

**Record of officer decision**

<b>Decision title:</b>	Contract Award for construction work to upgrade the Great Western Way
<b>Date of decision:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Corporate Director Economy & Environment and Service Director Highways
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	<p>The Cabinet decision dated 12 January 2023 to accept, and Spend any Approved Levelling Up Funding (LUF) Allocated to Herefordshire authorises the following: -</p> <p>a) To accept and approve expenditure related any Levelling Up Funding offered by government for a package of transport and active travel measures in and around Hereford city.</p> <p>b) To delegate to the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economy, the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Highways, and the Section 151 Officer, all operational decisions in implementing the funding in accordance with the bids to government.</p> <p><a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=9243">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=9243</a></p> <p>The Cabinet decision dated 23 January 2023 to spend the accepted Stronger Towns Funding for Greening the City Allocated to Herefordshire authorises the following: -</p> <p>a) To accept and spend the £403,655 (capital) of Stronger Towns funding offered by government,</p> <p>b) Authority is delegated to the Service Director for Highways and Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member Infrastructure and Transport to make all operational decisions required to complete the implementation of the Stronger Towns, Greening the City project.</p> <p><a href="#">Decision - Spend the accepted Stronger Towns Funding for Greening the City - Herefordshire Council</a></p>
<b>Ward:</b>	Widemarsh
<b>Consultation:</b>	Consultation for this award has been made with the Corporate Director for Economy & Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member Economy & Environment, Cabinet Member Infrastructure & Highways, Section 151 Officer, Stronger Towns Funding Service Director in consultation Cabinet Member for Infrastructure & Highways, HC Legal, HC Commercial and HC Finance

<b>Decision made:</b>	Award a contract for the construction work to upgrade the Great Western Way to Octavius Infrastructure Ltd to the value of £443,119 following successful evaluation from a framework tender process
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Stronger Towns Funding programme for Greening the City aimed to increase cycle usage and footfall within the city centre through greater awareness of the travel times along this route.</li> <li>• Detailed design of the schemes has been completed so that a framework tender exercise for a construction contractor could take place in compliance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPR's) from September to August 2025.</li> <li>• Following this, two compliant bids were received and evaluated with Octavius Infrastructure Ltd. selected as the preferred bidder.</li> <li>• This project is part of a wider programme of Active Travel Measure (ATM) schemes funded via Central Government Active Travel Funding (ATF) and Levelling Up Funding (LUF) across Hereford City.</li> <li>• Spend-to-date on design and internal fees for Greening the City total £41,200 but the contract costs can be managed within the remaining budget within the overall funding agreed</li> </ul>
<b>Equality Considerations</b>	The work undertaken follows the guidance set out in Well Managed Highway Infrastructure: A Code of Practice. When considering the highway network hierarchy in Herefordshire the presence of community, medical or educational facilities are considered as part of the usage consideration ensuring that highway corridors to these facilities are afforded more priority.
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The required spend profile outlined by the Department for Transport (DfT) for the LUF funded programme stipulates that the schemes must be delivered by the end of March 2026, and the Council has signed up to a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which commits to delivering and spending the Levelling Up funds prior to this date.</li> <li>• Confirmation of a construction contractor will enable further progress to take place against agreed project spend and objectives.</li> <li>• The total budget allocation for the Great Western Way upgrade is £675,049 consisting of £301,400 from Stronger Towns Funding and £373,649 from LUF funds. The construction contract value tendered by Octavius Infrastructure Ltd. is £ 443,119</li> <li>• Expenditure of LUF funds has been in accordance with the HC policies and Memorandum of Understanding.</li> <li>• There is a risk that LUF funding will not be extended past</li> </ul>

	<p>March 2026, although this is unlikely, the mitigation is that future Local Transport Grant (LTG) can be used as an alternative funding source.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project team continues to work closely with internal stakeholders to ensure that all activity is in accordance with Council policies and procedures including governance, financial, legal and procurement regulations.</li> <li>• The LUF Project Board will oversee project delivery monthly including the project risk register. In addition, quarterly monitoring submissions to the Department for Transport (DFT) include project progress and risk reporting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p>	<p>Not to award, this is not recommended as this would put the council’s capital programme at risk.</p>
<p><b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b></p>	<p>None</p>

Corporate Director Economy & Environment

Signed..... Date:

Service Director Highways

Signed..... Date:

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