

## Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	To award the contract for the purchase and installation of the Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AQMS) in Leominster and the replacement AQMS station in Hereford.
<b>Date of decision:</b>	10 March 2022
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Corporate Director, Economy and Environment
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	<p>1. This decision has been taken in consultation with the council's Section 151 officer and in compliance with the decision of the full council on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 - <a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=291&amp;MId=7829&amp;Ver=4">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=291&amp;MId=7829&amp;Ver=4</a></p> <p>The decision approved a budget of up to £192,000 to replace the AQMS in Hereford as well as the purchase and installation of a new AQMS in Leominster.</p> <p>The budget was approved to be spent in 2022/2023 in full council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022 <a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=291&amp;MId=8091&amp;Ver=4">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=291&amp;MId=8091&amp;Ver=4</a></p> <p>2. The Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety, on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021, agreed the following decision <a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=8261">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=8261</a></p> <p>:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The council undertakes the programme of Air Quality Monitoring Station Resource Improvements as described in the Business Plan (Appendix A) to be completed within a budget of £192,000;</li> <li>b. Delegated responsibility for the award of procurement contracts for the lifecycle of the Air Quality Monitoring Station Resource Improvements project, informed by methodology advised by the council's procurement team be given to the Director for Economy and Place; and</li> <li>c. Delegated authority be given to the Director of Economy and Place following consultation with the S151 officer to be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to implement the above</li> </ul>
<b>Ward:</b>	Greyfriars; Leominster East; Leominster North & Rural; Leominster South; Leominster West;
<b>Consultation:</b>	This decision has been taken in consultation with the council's Section 151 officer, Legal, Finance and Commercial teams, the interim Service Director Economy and Regulatory Services and the Corporate Director Economy and Environment. All are supportive of the decision.

<p><b>Decision made:</b></p>	<p>To appoint Enviro Technology Services Plc for the supply and delivery of the replacement AQMS in Victoria Street, Hereford and a second new AQMS station at Bargates, Leominster</p> <p>The estimated total contract value is £128,634 including maintenance over a 3 year period which will be funded from:-</p> <p>£95,306 from the capital budget £33,328 from the revenue budget for maintenance</p> <p>This decision will approve the appointment of Enviro Technology Services PLC with the expenditure of £95,306 from the Capital budget and £33,328 from the revenue budget “Transportation monies collected from permit scheme works” for air quality equipment.</p>
<p><b>Reasons for decision:</b></p>	<p>The Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) process (as set out in Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 and the relevant Policy and Technical Guidance documents) places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether the air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where there is an exceedance or it is considered likely an exceedance will occur, the local authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives.</p> <p>Monitoring of pollutants within Herefordshire up to 2018 has shown an exceedance of the NO<sub>2</sub> Air Quality Objectives at both Air Quality Management Area (AQMA’s) (Hereford 42 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and Bargates 45.1 µg/m<sup>3</sup>).</p> <p>An AQMA is declared where the national ‘air quality objective’ set by the Government is exceeded.</p> <p>The major source of air pollutants in Herefordshire is vehicle emissions, specifically the emissions from the A49 Road through Hereford and Bargates Road junction in Leominster have been identified as significant.</p> <p>This decision will approve expenditure on the purchase and installation of Air Quality Monitoring Station Resource Improvements. With the intention to update the equipment on Victoria Street, Hereford with DEFRA approved air quality monitoring equipment and to expand the Air Quality Monitoring Station, network to include a second Air Quality Monitoring Station in Leominster. To ensure that the council is able to meet its statutory obligations.</p> <p>Benefits of this asset investment will:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• significantly improve the scope and reliability of air quality monitoring data capture</li> <li>• provide real-time DEFRA approved monitoring within the Hereford and Leominster AQMA</li> <li>• utilise, integrate and promote this information directly to the public through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the ‘Destination Herefordshire’ active travel behavioural change campaign to further influence travel choices and behaviour,</li> <li>○ the Council’s Health &amp; Wellbeing Board, and</li> <li>○ Council media and the Council’s website</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrate the Council's commitment and compliance with statutory provisions within Part IV of the Environment Act 1995</li> <li>• develop new air quality monitoring capabilities in Leominster by installing an AQMS in the Leominster AQMA,</li> <li>• modernise the existing AQMS asset in Hereford,</li> <li>• improve reliability of the existing AQMS asset in Hereford,</li> <li>• reduce escalating maintenance costs of aging and outdated air quality monitoring equipment in Hereford, and</li> <li>• Reduce escalating need for Environmental Health staff intervention / resource to address breakdowns of the AQMS asset in Hereford.</li> </ul> <p>Documents relating to this decision are available at <a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=8261">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=8261</a></p>
<p><b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b></p>	<p>A risk assessment is included in the business case.</p> <p>Ongoing repair and maintenance after year 3 will be dependent on mainlining appropriate budget commitments within the revenue budget for air quality equipment.</p> <p>Objections and Issues to Leominster AQMS installation. Local stakeholders have been contacted to address any issues; the unit will have a low sound level rating and be suitable for use within a residential setting.</p> <p>Equalities impact assessments will be carried out, when appropriate, as part of the delivery of the project.</p>
<p><b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p>	<p>The key risks of not doing the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• compliance with statutory provisions within Part IV of the Environment Act 1995</li> <li>• limited scope of air quality monitoring data from the Hereford City AQMS</li> <li>• poor reliability of aging air quality monitoring equipment</li> <li>• Adverse impacts on development of council policies, strategies and projects disconnect between passive diffusion tube monitoring and time to process publicly availability results (up to 2 years) to effect behavior change.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b></p>	<p>None</p>

I am an officer delegated to make the decision

Signed:

Print Name: Ross Cook

Job Title: Corporate Director Economy and Environment