

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Drainage Town and Parish Grant Funding
Date of decision:	9 September 2025
Decision maker:	Corporate Director for Economy and Environment
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>On 7 February 2025, Full Council agreed the content of the 2025/26 Budget Setting report. As part of the report, Full Council agreed that £445k would be provided for improvements to the drainage network.</p> <p>Full details of the decision taken can be seen at the following link:</p> <p>Decision – To approve the 2025/26 revenue budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy</p> <p>Delivery of the £445k of funding is proposed to be through Parish Lengthsman contract variation agreements or purchase orders, which are permissible under the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules</p>
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	Town and Parish Councils were invited to provide submissions for the Drainage Grant funding in June 2025.
Decision made:	To vary the Parish Lengthsman contract with five Town and Parish Councils, to deliver £57,000.00 of drainage improvement works, as set out in this report
Reasons for decision:	<p>Working with parishes on locally important maintenance supports the Council’s Delivery Plan 2025/26 objective to: ‘Expand and maintain the transport infrastructure network in a sustainable way and improve connectivity across the county.’</p> <p>On 7 February 2025, Full Council approved the 2025/26 Budget Setting report, which included an allocation of £445,000 for drainage improvements.</p> <p>In June 2025, Town and Parish Councils were invited to submit proposals for this funding, which is intended to support ditch clearance and minor drainage schemes.</p> <p>Submissions are due by 28 September 2025 and must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location of each asset (using what3words) • Photographs • A brief description of the required works • A cost estimate <p>At this stage, submissions from five Town and Parish Councils have been identified as offering best value and are being progressed.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality	<p>Financial Implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total budget of £445k has been allocated to this project. The submissions from the five Town and Parish Councils total £57,000.00 of

<p>considerations:</p>	<p>works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project codes will be allocated so that the project manager assigned can monitor and review progress to enable reporting to the relevant programme boards. <p>Risk Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The identified works should reduce the risk to users on the network as a result of improved condition. <p>Legal Implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct award of a contract is permissible under the Contract Procedure Rules where the total value is below £25k and can demonstrate best value to the council.
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>That this additional investment is not made and the Council continues to maintain Herefordshire’s drainage in accordance with sound asset management practices but wholly within existing maintenance allocations and grant funding made available.</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>

Signed..... Date: