

## Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	Herefordshire Council Food Hygiene Inspection Programme 2019/20
<b>Date of decision:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Assistant Director for Regulation, Environment & Waste
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	Authority for the specified officer to take this decision is contained in the Economy and Place Directorate scheme of delegation for Environmental Health and Trading Standards (EHTS) officers.
<b>Ward:</b>	All
<b>Consultation:</b>	None.
<b>Decision made:</b>	<p>To implement a food hygiene inspection programme to proactively inspect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 98% of the high risk food premises (rated 'A', 'B' &amp; 'C'),</li> <li>• 70% of the medium risk food premises (rated D1) and</li> <li>• 30% of the low risk food premises (rated D2).</li> </ul> <p>To implement an 'Alternative Enforcement Strategy' (AES) to regulate very low risk food premises (rated E). The food hygiene inspection programme will be supplemented with additional contracted resource to inspect 180 'D rated' food premises.</p>
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	The decision to implement a revised inspection has been made in order to balance the requirements of the Food Law Code of Practice (England)(March 2017) with resource, whilst also mitigating risk to an acceptable level.
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	In not fully complying with the Food Law Code of Practice, potential risks from deterioration in food hygiene standards and food borne infectious disease need to be closely monitored. Moreover, reputational issues may arise if the Council is subject to increased monitoring or, in the extreme, direct intervention by the Food Standards Agency (FSA). However, interventional risk is substantially mitigated due to the vast majority of Local Authorities taking a similar approach, Herefordshire adopting this approach since circa 2010/11. Ongoing management control and performance reporting has also been put in place to ensure that any adverse trends or major deterioration in food hygiene standards and practices are identified, raised and addressed.
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	Reallocation of resource from other areas of Environmental Health was considered, but rejected due to competing statutory duties.
<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None.

**Signed**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019**