

## Record of operational decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	To renew a nominations and operational agreement for the provision of accommodation and support at the homelessness hub.
<b>Date of decision:</b>	10/07/2024
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Corporate Director Community Wellbeing
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	CW-07 Housing and homelessness support and solutions and; a cabinet member decision taken in 2021 which gives delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Community Wellbeing to approve a nominations and operational agreement for the provision of accommodation and support at the homelessness hub. <a href="#">Capital grant for homelessness hub main report.pdf (herefordshire.gov.uk)</a>
<b>Ward:</b>	Countywide
<b>Consultation:</b>	None
<b>Decision made:</b>	To enter into a nominations and operational agreement for the provision of accommodation and support at the homelessness hub.
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<p>The hub has been in place since 2021 and provides eight units of emergency accommodation and four self-contained flats for vulnerable homeless people. Support and advice to occupants is provided by the council's Housing Solutions service with housing management through Citizen Housing.</p> <p>This accommodation makes a substantial contribution to ensuring effective pathways are in place for vulnerable homeless people to move towards living independently in long term homes. The hub helps reduce rough sleeping and supports the Homelessness Prevention Strategy for Herefordshire.</p> <p>The nominations and operational agreement between the two organisations (Herefordshire Council and Citizen Housing) supports the effective delivery of accommodation and support of homeless people at the hub. In addition to detailing how people living on-site are contacted and supported and the use of space, the agreement serves to promote transparency and good outcomes for homeless people.</p> <p>The agreement will be in place for the period 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 with robust options for review and termination, within the term of the agreement.</p>
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	<p>The financial risk is low as the proposal has no significant resource implications for the council. Whilst the nomination agreement does commit the council to cover VOID/vacancy costs it covers who will be referred to the hub and sets expectations of the housing provider to seek to prevent or manage any extended voids or vacancies.</p> <p>Lack of demand is considered low risk. The current levels of demand are</p>

	<p>well understood by operational teams and are sufficient to be managed in part through the premises, the nomination and operating agreement will provide for regular reviews of need and demand, and can be terminated with notice.</p> <p>There is no detrimental impact for any group with a protected characteristic anticipated from this decision, as it leads to an increase in facilities and an improved service for a vulnerable group of local people.</p>
<p><b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p>	<p>Alternative options considered:</p> <p>Not to renew the operating and nominations agreement. This was rejected for the following reasons:</p> <p>No other premises are available which offers extensive accommodation appropriately configured for a hub, with space for multi-agency working and support to be provided on site.</p> <p>Loss of 12 units of accommodation would be detrimental to the council's ability to improve outcomes for very vulnerable people and provide opportunities to further reduce homelessness in Herefordshire.</p>
<p><b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b></p>	<p>No Declarations of Interest made.</p>

Signed..... Date:

**Please ensure that signatures are redacted before publishing.**