

## Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	<b>Commissioning of professional advice from Arup &amp; Partners LLP to complete a revision of the Model Farm &amp; Surroundings Initial Site Appraisal report. The cost of the work is £12,000</b>
<b>Date of decision:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Director Economy & Place
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	A Non Key Officer Decision by Director for economy, communities and corporate (Historic), was taken on the 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 provided authority to undertake the initial study of the site and its surroundings.  Link to decision: <a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5501">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5501</a>
<b>Ward:</b>	Hildersley
<b>Consultation:</b>	The Cabinet Member Commissioning, Procurement and Assets, Cabinet Member Housing, regulatory services and community safety, Cabinet Member Environment and Economy, Commercial Services and Legal Services have been consulted and confirmed that the decision may be taken.
<b>Decision made:</b>	That the work required on revision and updating of the Model Farm & Surroundings Initial Site Appraisal be commissioned from Arup & Partner LLP. The scope will include a services and infrastructure capacity study for Model Farm & Surroundings. The focus will be exploring potential for a mixed use employment and housing development on the Model Farm site, and the required study will specifically look at the housing development potential. Arup & Partner LLP were selected as they produced the original report in March 2018 and have a detailed knowledge of the site. The work will be undertaken up to a value of £12,000.
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 potential of the Model Farm site as a Council owned asset.</li> <li>• Arup &amp; Partners LLP have the knowledge and expertise in this area and are able to complete a revision of the initial report produced in March 2018</li> </ul>
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not awarding this work to Arup &amp; Partners LLP would compromise the council's ability to deliver on time, utilising the services of a procured partner is considered value for money.</li> </ul>
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	Commission this work in house. This option has been rejected as the council does not have sufficient capacity or expertise in house and this approach would potentially put the council at risk with of development of the site due to the lack of expertise and knowledge.
<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None

I am an officer delegated to make the decision

Signed:

Print Name: Neil Taylor

Job Title: Interim Director for Economy and Place