## Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Repair café grant funding pilot scheme
Date of decision:	18 February 2022
Decision maker:	Director of Resources and Assurance, (Section 151 Officer)
Authority for delegated decision:	The Cabinet decision report 'To set out the councils new Integrated Waste Management Strategy and Waste Handling Pilots' authorises the section 151 officer to take all operational decisions relating to the recommendations outlined in the report. The report can be viewed using the link below Decision - To set out the councils new Integrated Waste Management Strategy and Waste Handling Pilots - Herefordshire Council
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	Cabinet Member - Commissioning, Procurement and Assets Interim Delivery Director - Corporate Services, Finance, Legal and Democratic Services Head of Environment, Climate Emergency & Waste Waste Services Manager
Decision made:	To fund grant awards to the total value of £20,000 with a maximum individual award of £2,500 available by application to formally constituted non-profit groups or organisations based in Herefordshire or a Herefordshire Parish Council to establish a repair café within their Herefordshire community.
Reasons for decision:	Cabinet agreed the recommendations in decision report 'To set out the councils new Integrated Waste Management Strategy and Waste Handling Pilots' which included authorising the new Integrated Waste Management strategy for Herefordshire, adopting the new targets within Appendix A to the report and authorised the development of a benefits realisation action plan to achieve the agreed targets.
	The establishment of repair café forms part of the short term priority waste reduction projects, which in turn will support delivery of Target 2 – Reduce residual household waste arising's to less than 330kg /hhld/year by 2035 of Appendix A.
	Appendix A - Waste Strategy.pdf (herefordshire.gov.uk)
	In turn this support the County Plan (2020-2024) which has a priority to minimise waste and increase reuse, repair and recycling and to invest in low carbon projects. Budget for this pilot project will be drawn from the waste reserve as outlined in the resource implications of the Cabinet report 'To set out the councils new Integrated Waste Management Strategy and Waste Handling Pilots'
	There is no conflict with any council policy, strategy or service plan. This decision does not amend existing policy nor raise new policy issues.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/ equality considerations:	Fraudulent Claims – The application will only be open to formally constituted non-profit groups or organisations based in Herefordshire or a Herefordshire Parish Council with their own bank account. Applicants will provide evidence including, written constitution or mission statement, Have an elected committee or representative steering group, up to date copy of account and relevant protection policy, evidence of quotes/costings for awarded funds. The grant scheme will be operated by the councils

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<ul> <li>delegated grants team who have significant experience administering these schemes.</li> <li>Insurance – groups will be required to show that they have arranged Public Liability Insurance and Employers Insurance. This will be able to be provided through the project 'Repair Cafe Herefordshire &amp; Worcestershire' insurance policy.</li> <li>Volunteers &amp; Attendance. There is a risk that funded groups may not be able to secure enough volunteers to run session and that attendance of sessions maybe low. The council will work with groups to promote volunteering opportunities and events across a variety of platforms. Groups will be based in and serving local communities.</li> <li>Do nothing. This option has been dismissed as it will not deliver the necessary expansion of the repair café network across Herefordshire as required.</li> <li>Commissioning approach to seek a group to develop and run repair cafes within Herefordshire. This approach was dismissed as it would limit the number of local community groups that can access the funds. A commissioning approach would also only operational for duration of original contract after which a new ending would be required.</li> </ul>
	contract, after which a new option would be required. The aspiration of the project is to create self-funding, repair café who sustain activity via donations and fundraising after the original funding has ended.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	If any officers or members involved or consulted in the decision-making have declared an interest you should include the declaration here.

Signed

Date: 18 February 2022

Andrew Lovegrove Director of Resources and Assurance