

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	To drawdown the £250k approved reconfiguration and improvement budget for the Ryefield Centre estate capital programme 2020/21 to deliver Plough Lane building infrastructure changes including options for providing space to accommodate meetings with customers and public committee meetings, including the associated infrastructure requirements to deliver the work
Date of decision:	10 October 2022
Decision maker:	Director of Resources & Assurance
Authority for delegated decision:	Director of Resources & Assurance to be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to implement within the approved budget Link to decision: http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50042810
Ward:	Widemarsh
Consultation:	No consultation has taken place
Decision made:	That the drawdown of the £250k budget is agreed in order to assist in the delivery of the Plough Lane building infrastructure changes including options for providing space to accommodate meetings with customers and public committee meetings, including the associated infrastructure requirements to deliver the That the Senior Project Manager be authorised to approve spend within the total budget for internal and third party recharges
Reasons for decision:	The funding was agreed within the Property Services estate capital programme The closure of both Elgar House and Nelson House has resulted in more council staff being based and working from the corporate head office at Plough Lane. As a result the Plough Lane offices were identified as requiring changes to provide flexible office accommodation to meet the changing work practices and the use of office space post-Covid and to support the delivery of services using a hybrid approach. The reallocation of the existing capital funds will allow the external and internal changes of Plough Lane to be undertaken. The scope of the work to be completed includes, but not limited to work, on developing options for providing space to accommodate meetings with customers and public committee meetings and the associated infrastructure requirements to deliver the work.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reallocation of the existing £250k budget does not have any additional resource implications to the council and all work will be procured in line with the council's contract procedure rules. • Not having a capital budget for the work will prevent the delivery of these works being undertaken to create additional meeting space • If the budget is not used the work cannot commence
Details of any alternative options considered and	The council could decide not to complete these work on its Plough Lane offices. This option has been rejected due to the need to deliver improved services from the Plough Lane offices building and to enable flexible hybrid office accommodation to support

rejected:	the delivery of services including the various statutory committees. The council could choose to fund this work from another budget source. As the proposed work covers elements of the original budget this option was rejected.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed

Date: 10 October 2022

Andrew Lovegrove
Director of Resources and Assurance