

MEETING:	Council
MEETING DATE:	26 September 2014
TITLE OF REPORT:	Leader's Report
REPORT BY:	Leader of the Council

Classification

Open

Key Decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To receive a report from the Leader on the activities of Cabinet since the meeting of Council in July.

Recommendations

THAT: the report be noted.

Alternative Options

1 There are no alternative options; it is a requirement of the council's constitution.

Reasons for Recommendations

2 To ensure members are aware of the activities of Cabinet.

Key Considerations

3 A list of the decisions taken by the executive since the last report to Council on 18 July is provided at appendix A; two were taken under the general exception provision

(less than twenty-eight but more than five days' notice), none were taken under the urgency provision (less than five days' notice).

- 4 Members will note in appendix A that on 11 September Cabinet considered the outcome of the Ofsted inspection of arrangements for safeguarding children in Herefordshire, and approved the action plan in response to improvement areas identified. In debating this supremely important issue all members present, not just Cabinet members by group leaders and scrutiny chairmen, were in agreement that assurance must be sought that our children and young people are being given all the support needed to stay safe, particularly in light of the issues highlighted recently in Rotherham. Herefordshire is undeniably a beautiful place to live and work, but we cannot blind ourselves to the unpalatable fact that vulnerable children and young people can be subject to abuse or exploitation wherever they live. It is incumbent on us all to raise any concerns we may have and to hear what our young people are really telling us about their experiences.
- 5 The council has informed Hereford United Football Club (1939) Limited that it will be supporting the current winding up petition and seek full recovery of all monies owed to it by the club. Both the council and the company have previously stated their commitment to maintaining professional football at Edgar Street. Whilst we very much hope that football will continue, the council must balance this wish with its responsibility to recover the outstanding monies and protect the interests of local taxpayers. As such, subject to the position of other creditors, the council is happy to discuss deferring payment with the club (for a set period of time), if the council assumes responsibility for redevelopment of the ground and ends. If this is agreed, it would allow the club to focus on football. I should emphasise that this is not a party political issue but one on which all groups on the council have been working together to seek to resolve.

Community Impact

- 6 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.

Equality and Human Rights

- 7 Cabinet have paid due regard to the public sector equality duty in their decision-making as set out in the relevant decision reports.

Financial Implications

- 8 The financial implications 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.

Legal Implications

- 9 The legal implications 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.

Risk Management

- 10 The risks associated with 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.

Consultees

- 11 None.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Executive Decisions

Background Papers

- None identified.