

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Future Ready Homes - Home Energy Audits Pilot Programme for Herefordshire.
Date of decision:	13 th January 2023
Decision maker:	Corporate Director, Economy and Environment, subject to consultation with relevant Cabinet Members and the s151 officer.
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>Cabinet decision to approve the acceptance and expenditure of the £6,642,187 of UKSPF allocated to Herefordshire dated 15th December 2021.</p> <p>https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50105612/To%20Accept%20and%20Spend%20Any%20Approved%20UK%20Share%20Prosperity%20Plan%20and%20Rural%20Prosperity%20Funds%20Approved%20by%20Go.pdf</p>
Ward:	All wards
Consultation:	N/A
Decision made:	To draw down and spend not more than £49,050 of revenue from Herefordshire's UKSPF allocation to procure Severn Wye Energy Agency to deliver 72 domestic energy retrofit surveys for Herefordshire residents.
Reasons for decision:	<p>The exemption to provide supplemental funding would boost the number of audits specifically for Herefordshire and provide learning and outcomes that will inform a wider future project subject to full procurement.</p> <p>The Future Ready Homes project was set up in 2021 and runs to January 2024. Part of the project scope includes 150 fully funded retrofit surveys for residents across Shropshire, Powys and Herefordshire.</p> <p>The project is already up and running with a good application pipeline. Due to the limited number of surveys available households will have to be turned down without this additional funding.</p> <p>The UKSPF funding of £49,050 will provide supplemental funding to increase the number of audits for Herefordshire by 72 (60%) will be delivered, by March 2023 with the remaining 29 (40%) by the end of June 2023.</p> <p>The project enables householders across Herefordshire to understand the optimal energy efficiency solutions for their homes whilst also helping to meet the County's net zero carbon by 2030 ambition.</p> <p>The project team choose a mix of on-gas/ off-gas, urban/rural, old and new homes, owner occupier/ private rental. This project targets the able to pay sector as these households often fall between the gaps as they are not eligible for grant funding but often need help to start their retrofit journey.</p>

Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	RISKS	MITIGATION
	Low uptake of surveys	Strong pipeline exists and some monies will be used to supplement marketing activities to promote the audits
	Surveys not acted upon	Assessments will clearly outline the benefits. Monitoring and evaluation activities will engage with householders to understand barriers and propose how we could overcome these through the projects as well as inform future projects.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Not to proceed –This is not recommended as Cabinet approved the allocation and spend of the monies on the 15 th December 2022.	
Details of any declarations	N/A	

Signed

Date: