

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Capital Investment in Infrastructure and Assets: Highways Maintenance
Date of decision:	8 February 2022
Decision maker:	Director of Economy and Environment
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>6th October 2021 Cabinet Member Report: Capital Investment in infrastructure and Assets: Extra Ordinary Highways Maintenance, Bio Diversity Net Gain and Winter Fleet:</p> <p>Delegated authority to Director of Economy and Place (in consultation with the S151 officer) to take all operational decisions to spend the budget as set out in the recommendation (a).</p> <p>https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=50037548</p>
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	As part of the revised consultation process for key decisions, the Political Group Consultation was undertaken, 1 response has been received. The response stated the investment was welcomed in particular the Market Towns. The response requested the opportunity to utilise the Lengthsman. This will be considered at the operational decision making process. The full response is in Appendix B of the report.
Decision made:	<p>To invest £250,000 in the Public Realm and Property Assets as set out in the programme below to be delivered 2021/22 and 22/23.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bringsty Common: Management to support wildflower recovery (£25k) • Little mountain Common: Management to support wildflower recovery (£25k) • A44 Tree Planting, Parcel 9132/9047 south of the A44 (c£18k) • Market Town and Hereford City Tree Planting (c£38K) • Roundabout Planting Trees and Shrubs (£12k) • Restoration of Market Towns and City Water courses to support stream and bankside biodiversity. (c£20k) • Hedgerow Planting, restoration of ancient hedgerow through gapping up and replanting of old hedgerow in council owned land or with landowners consent. (c£30k) • Hedgehog Highways to increase of biodiversity and support of a native species that is in decline. (c£18k) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bat/Bird Boxes/bug hotels/hedgehog, purchase of a range of animal habitats to erect on council property or place on council land. • Wetlands – Luston, Planting of trees and shrubs, and sowing wildflower mix on land surrounding wetland to be undertaken by contractor. (c£42k) • Stretton Sugwas land Fill Site: remove top soil and sow wildflower meadow mix. • Public Realm replacement of trees removed due to condition,

	<p>delivered through the Public Real Contract, (£40k) (The budgets are indicative and subject to quotations/tenders as per the councils financial regulations as well as the grants being signed by the community. Any amendments will be reported to the PMO and subject to further RoOD if deemed significant and necessary)</p>
<p>Reasons for decision:</p>	<p>The capital investment programme was approved at full Council on the 12 February, 2021 ensuring funding is available for all projects.</p> <p>To undertake a significant programme of biodiversity projects and local wildlife enhancements as part of the Council's response to the Climate and Ecological Emergency. The project will be delivered through a countywide approach to achieve bio-diversity net gain across the council owned public realm and wider public open spaces as set out below. The projects have been developed through consultation with various council areas of expertise.</p>
<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<p>The investment is planned to be part of the council's mitigation to the climate change mitigation.</p> <p>Financial risks will be managed by adhering to the councils Procurement and Commissioning strategy in delivering value for money.</p> <p>Delivery will be managed through the project management team.</p>
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>To invest through the Public Realm Contract, this will deliver in part, options are limited due to highway needs in managing the network, and therefore wider investment is required.</p> <p>Not to invest has been discounted due to the Climate Emergency declared 18th March 2019 and the commitment to minimise out impact on the environment aspiring to be carbon neutral by 2030.</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>

I am an officer delegated to make the decision

Signed:

Print Name: Neil Taylor

Job Title: Interim Director for Economy and Environment