

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Covid Recovery additional funding - Community Car Club pilot in up to six areas – funding to support Malvern Hills Car Club (MHCC) from April 2022 – March 2023
Date of decision:	13 May 2022
Decision maker:	Director of Resources and Assurance
Authority for delegated decision:	Decision taken by key cabinet member on 28 th February 2022 to give delegated authority to the section 151 officer following consultation with the appropriate director to move funding between approved schemes within the Covid Recovery plan to ensure that any underspend can be maximised. https://hc-modgov.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=8607
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	The COVID Recovery Plan was approved by Cabinet on 24th June which provides funding of £6m to support the economy, community wellbeing and organisation with recovery. The plan provided an overview of the schemes for delivery, which included the “Return to Towns and Cities” scheme and all appropriate consultation was undertaken at this time. The section 151 officer has been consulted and supportive of the project. £46,000 was allocated to this project to be spent by 31st March 2022. However, the pilot is for 18 months. The bulk of the costs e.g. purchase of cars will be spent by 31 st June 2022, but MHCC will need some additional funds to cover insurance, maintenance costs and any losses during the remaining pilot period
Decision made:	To allocate an additional £7,000 funding from the Covid Recovery funding to support the pilot April 2022 – March 2023. This is a direct award to MHCC .
Reasons for decision:	A community car club is a local, member-based initiative that provides access to pay-as-you-drive vehicles. Community car clubs are typically run by local groups to support their communities Car clubs can improve accessibility to transport provision for residents particularly in rural areas Car clubs can help households reduce their carbon footprint by not owning a car and having more consideration about car use Since Project inception car clubs in Fownhope, Kington, Leominster, South Hereford and Much Birch have been set up New car clubs cannot get insurance so hence the direct award to MHCC to administer this pilot Robin Coates from MHCC helped support the establishment of the St James car club. Robin has also been liaising and offering advice to residents in towns and villages currently interested in establishing a community car club.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	The COVID recovery plan budget allocation must be committed within the 2021/22 financial year, we want to ensure that this money can reach those smaller groups who can really make a difference in our communities and to the residents of Herefordshire by reducing car ownership and use and increasing accessibility.
Details of any alternative options considered and	Award grants directly to interested communities – rejected as new car club cannot get car insurance. Engage with national car clubs – rejected as following previous consultation these

rejected:	communities would be too small for larger operators.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed

Andrew Lovegrove
Director of Resources & Assurance

Date: 13 May 2022