

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Herefordshire Natural Flood Management Project – Contract Award
Date of decision:	29 September 2023
Decision maker:	Mark Averill, Service Director Environment and Highways
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>Cabinet Member Decision 20 April 2022 Herefordshire Natural Flood Management (NFM) Project</p> <p>b) All operational decisions and spend of the £1,273,600 funding in accordance with the Business Case (Annex 1) be delegated to the Interim Service Director Environment, Highways and Waste, in consultation with the Cabinet member for Infrastructure and transport; and</p> <p>c) The commencement of the procurement of Catchment Advisor services to support the project be approved and all operational decisions be delegated to the Interim Service Director Environment, Highways and Waste.</p> <p>The authorisation limit is within the financial procedure rules and is sufficient for the decision and that the officer has authority under the contract procedure rules.</p>
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	Finance, Legal, Communications, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure
Decision made:	To award the contract to Severn Rivers Ecology who are the successful tenderers for the provision of Natural Flood Management (NFM) Catchment Advisors in Brimfield Brook Catchment.
Reasons for decision:	<p>It was identified within the Business Case for our Natural Flood Management Project that delivery on the ground will largely be through the deployment of Catchment Advisors into the priority sub-catchments. Following on from the success of our pilot project, Catchment Advisors will be engaging with landowners and communities to help advise them on how they can implement NFM measures on their land.</p> <p>Whilst a contract was awarded to the Wye & Usk Foundation in July 2022 for the other six areas, we were not able to appoint a contractor for the Brimfield Brook Catchment at the same time.</p> <p>We have since completed a council compliant procurement exercise for Catchment Advisors for the Brimfield Brook Catchment. This decision is to award the contract. The tender is for the period of 1 October 2023 (anticipated contract commencement date) to 31 March 2027 and the tender price is £99,815.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>Financial</p> <p>The Project is externally funded through Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) and Local Levy funding. This Project’s approved Business Case allocated a budget of £640,000 for advisory work. The contract awarded to the Wye & Usk Foundation in July 2022 committed a total spend of £499,852 and therefore awarding this contract of £99,815 is within the approved budget.</p> <p>Legal</p>

	No comments.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Do nothing. This is not recommended as a council compliant procurement exercise has been undertaken and a successful provider has been identified. Not taking this decision has been rejected as this would not be in accordance with this Project's approved Business Case.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	

Signed..... Date: