

# HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN



This document, known as the Forward Plan, sets out the decisions which are expected to be taken during the period covered by the Plan by either Cabinet as a whole, or by individual Cabinet Members. The Plan is updated regularly and is available on the Herefordshire Council website ([www.herefordshire.gov.uk](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk)) and from Council Offices. This edition supersedes all previous editions.

The council must give at least 28 days' notice of key decisions to be taken. A key decision is one which results in the council incurring expenditure or making savings of £500,000 or more, and/or is likely to be significant in terms of the strategic nature of the decision or its impact, for better or worse, on the amenity of the community or quality of service provided by the council to a significant number of people living or working in the locality affected.

**Current cabinet members are listed below.** For more information and links papers for Cabinet meetings please visit  
<https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mqCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251>

Councillor Jonathan Lester	Corporate Strategy and Budget (Leader of the Council)
Councillor Elissa Swinglehurst	Environment (Deputy Leader of the Council)
Councillor Carole Gandy	Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Ivan Powell	Children and Young People
Councillor Harry Bramer	Community Services and Assets
Councillor Graham Biggs	Economy and Growth
Councillor Pete Stoddart	Finance and Corporate Services
Councillor Barry Durkin	Roads and Regulatory Services
Councillor Philip Price	Transport and Infrastructure
Councillor Dan Hurcomb	Local Engagement & Community Resilience

Documents submitted in relation to each decision will be a formal report, which may include one or more appendices. Reports will usually be made available on the council website at least 5 clear working days before the date of the decision. Occasionally it will be necessary to exempt part or all of a decision report from publication due to the nature of the decision, for example if it relates to the commercial or business affairs of the council. Other documents may be submitted in advance of the decision being taken and will also be published on the website unless exempt.

To request a copy of a decision report or related documents please contact [governancesupportteam@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:governancesupportteam@herefordshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01432 261699.

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
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FORWARD PLAN FOR 9 January 2026 ONWARDS

The following information is provided for each entry in the Forward Plan:

<b>Heading</b>	<b>Contains</b>
<b>Report title and purpose</b>	A summary of the proposal
<b>Decision Maker and Due date</b>	Who will take the decision and the date the decision is expected to be made
<b>Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)</b>	The cabinet member with responsibility for this decision and the officers producing the decision report.
<b>Directorate</b>	The directorate of the council responsible for the decision.
<b>Date uploaded onto plan</b>	The date the decision was first uploaded and the notice period started for key decisions.
<b>Decision type, exemptions and urgency</b>	Whether the decision is a Key or Non-Key decision, if the report is expected to be fully open, partly exempt or fully exempt and if urgency procedures are being followed.

Decisions to be taken by Cabinet at a formal meeting are listed first, ordered by date, and include both Key and Non-Key decisions. Decisions to be taken by individual Cabinet Members are then listed, grouped by portfolio area and sorted by date. These include Key and Non-Key decisions.

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
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Cabinet decisions by date (Key and Non-key listed)					
<b>2026/2027 Draft Budget - Revenue</b> To recommend to Council the proposed 2026/27 revenue budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy.	Cabinet 20 January 2026	Leader of the Council (Section 9E)  Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance  Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383775	Corporate Support Centre	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b>
<b>DRAFT - 2026/27 Capital Investment Budget and Capital Strategy Update</b> To recommend to Council for approval the revised capital investment budget and capital strategy for 2026/27 onwards.	Cabinet 20 January 2026	Leader of the Council (Section 9E)  Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance  Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383775	Corporate Support Centre	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b>

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<p><b>2026/27 Budget, Medium Term Financial and Treasury Management Strategy - Revenue</b></p> <p>To recommend to Council the proposed 2026/27 revenue budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy</p>	Cabinet 5 February 2026	<p>Leader of the Council (Section 9E)</p> <p>Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance</p> <p>Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383775</p>	Corporate Support Centre	19 December 2025	KEY Open
<p><b>2026/27 Capital Investment Budget and Capital Strategy Update</b></p> <p>To recommend to Council for approval the revised capital investment budget and capital strategy for 2026/27 onwards.</p>	Cabinet 5 February 2026	<p>Leader of the Council (Section 9E)</p> <p>Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance</p> <p>Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383775</p>	Corporate Support Centre	19 December 2025	KEY Open
<p><b>2026/27 Council Tax Reduction Scheme</b></p> <p>To recommend to Council the 2026/27 local Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme</p>	Cabinet 5 February 2026	<p>Leader of the Council (Section 9E)</p> <p>Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance</p> <p>Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383775</p>	Corporate Support Centre	19 December 2025	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<b>Annual review of Earmarked Reserves – 2025/26</b> To note and review the earmarked reserves held by the council.	Cabinet 5 February 2026	Leader of the Council (Section 9E)  Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383775	Corporate Support Centre	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b> Open
<b>Local Cycling, Walking and Wheeling Infrastructure Plan (formerly known as Local Walking Cycling Plan adoption)</b> To seek Cabinet approval for the adoption of the Local Walking and Cycling Plan	Cabinet 26 March 2026	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure  Ffion Horton, Transport Planning Services Manager ffion.horton@herefordshire.gov.uk	Economy and Environment	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b> Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<p><b>To re-commission the home care service framework in Herefordshire</b></p> <p>To approve the proposed approach to re-commissioning the home care service framework in Herefordshire.</p> <p>The current home care framework ends on 31 October 2026. This report details the intended approach to re-commission a new service from 1 November 2026, for up to ten years. This is in line with the council's statutory duty to provide home care services for those with an eligible assessed need, as set out in the Care Act 2014.</p>	Cabinet 26 March 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing  Sharon Amery, Senior Commissioning Officer sharon.amery2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383734	Community Wellbeing	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b> Open
<b>Cabinet Member Decisions (Key and Non Key decisions)</b>					
<b>Portfolio: adults, health and wellbeing</b>					
<p><b>Reprocurement of Herefordshire Independent Adult Advocacy Services</b></p> <p>To approve the reprocurement of Herefordshire Independent Adult Advocacy Services, bhy way of an open tender process.</p>	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing 29 January 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing  John Burgess, Senior Commissioning Officer John.Burgess3@herefordshire.gov.uk	Community Wellbeing	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b> Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<b>Portfolio: children and young people</b>					
<p><b>Children's Emergency Out of Hours Duty Team (EDT) Service</b></p> <p>To agree to the direct award, by exemption, of this contract to the incumbent service provider.</p> <p>The Emergency Duty Team (EDT) Service exists to provide an emergency responsive service for children and young people up to the age of 18, but in line with the Leaving Care Act 2000 the service is available to any care experienced young person aged up to 25.</p> <p>The service is provided when a child or young person is believed to be at risk of significant harm, and from whom delay until the next working day would be detrimental to their welfare and safety. The service ensures that they continue to be safeguarded in the immediate term.</p> <p>There is a statutory duty for local authorities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need. This is Section 17(1) of the Children Act 1989.</p>	Cabinet member children and young people 16 January 2026	Cabinet member children and young people Sam Westwood, Commissioning Officer, All Age Disability, Community Wellbeing Sam.Westwood@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383097	Community Wellbeing	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b> Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<p><b>Herefordshire's co-ordinated school admissions arrangements 2027/2028</b></p> <p>To approve Herefordshire Council's proposed admissions arrangements for the academic year 2027/2028</p> <p>The proposed arrangements comply with the current School Admissions Code which came into force on 1 September 2021. The recommendation applies to admission arrangements determined in 2025 for admission in school year 2027/2028 for those schools in Herefordshire for whom the council is the admissions authority.</p>	<p>Cabinet member children and young people 20 January 2026</p>	<p>Cabinet member children and young people Louise Tanner, Admissions and 14 to 19 curriculum manager Louise.Tanner@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432383333</p>	<p>Children and Young People</p>	<p>19 December 2025</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Schools Budget 2026/27</b></p> <p>To approve school forum's recommended budget proposals for school budgets, central school services and early years within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2026/27</p>	<p>Cabinet member children and young people 13 February 2026</p>	<p>Cabinet member children and young people Stacey Carter, Head of Strategic Finance (Deputy S151) stacey.carter@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383095</p>	<p>Corporate Support Centre</p>	<p>19 December 2025</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<p><b>Local Authority school building maintenance works 2026 - 2028 (amended from 2030)</b></p> <p>To approve the proposed expenditure of capital grants for the school buildings maintenance works.</p>	<p>Cabinet member children and young people 25 February 2026</p>	<p>Cabinet member children and young people  William Merriman, Sufficiency, Planning and Capital Investment Manager <a href="mailto:William.Merriman2@herefordshire.gov.uk">William.Merriman2@herefordshire.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Children and Young People</p>	<p>19 December 2025</p>	<p>KEY Open</p>
<p><b>Portfolio: community services and assets</b></p>					
<p><b>Portfolio: economy and growth</b></p>					
<p><b>Portfolio: environment</b></p>					

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<p><b>Adoption of the Dormington &amp; Mordiford Neighbourhood Plan and the consequential updates to the countywide policies map</b></p> <p>To make the revised Dormington &amp; Mordiford neighbourhood development plan (NDP) as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire and approve the consequential updates to the countywide policies maps.</p> <p>To fulfil the legal duty to make /adopt the revised Dormington &amp; Mordiford neighbourhood development plan and update the countywide policies map as part of the statutory development plan for Herefordshire.</p>	Cabinet member environment 26 January 2026	Cabinet member environment  Siobhan Riddle, Acting Strategic & Neighbourhood Planning Manager srriddle@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260142	Economy and Environment	19 December 2025	<b>Non Key</b> Open
<p><b>Allocating the Climate and Nature Reserve Phase 2</b></p> <p>To Allocate the balance of the Climate and Nature Reserve for the delivery of projects which will positively impact the climate and natural environment of Herefordshire to the benefit of all who reside in the county.</p>	Cabinet member environment 22 January 2026	Cabinet member environment  Richard Vaughan, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager Richard.Vaughan@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260192	Economy and Environment	19 December 2025	<b>KEY</b> Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<p><b>Solar Car Ports at Plough Lane</b> To approve the scoping and construction of solar car ports at Plough Lane</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment 20 March 2026</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment  Katie Ainsworth, Senior Project Manager, Richard Vaughan, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager, Rosanna Willmott, Sustainability and Climate Change Officer  katie.ainsworth2@herefordshire.gov.uk, Richard.Vaughan@herefordshire.gov.uk, rosanna.willmott@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260192, Tel: 01432 261749</p>	Economy and Environment	19 December 2025	KEY Open
<p><b>Adoption of Herefordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy</b> To formally adopt the Herefordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and accept associated government grant for delivery.</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment 17 April 2026</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment  Mandy Neill, Senior Landscape Officer, Richard Vaughan, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager  mandy.neill@herefordshire.gov.uk, Richard.Vaughan@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260192</p>	Economy and Environment	19 December 2025	KEY Open
<p><b>Portfolio: finance and corporate services</b></p>					

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<b>Portfolio: local engagement and community resilience</b>					
<b>The New Public Realm Service – Depot Facilities</b> This report seeks approval to procure and undertake any necessary works to depot and other facilities as required to deliver the New Public Realm Service from 1 June 2026.	Cabinet member local engagement and community resilience 23 January 2026	Cabinet member local engagement and community resilience Ed Bradford, Head of Highways and Traffic Edward.Bradford@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260786	Economy and Environment	19 December 2025	KEY Open
<b>Public Realm Services Annual Plan –2026/27</b> To confirm the annual plan of public realm works that will be delivered in line with capital and revenue budgets and in accordance with the Council's Highway Asset Management Plan and Highway Maintenance Plan.	Cabinet member roads and regulatory services 30 January 2026	Cabinet member local engagement and community resilience, Cabinet member roads and regulatory services Ed Bradford, Head of Highways and Traffic Edward.Bradford@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260786	Economy and Environment	19 December 2025	KEY Open
<b>Portfolio: roads and regulatory services</b>					

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	Directorate	Date uploaded onto plan	Decision Type, exemptions and urgency
<p><b>Highway Maintenance Plan</b></p> <p>To update the Highway Maintenance Plan, which sets out the reasonable system of inspection and repair that will be deployed by the Council to ensure that it meets its duty to maintain all publicly maintainable highways.</p>	<p>Cabinet member roads and regulatory services</p> <p>27 February 2026</p>	<p>Cabinet member roads and regulatory services</p> <p>Ed Bradford, Head of Highways and Traffic</p> <p>Edward.Bradford@herefordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Tel: 01432 260786</p>	<p>Economy and Environment</p>	<p>19 December 2025</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Portfolio: transport and infrastructure</b></p>					
<p><b>Capability and Ambition Fund 2025/26 allocation</b></p> <p>The purpose of the report is to confirm what Herefordshire Council will deliver with the Capability and Ambition Fund grant</p>	<p>Cabinet member transport and infrastructure</p> <p>2 February 2026</p>	<p>Cabinet member transport and infrastructure</p> <p>Ffion Horton, Transport Planning Services Manager, Scott Tompkins, Delivery Director - Infrastructure, Richard Vaughan, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager</p> <p>ffion.horton@herefordshire.gov.uk, scott.tompkins@herefordshire.gov.uk, Richard.Vaughan@herefordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Tel: 01432 260192</p>	<p>Economy and Environment</p>	<p>19 December 2025</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>