

# Agenda

## Cabinet

**Date: Thursday 25 September 2025**

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**Time: 2.30 pm**

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**Place: Conference Room 1 - Herefordshire Council, Plough Lane Offices, Hereford, HR4 0LE**

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

For any further information please contact:

**Samantha Gregory, Democratic Services Officer**

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If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format, please call Samantha Gregory, Democratic Services Officer on (01432) 260176 or e-mail [samantha.gregory@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:samantha.gregory@herefordshire.gov.uk) in advance of the meeting.

# **Agenda for the meeting of Cabinet**

## **Membership**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Councillor Jonathan Lester, Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Vice-Chairperson</b>	<b>Councillor Elissa Swinglehurst, Deputy Leader of the Council</b>
	<b>Councillor Graham Biggs</b>
	<b>Councillor Harry Bramer</b>
	<b>Councillor Barry Durkin</b>
	<b>Councillor Carole Gandy</b>
	<b>Councillor Dan Hurcomb</b>
	<b>Councillor Ivan Powell</b>
	<b>Councillor Philip Price</b>
	<b>Councillor Pete Stoddart</b>

## Agenda

	Pages
<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> To receive any apologies for absence.	
<b>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> To receive declarations of interests in respect of Table A, Table B or Other Interests from members of the committee in respect of items on the agenda.	
<b>3. MINUTES</b> To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2025.	To follow
<b>HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS</b> <i>The deadline for submission of questions for this meeting is:</i>  <i>5pm on Friday 19 September 2025.</i>  <i>Questions must be submitted to <a href="mailto:councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk">councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk</a>. Questions sent to any other address may not be accepted.</i>  <i>Accepted questions and the response to them will be published as a supplement to the agenda papers prior to the meeting. Further information and guidance is available at <a href="https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/getinvolved">https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/getinvolved</a></i>	
<b>4. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</b> To receive questions from members of the public.	
<b>5. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</b> To receive questions from councillors.	
<b>6. REPORTS FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES</b> To receive reports from the Council's scrutiny committees on any recommendations to the Cabinet arising from recent scrutiny committee meetings.  There are no scrutiny reports for this meeting.	
<b>7. Q1 PERFORMANCE REPORT</b> To review performance for Quarter 1 (Q1) 2025/26 and to report the performance position across all Directorates for this period.	11 - 42
<b>8. Q1 2025/26 BUDGET REPORT</b> To report the forecast position for 2025/26 at Quarter 1 (June 2025), including explanation and analysis of the drivers for the material budget variances, and to outline current and planned recovery activity to reduce the forecast overspend.	43 - 80
<b>9. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY - UPDATE TO CABINET</b>	81 - 102

	To provide an update on the key headlines from the Spending Review June 2025 and potential impact of local authority funding reform on the council's future financial position.	
<b>10.</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE QUARTER 1 2025-26</b>  To provide an update on the status of corporate risks at the end of Quarter 1 2025/26 (June 2025) and provide assurance that risks are being managed effectively across the council.	103 - 116
<b>11.</b>	<b>HEREFORDSHIRE SUICIDE PREVENTION STRATEGY</b>  To approve a Suicide Prevention Strategy for Herefordshire 2025 - 2029. The strategy has been developed in collaboration with local partners and highlights our commitment to reduce the number of local lives lost to suicide. The strategy takes a whole-county, all-age approach. It is intended that partner organisations will each take forward actions and work collaboratively to reduce the number of suicides in Herefordshire.	117 - 152
<b>12.</b>	<b>CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE</b>  To receive the report on the outcome of the Local Government Association Corporate Peer Challenge, held 23 - 26 June 2025, and to approve the council's action plan in response to the recommendations for publication.	153 - 196
In the opinion of the Proper Officer, the following item will not be, or are likely not to be, open to the public and press at the time it is considered <b>given the exempt information contacted in the papers.</b>		
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	that under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as indicated below and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.</b>	
<b>13.</b>	<b>WEST MIDLANDS SAFE CENTRE</b>  To outline the opportunities and risks to the council in proceeding to form a partnership with other local authorities in the West Midlands to create a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for the West Midlands Safe Centre to own and manage the secure welfare provision on behalf of the 14 local authorities/Trusts.	197 - 302