

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Department for Transport (DFT) Local Highways Maintenance Funding – Re-allocation of Other Retained Capital Budgets
Date of decision:	18 th February 2026
Decision maker:	Corporate Director Economy and Environment
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>The Cabinet Member Roads and Regulatory Services took a decision 28 January 2025 to confirm the annual plan 2025/26 for the public realm services contract with Balfour Beatty Living Places. This decision authorised:</p> <p>That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the annual plan for public realm services, as outlined at Appendix 1 of this report be approved as the basis for service delivery during 2025/26 subject to the confirmation of the revenue and capital budgets as detailed in paragraph 43 and; b) approval to spend the retained capital budget of £2,599,000 as detailed in paragraph 43; c) the Interim Chief Operating Officer be authorised to agree, through the Public Realm Contract governance arrangements, final adjustments to the programme (including any recommendations from the Strategic Partnering Board) and budget allocation to each of the Annexes and any in-year adjustments to the plan, within the overall budget; including the retained capital budget; d) the Interim Chief Operating Officer be authorised to implement and expend the Department for Transport (DFT) Local Highways Maintenance Funding Allocations for 2025/26 of £5,882m in accordance with the Highway Maintenance Plan. <p>This decision can be viewed using the following link: Issue details - Public Realm Services Annual Plan and Highways Commission 2025 - 2026 (Title has been amended formerly known as Public Realm Services Annual Plan 2025/26) - Herefordshire Council</p>
Ward:	Countywide.
Consultation:	None.
Decision made:	To move £100k of underspend on other retained budgets to fund carriageway surfacing works across the county.
Reasons for decision:	Accelerated deterioration has been experienced on the highway network since January 2026 as a result of cold and wet weather. £100k has been identified within the overall highway budget as a result of underspends within other service areas and that can be used to fund additional carriageway surfacing works at sites across the county.

Equality Considerations	None identified.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>Financial Implications</p> <p>Officers have identified £100k of other retained budgets that can be re-allocated to fund carriageway surfacing works across the county. This funding is available due to lower than budgeted spend during 2025/26 and which would not have a detrimental impact on existing revenue budgets.</p> <p>DfT Highway Maintenance funding is an annual grant that has to be spent in year or would need to be repaid. Reallocating this budget ensures we spend the grant award, with no loss of income.</p> <p>Risk Management</p> <p>Not moving £100k of other retained budgets would mean carriageway surfacing schemes not being delivered, which could lead to further deterioration and an increase in maintenance costs.</p> <p>Legal Implications</p> <p>There are no legal implications as a result of moving £100k of other retained budgets to fund the identified works.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<p>Not moving £100k of other retained budgets would mean schemes not being delivered as part of this programme of work.</p> <p>The works identified are shovel ready and can be delivered by the end of March 2026.</p>
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None.

Signed..... Date: 18th February 2026

Please ensure that signatures are redacted before publishing.