

Record of Officer Decision

Decision title:	Decision to accept a grant of £57,087 from the Libraries Improvement Fund in order to purchase tablet technology for customer use in Herefordshire's libraries.
Date of decision:	30.5.24
Decision maker:	Chief Finance Officer
Authority for delegated decision:	Herefordshire Council's Constitution Scheme of Delegation, Part 4: Section 7 Financial Procedure Rules (Amendments to the approved capital programme, New 100% externally funded scheme)
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	Consultation with library users before making the funding application that established the need for tablet technology to improve and extend access to online services in the library. Herefordshire Council - Property Services Herefordshire Council – Finance Herefordshire Council – Community Wellbeing
Decision made:	To accept a grant of £57,087 from the Libraries Improvement Fund in order to purchase tablet technology for customer use in Herefordshire's libraries. That the total £57,087 will be added to the Capital Programme budget to purchase and install tablet technology for customer use in Herefordshire's libraries in accordance with the terms of the grant determination offer.
Reasons for decision:	To make use of the Libraries Improvement Fund to support the purchase and installation of tablet technology for customer use in Herefordshire libraries. Herefordshire Libraries is extending and enhancing its digital offer by investing in tablet technology that can be used around the library building to access services, information and promotions. This is in addition to the existing public access computers.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	There are no health & safety risks relating to the project. The project promotes inclusivity by providing touch screen technology that can be used anywhere in the library building to support customer needs. Project partners will promote the use of the tablets to their clients and a programme of activity will be devised to support people to use the tablets and access services. There are no financial risks to the Herefordshire Council, the project is funded entirely by external grants and contributions from supporting organisations. All grant and procurement activity will be in line with our standard processes.

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Not to accept the grant. This would mean that the library service couldn't purchase tablet technology to extend the council's digital offer and support customers to access council and other services.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None.