.11.

For year ending June 2016 the binary measure for Worcestershire is 31.3% compared with a West Mercia performance of 33.9% and a national performance of 41.9%. Worcestershire is therefore performing better than West Mercia and England for this indicator. It should also be noted that the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year. In the year ending June 2012 there were 645 offenders in the cohort and 686 re-offences compared to a cohort size of 406 with 430 re-offences in the current period. The number of actual re-offences has therefore decreased by 37% between 2012 and 2016.

Herefordshire Council

Meeting:	**Council**
Meeting date:	**Friday, 12 October 2018**
Title of report:	**Community Governance Reviews.**
Report by:	**Chairman, Audit and Governance Committee.**

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

Bromyard Bringsty; Credenhill; Golden Valley South; Queenswood; Stoney Street; Sutton Walls; Wormside;

Purpose and summary

To approve the recommended outcomes of Community Governance Reviews (CGRs) undertaken in the Bishopstone Group, Bredenbury District Group, Brockhampton Group, Kilpeck Group, Peterchurch, Longtown Group, Moreton On Lugg, and Wellington parishes.

If these recommendations are agreed, consequential changes will need to be made to two ward boundaries between Queenswood and Sutton Walls and Stoney Street and Credenhill wards. These changes will require agreement from the Local Boundary Commission for England (LBGCE).

Recommendation(s)

That:

a) orders be made to give effect to the following with changes taking effect from 1st April 2019 ('the effective date'):

I. That the parish boundary between the Bishopstone group parish and the Stretton Sugwas parish be moved between Stoney Street and Credenhill ward to enable the following properties (Bradworthy; Pear Tree Cottage; Elandwin; the Bounds; Longhope; Old Weir Farm Cottages; Sugwas Pool Cottage; Miramar; Anchorage; Heathmere, and St. Margarets Bunglalow) to be moved from the Bishopstone district group parish to Stretton Sugwas parish, and that this proposal does not require other

changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected;

II. **That consequent upon this change being made that the council recommend to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) that the boundaries of the Stoney Street and Credenhil ward be changed to ensure coterminosity with the new parish boundary;**

III. **The number of seats on Brockhampton group parish be reduced from 15 to 10 to better reflect the number of electors; the ratio of parish council seats will be 5 for the Linton Parish group member (a reduction of 1 seat); 4 for the Norton parish group member (a reduction of 2 seats) and 1 for the Brockhampton parish group member (a reduction of 2 seats), and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects.**

IV. **The existing parish councils of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge that make up the existing Kilpeck group parish council shall all be dissolved; the existing parishes of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge that make up the existing Kilpeck group parish council shall all be abolished; and to form a new parish as shown on the map in appendix C and that the new parish shall be represented by a Parish Council); the name of that new parish council shall be 'Kilpeck Parish Council, and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects**

V. **The number of seats on Peterchurch parish council be increased from 8 to 9 to accommodate current and future population growth, and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects**

VI. **That the ward and parish boundary in the Moreton on Lugg parish and the parish of Wellington be moved between Queenswood and Sutton Walls to enable two properties, namely Aylus Cottages, to move from the parish of Moreton on Lugg into the parish of Wellington (Marked A on the map contained in Appendix E and G) and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected;**

VII. **That consequent upon this change being made that the Council recommend to the LGBCE that the boundaries of the Queenswood and Sutton Walls ward be changed to ensure coterminosity with the new parish boundary;**

VIII. **The parish boundary between Wellington and Hope Under Dinmore is adjusted to enable three properties, namely the Old Fruit Farm, Bathfield and Queens Wood House to move from their current parish, Wellington, into the parish of Hope Under Dinmore (Marked B on the map contained in Appendix G); and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected;**

b) **No changes be made to the Bredenbury district group parish council;**

c) **No changes be made to Longtown group parish council; and**

d) **The solicitor to the council be authorised to make the orders as drafted at appendices H to O and referrals to the LGBCE to implement the above recommendations.**

Alternative options

1. **Do nothing.** This is not an option because Council has already determined to undertake the reviews and must comply with the statutory guidance which says that the outcome should be determined within 12 months of that first decision.

2. **Make no changes:** This is not recommended as the council has responsibility for undertaking community governance reviews. It is for Council to decide whether to give effect to recommendations made in those reviews. In making their recommendations principal authorities need to take account of the views of local people. The reviews have been overseen by Audit and Governance Committee who have approved the recommendations having regard to views expressed during consultation.

Key considerations

3. Herefordshire is currently divided into 239 parishes and there are no areas within the county which are not 'parished'. Within the county there are 133 parish councils, (some of which are group parish councils which collectively represent more than one parish), and four parish meetings (where there is no parish council but a parish meeting is held at least twice a year to which all electors are entitled to attend and vote on certain matters).

4. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIH 2007) devolved responsibility for determining the governance arrangements of this first tier of local government to principal authorities, and they must do this by way of a CGR. This guidance has been followed during the undertaking of the community governance reviews undertaken by Herefordshire Council.

5. A CGR can consider a number of issues, including: whether to create a new parish, whether to dissolve existing parishes; whether to alter the boundary of one or more existing parishes; whether to group a number of parishes together in a grouped parish council; whether to alter the number of seats on an existing parish council; and on the electoral arrangements which accompany these changes..

6. Between September 2015 to April 2016, information was gathered on current elector numbers per parish, number of uncontested seats (following the 2015 local elections) and the number of seats remaining vacant remaining after the election. In addition, parishes were asked to identify any issues they would wish to be considered as part of a CGR. The views of all ward members were also sought. Thirteen parishes, at that time, came forward with a range of reasons they had identified as being within scope for a CGR. Those parishes can be reviewed here.

7. During the spring/summer of 2017, informal follow up consultation was undertaken with the thirteen parishes and ward members to confirm that the reasons they originally set out to undertake a formal CGR were still valid. Five of the original thirteen parishes sought to withdraw their interest, noting various reasons or changes in local circumstances for doing so. Some, for example, noted that the original reason for wishing to undertake a CGR no longer existed; some parishes noted that they wished to have more time to formulate their agreement around the precise nature of change they required before committing to a formal review.

8. In October 2017 full Council unanimously agreed, therefore, to commence eight community governance reviews in the Bishopstone district group, Bredenbury district group, Brockhampton group, Kilpeck group, Peterchurch, Moreton on Lugg and Wellington parishes. Each of those parishes confirmed their agreement with their draft terms of reference ahead of the full Council meeting. These terms of reference were limited to particular questions which arose from the consultation and so the review and

the formal consultation once the review commenced was in each case carried out on that limited area, rather than the broader range of questions contained within the Act.

9. The Bredenbury district group parish Council withdrew their support for and their involvement in their CGR in November 2017. This followed significant change resulting in a number of resignations of parish council members in October 2017. As a result there has been limited consultation with the Bredenbury group parish. The local ward member was consulted on these matters and was in agreement that limited scope to continue meaningfully with the review remained.

10. The parish council originally identified a parish within the group was able to have voting powers disproportionate to its size due to the distribution of seats. It was proposed that the number of seats for other members of the group be increased.

11. While limited consultation was undertaken as part of this CGR, triangulation of evidence in connection to the original reasons Bredenbury group parish had proposed their CGR was undertaken. The Aston Business School and the National Association of Local Councils concur that for parishes with fewer than 500 electorates they should have between 5 to 8 councillors to represent them. The electoral population of the Bredenbury group parish is 274. This electoral population is relatively evenly split, insofar as, the Grendon Bishop member has 83 electorates; the Wacton member has 94 and the Bredenbury member has 97. Currently Grendon Bishop Paris represented by 3 parish councillors on the group; Wacton and Bredenbury parish both represented by 2 parish councillors each.

12. These ratios would suggest that there is an acceptable number of parish councillors on the Bredenbury group parish council. It would also suggest that the balance of representation is also within recommended tolerances. To that end, there was limited scope to make any further changes in connection with the original terms of reference.

13. Of the seven remaining reviews where potential change remained an option, two of the reviews sought to raise (Peterchurch) or lower (Brockhampton group) the number of parish seats on the parish council. Four of the reviews sought to address perceived parish and/or ward boundary anomalies (Bishopstone; Longtown; Moreton on Lugg and Wellington). The remaining review (Kilpeck group) sought to abolish the five group member parishes and amalgamate those parishes into a single parished area. The terms of reference for each community governance review can be viewed here.

14. Two phases of open and targeted consultation were undertaken as part of the CGR process. The council consulted local government electors for each of the areas under review. It also ensured that the consultation was open to any other person or body (including a local authority) which appears to the council to have an interest in the review.

15. The first phase (1 February to 6 April) was designed to gather community opinion on the proposed changes – as set out within each of the agreed terms of reference - within each parish under review. The results of the first phase of consultation indicated that six of the seven reviews should proceed to a phase 2 consultation. Insofar as, the balance of evidence indicated that there was community support for the proposals following the phase 1 consultation. See appendix A to G.

16. A second phase of consultation was not pursued in relation to Longtown Group Parish Council. During the phase 1 consultation, differing views on the type of boundary change emerged. Instead of migrating the parish of Walterstone from the Longtown group to the Ewyas Harold group parish, a proposal to split and effectively abolish the parish of Walterstone was proposed by respondents. This type of change fell outside of the scope

of their agreed terms of reference. As such, a recommendation of no change at the current time has been proposed. The Longtown group remains interested in exploring a possible parish boundary change but will undertake further informal consultation before considering any further review. Should a requirement for a further CGR be identified new terms of reference will be brought forward for full Council consideration.

17. The six remaining reviews conducted their second phase of open and targeted consultation between 11 May to 26 June. Those consultations sought community views on whether their respective proposals – outlined in their agreed terms of reference - should come in to force.

18. In total, 73 responses to the phase 1 and phase 2 consultation were received. The consultation reports and resulting recommendations for each of the parishes taking part in the CGRs can be found in Appendix A to G.

19. If the recommendations are approved, reorganisation of community governance orders creating new parishes, abolishing parishes or altering their area will be made at any time following a review. Electoral arrangements for a new or existing parish council will come into force at the first elections to the parish council following the reorganisation order. The effective date for those changes coming in to force will be 3 May, 2019, following the local elections.

20. If – in going forward - the council implements the recommendations made in its review, there are other steps it is required to undertake as reflected in recommendations II and VII

21. These include depositing copies of the reorganisation order at its main office, it should also deposit a map showing the effects of the order in detail which should be available for inspection by the public at all reasonable times (i.e. during normal working hours). The 2007 Act also requires the council to make available a document setting out the reasons for the decisions it has taken (including where it has decided to make no change following a community governance review) and to publicise these reasons.

22. Community governance reviews requesting related alterations to ward boundaries of this Council will need to involve the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) once the changes have been made to the parishes. Supporting information required when making a request for related alterations:
    - A copy of the Reorganisation of Community Governance Order
    - The Order maps
    - Details of exactly what areas have moved and how many electors are currently in each area, as well as a five year forecast and details of the electoral cycle. A copy of the report to Council detailing the outcome of consultations, the recommendations made and evidence of consultation (for example, photocopies of adverts or notices placed)
    - A copy of signed agreement to the related alterations from Herefordshire Council

23. Unless requests for related alterations have been made to the LGBCE by **1 October**, there can be no guarantee that any Order will be made in time for implementation in elections in May. Given that full Council meets on 12 October, advanced notification has been given to the LGBCE of the proposals set out in recommendations I and VI. They have given written assurances that if full Council agrees to the recommendations for each of the CGRs the consequential changes will be made in time for the local elections in May 2019.

24. Community governance reviews can only be held in years expected to be free of any scheduled elections. Current election planning indicates that the next window of opportunity to undertake a further round of CGRs will be 2021. A number of parishes have already expressed their interest in taking part in a CGR in this timeframe. Lessons learned as a result of undertaking this series of reviews will be applied to any future CGRs undertaken by Herefordshire Council.

Community impact

25. Herefordshire Council's Corporate Plan commits Herefordshire Council to helping to create a strong sense of community where people feel they belong and have the confidence to get involved. Each of the CGRs will help facilitate this outcome.

26. The recommendations support the council to meet its code of corporate governance by ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement and that clear trusted channels of communication and consultation should be used to engage effectively with all groups of stakeholders. In addition, that decisions are taken on the basis of good information, and that the council is transparent, open and responsive to Herefordshire's needs.

Equality duty

27. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

    A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

    (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

    (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

    (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

28. The public sector equality duty requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

29. In undertaking the CGRs outlined above, the council must have regard to reflecting the identities and interests of the community in the area under review, and the need to secure that community governance in that area is effective and convenient. Each of the reviews undertaken has sought to strengthen locally determined administrative, geographic and/or community connections.

Resource implications

30. There are no significant resource implications resulting from these recommendations. At the October 2017 full Council meeting an estimated figure of £5k was suggested to cover the cost of conducting the CGRs. In reality only a small proportion of that budget has been utilised on promoting the CGRs via direct mail-outs and social media platforms, in the region of £150 in total. All other promotion was provided free of charge through

Herefordshire Council's web-site and by the parishes under review via their local newsletters and web-sites.

31. If these changes are agreed, the electoral register will need to be updated to ensure that the boundary changes are correctly realigned, this will require a small amount of electoral services team time. In addition, a review of polling stations is being planned, this will take place after the May local elections. It is not expected that the CGRs will generate any material or new impact on that process.

32. There may be a small elevation in the costs of local elections in the parish of Peterchurch as a result of increasing the number of parish seats from 8 to 9. Correspondingly, there is likely to be a reduction in election costs for the Brockhampton group parish as a result of decreasing its parish council seats from 15 to 10. Parish elections take place every four years, the costs of which are re-charged back to Herefordshire Council by the parishes.

Legal implications

33. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGIHA) determines the process and timescales to be followed when conducting a CGR. A principal council must make recommendations as to:
    a) whether a new parish or any new parishes should be constituted
    b) whether existing parishes should or should not be abolished or whether the area of existing parishes should be altered or
    c) what the electoral arrangements for new or existing parishes, which are to have parish councils, should be

    It may also make recommendations about:
    a) the grouping or de-grouping of parishes
    b) adding parishes to an existing group of parishes or
    c) making related alterations to the boundaries of a principal councils' electoral areas

34. In deciding what recommendations to make the principal council must have regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area and is effective and convenient. The 2007 Act provides that it must also take into account any other arrangements (apart from those relating to parishes and their institutions) that have already been made, or that could be made, for the purposes of community representation or community engagement.

35. As noted in 6 to above and in the LGIHA – 2007 efforts were undertaken through the informal consultation which took place ahead of the review to ensure that each of the review reflected, as faithfully as possible, the identities and interests of the community within each review area. In addition, that the changes proposed by each of the CGRs were effective and convenient.

36. The LGBCE has responsibility for making any changes to ward boundaries following a community governance review. These 'consequential changes' should be consulted on as part of a review and the recommendation made to the LGBCE. The LGBCE is then responsible for making the changes to the wards or divisions.

Risk management

37.

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation

Risk 1: Ward boundary changes may not be completed in time for the May local elections. The LGBCE has stated that unless requests for related alterations have been made to the LGBCE by 1 October, there can be no guarantee that any Order will be made in time for implementation in elections in May.	**Mitigation 1:** Contact has been made with the LGBCE and advance notice given that Herefordshire Council is seeking two minor ward boundary changes. Written assurances have been received by the LGBCE that these changes can be made by the LGBCE in time for the next election should Council agree to the recommendations in this report on 12 October.
Risk 2: The consultation responses for some of the CGRs is deemed to be so low that the evidence cannot be relied upon to make these recommendations.	**Mitigation 2:** All reasonable efforts to communicate the opportunity to influence the CGRs in each parish were made. Very few responses in opposition to the changes proposed by each CGR were received. In addition, the changes being proposed in each CGR are relatively uncontroversial, insofar as, they represent pragmatic steps to ensure the community continue to feel connected to and relevance with their local parished area.
Opportunity: As a result of undertaking this series of CGRs other parishes considering a review may feel greater confidence in coming forward for a future round of CGRs, to be conducted in 2021, the next year predicted to be free of elections.	A communications plan highlighting the changes made from this series of CGRs will be developed and promoted to other parishes interested in undertaking a CGR.

38. Risk 1 is already being monitored and reported upon via the law and governance performance and risk register.

Consultees

39. Both phases of consultation undertaken as part of this series of reviews were open to anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also targeted and promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site. Additional steps were taken to post or hand deliver letters outlining the proposed changes to households identified as being in scope of possible boundary changes.

40. The metrics from the social media campaigns indicated that 47,945 people received details of the community governance review consultations and fact sheets via their social media channels. This generated 872 ‘clicked links’ through to the consultation pages.

41. Fact sheets and maps were made available alongside the consultation so that those responding to the consultation could review further information on the changes being proposed. This included the existing boundary lines between the adjacent lying parishes/wards and the new boundary lines that would result if the community supported such a change. The fact sheets supplied local information on local population figures, projected growth, information on the local neighbourhood plan and consequential changes to local council tax for any homes directly affected by a possible ward boundary change. The fact sheets can be viewed here.

42. Local ward members were also consulted in each of the wards where CGRs were being conducted or affected. The recommendations linked to each of the CGRs have been reviewed and are supported by the ward members in question.

Appendices

Appendix A to G: Consultation reports and consequential recommendations.

Appendix H to O: The parish orders drafted following each review.

Background papers

None identified

Herefordshire Council

Bishopstone Group – Community Governance Review

Phase 1 Consultation response

From 13 February to the 6 April, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community of Bishopstone group parish in connection with their community governance review. The community were asked to provide their views on whether they supported proposals to move a boundary currently within The Bishopstone Group parish area on the north side of the A438 at Sugwas Pool, Swainshill, to Stretton Sugwas parish. The initial stage of the review was to find out local views and assess what solutions are the right ones to pursue to a full proposals consultation.

The consultation was made available for anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site. In addition, the residents within the boundary area under review were written to inviting their responses in relation to the proposals.

Consultation response:

Two responses to the Bishopstone group questionnaire was received. One response was in support of the proposed change, and one was not supportive. The evidence offered in support of the proposal noted that the residents within the boundary area under review look towards Stretton Sugwas as their parish, and that there was a large geographic disconnection of those properties from most of the Parish. It therefore made sense to propose this change. There was no supporting evidence offered by the response that was not supportive of this change.

It is important to note that the parish council has indicated its support for the perceived boundary anomaly to be addressed. Parishioners in the Bishopstone group should also note that the neighbouring parish of Stretton Sugwas is also supportive of the boundary anomaly being addressed. Recognising that there is a closer geographic connection to the parish of Stretton Sugwas for those properties in the boundary area under review.

The effect of this change would mean that the area and houses marked in blue on the map would transfer from Bishopstone group parish governance over to Stretton Sugwas parish governance arrangements. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between the wards of Stoney Street and Creden Hill.

National government guidance notes that ‘A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries. Since the new boundaries are likely to be used to provide the building blocks for district ward, London borough ward, county division and parliamentary constituency boundaries in future reviews for such councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary issues at regular intervals’.

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to formally propose that the boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties on the north side of the A438 at Sugwas Pool, Swainshill, and Sugwas parish is progressed. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between Stoney Street and Credenhill wards.

Herefordshire Council

Bishopstone Group – Community Governance Review

Phase 2 Consultation response

From 11 May to 29 June, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community in the group parish of Bishopstone on their community governance review proposals. This followed a first wave of consultation where the community were asked to provide their views on proposals to move a number of properties appear to be affected by a boundary anomaly in the east of the parish lying close to the Stretton Sugwas parish border.

Following the first phase of consultation it was felt that the balance of evidence could conclude that the local community were supportive of this proposal and the following recommendations were made:

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to formally propose that the boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties on the north side of the A438 at Sugwas Pool, Swainshill, and Sugwas parish is progressed. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between Stoney Street and Credenhill wards.

Based upon the above recommendations, a phase 2 consultation was undertaken to test levels of community support or opposition for making the proposed changes to the boundary anomalies identified. The consultation was open to anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also targeted and promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site. The additional step was taken to hand deliver letters outlining the proposed changes to the households identified as being in scope of this review.

The metrics from the social media campaigns indicate that 3,361 people received details of the Bishopstone community governance review consultations and fact sheets. This generated 141 'clicked links' through to the consultation pages.

Fact sheets and maps were made available alongside the consultation so that those responding to the consultation could review further information on the changes being proposed. This included the existing boundary lines between the adjacent lying parishes/wards and the new boundary lines that would result from the community supporting such a change. In addition, the fact sheets provided local information on local population figures, projected growth, information on the local neighbourhood plan and consequential changes to local council tax for any homes directly affected by a possible ward boundary change.

Consultation response:

One responses to the phase 2 Bishopstone consultation was received, that response was un-supportive of the proposed change. There was no supporting evidence offered by the consultee other than noting that it was '*Change, for change sake'*.

It is important to note that the parish council has indicated its support for the perceived boundary anomaly to be addressed. Parishioners in the Bishopstone group should also note that the neighbouring parish of Stretton Sugwas is also supportive of the boundary anomaly being addressed. Recognising that there is a closer geographic connection to the parish of Stretton Sugwas for those properties in the boundary area under review. Both local ward members, from Stoney Street and Creden Hill ward are also supportive of the changes being proposed.

The effect of this change would mean that the area and houses marked in blue on the map would transfer from Bishopstone group parish governance over to Stretton Sugwas parish governance arrangements. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between the wards of Stoney Street and Creden Hill.

Triangulation:

National government guidance notes that 'A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries. Since the new boundaries are likely to be used to provide the building blocks for district ward, London borough ward, county division and parliamentary constituency boundaries in future reviews for such councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary issues at regular intervals'.

The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to change the boundary anomaly affecting the following properties on the north side of the A438 at Sugwas Pool, Swainshill, and Sugwas parish is progressed.

- Bradworthy
- Pear Tree Cottage
- Elandwin
- The Bounds
- Longhope
- Old Weir Farm Cottages
- Sugwas Pool Cottage
- Miramar
- Anchorage
- Heathmere, and
- St. Margarets Bunglalow.

This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between Stoney Street and Credenhill wards. Map below refers.

Recommendation:

I. ***That the parish boundary between the Bishopstone group parish and the Stretton Sugwas parish be moved between Stoney Street and Credenhill ward to enable the following properties (Bradworthy; Pear Tree Cottage; Elandwin; the Bounds; Longhope; Old Weir Farm Cottages; Sugwas Pool Cottage; Miramar; Anchorage; Heathmere, and St. Margarets Bunglalow) to be moved from the Bishopstone district group parish to Stretton Sugwas parish, and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected;***

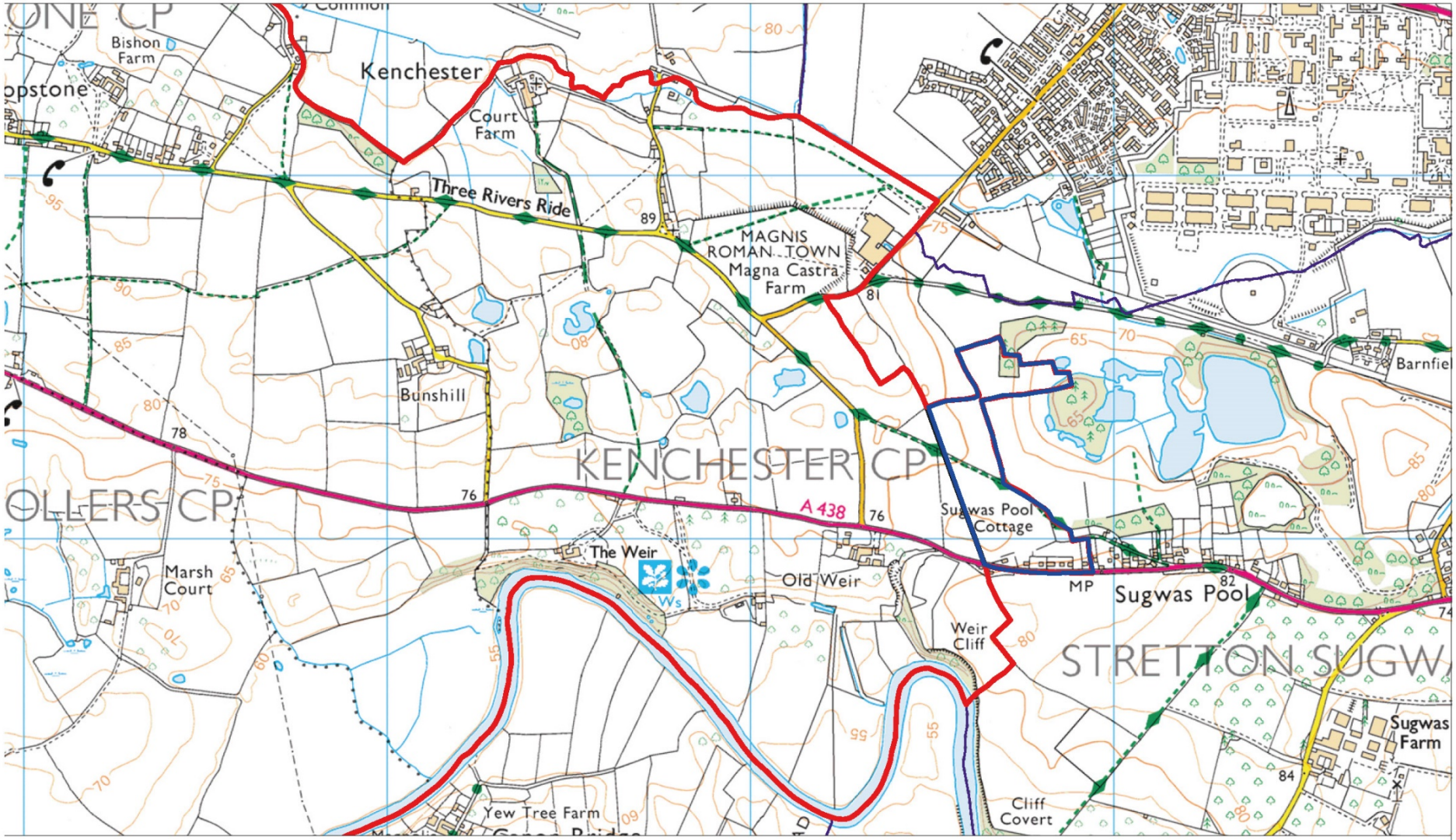
II. ***That consequent upon this change being made that the Council recommend to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) that the boundaries of the Stoney Street and Credenhil ward be changed to ensure coterminosity with the new parish boundary;***

Resource Implications: There are no financial implications arising from this change. Some staff time will be required to update the electoral register to record this change. For the houses moving from the Bishopstone Group Parish, there will be a slight elevation in council tax payments.

See

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/13465/information_sheet_bishopstone_group_parish

Map of Bishopstone group parish and border with Stretton Sugwas parish. Area mark with black line is proposed to move from Bishopstone group parish into Stretton Sugwas parish.



Herefordshire Council

Brockhampton Group Parish Council – Community Governance Review

Phase 1 Consultation Response

From 13 February to the 6 April, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community of Brockhampton group parish in connection with their community governance review. The community were asked to provide their views on whether the number of seats within the group should be reviewed so as to better reflect the number of electors to strengthen the democratic process. This initial stage of the review is to find out local views prior to a full consultation.

The consultation was made available for anybody to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

Consultation response. No responses to the consultation were received.

While this does not indicate positive support for this proposal, it also indicates that there is not strong opposition to the proposals. It is important to note that the parish council firmly supports the proposed change to reduce the current number of Parish Council seats from 15 to 10, to better reflect the number of electors.

National government guidance notes that 'Council size is the term used to describe the number of councillors to be elected to the whole council. The 1972 Act, as amended, specifies that each parish council must have at least five councillors; there is no maximum number. There are no rules relating to the allocation of those councillors between parish wards but each parish ward, and each parish grouped under a common parish council, must have at least one parish councillor.

The Government's guidance also states that 'each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to its population, geography and the pattern of communities' and therefore the Council is prepared to pay particular attention to existing levels of representation, the broad pattern of existing council sizes which have stood the test of time and the take-up of seats at elections in its consideration of this matter.

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing to reduce the current number of Parish Council seats from 15 to 10, to better reflect the number of electors within the Brockhampton Group Parish.

Herefordshire Council

Brockhampton Group Parish Council – Community Governance Review

Phase 2 Consultation Response

From 11 May to 29 June, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community in the Brockhampton group parish on their community governance review proposals. This followed a first wave of consultation where the community were asked to provide their views on whether the number of seats within the group should be reviewed so as to better reflect the number of electors to strengthen the democratic process.

Following the first phase of consultation consultees were supportive of this proposal and the following recommendation was made:

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing to reduce the current number of Parish Council seats from 15 to 10, to better reflect the number of electors within the Brockhampton Group Parish.

Based upon the above recommendation, a phase 2 consultation was undertaken to test levels of community support or opposition for making the proposed changes to reducing the number of parish seats.

The consultation was open to anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also targeted and promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site. Fact sheets and maps were made available alongside the consultation so that those responding to the consultation could review further information on the changes being proposed. In addition, the fact sheets provided local information on local population figures and projected growth and information on the local neighbourhood plan.

The metrics from the social media campaigns indicate that 3,505 people received details of the Brockhampton community governance review consultations and fact sheets. This generated 82 'clicked links' through to the consultation pages.

Consultation response.

Two responses were received in support of the proposed changes to reduce the number of parish seats from 15 to 10. One response was from an individual living or working in the Brockhampton group parish area, one response was from an organisation within the Brockhampton group parish area. No responses were received in objection to the proposed changes. Support was offered on the basis that it was felt by respondents to be an '*obvious*' and logical step to take, given the difficulty that the group parish has in filling all of the current 15 seats. Further support was given on the basis that:

- It was '*pointless trying to fill seats that people are not willing to fill*'. However, in offering that support, by noting that '*as long as accountability and effectiveness* (of the group parish council) *is maintained a reduction in numbers should be fine*'.

*(**Individual from Brockhampton Community**)*

While this low level of responses does not generate strong public opinion on this matter, positive support for this proposal has been indicated. It is also important to note that the parish council firmly supports the proposed change as it believes this will better reflect the number of electors.

Triangulation:

Parishes wishing to increase or decrease numbers must give strong reasons for doing so. The number of parish/town councillors for each council must be not less than five but can be greater. However, each parish grouped under a common parish council must have at least one parish councillor. The Aston Business School found the following levels of representation to the good running of a council:

Electors	Councillors
Less than 500	5-8
501-2,500	6-12
2,501-10,000	9-16
10,001-20,000	13-27
More than 20,000	13-31

The population of the electorate (those of voting age and above) within the Brockhampton[1] group is currently 610. On this basis decreasing the number of seats from 15 to 10 means that the parish council falls within acceptable levels of representation for a group parish of this population size.

The Brockhampton group parish council have indicated that proportional representation should be applied to the revised number of seats. A breakdown of the population of the electorate is as follows: Linton group member has 324 electorates (equating to 53% of the total number of electorate), Norton group member has 225 electorate (equating to 36% of the total number of electorate) and Brockhampton has 61 electorates (equating to 10% of the total number of electorate). It is therefore recommended that the Linton group member should be allocated 5 seats, the Norton group member be allocated 4 seats and the Brockhampton group member be allocated 1 seat.

National government guidance notes that 'Council size is the term used to describe the number of councillors to be elected to the whole council. The 1972 Act, as amended, specifies that each parish council must have at least five councillors; there is no maximum number. There are no rules relating to the allocation of those councillors between parish wards but each parish ward, and each parish grouped under a common parish council, must have at least one parish councillor.

The Government's guidance also states that 'each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to its population, geography and the pattern of communities' and therefore the Council is prepared to pay particular attention to existing levels of representation, the broad pattern of existing council sizes which have stood the test of time and the take-up of seats at elections in its consideration of this matter.

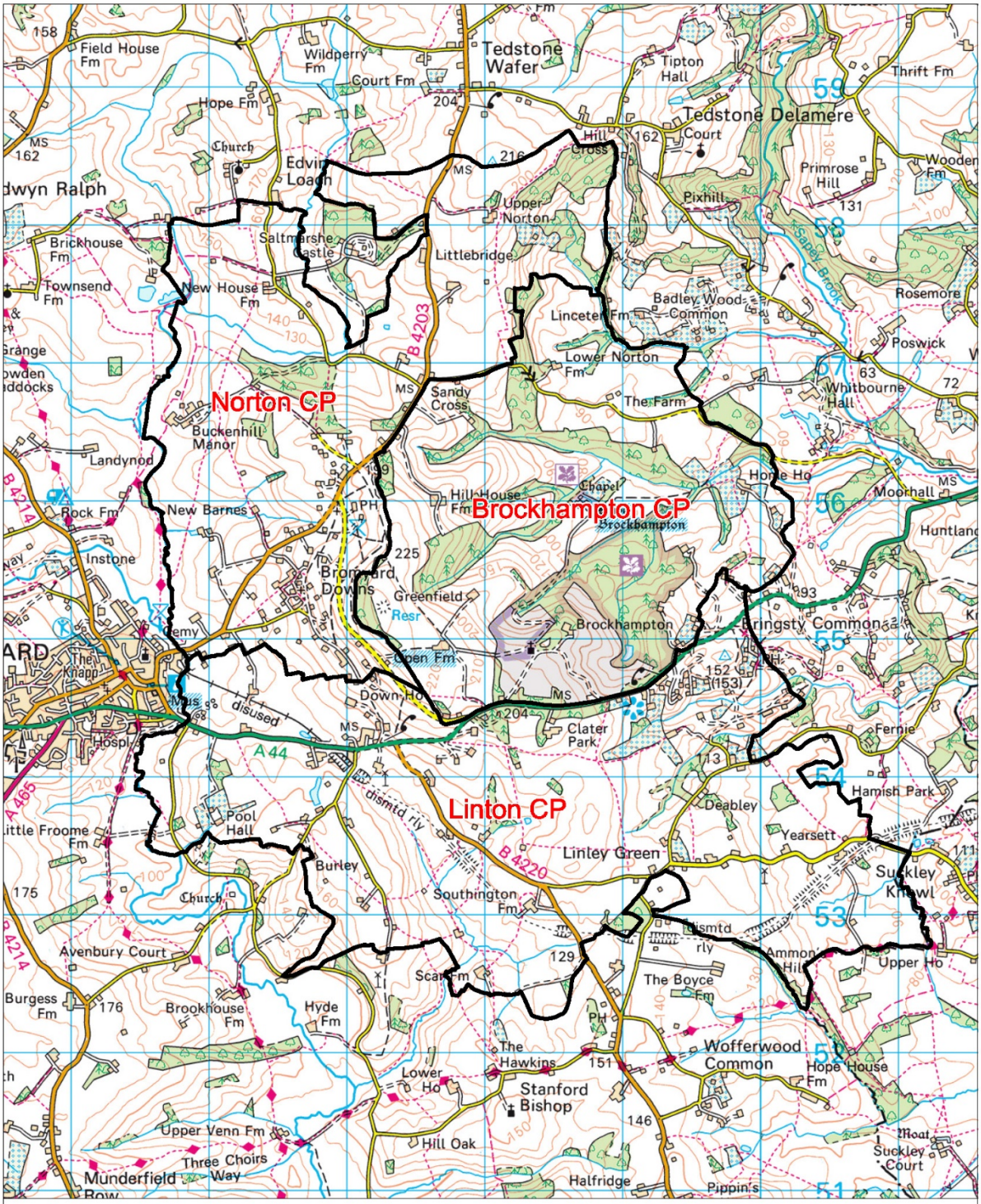
The balance of evidence, from both phase 1 and 2 consultations, indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing to reduce the current number of Parish Council seats.

Recommendation: ***The number of seats on Brockhampton group parish be reduced from 15 to 10 to better reflect the number of electors; the ratio of parish council seats will be 5 for the Linton Parish group member (a reduction of 1 seat); 4 for the Norton parish group member (a reduction of 2 seats) and 1 for the Brockhampton parish group member (a reduction of 2 seats), and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects***

Resource Implications: There is likely to be a reduction election costs for the Brockhampton group parish as a result of decreasing its parish council seats from 15 to 10. Parish elections take place every four years, the costs of which are re-charged back to Herefordshire Council by the parishes. A small amount of staff time will be required to update the electoral register to record this change.

Brockhampton Group parish map.

[1] *Source: ONS © Crown copyright 2017*



© Crown copyright and database rights (2017) Ordnance Survey (100024168)
Only an official copy of a title plan or register obtained from the Land Registry may be used for legal or other official purposes.
This material was last updated on 01/05/2009 and may not be copied, distributed, sold or published without the formal permission of Land Registry.
© Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of Land Registry under delegated authority from the Controller of HMSO.
Herefordshire Council, Asset Management, PO Box 4, Hereford HR4 0XH propertyinformation@herefordshire.gov.uk

Herefordshire Council

Kilpeck Group Parish Community Governance Review

Phase 1 Consultation response

From 13 February to the 6 April, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community in the Kilpeck group parish on their community governance review proposals. The community were asked to provide their views on whether Kilpeck group parish should merge into a single parish council. In essence, the proposal is that parishes of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge merge and form one single parish.

The consultation was made available on-line for anybody to respond to via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

Consultation response:

One response to the consultation was received which was not supportive of the proposal. The principal evidence offered in support of that view was a concern that merging the parishes may lead to some of the parishes within the group having no representation. A further view was offered that if the merger was to go ahead all of the parishes within the group should have at least one representative.

While this does not indicate positive support for this proposal, it does not indicate that there is strong opposition to the proposals. It is important to note that all five of the parishes within the Kilpeck group have indicated their support for this change.

In addition, the Government's guidance also states that 'section 91 also requires a review to consider the electoral arrangements of a grouped parish council or of a parish council established after a parish is de-grouped. Each parish in a group must return at least one councillor. This requirement, therefore, addresses the condition advocated by the respondent that all parishes should retain representation if the group parish was to merge.

National government guidance also notes that 'In some cases, it may be preferable to group together parishes so as to allow a common parish council to be formed. Such proposals are worth considering and may avoid the need for substantive changes to parish boundaries, the creation of new parishes or the abolition of very small parishes where, despite their size, they still reflect community identity. Grouping or de-grouping needs to be compatible with the retention of community interests. It would be inappropriate for it to be used to build artificially large units under single parish councils.

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that the parishes of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge merge and form one single parish.

Herefordshire Council

Kilpeck Group Parish Community Governance Review

Phase 2 Consultation response

From 11 May to 29 June, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community in the Kilpeck group parish on their community governance review proposals. This followed a first wave of consultation where the community were asked to provide their views as to whether the Kilpeck group parish should merge into a single parish council. This proposal if supported would provide the grounds for consulting on a possible merging of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge parishes to form one single parish.

Based upon the above recommendations, a phase 2 consultation was undertaken to test levels of community support or opposition for merging the group parish into a single parish. The consultation was open to anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also targeted and promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

The metrics from the social media campaigns indicate that 4,400 people received details of the Kilpeck community governance review consultations and fact sheets. This generated 116 'clicked links' through to the consultation pages.

Consultation response:

Ten responses to the consultation were received. Eight of the responses received were supportive of the recommendation to merge the Kilpeck group parish into a single parish. Two responses were opposed to this proposed change. This represents 80% of respondents in favour of the proposed change, with 20% of respondents opposed.

Those in support of the proposal to create a single parish:

The principal evidence consultees offered in support of the proposed change related to a belief that merging into a single parish would reduce the costs of local parish elections and that it makes administrative sense to bring the group together as one parish. That support was caveated by some respondents who wish to ensure that a merging of the five parishes takes place all of the parishes within the group will maintain representation on the newly created single parish.

- *I agree that it is a good idea providing that the number of parish councillors remain the same to represent all the individual postal parishes*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Community**)*

Support was also contextualised in relation to cost savings that could be realised during election periods and the opportunity to reduce administrative processes by operating as one parish as opposed to five grouped parishes.

- *I believe that providing that individual parishes are represented by a local parish councillor within the single named parish is a good idea and will save potential costs at election times*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

- *Makes great sense. Less red tape and expense during elections*

*(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

- *Will make administration simpler without having to produce paperwork for each parish*

*(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

Those in opposition to create a single parish:

The principal evidence offered in the two objections to the proposed change related to a belief that the sense of community spirit would be lost by merging the group parish in to one. This view was substantiated by highlighting that the individual parishes have their own voice and heritage which would be threatened if those parishes were to disappear. A view was offered that each parish has its own traditions linked to both community connections and local distinctiveness.

- *Totally disagree on the 5 parishes becoming one parish, the community spirit would be lost, a sense of individuality will be lost, our voices will not be heard and the traditional of past years will all be forgotten, I disagree that the parish should be one, we all have our individual village names, our own places of worship, a community to be proud of.*

*(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

Concerns were also raised that if a single parish is to be created it may lead to imbalance of local democracy whereby representatives from some of the smaller parished may be over ruled by the representatives from the bigger parishes. There was also some scepticism that creating a single parish would bring any benefits above and beyond the current arrangements.

- *You state that we would have our own representative, but being under one parish that representative may be over ruled by Kilpeck, we are all in our own little community , our own village sign our own churches named for a reason, keep tradition alive don't kill it*.

*(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

- *What are the benefits?*

*(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

National Guidance on creating a single parish from a group parish:

The Government's guidance states that 'section 91 also requires a review to consider the electoral arrangements of a grouped parish council or of a parish council established after a parish is de-grouped. Each parish in a group must return at least one councillor.

National government guidance also notes that 'In some cases, it may be preferable to group together parishes so as to allow a common parish council to be formed. Such proposals are worth considering and may avoid the need for substantive changes to parish boundaries, the creation of new parishes or the abolition of very small parishes where, despite their size, they still reflect community identity. Grouping or de-grouping needs to be compatible with the retention of community interests. It would be inappropriate for it to be used to build artificially large units under single parish councils.

The phase 2 consultation also invited respondents to consider what the name of a newly created single parish should be. The consultation proposed that a new parish be called 'Kilpeck Parish Council' on the basis that it retains a familiarity to the current group name and therefore would most likely maintain existing local identity. Six responses to this question were received. Four of those responses were broadly in agreement that Kilpeck Parish Council would provide a satisfactory new name for the single parish. Two of the responses in favour of this new name also indicated that a

possible alternative name could be to name the newly created single parish as Wormbridge parish Council or Wormbridge and Kilpeck Parish Council.

- *Keeping the Kilpeck makes sense for continuity*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

- *As the present name of the group is Kilpeck I see no reason not to call it Kilpeck parish Council*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

- *Using the Kilpeck name makes sense to me. If an alternative was needed I would suggest Wormbridge*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

- *Wormbridge Parish Or Wormbridge and Kilpeck Group Parish*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

Of the two responses received from those in opposition to the group parish becoming a single parish there was also no agreement to the proposed name change. A concern was also raised as to why this proposed change was being considered at all.

- *No I disagree on this question see previous answer to disagreeing on becoming one parish!*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

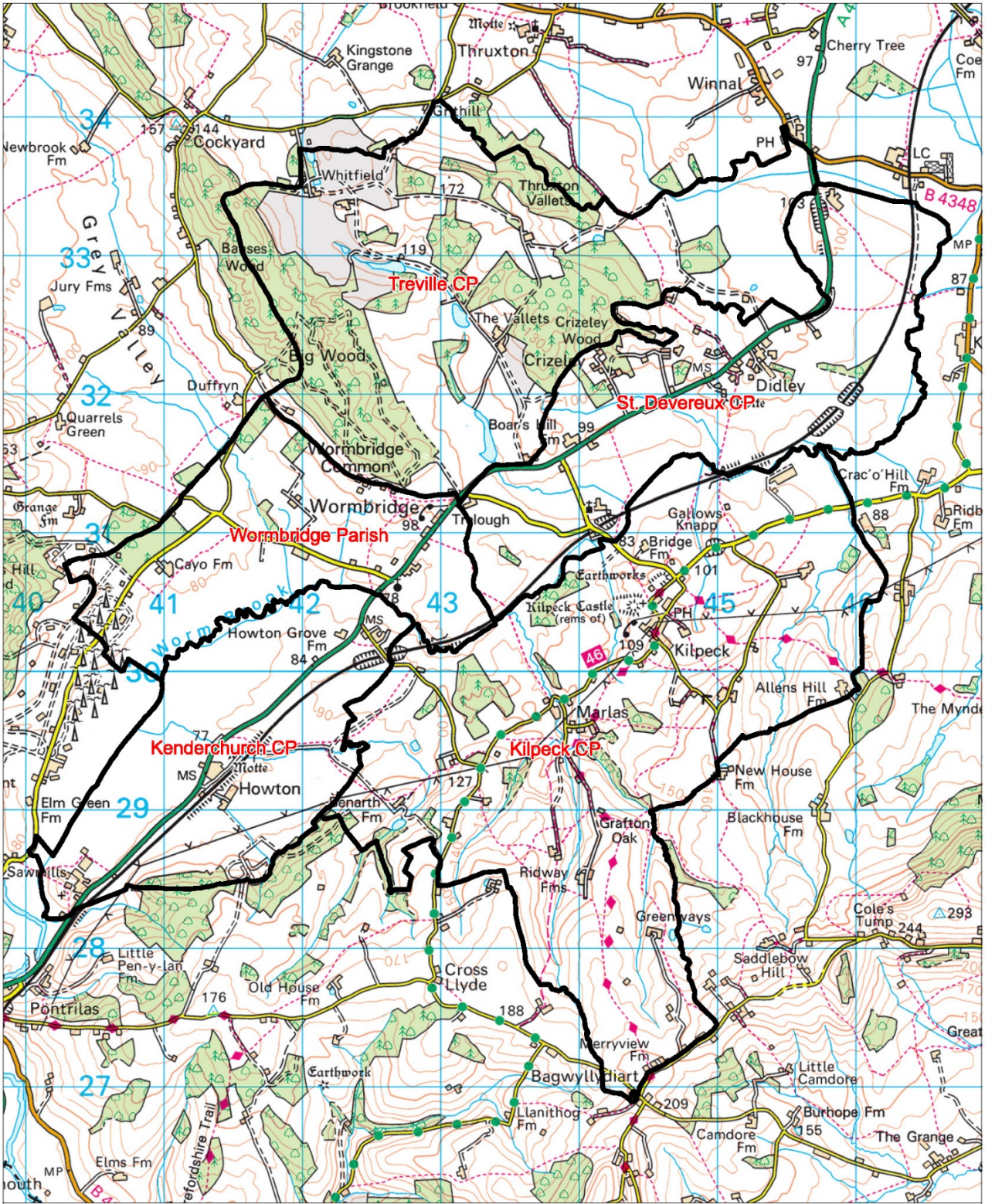
- *Why is this being proposed?*

  *(**Individual from Kilpeck Group Community**)*

Recommendation 1: *The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that: The existing parish councils of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge that make up the existing Kilpeck group parish council shall all be dissolved; the existing parishes of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge that make up the existing Kilpeck group parish council shall all be abolished; and to form a new parish as shown on the map in appendix C and that the new parish shall be represented by a Parish Council;); the name of that new parish council shall be 'Kilpeck Parish Council, and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects*

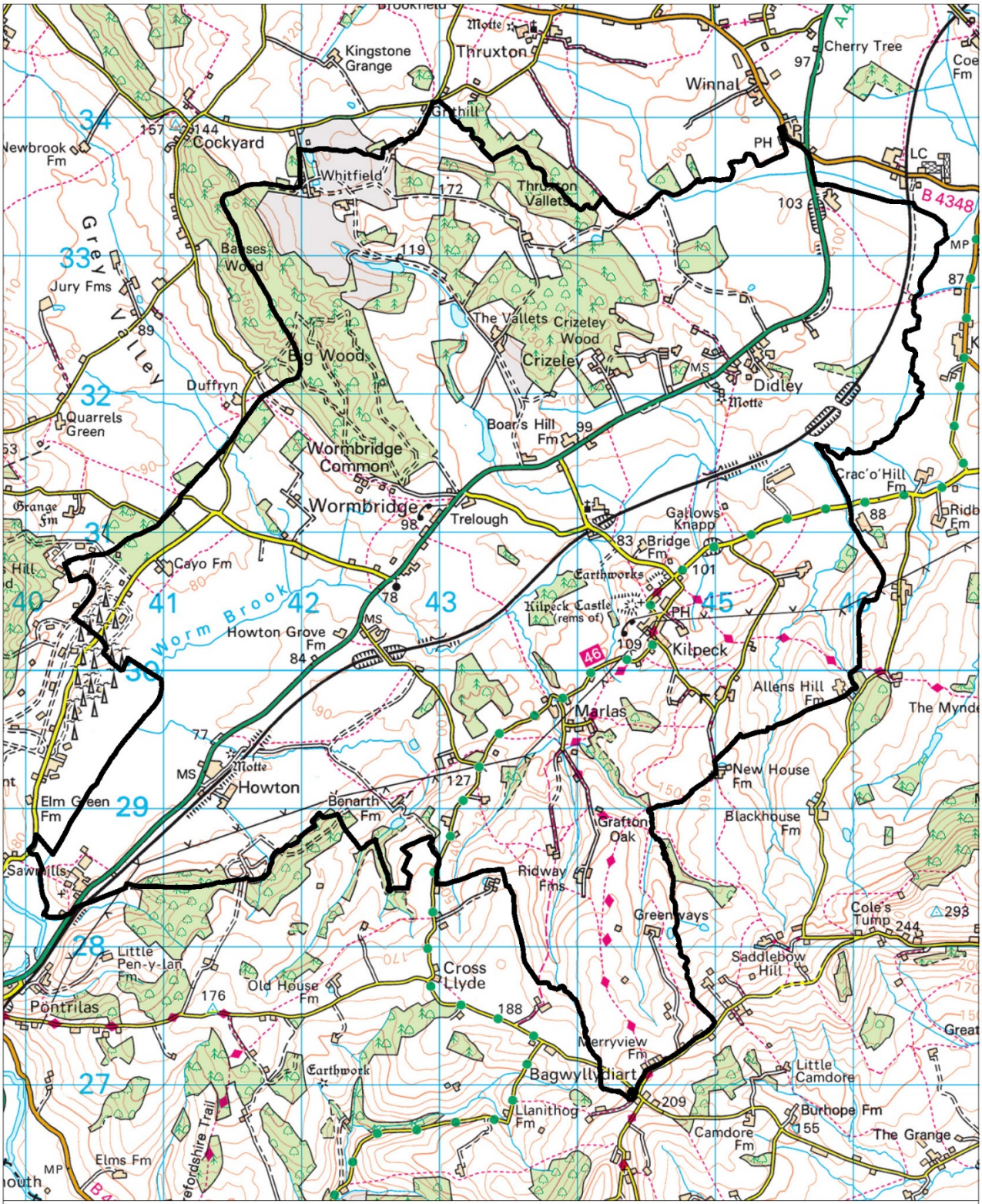
Resource Implications: There are no financial implications if these recommendations are accepted. There are no plans to change the number of parish council seats as a result of this change. A small amount of staff time will be required to update the electoral register if these changes are taken forward.

Map 1: Kilpeck Group parish Council.



© Crown copyright and database rights (2017) Ordnance Survey (100024168)
Only an official copy of a title plan or register obtained from the Land Registry may be used for legal or other official purposes.
This material was last updated on 01/05/2009 and may not be copied, distributed, sold or published without the formal permission of Land Registry
© Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of Land Registry under delegated authority from the Controller of HMSO.
Herefordshire Council, Asset Management, PO Box 4, Hereford HR4 0XH propertyinformation@herefordshire.gov.uk

Map 2: The proposed amalgamated parish of Kilpeck



© Crown copyright and database rights (2017) Ordnance Survey (100024168)
Only an official copy of a title plan or register obtained from the Land Registry may be used for legal or other official purposes.
This material was last updated on 01/05/2009 and may not be copied, distributed, sold or published without the formal permission of Land Registry.
© Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of Land Registry under delegated authority from the Controller of HMSO.
Herefordshire Council, Asset Management, PO Box 4, Hereford HR4 0XH propertyinformation@herefordshire.gov.uk

Herefordshire Council

Community Governance Review: Longtown Group Parish

From 13 February to the 6 April, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community of Longtown group parish in connection with their community governance review. The community were asked to provide their views on the potential interest in separating the parish of Walterstone from the Longtown group and instead amalgamating Walterstone with the Ewyas Harold Group Parish. This would result in a parish boundary change.

The initial consultation was to test local views as to whether this was an option that the community would support, prior to a full consultation being undertaken.

The consultation was made available on-line for anybody to respond via the Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also promoted using social media and local newsletters.

Consultation response:

The council received two responses to the consultation which were supportive of the proposals to de-group Walterstone from the Longtown group parish and amalgamate it with the Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council. The principal reason in support of the proposal noted that some of the properties within the parish of Walterstone share a closer geographic and community connection with the Ewyas Harold group area.

There was not support for the proposed boundary change which would see the whole of the Walterstone parish moved into the Ewyas Harold group parish. It was instead suggested that some parts of Walterstone look towards Longtown naturally and not Ewyas Harold. There were also observations made that some of the properties within the Walterstone parish currently fall within Longtown parish but are part of the Walterstone community. These would be better included in Walterstone parish with the boundary running approximately along the ridge of Mynydd Myrddin.

This would suggest that the respondents may be in favour of some form of realignment of the Walterstone parish and a possible splitting of the parish in to two respective parts.

The result of the first wave consultation highlighted that the original proposal, which was to move the entire parish of Walterstone out of the Longtown group and into the Ewyas Harold group parish was not supported by the community. Instead

At the request of the Longtown group parish council and in discussions with the ward member for Golden Valley South, a meeting of Longtown group parish was held on 19 June with Herefordshire Council invited. At that meeting parish councillors noted some concerns at the low number of consultation responses received and - linked to this – the impact of undertaking further consultation within the community on splitting the parish of Walterstone. This, if enacted, would have the effect of abolishing the parish. The parish council identified that further background consultation with the community would be needed before any further formal steps be taken as part of the governance review. Options on ways forward were considered at that meeting and included:

- Running further consultation on new proposals to split the parish of Walterstone along the lines advocated by respondents to the phase 1 consultation;
- Running a further consultation to propose no further change at the current time, or

- Terminating the current CGR with a view that further engagement with the community be carried out.

Triangulation of this consultation response.

It is desirable that any changes do not upset historic traditions but do reflect changes that have happened over time, such as population shift or additional development, which may have led to a different community identity. In rural areas, the Government wants to encourage the involvement of local people in developing their community and having a part to play in shaping the decisions that affect them.

It is clear that while there was some support within the Longtown group parish for the original proposed changes, there is much weaker support for the proposals advocated in the consultation responses. The evidence indicates that there is further engagement work to be undertaken with the Longtown and Ewyas Harold group parishes to gain a clearer understanding on the specific boundary and parish changes being advocated.

Through discussion with the ward member and Longtown group parish a clear preference to undertake further engagement work exists with a view to re-visiting the option of a community governance review at a later stage.

Recommendation: ***No changes be made to Longtown group parish council.***

Alternative options: To conduct further consultation under the current terms of reference. This is not recommended as the existing terms of reference are not reflective of the change being advocated following the phase 1 consultation. To undertake further consultation at this stage risks splitting community opinion in ways that may be counterproductive and contentious. It may rule out the option of undertaking a future community governance review in 2021, at which point there may be a more clear community view as to what change, if any, they wish to see. And finally, given the timeframes within which a review must be conducted (one year), to consult on what is a potentially complex change at a relatively late stage within the review would not be advisable.

Resource implications: There are no financial or staff costs arising from this recommendation.

Herefordshire Council

Moreton on Lugg – Community Governance Review

Phase 1 Consultation Response

From 1 February to the 6 April, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community of Moreton on Lugg in connection with their community governance review. The community were asked to provide their views on a perceived border anomaly where it was proposed that a small number of local properties may be better represented in the neighbouring parish of Wellington.

The consultation was made available on-line for anyone to respond to via the Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

Consultation response:

No responses to the consultation were received. While this does not indicate positive support for this proposal, it also indicates that there is not strong opposition to the proposals. It is important to note that the parish council has indicated its support for the perceived boundary anomaly to be addressed.

Parishioners in Moreton-on-Lugg should also note that the neighbouring parish of Wellington is supportive of the boundary anomaly being addressed. Wellington is also conducting a community governance review and has asked its local community to consider the same perceived boundary anomaly. Wellington received one response to its consultation indicating support for the proposal.

The effect of this change would mean that the area and houses marked 'A' on the map would transfer from Moreton-on-Lugg's parish governance over to Wellington parish governance arrangements.

National government guidance notes that 'A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries. Since the new boundaries are likely to be used to provide the building blocks for district ward, London borough ward, county division and parliamentary constituency boundaries in future reviews for such councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary issues at regular intervals'.

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that the boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties adjacent to the A49 near Marsh House farm and Westfields be reviewed and addressed. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between the Sutton Walls and Queenswood ward.

Herefordshire Council

Moreton on Lugg – Community Governance Review

Phase 2 Consultation Response

From 11 May to 29 June, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community in the Moreton on Lugg parish on their community governance review proposals. This followed a first wave of consultation where the community were asked to provide their views on proposals to move a small number of local properties, currently located in Moreton on Lugg, to the neighbouring parish of Wellington.

Following the first phase of consultation consultees were supportive of this proposal and the following recommendation was made:

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that the boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties adjacent to the A49 near Marsh House farm and Westfields be reviewed and addressed. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between the Sutton Walls and Queenswood ward.

Based upon the above recommendation, a phase 2 consultation was undertaken to test levels of community support or opposition for merging the group parish into a single parish. The consultation was open to anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also targeted and promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

The metrics from the social media campaigns indicate that 9,054 people received details of the Moreton on Lugg community governance review consultations and fact sheets. This generated 159 'clicked links' through to the consultation pages.

In addition, fact sheets and maps were made available alongside the consultation so that those responding to the consultation could review further information on the changes being proposed. This included the existing boundary lines between the adjacent lying parishes/wards and the new boundary lines that would result from the community supporting such a change. In addition, the fact sheets provided local information on local population figures, projected growth, information on the local neighbourhood plan and consequential changes to local council tax for any homes directly affected by a possible ward boundary change.

Consultation response:

No responses to the phase 2 consultation were received. While this does not indicate positive support for this proposal, it also indicates that there is not strong opposition to it. It is important to note that Moreton on Lugg parish council has indicated its support to address the perceived boundary anomaly.

However, the houses that are in scope of this review, Aylus Cottages, did respond directly to the Wellington community governance review noting their support for the proposed changes. In their response they noted that '*We live at Aylus Hill Cottages and feel more affinity to Wellington parish'.*

National government guidance notes that 'A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries. Since the new boundaries are likely to be used to provide the building blocks for district ward, London borough ward, county division and parliamentary constituency boundaries in future reviews for such councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary issues at regular intervals'.

Triangulation:

Parishioners in Moreton-on-Lugg should also note that the neighbouring parish of Wellington is supportive of the same boundary anomaly being addressed. Wellington is also conducting a community governance review and has asked its local community to consider the same perceived boundary anomaly. Wellington received two responses to their consultation both of which indicated support for the proposal.

Recommendation: *That the parish boundary in the Moreton on Lugg parish and the parish of Wellington be moved between Queenswood and Sutton Walls to enable two properties, namely Aylus Cottages, to move from the parish of Moreton on Lugg into the parish of Wellington and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected*

The effect of this change would mean that the area and houses marked 'A' on the map would transfer from Moreton-on-Lugg's parish governance over to Wellington parish governance arrangements. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between the Sutton Walls and Queenswood ward.

Resource implications: No financial implications, a small amount of staff time will be required to update the electoral register following the boundary realignment.

Map of Moreton on Lugg and wellington parish. Area marked 'A' currently in Moreton on Lugg Parish (Sutton Walls ward) is proposed to move into Wellington Parish (Queenswood ward).



Herefordshire Council

Peterchurch Community Governance Review

Phase 1 Consultation Response

From 13 February to the 6 April, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community of Peterchurch parish in connection with their community governance review. The community were asked to provide their views on increasing the number of parish council seats by one, raising the total number of parish councillors from 8 to 9 to accommodate current and future population growth. The initial stage of the review was to find out local views prior to a full consultation.

The consultation was made available for anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

Consultation response:

36 responses to the Peterchurch questionnaire were received. Of the responses received 30 supported the parish council's proposals to increase the number of parish council seats by one while 6 of the responses were not in favour of this change. This equates to 83.3% of respondents being in favour of an increase in parish councillors, with 16.6% not being in favour.

The principal evidence offered to support the proposed increase of parish council seats by one can be summarised as follows:

- *Several respondents expressed support for an extra parish councillor to help manage future population growth*
- *A number of views expressed a hope that this change would encourage people to stand who have new ideas and thinking for the parish to consider*
- *That there would be fairer voting within the council as there would be a more representative view of the community and that having an uneven number of councillors would make voting simpler*
- *That increasing the number of councillors will aid in debate, experience and knowledge of the council and make for a better decision making process and democratic accountability.*

The evidence offered in opposition to the proposed increase of parish council seats by one can be summarised with two principal contentions:

- *A concern that the parish council is not visible, consultative or active in the community – it was suggested that it would be difficult to justify increasing the number of seats as a result*
- *An observation that the parish council spend is quite high and a contention that increasing the number of councillors might push that spend up further.*

National government guidance notes that 'Council size is the term used to describe the number of councillors to be elected to the whole council. The 1972 Act, as amended, specifies that each parish council must have at least five councillors; there is no maximum number. There are no rules relating to the allocation of those councillors between parish wards but each parish ward, and each parish grouped under a common parish council, must have at least one parish councillor.

The Government's guidance also states that 'each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to its population, geography and the pattern of communities' and therefore the Council is prepared to pay particular attention to existing levels of representation, the broad pattern of existing council sizes which have stood the test of time and the take-up of seats at elections in its consideration of this matter.

Recommendation: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally increasing the number of parish council seats by one, raising the total number of parish councillors from 8 to 9 to accommodate current and future population growth.

Herefordshire Council

Peterchurch Community Governance Review

Phase 2 Consultation Response

From 11 May to 29 June, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community in Peterchurch on their community governance review proposals. This followed a first wave of consultation where the community were asked to provide their views as to whether Peterchurch Parish Council should increase the number of parish council seats by one, raising the total number of parish councillors from 8 to 9 to accommodate current and future population growth. Following the first phase of consultation consultees were supportive of this proposal by a margin of 83.3% of respondents being in favour of an increase in parish councillors, with 16.6% not being in favour. This was based on 36 responses received.

Phase 2 Consultation.

A second phase of consultation was undertaken to test levels of community support or opposition for increasing the number of parish council seats from 8 to 9. The consultation was open to anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request and circulated to local residents. The consultation was also targeted to local residents and promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

The metrics from the social media campaigns indicate that 2,833 people received details of the Peterchurch community governance review consultations and fact sheets. This generated 169 'clicked links' through to the consultation pages.

Consultation response:

Fifteen responses to the Peterchurch phase 2 consultation questionnaire were received. Of the responses received 11 respondents were supportive of the parish council's proposals to increase the number of parish council seats by one while 4 of the responses were not in favour of this change. This equates to 73.3% of respondents being in favour of an increase in parish council seats, with 26.6% not being in favour.

The principal evidence consultees offered in support of the proposed change related to a belief that increasing the number of parish seats would encourage more people to engage with local decisions and that, as the population grows, there will be more parish councillors to deal with expected increasing demands placed on the community. Others noted the potential for a new seat to encourage candidates who would bring new focus and fresh ideas to the parish council. A sample of some of those responses are highlighted below.

- *This will engage more of the parish in community representation*

  *(**Individual from Peterchurch Community**)*

- *More councillors spreads out the jobs*

  *(**Individual from Peterchurch Community**)*

- *It will help with the important issues in the community*

  *(**Individual from Peterchurch Community**)*

- *Will give extra input and new focus*

*(**Individual from Peterchurch Community**)*

Of the four responses in opposition to the proposed increase in council seats only two responses contextualised their position. There were two principal contentions noted. The first related to a concern that the parish council was not responsive to community needs. A second contention was that there was already an adequate number of parish councillors to deal with parish business.

- *The parish council as it is don't seem to listen to the community as it is*

*(**Individual from Peterchurch Community**)*

- *Too many already*

*(**Individual from Peterchurch Community**)*

Triangulation with other sources of advice.

National government guidance notes that 'Council size is the term used to describe the number of councillors to be elected to the whole council. The 1972 Act, as amended, specifies that each parish council must have at least five councillors; there is no maximum number. There are no rules relating to the allocation of those councillors between parish wards but each parish ward, and each parish grouped under a common parish council, must have at least one parish councillor.

The Government's guidance also states that 'each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to its population, geography and the pattern of communities' and therefore the Council is prepared to pay particular attention to existing levels of representation, the broad pattern of existing council sizes which have stood the test of time and the take-up of seats at elections in its consideration of this matter.

Parishes wishing to increase numbers must give strong reasons for doing so. The number of parish/town councillors for each council must be not less than five but can be greater. However, each parish grouped under a common parish council must have at least one parish councillor. The Aston Business School found the following levels of representation to the good running of a council:

Electors	Councillors
Less than 500	5-8
501-2,500	6-12
2,501-10,000	9-16
10,001-20,000	13-27
More than 20,000	13-31

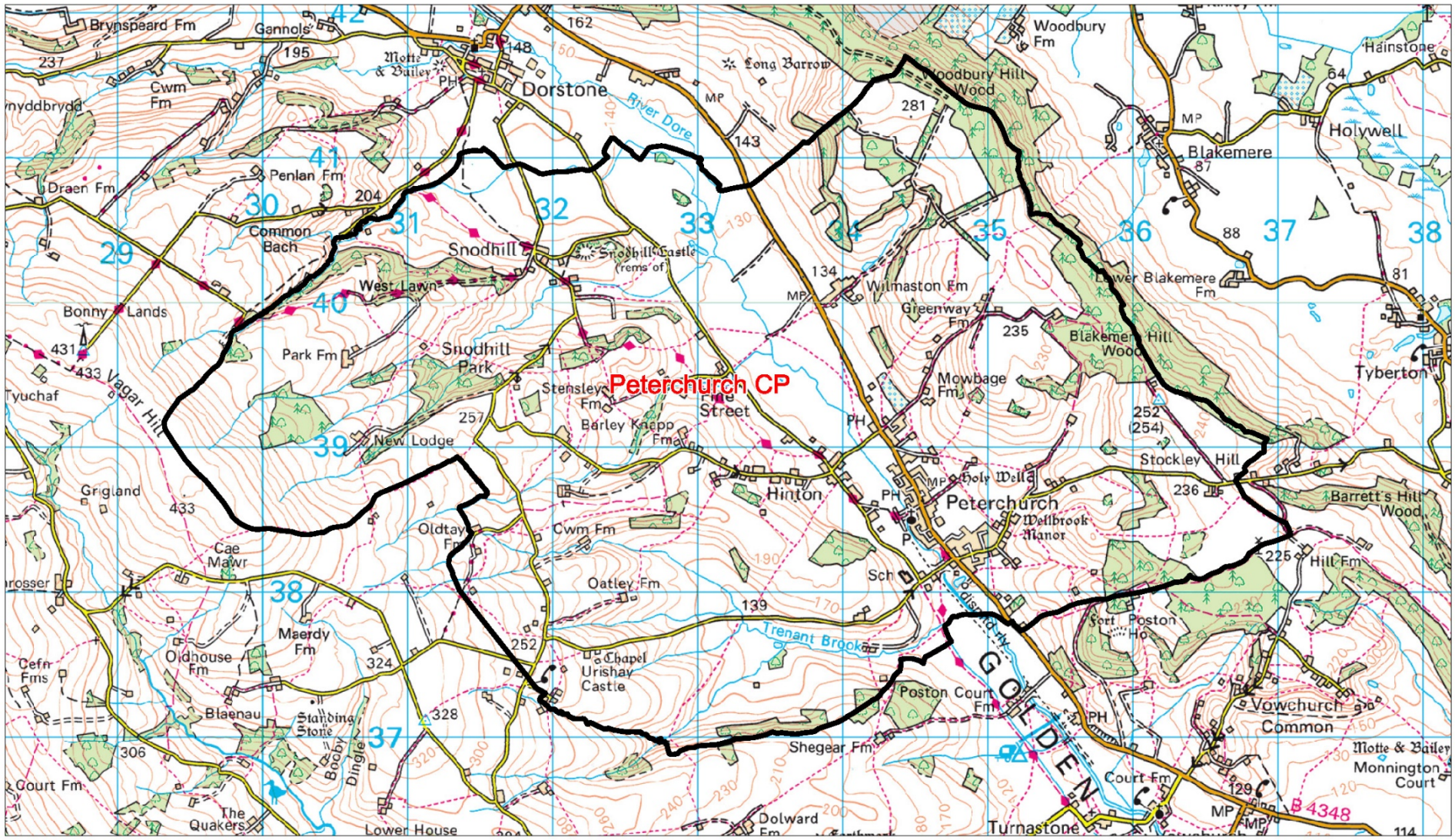
The population of Peterchurch[1] is currently 1,112. On this basis increasing the number of seats from 8 to 9 means that the parish council remains within expected representation levels.

Recommendation: *The number of seats on Peterchurch parish council be increased from 8 to 9 to accommodate current and future population growth, and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects*

Resource implications: There may be a small elevation in the costs of local elections in the parish of Peterchurch as a result of increasing the number of parish seats from 8 to 9. Parish elections take place every four years, the costs of which are re-charged back to Herefordshire Council by the parishes. A small amount of staff time will be required to update the electoral register to record this change.

[1] *Source: ONS © Crown copyright 2017*

Peterchurch parish map.



© Crown copyright and database rights (2018) Ordnance Survey (100024168)
Only an official copy of a title plan or register obtained from the Land Registry may be used for legal or other official purposes.
This material was last updated on 01/05/2009 and may not be copied, distributed, sold or published without the formal permission of Land Registry.
© Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of Land Registry under delegated authority from the Controller of HMSO.

Herefordshire Council, Asset Management, PO Box 4, Hereford HR4 0XH propertyinformation@herefordshire.gov.uk

Herefordshire Council

Wellington – Community Governance Review

Phase 1 Consultation Response

From 13 February to the 6 April, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community of Wellington in connection with their community governance review. The community were asked to provide their views on whether the parish boundary be amended. This would involve two properties which were currently in Moreton parish moving to Wellington parish and properties to the northern boundary adjacent to the railway currently in Wellington moving to Hope under Dinmore Parish.

The consultation was made available on-line for anybody to respond to via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site.

Consultation response:

One response to the consultation was received which was supportive of the proposals. The principal evidence offered in support noted that both the geographic proximity and community connections of the houses in question were better served by the boundary changes being proposed.

Parishioners in Wellington should also note that the neighbouring parish of Moreton-on-Lugg is supportive of the boundary anomaly at the southern edge of Wellington Parish and the north western edge of the Moreton-on-Lugg being addressed.

The effect of this change would mean that the area and houses marked in blue on the map would transfer from Moreton-on-Lugg's parish governance over to Wellington parish governance arrangements. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between the Sutton Walls and Queenswood ward. For the properties located to the northern boundary adjacent to the railway to Hope-under-Dinmore, this will necessitate a parish boundary change.

National government guidance notes that 'A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries. Since the new boundaries are likely to be used to provide the building blocks for district ward, London borough ward, county division and parliamentary constituency boundaries in future reviews for such councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary issues at regular intervals'.

Recommendation 1: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that the ward boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties adjacent to the A49 near Marsh House Farm and Westfields be reviewed and addressed.

Recommendation 2: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that the parish boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties adjacent to Burghope wood and Queenswood Country Park be reviewed and addressed.

Herefordshire Council

Wellington – Community Governance Review

Phase 2 Consultation Response

From 11 May to 29 June, Herefordshire Council conducted a parish wide consultation with the community in the parish of Wellington on their community governance review proposals. This followed a first wave of consultation where the community were asked to provide their views on proposals to move two local properties, currently located in Moreton on Lugg, to the parish of Wellington. In addition, moving three properties located on the northern boundary of Wellington parish in to Hope under Dinmore Parish.

Following the first phase of consultation consultees were supportive of this proposal and the following recommendations were made:

Recommendation 1: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that the ward boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties adjacent to the A49 near Marsh House Farm and Westfields be reviewed and addressed.

Recommendation 2: The balance of evidence indicates that there are sufficient grounds to progress to formally proposing that the parish boundary anomaly affecting a small number of properties adjacent to Burghope Wood and Queenswood Country Park be reviewed and addressed.

Based upon the above recommendations, a phase 2 consultation was undertaken to test levels of community support or opposition for making the proposed changes to the boundary anomalies identified. The consultation was open to anyone to respond to on-line via Herefordshire Council website. Hard copies were made available on request. The consultation was also targeted and promoted using social media, local newsletters and the parish council web-site. The additional step was taken to hand deliver letters outlining the proposed changes to the households identified as being in scope of this review.

The metrics from the social media campaigns indicate that 4,666 people received details of the Wellington community governance review consultations and fact sheets. This generated 205 ‘clicked links’ through to the consultation pages.

Fact sheets and maps were made available alongside the consultation so that those responding to the consultation could review further information on the changes being proposed. This included the existing boundary lines between the adjacent lying parishes/wards and the new boundary lines that would result from the community supporting such a change. In addition, the fact sheets provided local information on local population figures, projected growth, information on the local neighbourhood plan and consequential changes to local council tax for any homes directly affected by a possible ward boundary change.

Consultation response:

Three responses to the phase 2 consultation were received all of which were supportive of the proposed boundary changes. The principal evidence offered in support noted that geographic proximity and community connections were better served by the boundary changes proposed. No direct responses were received from the three properties located on the northern boundary of Wellington parish, proposed to be located in Hope-under-Dinmore parish. One response was received from the two properties directly affected by the proposed ward boundary change, Aylus Cottages, currently located in the Moreton on Lugg parish. A summary of the responses is set out below.

- *The outlying cottages cannot feel well connected to the community in Wellington*

*(**Individual from Wellington Community**)*

- *We live at Aylus Hill Cottages and feel more affinity to Wellington parish*

*(**Individual from Moreton on Lugg Community**)*

Parishioners in Wellington should also note that the parish council in Moreton-on-Lugg is supportive of making changes to the boundary anomaly at the southern edge of Wellington Parish and the north western edge of the Moreton-on-Lugg.

Triangulation:

While no direct responses to the consultation were received from the properties in scope of the boundary change in the north of Wellington, Herefordshire Council did directly approach Hope under Dinmore parish councillors to test their opinion on the proposed boundary change. The parish councillors were supportive of the changes going ahead. In addition, useful local insights were offered on the local connections the three houses in question share with Hope under Dinmore. The houses are serviced by a single access road that passes through the village of Hope under Dinmore, not Wellington. The residents are more likely to feel a greater connection to and rely on local services within Hope under Dinmore.

National government guidance notes that '*A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries. Since the new boundaries are likely to be used to provide the building blocks for district ward, London borough ward, county division and parliamentary constituency boundaries in future reviews for such councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary issues at regular intervals*'. *In rural areas, the Government wants to encourage the involvement of local people in developing their community and having a part to play in shaping the decisions that affect them.*

Recommendation 1: *That the parish boundary in the Moreton on Lugg parish and the parish of Wellington be moved between Queenswood and Sutton Walls (Marked A on the map below) to enable two properties, namely Aylus Cottages, to move from the parish of Moreton on Lugg into the parish of Wellington and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected*;

Recommendation 2: *The parish boundary between Wellington and Hope Under Dinmore is adjusted to enable three properties, namely the Old Fruit Farm, Bathfield and Queens Wood House to move from their current parish, Wellington, into the parish of Hope Under Dinmore; and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected. (Marked 'B' on the map below).*

The effect of this change would mean that the area and houses marked 'A' on the map would transfer from Moreton-on-Lugg's parish governance over to Wellington parish governance arrangements. This will necessitate a minor ward boundary change between the Sutton Walls and Queenswood ward. For the properties located to the northern boundary adjacent to the railway to Hope-under-Dinmore, marked 'B' on the map. This will necessitate a parish boundary change. With the houses noted in recommendation 2 moving into the parish of Hope-under-Dinmore from Wellington.

Resource implications: No financial implications, a small amount of staff time will be required to update the electoral register following the boundary realignment.

Map of Hope under Dinmore, Wellington and Moreton on Lugg. Area marked ‘A’ is proposed to move from Moreton on Lugg parish into Wellington parish. Area marked ‘B’ is proposed to move from Wellington parish into Hope under Dinmore parish.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Bishopstone Group Parish Order, 2018.

Made 12 October, 2018

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86,98(3)(**h**)[, 98(4)(**i**)[, 98(6)(**j**)] and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement (a)

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Bishopstone Group) Order, 20018.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (5) and (7) below, this order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

(3) For the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to the election of parish councillors for the new Bishopstone Group Parish Council, to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019, this order shall come in to force 12 October 2018, the day on which it was made.

2. — In this Order—

'district' means the district of the County of Herefordshire;
'map' means the map marked 'Map referred to in The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2018' and deposited in accordance with section 96(4) of the 2007 Act;
'ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and
'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

Election of Parish Councillors for the Bishopstone Group parish

4.—(1) The first election of all parish councillors for the Bishopstone Group shall be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.
(2) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 for the Bishopstone Group Parish shall be four years.

Alteration of parish areas and the areas of parish wards

5.— The area referred to in the area marked 'blue' on the map (below) indicates the parish boundary between the Bishopstone group parish and the Stretton Sugwas parish that will be moved between Stoney Street and Credenhill ward to enable the following properties (Bradworthy; Pear Tree Cottage; Elandwin; the Bounds; Longhope; Old Weir Farm Cottages; Sugwas Pool Cottage; Miramar; Anchorage; Heathmere, and St. Margaret's Bungalow) to be moved from the Bishopstone district group parish to Stretton Sugwas parish, and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected;

Electoral register

6.—The registration officer for the Council shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

7.—All the land, property, rights and liabilities of referred to the area marked 'blue' on the map including the following properties (Bradworthy; Pear Tree Cottage; Elandwin; the Bounds; Longhope; Old Weir Farm Cottages; Sugwas Pool Cottage; Miramar; Anchorage; Heathmere, and St. Margaret's Bungalow) shall transfer from the Bishopstone group parish to the Stretton Sugwas parish and from the ward of Stoney Street to Credenhill on the date specified in Article 1(2) above.

Order date

8. —1 April, 2019 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations made by The County of Herefordshire District Council for the alteration of the area of the parish of Bishopstone Group (as noted in the order above) to be grouped under a common parish council with the parish of Stretton Sugwas.

The electoral arrangements apply in respect of parish elections to be held on and after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.

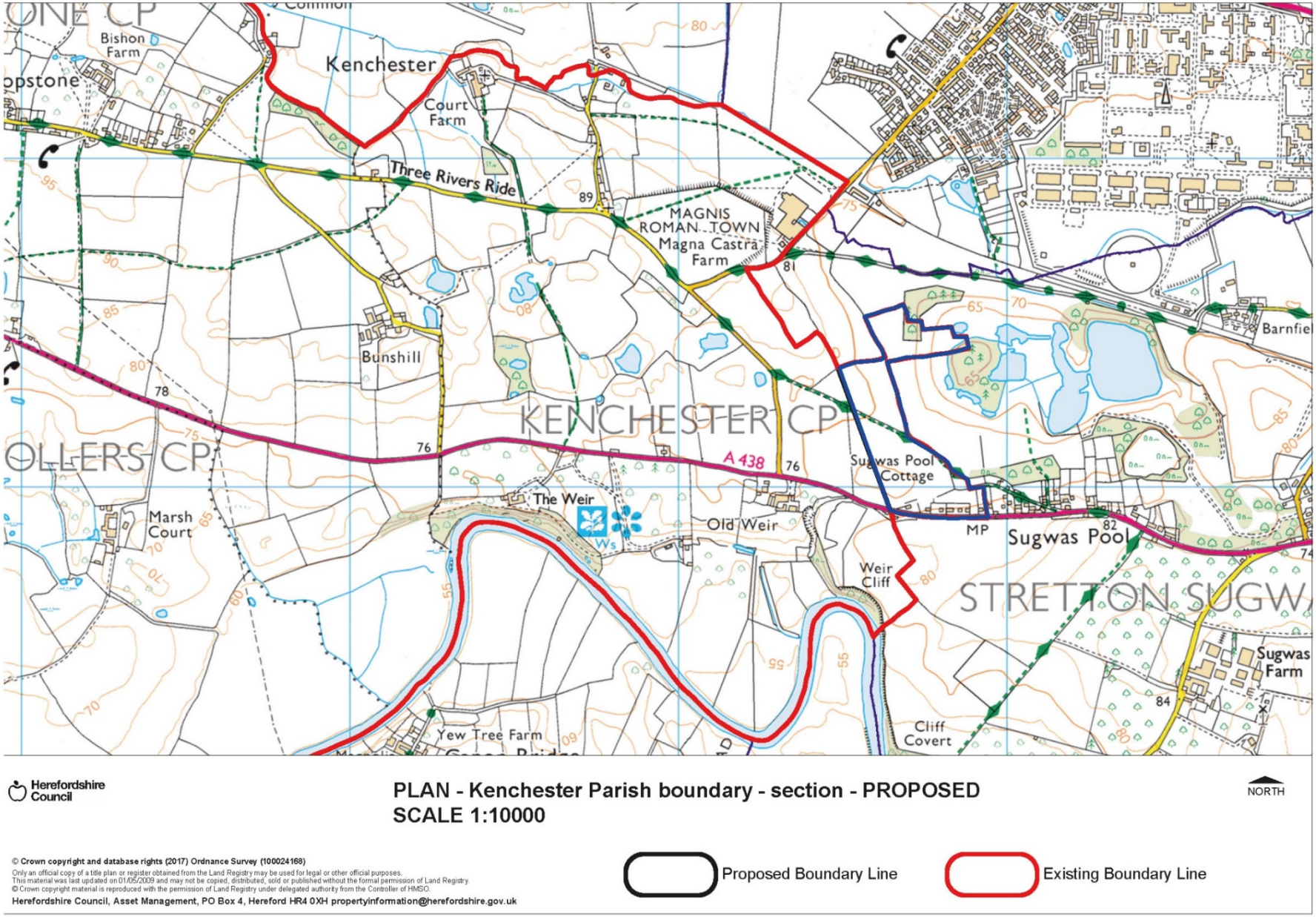
Article 10 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the new electoral arrangements.

Article 8 contains details of land, property, rights and liabilities described in 11 (above) that shall transfer between the council's defined within this order on the date specified.

The maps are available for inspection during normal working hours at the Shire Hall offices of Herefordshire Council, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX and online at:

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/779/community_governance_review/1

Map of Bishopstone group parish and border with Stretton Sugwas parish. Area mark with black line is proposed to move from Bishopstone group parish into Stretton Sugwas parish.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Stretton Sugwas Group Parish Order, 2018.

Made *12 October, 2018*

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86,98(3)(**h**)[, 98(4)(**i**)[, 98(6)(**j**)] and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement (a)

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Stretton Sugwas Group) Order, 2018.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (5) and (7) below, this order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

(3) For the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to the election of parish councillors for the new Stretton Sugwas Group Parish Council, to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019, this order shall come in to force 13 October 2018, the day after that on which it was made.

2. — In this Order—

'district' means the district of the County of Herefordshire;
'map' means the map marked 'Map referred to in The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2018' and deposited in accordance with section 96(4) of the 2007 Act;
'ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and
'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

Election of Parish Councillors for the Stretton Sugwas parish

4.—(1) The first election of all parish councillors for the Stretton Sugwas shall be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.
(2) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 for the Stretton Sugwas Parish shall be four years.

Alteration of parish areas and the areas of parish wards

5.— The area referred to shown in the hatched area marked 'blue' on the map is the area of the parish boundary between the Bishopstone group parish and the Stretton Sugwas parish to be moved between Stoney Street and Credenhill ward to enable the following properties (Bradworthy; Pear Tree Cottage; Elandwin; the Bounds; Longhope; Old Weir Farm Cottages; Sugwas Pool Cottage; Miramar; Anchorage; Heathmere, and St. Margaret's Bungalow) to be moved from the Bishopstone district group parish in to Stretton Sugwas parish.

Electoral register

6.—The registration officer for the Council shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

7.— All the land, property, rights and liabilities of referred to in column 1 of marked 'blue' on the map 1and shown in the hatched area marked 'blue' on the map including the following properties (Bradworthy; Pear Tree Cottage; Elandwin; the Bounds; Longhope; Old Weir Farm Cottages; Sugwas Pool Cottage; Miramar; Anchorage; Heathmere, and St. Margaret's Bungalow) shall transfer from the Bishopstone group parish to the Stretton Sugwas parish and from the ward of Stoney Street to Credenhill on the date specified in Article 1(2) above.

Order date

8. —1 April, 2019 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations made by The County of Herefordshire District Council for the alteration of the area of the parish of Bishopstone to be grouped under a common parish council with the parish of Stretton Sugwas.

The electoral arrangements apply in respect of parish elections to be held on and after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.

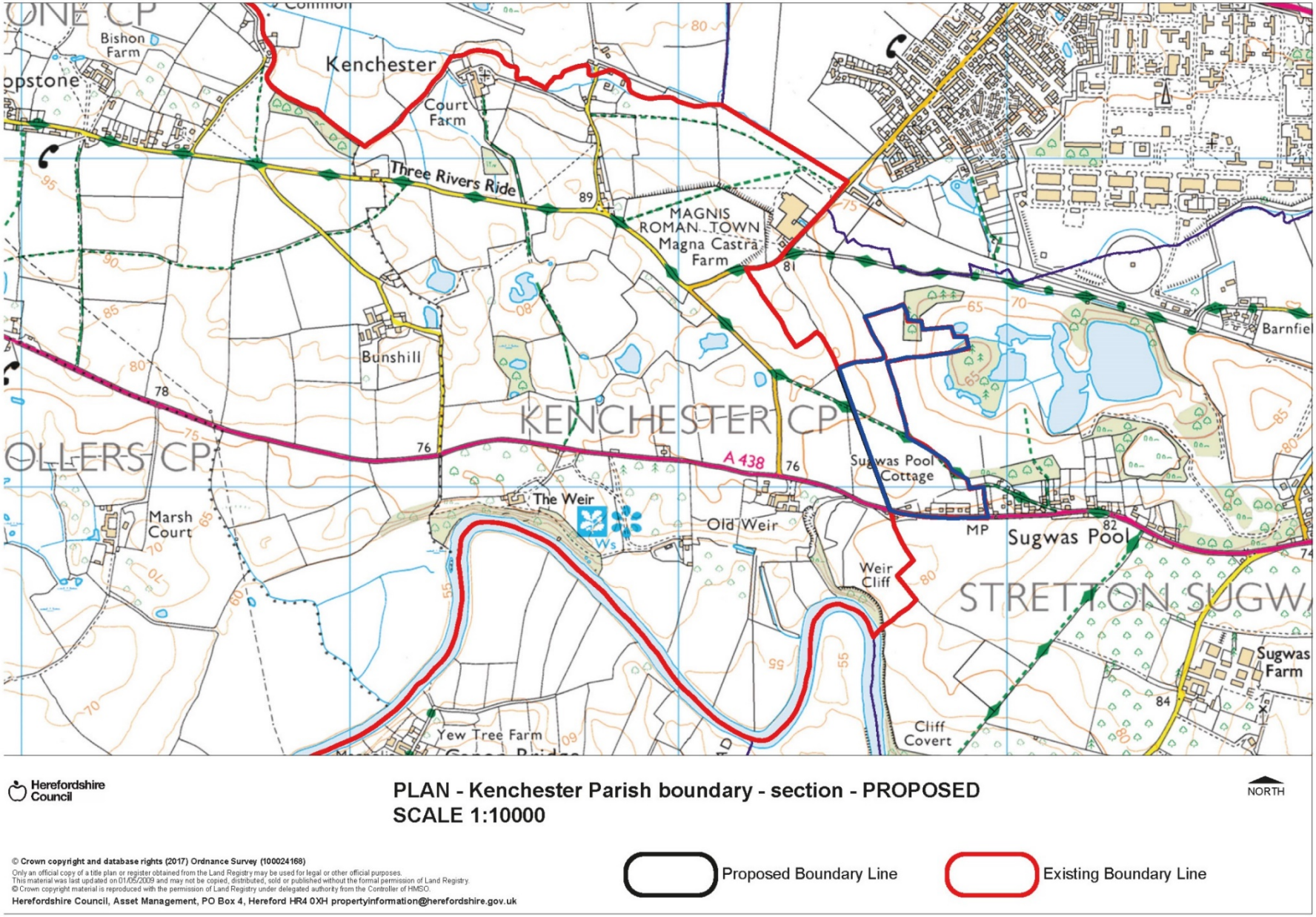
Article 10 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the new electoral arrangements.

Article 8 contains details of land, property, rights and liabilities described in the marked 'blue' on the map that shall transfer between the council's defined within this order on the date specified within the marked 'blue' on the maps.

The maps are available for inspection during normal working hours at the Shire Hall offices of Herefordshire Council, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX or online at:

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/779/community_governance_review/1

Map of Bishopstone group parish and border with Stretton Sugwas parish. Area mark with black line is proposed to move from Bishopstone group parish into Stretton Sugwas parish.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Brockhampton Parish Order, 2018.

Made 12 October, 2018

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86 and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Brockhampton) Order 2018.

(2) Subject to paragraph 3 below, this order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

(3) Article 4 (which establishes the number of parish councillors for Brockhampton Parish Council) shall come in to force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019

Interpretation

2. — In this Order—

'ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and
'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

Number of parish councillors for the parish of Brockhampton.

4. —The number of parish councillors to be elected for the group parish of Brockhampton shall be ten. The number of seats on Brockhampton group parish be reduced from 15 to 10 to better reflect the number of electors; the ratio of parish council seats will be 5 for the Linton Parish group member (a reduction of 1 seat); 4 for the Norton parish group member (a reduction of 2 seats) and 1 for the Brockhampton parish group member (a reduction of 2 seats), and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects.

Electoral register

5. —The registration officer for the county shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation to, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this order.

Order date

6. —1 April, 2019 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Kilpeck Group Parish Order, 2018.

Made 12 October, 2018

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

That with effect from 1 April, 2019:

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section(**f**):

The council makes the following Order(**g**) in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86[, 98(3)(**h**)][, 98(4)(**i**)][, 98(6)(**j**)] and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement (a)

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Kilpeck) Order 2018.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (5) below, this order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

(3) Article 3 (g) below (which establishes the number of parish councillors for the new Kilpeck Parish council) shall come in to force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019

(4) For the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to the election of parish councillors for the new Kilpeck Parish Council, to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019, this order shall come in to force 12 October 2018, the day on which it was made.

2. — In this Order—

'district' means the district of the County of Herefordshire;
'existing' means existing on the date this Order is made;
'map' means the map marked 'Map referred to in The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2018' and deposited in accordance with section 96(4) of the 2007 Act;
'new parish' means the parish constituted by article 4 below;
'ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and
'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

a) The existing parishes of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge shall be wound up and dissolved;
b) The existing parish councils for the parishes of Kilpeck Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge shall be abolished;
c) There shall be a new parish council (as shown on the map) for the Kilpeck group parish;
d) The name of that new parish council shall be 'Kilpeck Parish Council';
e) The first election of all parish councillors for the new parish of Kilpeck shall be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019;
f) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 for the new parish of Kilpeck shall be four years;
g) The number of parish councillors to be elected for the new parish of Kilpeck shall be nine;
h) All the land, property, rights and liabilities of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge shall transfer from those councils to the new Kilpeck Parish Council; and
i) From 1 April, 2019, until the councillors to be elected to the new parish council come into office, the new parish of Kilpeck shall be represented by the elected district councillor for the district ward of Wormside

Election of Parish Councillors for the parish of Kilpeck

4.—(1) The first election of all parish councillors for the new parish of Kilpeck shall be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.
(2) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 for the new parish of Kilpeck shall be four years.
(3) Where any provision of an Order made before the making of this Order requires an election of parish councillors for a parish mentioned in paragraph 4(1) above to be held on a date other than that for which paragraphs 7(1) and 7(2) provide, it shall cease to have effect to that extent.

Election for the parish of Kilpeck Parish elections)

5—**.**[The election of all parish councillors for the parish of *Kilpeck* shall be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in May 2019.

The new parish of Kilpeck and number of parish councillors

6.—(1) The number of councillors to be elected for the new parish of Kilpeck shall be nine.
(2) The number of parish councillors to be elected from the Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge parishes in the new parish of Kilpeck shall be at least one from each of the abolished parishes.

Annual meeting of the new parish council

7. — The annual meeting of the new Kilpeck Parish Council in 2019 shall be convened by the of the Council. The meeting shall take place no later than 14 days after the day on which the councillors elected to the new parish council take office.

Electoral register

8.—The registration officer for the Council shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

9.— All the land, property, rights and liabilities of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge shall transfer from those councils to Kilpeck Parish Council on the date specified in Article

1(2) above.

Transitional provision

10. —Until the parish councillors elected to the new Kilpeck Parish Council at the elections to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 come into office, the new parish shall be represented by those persons who immediately before 1 April 2019 are the elected parish councillors for the existing parishes of Kilpeck, Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Treville and Wormbridge.

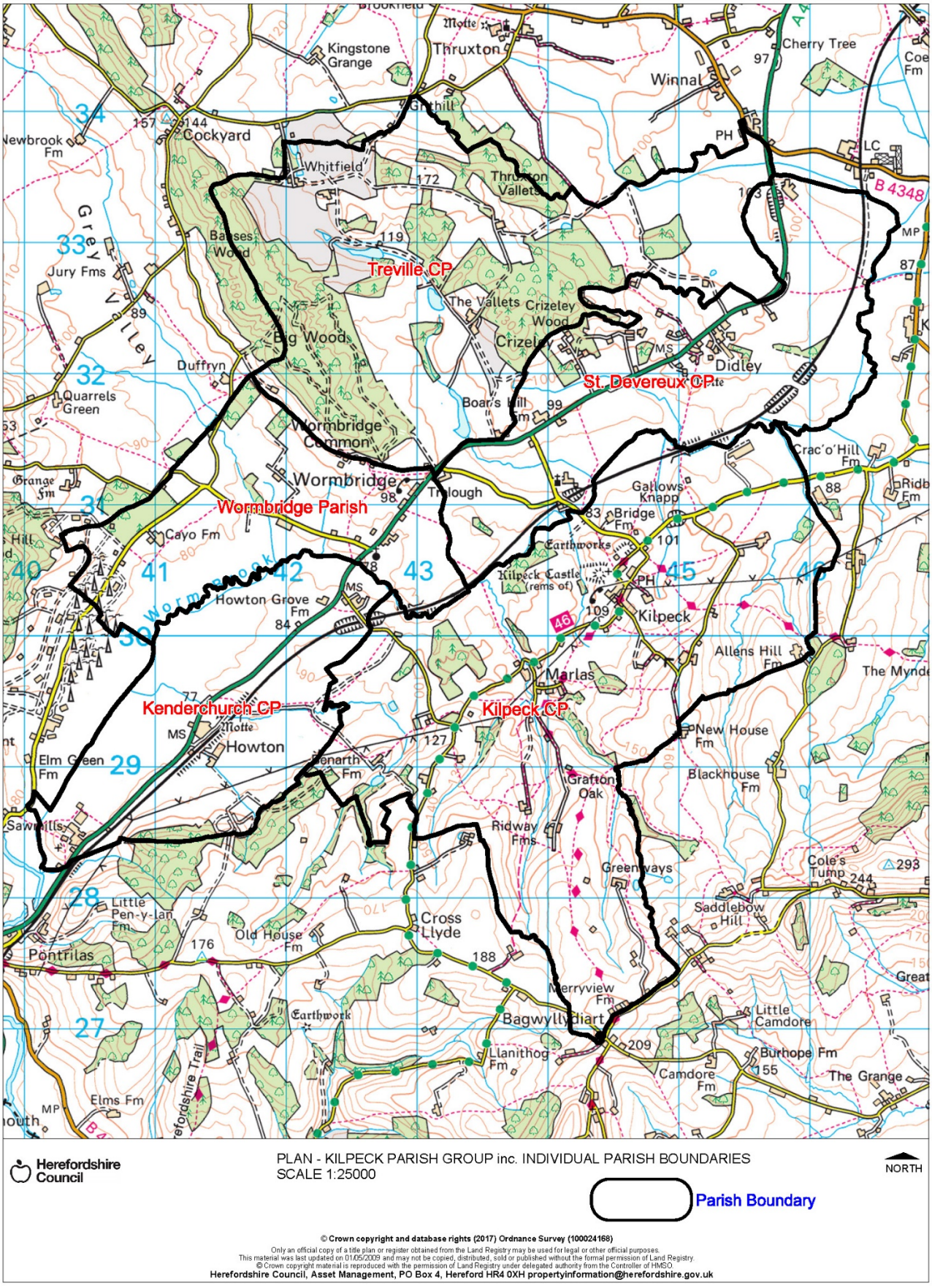
Order date

11. —1 April, 2019 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

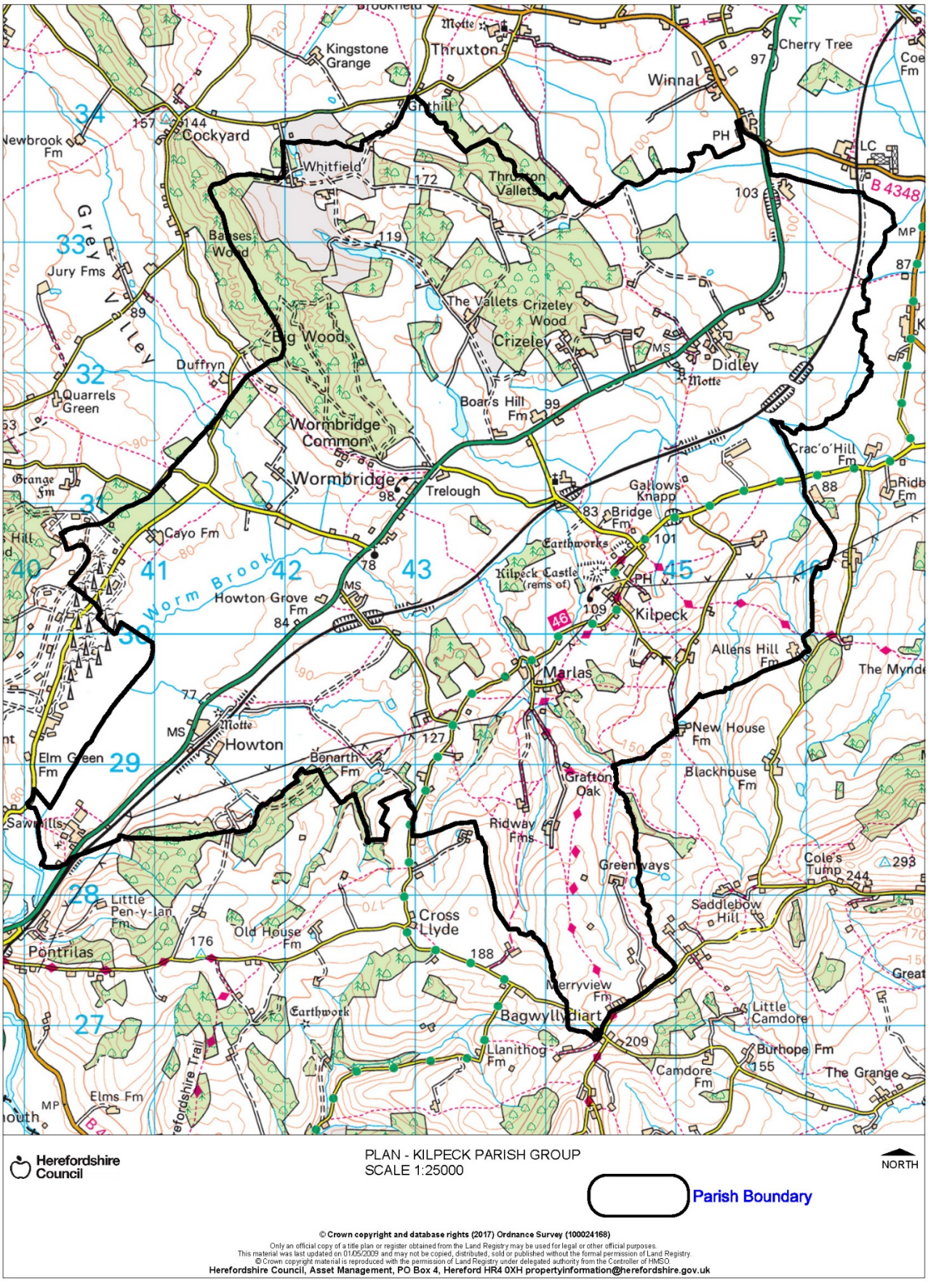
THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

Map 1: Kilpeck Group parish Council.



Map 2: The proposed new parish of Kilpeck



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Moreton on Lugg Parish Order, 2018.

Made 12 October, 2018

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86[, 98(3)(**h**)][, 98(4)(**i**)][, 98(6)(**j**)] and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement (a)

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Moreton on Lugg Order, 2018.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (8) and (9) below, this order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

2. — In this Order—

'district' means the district of the County of Herefordshire;

'map' means the map marked 'Map referred to in The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2018' and deposited in accordance with section 96(4) of the 2007 Act;

'ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and

'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

Alteration of parish areas and the areas of parish wards

4.—That the ward and parish boundary in the Moreton on Lugg parish and the parish of Wellington be

moved between Queenswood and Sutton Walls to enable two properties, namely Aylus Cottages, to move from the parish of Moreton on Lugg into the parish of Wellington (Marked A on the map) and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected

Electoral register

5.—The registration officer for the Council shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

6.—All the land, property, rights and liabilities connected to the Aylus Cottages, currently in the parish of Moreton on Lugg shall transfer from Moreton on Lugg to Wellington (Marked A on the map);

Order date

7. —1 April, 2019 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations made by The County of Herefordshire District Council for the alteration of the area of the parish of Moreton On Lugg to be grouped under a common parish council with the parish of Wellington.

The electoral arrangements apply in respect of parish elections to be held on and after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.

Article 10 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the new electoral arrangements.

Article 8 contains details of land, property, rights and liabilities shown on the map marked 'A' that shall transfer between the council's defined within this order on the date specified.

The maps are available for inspection during normal working hours at the Shire Hall offices of Herefordshire Council, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX or online at:

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/13461/information_sheet_Moreton On Lugg_parish

Map of Moreton on Lugg and wellington parish. Area marked 'A' currently in Moreton on Lugg Parish (Sutton Walls ward) is proposed to move into Wellington Parish (Queenswood ward).



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Peterchurch Parish Order [2018]

Made 12 October, 2018

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86 and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Peterchurch) Order 2018.

(2) Subject to paragraph 3 below, this Order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

(3) Article 4 (which establishes the number of parish councillors for Peterchurch Parish Council) shall come in to force on the ordinary day after the election of councillors in May, 2019

Interpretation

2. — In this Order—

''ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and
'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

Number of parish councillors for the parish of Peterchurch.

4. —The number of seats on Peterchurch parish council be increased from 8 to 9 to accommodate current and future population growth, and that the electoral arrangements will remain unchanged in all other respects

Electoral register

5. —The registration officer for the county shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation to, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Order date

6. —1 April, 2019 is the Order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Hope under Dinmore Parish Order, 2018.

Made 12 October, 2018

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86[, 98(3)(**h**)][, 98(4)(**i**)][, 98(6)(**j**)] and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement (a)

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Hope Under Dinmore) Order, 2018..

(2) Subject to paragraphs (8) and (9) below, this order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

(3) For the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to the election of parish councillors for the Wellington Parish Council, to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019, this order shall come in to force 13 October 2018, the day after that on which it was made.

2. — In this Order—

'district' means the district of the County of Herefordshire;
'map' means the map marked 'Map referred to in The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2018' and deposited in accordance with section 96(4) of the 2007 Act;
' parish' means the parish constituted by article 4 below;
'ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and
'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

Election of Parish Councillors for the Hope Under Dinmore parish

4.—(1) The first election of all parish councillors for the Hope Under Dinmore shall be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.
(2) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 for the Hope Under Dinmore Parish shall be four years.

Alteration of parish areas and the areas of parish wards

5—The area referred to shown in the hatched area marked 'B' on the map shall cease to be part of the parish of Wellington and shall become part of the parish of Hope Under Dinmore; and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected;

Electoral register

6.—The registration officer for the Council shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

7.—All the land, property, rights and liabilities of Wellington shall transfer to Hope Under Dinmore in connection to three properties, namely the Old Fruit Farm, Bathfield and Queens Wood House to move from their current parish, Wellington, into the parish of Hope Under Dinmore (Marked B on the map) on the date specified in Article 1(2) above

Order date

8. —1 April, 2019 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations made by The County of Herefordshire District Council for the alteration of the area of the parish of Wellington (as noted in the order above) to be grouped under a common parish council with the parish of Hope under Dinmore

The electoral arrangements apply in respect of parish elections to be held on and after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.

Article 10 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the new electoral arrangements.

Article 8 contains details of land, property, rights and liabilities described in 5 (above) that shall transfer between the council's defined within this order on the date specified.

The maps are available for inspection during normal working hours at the Shire Hall offices of Herefordshire Council, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX and online at:

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/779/community_governance_review/1

Map of Hope under Dinmore and Wellington. Area marked 'B' is proposed to move from Wellington parish into Hope under Dinmore parish.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007

The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Wellington Parish Order, 2018.

Made 12 October, 2018

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The County of Herefordshire District Council ("the council"), in accordance with section 82(**a**) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007(**e**) ("the 2007 Act"), has undertaken a community governance review and made recommendations dated *12 October 2018:*

The council has decided to give effect to those recommendations and, in accordance with section 93 of the 2007 Act, has consulted with the local government electors and other interested persons and has had regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and is effective and convenient:

The council, in accordance with section 100 of the 2007 Act, has had regard to guidance issued under that section:

The council makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86[, 98(3)(**h**)][, 98(4)(**i**)][, 98(6)(**j**)] and 240(10) of the 2007 Act.

Citation and commencement (a)

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) (Wellington) Order [*2018*].

2. Subject to paragraphs (8) and (9) below, this order comes into force on 1 April 2019.

3. For the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to the election of parish councillors for the Wellington Parish Council, to be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019, this order shall come in to force 13 October 2018, the day after that on which it was made.

2. — In this Order—

'district' means the district of the County of Herefordshire;
'map' means the map marked 'Map referred to in The County of Herefordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2018' and deposited in accordance with section 96(4) of the 2007 Act;
' parish' means the parish constituted by article 4 below;
'ordinary day of election of councillors' has the meaning given by section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983; and
'registration officer' means an officer appointed for the purpose of, and in accordance with, section 8(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Effect of Order

3. — This Order has effect subject to any agreement under section 99 of the 2007 Act (agreements about incidental matters) relevant to any provision of this Order.

Election of Parish Councillors for the Wellington parish

7.—(1) The first election of all parish councillors for the Wellington shall be held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.
(2) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 for the Wellington Parish shall be four years.

Alteration of parish areas and the areas of parish wards

8.— That the ward and parish boundary in the Wellington parish and the parish of Moreton on Lugg be moved between Queenswood and Sutton Walls to enable two properties, namely Aylus Cottages, to move from the parish of Moreton on Lugg into the parish of Wellington (Marked A on the map) and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected

9—The area referred to in the hatched area marked 'B' on the map shall cease to be part of the parish of Wellington and shall become part of the parish of Hope Under Dinmore.

Electoral register

10.—The registration officer for the Council shall make such rearrangement of, or adaptation of, the register of local government electors as may be necessary for the purposes of, and in consequence of, this Order.

Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

11.— (1) All the land, property, rights and liabilities connected to the Aylus Cottages, currently in the parish of Moreton on Lugg shall transfer from Moreton on Lugg to Wellington (Marked A on the map);

(2) The area referred to in the hatched area marked 'B' on the map shall cease to be part of the parish of Wellington and shall become part of the parish of Hope Under Dinmore; and that this proposal does not require other changes to the existing governance arrangements for the parishes affected;

Order date

12. —1 April, 2019 is the order date for the purposes of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed BY ORDER

Authorised Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to recommendations made by The County of Herefordshire District Council for the alteration of the area of the parish of Wellington to be grouped under a common parish council with the parish of Hope under Dinmore.

The electoral arrangements apply in respect of parish elections to be held on and after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019 and then to continue according to the established system of parish elections every four years.

Article 10 obliges the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary amendments to the electoral register to reflect the electoral arrangements.

Article 8 contains details of land, property, rights and liabilities described on the map below shall transfer between the council's defined within this order on the date specified.

Article 9 provides for alterations to parish areas.

The maps are available for inspection during normal working hours at the Shire Hall offices of Herefordshire Council, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX or online at:

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/779/community_governance_review/8

Map of Hope under Dinmore, Wellington and Moreton on Lugg. Area marked ‘A’ is proposed to move from Moreton on Lugg parish into Wellington parish. Area marked ‘B’ is proposed to move from Wellington parish into Hope under Dinmore parish.



Herefordshire Council

Meeting:	**Council**
Meeting date:	**Friday 12 October**
Title of report:	**Request by Cradley Parish Council to change its name to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council**
Report by:	**Solicitor to the Council**

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

Bishops Frome & Cradley

Purpose and summary

To approve the change of name of Cradley Parish Council to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council.

In accordance with Section 75 of the Local Government Act, 1972, Cradley Parish Council has requested this change to better reflect the community's connection with local area and character of the Parish. It is reserved to Council to approve the making of an order to give effect to the requested change.

Recommendation(s)

That:

(a) the name of Cradley Parish Council is changed to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council with effect from 12 October 2018.

Alternative options

1. **Do nothing:** This is not recommended as there is no clear rationale to refuse this request by the Parish. Section 75 of the Local Government Act (LGA), 1972 states that 'at the

request of a parish council, the council of the district in which the parish is situated may change the name of the parish'.

2. **To delay the name change until a proposed community governance review is undertaken**. A parish may also change its name by way of a community governance review (CGR) under the Local Government and Public Involvement and Health Act 2007. It is for the principal authority to carry out such a review. This is not recommended as the next round of anticipated CGRs will be in 2021 – the next year predicted to be free of elections. While CGRs are arguably more consultative they can take up to 12 months to complete. Therefore the name change can more easily be expedited under Section 75 of the LGA, 1972.

Key considerations

3. Cradley Parish Council approached Herefordshire Council in April to note their interest in and to seek advice upon changing their parish name. The parish council noted that for some time it has been widely recognised that the name of the Parish Council serving the residents and businesses of Cradley Parish does not incorporate the name of the village of Storridge.

4. As recorded in the public minutes of the 12 June Cradley Parish Council meeting, the parish council resolved to change the name to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council. The Vice-Chair and acting parish clerk of Cradley Parish Council wrote to the democratic services manager on 18 June 2018 formally requesting the name change. The consultation report is attached at Appendix 1 and a draft Notice is attached at Appendix 2 to this report.

5. As noted above, Section 75 of the Local Government Act (LGA), 1972 states that 'at the request of a parish council, the council of the district in which the parish is situated may change the name of the parish'. If the decision is taken to change the name of the Parish Council, legislation requires that Herefordshire Council to publicise this. The council will seek to do this by publicising the name change on the council's public web-site, through social media, local newsletters and by displaying information on local notice boards.

Community impact

6. Herefordshire Council has adopted a code of corporate governance which describes the systems, processes, culture and values of the Council. It has been established to ensure we provide the right services, to the right people in a timely, open, and accountable way. The code sets out the framework for maintaining high standards of corporate governance in order to achieve the council's vision of "people, organisations and businesses working together to bring sustainable prosperity and well-being for all, in the outstanding natural environment of Herefordshire."

7. Seven principles have been established to underpin our governance processes, of those principles, of key relevance to this decision is a commitment to Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement. And, implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability. Herefordshire Council must ensure that those making decisions and delivering services are accountable for them.

8. There are no foreseen or anticipated community impacts if this change of name is agreed. The proposed change is considered by the parish council to be more inclusive and gives

the community a more intrinsic identity to the residents and businesses living and working in the locality.

Equality duty

9. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

   A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

   (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

   (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

   (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

10. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As this is a decision has no impact on service delivery or policy, we do not believe that it will have an impact on our equality duty..

Resource implications

11. As noted in paragraph 5 above, if the decision is taken to change the name of the parish council Herefordshire Council must publicise this change. The measures suggested in 5 above will involve a small cost, limited to £50, utilising social media to directly notify members of the Cradley Parish. In addition, Cradley Parish Council will utilise their own communications channels, such as the parish web-site and local newsletters, to formally note the change to the name.

Legal implications

12. Section 75 of the Local Government Act, 1972 states that 'At the request of the parish council … the council of the district in which the parish is situated may change the name of the parish.'

13. Notice of any change of name made under this section —

    a. shall be sent by the district council concerned to the Secretary of State, to the Director General of the Ordnance Survey and to the Registrar General; and

    b. shall be published by the district council in the parish and elsewhere in such manner as they consider appropriate.

14. A change of name made in pursuance of this section shall not affect any rights or obligations of any parish or of any council, authority or person, or render defective any legal proceedings; and any legal proceedings may be commenced or continued as if there had been no change of name.

Risk management

15.

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
R1: Those opposed to the proposed name change may feel a stronger sense of disassociation with their local identity.	M1: The name change will recognise the principle settlements within the parish and re-inforce community connections with the parish as a whole.

Consultees

16. There is no legal requirement for any public consultation. However, during April to June 2018, the parish council undertook consultation with the local community on proposals to change the name of the parish council. Notices were placed on all the parish notice boards and in the local newsletter for the months of April and May inviting comments by 8th June 2018.

17. Nine responses were received, of those eight were in favour of the proposed name change and one was opposed. This equated to 88.9% for the proposed change with 11.1% opposed to it.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Report from the task and finish group – change of name from Cradley Parish Council to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council.

Appendix 2: Notice of Change of Name of Cradley Parish Council

Background papers

None Identified

REPORT FROM THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - CHANGE OF NAME FROM CRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL TO CRADLEY AND STORRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL. Dated 8th June 2018

T&FG members: Councillors Sarah Thomas and Geoff Fielding.

Cradley Parish Council
Proposed Change of Name

For some time it has been widely recognised that the name of the Parish Council serving the residents and businesses of Cradley Parish does not incorporate the name of the village of Storridge . The Parish Council considers that a change of name would better reflect the identity and character of the Parish. It has thus resolved to change its name to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council and intends to apply to Herefordshire County Council to make the change.

Section 75 of the Local Government Act 1972 states:-

(1) At the request of the parish council or, where there is no parish council, at the request of the parish meeting, the council of the district in which the parish is situated may change the name of the parish.

PUBLIC COUNSULTATION:

Notices were placed in all the parish notice boards and in the CMS newsletter for the months of April and May inviting comments by 8th June 2018.

Of the comments received by the T&F group in support of the proposal were from:

Kenneth and Linda Fyfe WR13 5ES
Andrew Burnett and Linda Atkinson WR13 5ES
Paul Thomas WR13 5ES
Roger and Maureen Penson WR13 5ES
Julian Norbury
Peter Neale and Martin Tudge WR13 5HE
Liz Kabani WR13 5HE
Seonaid Barber

Of the comments received by the T&F group against the proposal were from:

Tania and Norman Roberts WR13 5JZ

This has resulted in a percentage of 88.9 for the proposal and 11.1 Against, based on emails received

This has resulted in a percentage of 85.72 for the proposal and 14.28 against based on individuals

Recommendation:

The task and finish group recommend the agenda proposal to send the request to Herefordshire County Council to change the name of Cradley Parish Council to that of Cradley and Storridge Parish Council.

Notice of Change of Name of Parish

In The County of Herefordshire District Council (the Council) Cradley Parish Council

TO:

The Right Honourable the First Secretary of State of the Department of Communities and Local Government
The Director General of the Ordnance Survey
The Registrar General
The Cradley Parish Council of the Parish of Cradley in the above District Council area

WHEREAS

(1) 12 June, 2018 Cradley Parish Council of the parish of Cradley resolved to request the County of Herefordshire District Council pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 Section 75 that the name of the above parish should be changed to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council.

(2) The Council resolved on (12 October 2018) to change the name of the parish to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council

NOW therefore the Council pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 Section 75 GIVES NOTICE that with effect from (12 October 2018) the name of the parish of Cradley is changed to Cradley and Storridge Parish Council

Signed……...

Dated ……

Claire Ward
Monitoring officer and Solicitor to the Council On
Legal services
Plough lane offices
Plough lane
Hereford
HR4 0LE

Herefordshire Council

Meeting:	**Council**
Meeting date:	**Friday 12 October 2018**
Title of report:	**Leader's report to Council**
Report by:	**Leader of the Council**

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose and summary

To provide an update on the work of the Cabinet since the previous meeting of the Council.

A brief summary of decisions taken by the executive is provided at appendix 1 and all decision reports and notices are available on the council's website.

The report also highlights to Council publication of the annual report of the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership.

Recommendation(s)

That:

(a) the report be noted.

Alternative options

1. There are no alternative options; the constitution requires the Leader to provide Council with reports on the activities of the executive.

Key considerations

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Annie Brookes, Tel: 01432 260605, email: ab1@herefordshire.gov.uk

2. A list of the decisions taken by cabinet and cabinet members since the last report to Council (covering the period between 28 June and 21 September 2018) is provided at appendix 1. Details of all these decisions, and of those taken by officers under delegated authority, are published on the councillors and democracy pages of the council's website. No key decisions were taken under either the general exception provisions (giving more than five but less than 28 days' notice) or the urgency provisions (less than five days' notice); no decisions were subject to call in.

3. Members will note from the appendix that the Marches Enterprise Joint Committee approved the annual report of its activities in July. Members may also be interested to read the annual report of the activities and achievements of the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership as a whole. The report demonstrates the effectiveness of working together and highlights the robustness of Herefordshire's proposals enabling our success in securing and drawing down external funding to support economic growth in the county.

4. During August the care heroes website was launched as part of a campaign to help adult social care providers to recruit more staff, and in particular the care workers so vital in ensuring that our most vulnerable residents get the care and support that they need. I would ask all members to promote the website in their communities.

5. I'd also like to take the opportunity to congratulate the council's community brokers team for their recent success at the Hereford Times Health and Social Care awards where the team took the care innovation prize for their work in connecting people to opportunities in the community that best meet their needs enabling them to live fulfilled and independent lives. A fantastic achievement for a team less than a year old, yet making a real difference to Herefordshire residents' quality of life. My congratulations also go to all the winners and nominees whose work is often not seen but is so vital.

6. The performance of pupils in Herefordshire's schools overall was positive this year, with some exceptionally strong performance in the primary phase. When compared with other councils, Herefordshire results are in the top 25% for several performance indicators and this year the most significant improvement was in outcomes achieved by pupils in Year 6 at the end of the primary phase. Outcomes for this cohort have been steadily improving over a number of years, but in 2018 67.6% of pupils met the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics, well above the national figure of 64% and the 62% West Midlands average. This placed Herefordshire in the top 25% best performing councils for the first time and the highest performing council of our statistical neighbours. This is a fantastic achievement and testament to the tremendous hard work of pupils, teaching staff and school leaders.

7. I would like particularly to draw members' attention to the fact that our looked after children are doing better in early schooling with the numbers achieving the required standard – termed a 'good level of development' – well above national. Herefordshire's looked after children are doing less well in later schooling compared to their peers in Herefordshire. Of this cohort, 15% achieved a strong pass in English and maths. This percentage doubled for the number of children achieving either English or maths at grade 5. Whilst this performance is likely to compare favourably with the national results for looked after children, there is clearly more we need to do to improve educational outcomes for this group of pupils in Herefordshire. At the end of Key Stage 5, 75% of the looked after children cohort have a positive employment or education with training destination in September including three students who achieved the grades they need to go on to study at university. I am sure members will want to join me in wishing all our looked after students that left school in July every success in their chosen path.

8. In early September Herefordshire received an informal inspection and visit from the government's chief adviser on supporting care leavers, for whom this council has, since April of this year, accountabilities up to the age of 25. The chief adviser will advise the minister of his finding's and will then send us his formal view which we will ensure is shared. It is good to note that the chief adviser's informal feedback made clear that he had found much that was positive and encouraging.

9. In September, Herefordshire hosted a visit from members of the House of Lords Select Committee on the Rural Economy, arranged by Community First. The committee plans to make recommendations to government about measures which will help benefit the rural economy in England. Together with business representatives, I was able to share with select committee members some of the successes of the county and some of the challenges we face. I look forward with interest to the publication of select committee's report and recommendations.

10. In response to the motion passed by Council, on 23 July I wrote to the Secretary of State for Justice setting out the difficulties arising from the move of remand case hearings from Hereford to Kidderminster and requesting that the decision be re-considered and justice be returned to the county. The response received on 13 September advised that, whilst the position would be monitored to ensure that projected benefits of the move were maintained, there were no plans to reverse the decision. This is of course disappointing but, together with colleagues from Shropshire, we will continue to make the case for local justice.

11. I have reviewed the objectives set for the Chief Executive, taking into account the views expressed at the last meeting of Council in response to the Independent Person's suggestion put forward by Councillor Powers that a further objective be set to: "Champion high standards of conduct and a strong commitment to public service throughout the council". The objectives are established each year, following consultation with the political group leaders and in accordance with the framework for assessment of the chief executive approved by the Employment Panel. It is a requirement for all employees to uphold high standards of conduct and to give the highest possible standard of service to the public; it is also a general requirement of all managerial posts including that of the Chief Executive to champion those high standards and public service values throughout the organisation. In light of those existing requirements I have decided that a further objective for the current year re-stating those requirements is not required.

12. I hope that all members have read the report of the recent Ofsted inspection during which the council retained its 'requires improvement' judgement. We place the highest priority on keeping our children and young people safe and giving them the best start in life, and it was reassuring to note that the inspection team found no instances in the cases they reviewed where a child was at risk of harm, that they recognised the additional investment that had been made in the service, and that they found us to know ourselves well. This awareness is vital to ensuring we deliver the improvements needed to provide a service that is recognised as good. Our proposed plans in response to the findings of Ofsted have been tested and challenged by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee before being considered by Cabinet later this month – the support of all members for our continued improvement journey will be welcomed.

13. Building on the positive public response to the council tax brochure published in March 2018 a new quarterly publication 'Herefordshire Now' was launched last month. Herefordshire Now, available on the council's website and at key locations across the county, will provide residents and businesses with information about the work and achievements of the council, and aims to build a better understanding of our strategic direction, vision and ambition.

14. I will be hosting the first parish council summit on 17 October. The evening aims to improve the way we work with parish councils to share our collective knowledge and experience and identify practical ways to work together to address challenges and promote opportunities to provide the best for Herefordshire residents. A report on the outcomes of the summit will be provided to all members in due course.

15. The public consultation on the budget ended on 21 September and responses to that consultation will be analysed and considered as the proposals are reviewed and tested through the scrutiny committees before being considered by Cabinet and Council in the new year. The council has an established track record for achieving a balanced budget, whilst maintaining prudent reserves. We have, since 2010, delivered over £77m of the £96m savings required by 2021, and still have more to do to ensure we can meet the challenges of the future, but not let this divert us from delivering our corporate plan, or from recognising and celebrating our successes. Being able to talk to the Select Committee members about Herefordshire served to remind me how much we have to be proud of in Herefordshire.

Community impact

16. The community impact of any decisions of the executive have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken. Reporting to Council the activities of the executive demonstrates the council's commitment to the code of corporate governance principle of implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability

Equality duty

17. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

    A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

    (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

    (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

    (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

18. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As this report provides a summary of activity undertaken, we do not believe that it will have an impact on our equality duty. However these considerations are set out in each of the relevant reports informing the decisions listed at appendix 1, and will inform any future decision making.

Resource implications

19. There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The financial implications of any decisions of the executive listed at appendix 1 have been set

out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken and will inform any future decision making.

Legal implications

20. The council and committee, and cabinet rules within the constitution require the Leader to provide a report to Council on the work of the Cabinet since the last meeting of Council This report ensures these requirement are met.

21. There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The legal implications of any decisions of the executive listed at appendix 1 have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken.

Risk management

22. There are no risks arising from the recommendations of this report. The risks of any decisions of the executive listed at appendix 1 have been set out within the relevant decision report and taken into consideration at the time the decision was taken and will inform future decision making.

Consultees

23. None.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Summary of executive decisions taken.

Background papers

None identified.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Annie Brookes, Tel: 01432 260605, email: ab1@herefordshire.gov.uk

Executive decisions taken between 28 June 2018 and 21 September 2018 **Appendix 1**

	Decision and purpose	Decision date	Taken by
1	**Sale of land and buildings (Romney huts) within the Enterprise Zone at Chapel Road, Rotherwas** To approve the marketing and sale of land for development proposals on 0.96ha (2.36 acres) currently comprising 6 romney huts and surfaced bases let to third parties on various terms producing approx £23,500p.a.	28.06.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets
2	**Annual review of earmarked reserves** To approve proposed changes to earmarked reserves following the annual review. The annual review resulted in proposed movement of £7.5m of reserve funding from two reserves held into alternative reserves, summarised below- • Reduction of the sparsity reserve (£6.4m) • Part utilisation of the minimum revenue provision reserve (£1.1m) • Severe weather fund, proposed reserve addition of £1.4m • Children's wellbeing structural change, new reserve of £1.6m • Adults and wellbeing provision of care cost, new reserve of £0.5m • Road remedial works, £2.8m • Living Wage, new reserve of £0.5m • Health and wellbeing new reserve of £0.5m • Legal services demand, new reserve £0.2m	28.06.18	Cabinet
3	**Local authority schools maintenance programme** To approve the planned programme of maintenance works at local authority maintained schools, voluntary aided and designated trust schools.	28.06.18	Cabinet
4	**Corporate Peer Challenge** To consider the findings of the recent Local Government Association Corporate Peer Challenge and agree how those findings will be used to inform improvement plans.	28.06.18	Cabinet

	Decision and purpose	Decision date	Taken by
5	**End of 2017/18 corporate budget and performance report** To review revenue and capital outturn for 2017/18, including the treasury management outturn report and debts written off, and invite cabinet members to consider performance for the year ending 31 March 2018.	28.06.18	Cabinet
6	**Budget planning / consultation** To agree budget priority consultation arrangements to inform the budget setting process for 2019/20	28.06.18	Cabinet
7	**Future delivery of museum, library and archive services** To agree future delivery options for museum, library and archive services taking into consideration results of soft market test for management of the services, capital works for Hereford Library, next phase savings plans and the review of the museum services conduct as part of the resilient funding from Heritage Lottery.	28.06.18	Cabinet
8	**Polytunnels Planning Advice** This report seeks to approve the application of the development guidance principles contained in the Polytunnels Planning Guide 2018, which brings up to date the previous Polytunnels Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2008. This will provide planning guidance to prospective planning applicants, officers and members of the council and other interested parties on the erection of polytunnel structures.	29.06.18	Cabinet member infrastructure
9	**Revenues and benefits system application** To approve the provision, support and maintenance of the revenues and benefits system application	02.07.18	Cabinet member finance housing and corporate services
10	**Public realm contract extension** To approve a two year contract extension for the public realm service contract, with Balfour Beatty Living Places, in line with contract terms and conditions.	09.07.18	Cabinet member transport and regulatory services

	Decision and purpose	Decision date	Taken by
11	**Courtyard Theatre Expansion Project** To seek in principle approval for the following: • the council act as the lead organisation for the improvement programme including bids for external funding; and • the allocation of capital expenditure funded by prudential borrowing for a capital investment and improvement programme at the Courtyard Centre for the Arts.	10.07.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets
12	**IT Strategy Renewal (Digital Strategy)** To agree the renewed IT strategy for the council outlining the approach and key activity that supports the work of services, assists people accessing council services, creates efficiencies and keeps the organisation operational and safe.	13.07.18	Cabinet member finance, housing and corporate services
13	**Hereford City Bike Share** This report seeks to gain a decision on the type of bike share system to be procured in Hereford city.	16.07.18	Cabinet member transport and regulatory services
14	**Ross Enterprise Park – Development Partner Arrangements** To approve the arrangements for the implementation of the first phase of employment land at Ross Enterprise Park via the development and regeneration programme.	17.07.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets
15	**Provision of children's centre services in Bromyard area** To consider the options to provide children's centre provision in the Bromyard area from October 2018; and to approve the approach for service delivery.	19.07.18	Cabinet member young people and children's wellbeing
16	**Disposal / Redevelopment of former school land and playing field at Holme Lacy primary school** To approve disposal of the land at Holme Lacy primary school	19.07.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets

	Decision and purpose	Decision date	Taken by
17	**Fastershire Procurement Outcome for European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development** To agree the outcomes of the procurement for the cluster project which forms stage four of the Fastershire Broadband Strategy funded by European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).	23.07.18	Cabinet member economy and communication
18	**DRP student accommodation on station approach** To approve the new project request for student accommodation on station approach	24.07.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets
19	**Additional investment in the public realm service** To seek approval to invest additional funding in public realm services. That additional funding comprising of two parts: • the first part being £2.8m funding that has been allocated from the council's own reserves as revenue; and • the second being £1.25m funding provided by government to help repair potholes and to protect local roads from severe weather, under Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2017/18) no.31/3296 as capital. It is proposed that these sums are added to the existing investment of £27m to support additional road and footway maintenance, drainage works and road safety improvements, this together with investments in plant and systems that will improve the productivity or efficiency of public realm services and enable process improvements all as described in appendix 1 to this report.	24.07.18	Cabinet member transport and regulatory services
20	**Procurement and Commissioning Strategy** To consider and approve the council's procurement and commissioning strategy which focuses on meeting local needs and delivering value for money. It sets out how the council will provide and arrange innovative and flexible, quality goods and services that are responsive to the needs of our community and deliver optimum value for money.	26.07.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets

	Decision and purpose	Decision date	Taken by
21	**Shell Store incubation centre project revision** To seek approval for the revised finances and business case for the "Shell Store" project: an extensive refurbishment and conversion of the redundant Shell Store building within the Hereford enterprise zone, to create a business incubation and research facility that will support business growth and job creation. Additional approval to let a contract for the construction of the centre is also sought. The key revisions to the project include: • to increase the project budget by £818k to a total of £7.316m; • the increased budget reflects the high construction inflation experienced since the previous approval and an increase in the contingency to a more appropriate sum; • the project has been delayed due to the time required to secure the external funding package, specifically securing European and local enterprise partnership funding	27.07.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets
22	**Hereford Transport Package (HTP)** To consider: feedback to the HTP Phase 2 consultation, assessment of the shortlist of possible bypass route corridor options, the recommended preferred bypass route corridor, the development of associated walking, cycling, bus and public realm (active travel) improvements and to confirm the scope of the Phase 3 consultation.	27.07.18	Cabinet
23	**Hereford Area Plan Site Options Consultation** To approve the publication of the Hereford area plan (HAP) housing and employment site options paper for consultation purposes.	10.08.18	Cabinet member Infrastructure
24	**Local Development Scheme Review** To seek approval for a revised Local Development Scheme which sets out a programme for the preparation of development plan documents.	10.08.18	Cabinet member Infrastructure
25	**Smallholdings disposal additional legal spend to complete sales** To approve additional legal expenditure of £25k to facilitate the disposal of the council's smallholdings.	16.08.18	Cabinet member contracts and assets

	Decision and purpose	Decision date	Taken by
26	**Approve payment for Hoople services for 2018/19** To approve payments to Hoople for services as specified in the Hoople service level agreement for 2018/19	14.09.18	Cabinet member corporate strategy and budget
27	**Youth Justice Plan 2018-2019** To recommend the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 approval by full Council (appendix a); this item appears elsewhere on the agenda for Council today.	27.09.18	Cabinet
28	**Adoption of the Much Marcle neighbourhood development plan and consequential updates to the countywide policies map** To make the Much Marcle neighbourhood development plan as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire and approve the consequential updates to the countywide policies maps.	21.09.18	Cabinet member Infrastructure
29	**Adoption of the Hope under Dinmore Group neighbourhood development plan and consequential updates to the countywide policies map** To make the Hope under Dinmore Group neighbourhood development plan as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire and approve the consequential updates to the countywide policies maps.	21.09.18	Cabinet member Infrastructure
30	**Adoption of the Bodenham neighbourhood development plan and consequential updates to the countywide policies map** To make the Bodenham neighbourhood development plan as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire and approve the consequential updates to the countywide policies maps.	21.09.18	Cabinet member Infrastructure

Herefordshire Council

Meeting:	**Council**
Meeting date:	**12 October 2018**
Title of report:	**Motions on notice**
Report by:	**Solicitor to the Council**

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards affected

Countywide

Purpose

To consider motions received on notice.

Recommendation

THAT: the motion listed at paragraph 7 is debated and determined by Council.

Alternative options

1 There are no alternative options to the recommendation; the constitution makes provision for motions on notice to be debated and decided by Council.

Reasons for recommendations

2 To comply with the provisions of the constitution.

Key considerations

3 The constitution provides that members of Council may submit written notice of motions for debate at Council. A motion must be signed by the proposer and seconder and submitted not later than midday on the seventh working day before the date of the meeting. A member cannot propose more than one motion on notice per meeting and a maximum of three motions will be debated at meetings of full Council.

4 Motions must be about matters for which the council has a responsibility or which affect the area.

5 Motions for which notice has been given will be listed on the agenda in the order in which notice was received unless the member giving notice states, in writing, that they propose to move it to a later meeting or withdraw it.

6 Up to one and a half hours will be allocated for debate on notices of motion but that time may be varied at the discretion of the chairman.

7 One notice of motion will be debated at the meeting. The motions for discussion is set out below:

Motion – Worcestershire Local Pension Board

(Proposed by Councillor PP Marsh, Seconded by Councillor *tbc*)

The Council welcomes the recent decision by several local authority funds, including Merseyside Pension Fund, to take practical steps to reduce their investments in fossil fuels.

We also welcome the powers now explicitly given by government for pension funds to take financially material considerations, including climate change, into account.

We note increasing evidence for change in demand for fossil fuels, such as Carbon Trackers' '2020 Vison: why you should see the fossil fuel peak coming', which will impact on share prices over the next decade and thus on returns to the fund.

Worcestershire Local Government Pension Fund is responsible for the pensions of Herefordshire Council employees and many other public sector employees. It has significant holdings in fossil fuels.

We call on our Herefordshire Council representatives on the Worcestershire Local Government Pension Fund board and committee to seek alternatives to investments in fossil fuels. In particular we ask them to push for the Fund to:-

- **provide regular information on the results of the Fund's policy of engagement with its fossil fuel and other carbon intense holdings; and**
- **overhaul their Statement of Investment principles and Responsible Investment principles in the next year, including undertaking a carbon risk audit.**

Community impact

8 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) take some action the implications of such action will inform any decision by cabinet.

Equality duty

9 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) take some action the implications of such action will inform any decision by cabinet

Financial implications

10 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) take some action the implications of such action will inform any decision by cabinet.

Legal implications

11 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) take some action the implications of such action will inform any decision by cabinet.

Risk management

12 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) take some action the risks associated with such action will inform any decision by cabinet.

Consultees

13 None.

Appendices – none

Background papers – none identified