COUNCIL 8 FEBRUARY 2008

REPORT OF THE MEETINGS OF CABINET

HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER AND 13 DECEMBER 2007 AND 24 JANUARY 2008

Cabinet Members: RJ Phillips (Leader of the Council),

JP French (Deputy Leader),

LO Barnett, AJM Blackshaw, H Bramer,

JA Hyde, JG Jarvis, DB Wilcox.

This report along with the Minutes of Cabinet submitted to Council covers the proceedings of the meetings listed above.

1. DECISIONS RESERVED TO COUNCIL UNDER PART 4 OF THE CONSTITUTION

1.1 Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document see Cabinet Minutes of 24 January 2008.

2. KEY DECISIONS BY INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS WHICH WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE FORWARD PLAN

- 2.1 **Ledbury Tourist Information Centre**. The Cabinet Member (Economic Development and Community Services) made a decision on 10 January 2008 that the Ledbury Tourist Information Centre be relocated in the Master's House from March 2008.
- 3. CHILDREN SERVICES CABINET 29 NOVEMBER 2007 (Cabinet Member: Councillor JA Hyde)

3.1 Report on Decisions Taken

(i) Principles on Provision of Education in Herefordshire in 21 Century — Cabinet have received a report to approve the principles to guide the future pattern of provision of education in Herefordshire in the 21 Century and to endorse the next steps in the review process. Cabinet was advised that the principles paper had been amended and a revised paper provided at the meeting, which reflected many of the queries raised in the consultation period. Cabinet noted the government office statistics which showed a significant fall in the under 9 age group and was advised that the figures were being updated and should be available for Cabinet prior to any decision being taken. However, Cabinet was advised that there would need to be a significant change in the trend in falling numbers for there to be any real difference to the figures when updated.

Cabinet was concerned that the figures did not correctly reflect the increased numbers of migrant families working in the county. Cabinet was concerned about the potential loss of local schools but emphasised that the quality of teaching was paramount. Cabinet was worried that the report did not provide sufficient information, however Cabinet did not wish to hold up the process as the decision was for the publication of the draft proposals. Cabinet approved the principles on which the strategic plan for the pattern of school provision should be based as set out in Appendix 1 of the report. Cabinet approved the

process for the draft proposals being published on 10 January, the consultation on the proposals until 29 February and for a meeting of Cabinet in March 2008 to approve final proposals.

5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES CABINET 29 NOVEMBER 2007 (Cabinet Member - Councillor AJM Blackshaw)

5.1 **Report on Decisions Taken**

(i) Response to the Review of the Courtyard Centre for the Arts – Cabinet has received a confidential report on the Response to the Review of the Courtyard Centre for the Arts.

6. KEY DECISIONS CALLED-IN

- 6.1 Cabinet 13 December 2007 Colwall Railway Bridge called-in 14 December 2007.
- 6.2 Cabinet 13 December 2007 Herefordshire Connects called-in 14 December 2007.

7. CABINET

7.1 Cabinet met on 13 December 2007 and 24 January 2008 attached are the minutes of the relevant meetings (24 January to follow).

COUNCILLOR R.J. PHILLIPS LEADER OF THE COUNCIL