

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Authorisation to spend designated funding for Market Town Highways Improvements
Date of decision:	24 August 2022
Decision maker:	Corporate Director Economy & Environment
Authority for delegated decision:	To authorise the spend/investment in Market Town Highways Improvements the public realm assets and infrastructure in accordance with the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport decision 17 August 2022: Decision - 2022/23 Public Realm Maintenance (Mitigation of Risk on the Network) - Herefordshire Council
Ward:	All Wards
Consultation:	Consultation for this decision has taken place with the council's finance and legal services teams
Decision made:	To approve the spending of £1m additional funding for the delivery of the Market Town Highway Improvement programme within the current financial year.
Reasons for decision:	<p>The funding aims to support the council's Highways Asset Management Strategy, mitigating the risk on the network, as part of a long term strategy in providing sustained investment. The projects address specific risks on the network as set out in the report. The projects are capital investment and as such will be allocated unique budget codes that will be used for monitoring and reporting by the corporate project management team alongside the Public Realm Contract annual plan management process</p> <p>The £1m Market Towns Highways Improvements investment supports the sustained investment county-wide. The project invests in the market towns Public Realm assets supporting the economic and community facilities in the towns. This is an ongoing programme of works targeted at treating the public realm assets. The town councils and local ward members have been consulted with the proposed programme of works</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	The funding aims to support the council's Highways Asset Management Strategy, mitigating the risk on the network, as part of a long term strategy in providing sustained investment. The project addresses specific risks on the network as set out in the report. The project is a capital investment and as such will be allocated unique budget codes that will be used for monitoring and reporting by the corporate project management team alongside the Public Realm Contract annual plan management process.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not to invest £1m in Market Town Highways Improvements, this is not recommended as this would be contrary to the Council resolution on 11 February 2022 and subsequent Cabinet Member decision of 17 August 2022. 2. Not to invest in the Market Town public realm assets and infrastructure. The projects deliver benefits that minimise the risk in the network. The funding will improve the localities identified and continue the investment in the Market Towns. Not to invest will have risks and require mitigation which would have adverse impacts on accessibility such as roads closed, claims due to network deterioration and safety concerns in localities identified for works.

**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: