Record of officer decision

Decision title:	To approve the expenditure of up to £1k for gas disconnection as part of the approved enabling works for swimming pool demolition at Ashfield Park Primary School
Date of decision:	2 June 2020
Decision maker:	Assistant Director Education Development and Skills
Authority for delegated decision:	The authority for the specified officer to take this decision is set out in the cabinet report approved 17 January 2019 (http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=55 93)
Ward:	Ross West, Ross East, Ross North
Consultation:	None
Decision made:	 Agreement to: Approve the gas disconnection works as part of the approved enabling works for swimming pool demolition at Ashfield Park Primary School, to be undertaken by Wales & West Utilities Limited at an initial cost of £699 plus associated contingency, professional and statutory fees. A total cost of up to the value of £1k
Reasons for decision:	Ashfield Park Primary School has a swimming pool which is in poor condition and no longer used. It comprises a tank, part above ground/part sunk, and associated pumping, filtration and heating equipment, and is covered with a brick building with a partially glazed roof (corrugated plastic). The building also includes changing facilities.
	The condition of the building is noted as poor in the most recent survey, with an indication that rectification to rebuild the surrounding structure could cost c. £250k. Additional costs would be associated with getting the boiler back into a serviceable state, introducing heating and upgrading the changing facilities. Bringing the building up to standard would not be cost effective, and would use up about 20% of the council's whole annual maintenance budget.
	A previous record of officer decision approved the enabling works at the school within a total budget of £20k. These included a predemolition asbestos survey, ecological survey, tree removal prior to the nesting season and to enable access at the time of demolition and the separation of the gas supply which currently feeds the pool and the mobiles on site. It was considered prudent to disconnect the gas supply separately from the other works as this involved specialist services.
	The cost for the works will be covered from the £20k budget which has been approved from the school capital maintenance budget.

Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	The works can be covered within the budget approved for the enabling works A potential risk is that on the total costs of the individual elements of the enabling works exceeds the amount approved by this decision. If this is the case a further officer decision could be required.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Do nothing. This is not recommended as the risk of these works not being completed means that the health and safety risk associated with the continued existence of the building remains. Repair and restore the pool into working order. This is not an option as bringing the building up to standard would not be cost effective, and would use up about 20% of the council's whole annual maintenance budget.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed: Date: 2 June 2020