

## Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	<b>Commissioning of professional advice to proceed with the outline feasibility work for net carbon zero affordable housing at the initial selected council owned sites as listed in the appendix to the cabinet decision 28 January 2021 and any other suitable sites in third party ownership that may be available across the county at a cost of up to £71K</b>
<b>Date of decision:</b>	4 February 2021
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Director Economy & Place
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	<p>Cabinet decision on 26 November 2020 approved the commissioning professional advice to proceed with the outline feasibility work up to £71k to develop recommendations for potential sites</p> <p>Link to decision:</p> <p><a href="#">Decision - Options for the Delivery of Council Owned Affordable Housing - Herefordshire Council</a></p> <p>Cabinet decision on 28 January 2021 which approved the recommendation for potential sites to progress affordable housing delivery in Herefordshire.</p> <p>Link to decision:</p> <p><a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/d7565/Printed%20decision%20Recommendation%20for%20potential%20sites%20to%20progress%20affordable%20housing%20delivery%20in%20Here.pdf?T=5">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/d7565/Printed%20decision%20Recommendation%20for%20potential%20sites%20to%20progress%20affordable%20housing%20delivery%20in%20Here.pdf?T=5</a></p>
<b>Ward:</b>	County Wide
<b>Consultation:</b>	The Cabinet Member Housing, regulatory services and community safety and legal services have been consulted and confirmed that the decision may be taken
<b>Decision made:</b>	That the work required on the feasibility of potential sites for net carbon zero affordable housing is commissioned from Engie under the term of the Development and Regeneration Partnership Overarching Agreement under an Additional Services Agreement. The work will be undertaken up to a value of £71,000.
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<p>The Council is keen to progress the investigation of delivering affordable housing as quickly as possible. Expert advice is required to inform decisions regarding the feasibility of housing schemes on selected council owned sites across Herefordshire.</p> <p>The council entered into a Development and Regeneration Partnership (DRP) with Engie in June 2018. Engie have the expertise in this area and are able to accelerate progression and meet the timescales required to feed into the planning for bringing forward net carbon zero affordable housing on council owned land and other third party land across the county that may become available</p>
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	<p>Not awarding this work to Engie would compromise the council's ability to deliver on time, utilising the services of a procured partner is considered value for money.</p> <p>The council have a statutory duty to deliver housing solutions to meets the needs of the county, affordable housing is essential to address the inequalities in Herefordshire</p>

<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	Commission elements individually or manage them in house. This option has been rejected as the council does not have sufficient capacity or expertise in house and this approach would jeopardise delivery timescales and potentially put the council at risk due to the lack of expertise and knowledge
<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None

Signed

Date: 4 February 2021

Richard Ball  
Director for Economy & Place