

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) 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/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251>

Councillor Jonathan Lester	Corporate Strategy and Budget (Leader of the Council)
Councillor Elissa Swinglehurst	Culture and 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 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 26 AUGUST 2026 ONWARDS

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

Heading	Contains
Report title and purpose	A summary of the proposal
Decision Maker and Due date	Who will take the decision and the date the decision is expected to be made
Lead cabinet member and officer contact(s)	The cabinet member with responsibility for this decision and the officers producing the decision report.
Directorate	The directorate of the council responsible for the decision.
Date uploaded onto plan	The date the decision was first uploaded and the notice period started for key decisions.
Decision type, exemptions and urgency	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)

Hereford Bypass Phase One – Assessment Report Bypass update and next actions	Cabinet 10 September 2026	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure Scott Tompkins, Delivery Director - Infrastructure scott.tompkins@herefordshire.gov.uk	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	KEY Open Urgent
Herefordshire's 2026-27 Section 75 agreement To approve Herefordshire's section 75 agreement for 2026-27 with the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Commissioning Board (ICB) for up to five years in relation to the Better Care Fund.	Cabinet 24 September 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing Nicola Williams, Service Manager D2A and BCF nicola.williams6@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383879	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	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
Q1 2026/27 Budget Report To report the forecast position for 2026/27 at Quarter 1 (June 2026), including explanation and analysis of the drivers for the material budget variances, and to outline current and planned recovery activity to reduce the forecast overspend. To provide assurance that progress has been made towards delivery of the agreed revenue budget and service delivery targets, and that the reasons for major variances are understood and are being addressed to the cabinet's satisfaction.	Cabinet 24 September 2026	Cabinet member finance and corporate services Stacey Carter, Head of Strategic Finance (Deputy S151), Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance stacey.carter@herefordshire.gov.uk, Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383095, Tel: 01432 383775	Corporate Support Centre	21 August 2026	Non Key Open
Q1 Performance Report To review performance for Quarter 1 (Q1) 2026/27 and to report the performance position across the council for this period.	Cabinet 24 September 2026	Cabinet member finance and corporate services Jessica Karia, Head of Corporate Performance and Intelligence jessica.karia@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260976	Corporate Support Centre	21 August 2026	Non 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
Risk Management Update Q1 2026/27 To provide an update on the status of corporate risks at the end of Quarter 1 2026/27 (June 2026) and provide assurance that risks are being managed effectively across the council.	Cabinet 24 September 2026	Cabinet member finance and corporate services Stacey Carter, Head of Strategic Finance (Deputy S151), Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance stacey.carter@herefordshire.gov.uk, Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383095, Tel: 01432 383775	Corporate Support Centre	21 August 2026	Non Key Open
Travel Plan Strategy The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval for an updated Travel Plan process for Herefordshire. The updated approach sets out a clearer, more consistent and outcome-focused process for the development, implementation and monitoring of travel plans across new developments, existing organisations and key trip-generating sites.	Cabinet 24 September 2026	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure Ffion Horton, Transport Planning Services Manager ffion.horton@herefordshire.gov.uk	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	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
Update on the Phase 2 Phosphate Mitigation Schemes To provide Cabinet with an update regarding the Phosphate Mitigation Wetland schemes	Cabinet 24 September 2026	Cabinet member culture and Environment Roger Allonby, Service Director Economy and Growth, Gemma Dando, Chief Operating Officer, Scott Tompkins, Delivery Director - Infrastructure, Susan White, Programme Manager Roger.Allonby@herefordshire.gov.uk, gemma.dando@herefordshire.gov.uk, scott.tompkins@herefordshire.gov.uk, Susan.White2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260330, , Tel: 01432 260070	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	Non Key Open
Early Help Task and Finish Group - final report To provide Cabinet with the final report of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee's Early Help task and group, looking at the provision of early help in Herefordshire.	Cabinet 22 October 2026	Cabinet member children and young people Danial Webb, Statutory Scrutiny Officer Danial.Webb@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260659	Children and Young People	NEW ITEM	Non 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
Q2 2026/27 Budget Report To report the forecast position for 2026/27 at Quarter 2 (September 2026), including explanation and analysis of the drivers for the material budget variances, and to outline current and planned recovery activity to reduce the forecast overspend. To provide assurance that progress has been made towards delivery of the agreed revenue budget and service delivery targets, and that the reasons for major variances are understood and are being addressed to the cabinet's satisfaction.	Cabinet 26 November 2026	Cabinet member finance and corporate services Stacey Carter, Head of Strategic Finance (Deputy S151), Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance stacey.carter@herefordshire.gov.uk, Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383095, Tel: 01432 383775	Corporate Support Centre	21 August 2026	Non Key Open
Risk Management Update Q2 2026/27 To provide an update on the status of corporate risks at the end of Quarter 2 2026/27 (September 2026) and provide assurance that risks are being managed effectively across the council.	Cabinet 26 November 2026	Cabinet member finance and corporate services Stacey Carter, Head of Strategic Finance (Deputy S151), Rachael Sanders, Director of Finance stacey.carter@herefordshire.gov.uk, Rachael.sanders@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383095, Tel: 01432 383775	Corporate Support Centre	21 August 2026	Non 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
Recommissioning of Drugs & Alcohol Recovery Services To obtain approval to recommission drug and alcohol recovery services in Herefordshire for an initial five-year period (2028–2033), with the option to extend the contract by a further two years. (2033–2035).	Cabinet 17 December 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing Natalie Johnson-Stanley, Public Health Lead - Substance Misuse / Tobacco Natalie.Johnson-Stanley@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383230	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Cabinet Member Decisions (Key and Non Key decisions)					
Portfolio: adults, health and wellbeing					

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
To extend the council's current commissioned home care frameworks To approve an extension of the existing commissioned home care frameworks until 30 April 2027, with an option for the council to extend for up to a further four months, until 31 August 2027. This will ensure continuity of care to those with assessed eligible needs, maintaining stability in a pressured provider market, and enable transition to a new and different commissioning approach (Care in Your Home). This will provide a stronger framework and service, that is fit and robust for Herefordshire's future ageing population needs. The new approach will be set out and approval sought through council governance (see point 5) and the programme is progressing in line with the target timescales.	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing 1 September 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing Sharon Amery, Senior Commissioning Officer sharon.amery2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383734	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Herefordshire Care Home Partnerships Framework To approve the procurement of a new multi provider partnership framework for the provision of care home placements and related services. The Council is looking to formalise partnership arrangements for a minimum of 500-550 placements across all providers. Estimated value of up to £320m across the framework term (maximum of 8 years).	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing Before 9 September 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing Ros Murphy, Commissioning Manager, Community Wellbeing ros.murphy@herefordshire.gov.uk	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	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
Procurement of Sensory Impairment Service To approve the re-procurement of the Sensory Impairment Service for Herefordshire	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing 9 September 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing John Burgess, Senior Commissioning Officer John.Burgess3@herefordshire.gov.uk	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Renewal of Access Group contract for Mosaic, Synergy and associated systems To seek approval to enter into a new contractual arrangement with The Access Group for the continued provision of Mosaic, Synergy, Core+ and associated systems, including transition to Access' cloud-hosted (SaaS) service, following expiry of the current contract's available extensions in September 2026.	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing 25 September 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing Hilary Hall, Corporate Director Community Wellbeing Hilary.Hall@herefordshire.gov.uk	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	KEY Open
To re-commission the home care framework in Herefordshire To approve the re-commissioning of the council's home care framework, called Services In Your Home (SIYH), in Herefordshire. The new SIYH framework needs to be operational by 1 May 2027.	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing 21 October 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing Sharon Amery, Senior Commissioning Officer sharon.amery2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383734	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	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
Herefordshire Adult Social Care Prevention Strategy The purpose of the report is to approve the 2026-2036 Herefordshire Adult Social Care Prevention Strategy	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing 30 November 2026	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing David Collyer, Acting Consultant in Public Health: General Practitioner david.collyer2@herefordshire.gov.uk	Community Wellbeing	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Portfolio: children and young people					
Award of contract for the provision of overnight short breaks and outreach service for children and young people To approve the awarding of a contract to develop and deliver an overnight short breaks with outreach support service, for children and young people with disabilities from a property secured by the council.	Cabinet member children and young people 25 August 2026	Cabinet member children and young people Sandra Griffiths, Commissioning officer sgriffiths3@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383141	Children and Young People	21 August 2026	KEY Open Urgent

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
Recommissioning of Children's Rights & Advocacy and Independent Visitors Services This report seeks approval to undertake an open procurement in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023 and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) under the Light Touch Regime for the Children's Rights and Advocacy Service and Independent Visitor Service. The procurement will ensure the council continues to meet its statutory duties by providing independent advocacy, representation and trusted adult support to vulnerable children and young people across Herefordshire. It will also support the transition of the Children's Rights and Advocacy Service from an in-house model to an externally commissioned service, strengthening the independence of advocacy in line with national guidance and recognised best practice, while maintaining continuity of support for children and young people.	Cabinet member children and young people 28 August 2026	Cabinet member children and young people Ellie Jenkins, Commissioning Officer, All Age Mental Health / Wellbeing, Karen Stanton, Corporate Grant Lead - Corporate Support ellie.jenkins@herefordshire.gov.uk, kstanton@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260463	Children and Young People	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Recommissioning of Family Help Service This report seeks approval to recommission the Family Help Service through an open procurement process. The existing contract is due to end on 31 March 2027 and a recommissioned service is required to support the council's Family Help offer, deliver early intervention and prevention services, and improve outcomes for children, young people and families	Cabinet member children and young people 7 September 2026	Cabinet member children and young people Sandra Griffiths, Commissioning officer sgriffiths3@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383141	Children and Young People	21 August 2026	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
Schools, Central School Services and Early Years Budget 2027/28 To approve School Forum's recommended budget proposals for school budgets, central school services and early years within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2027/28.	Cabinet member children and young people 27 January 2027	Cabinet member children and young people Stacey Carter, Head of Strategic Finance (Deputy S151) stacey.carter@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383095	Corporate Support Centre	21 August 2026	KEY Open
High Needs Budget 2027/28 To propose the High Needs Budget for 2027/28 to the Cabinet Member Children and Young People.	Cabinet member children and young people 29 March 2027	Cabinet member children and young people Stacey Carter, Head of Strategic Finance (Deputy S151) stacey.carter@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383095	Corporate Support Centre	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Portfolio: community services and assets					

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
High Needs Capital Spend To approve the spend of the High Needs Provision Capital Grant and Special and Alternative Provision Free School Alternative Places Grant to extend our inclusion offer in mainstream schools, increase places for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and to improve Alternative Provision (AP) education arrangements.	Cabinet member local engagement and community resilience 27 August 2026	Cabinet member community services and assets Quentin Mee, Head of Educational Development Quentin.Mee@herefordshire.gov.uk	Children and Young People	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Establish a new Alternative Provision Centre capital spend To approve the spend of the capital allocation to establish a new Alternative Provision Centre	Cabinet member community services and assets 14 September 2026	Cabinet member community services and assets Quentin Mee, Head of Educational Development Quentin.Mee@herefordshire.gov.uk	Children and Young People	21 August 2026	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
Relocation of Herefordshire Pupil Referral Units Capital Spend To approve the spend of the capital allocation to relocate Herefordshire Pupil Referral Units onto a single site.	Cabinet member community services and assets 14 September 2026	Cabinet member community services and assets Quentin Mee, Head of Educational Development Quentin.Mee@herefordshire.gov.uk	Children and Young People	21 August 2026	KEY Open
South Bank Close and Ivy Close Lease Arrangements To approve Midland Hearts request to rescind their lease of South Bank Close and Ivy Close. To approve the procurement of a new lease holder for these properties.	Cabinet member community services and assets Before 30 September 2026	Cabinet member community services and assets Hannah McSherry, Housing Strategy Officer Hannah.McSherry2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383061	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Portfolio: economy and growth					

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
Connect to Work Programme To approve the procurement of the Connect to Work Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Programme in Herefordshire using the Open Procedure in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023. The programme is fully funded through a grant provided by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). To approve the award of a contract to the bidder achieving the highest overall score against the published evaluation criteria for a period of up to three years and six months, commencing in October 2026, with a total contract value of up to £1.22 million. To delegate operational responsibility for the delivery of the Connect to Work programme in Herefordshire to the Service Directors for Economy and Growth and Education, Skills and Learning, acting in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth.	Cabinet member economy and growth 10 September 2026	Cabinet member economy and growth Alexia Heath, Post 16 Senior Advisor aheath1@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432383416	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	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
Skills Bootcamps Herefordshire 2027/2028 Financial Year To approve the submission of a delivery plan to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for Skills Bootcamps funding of £1.5 million for the 2027/28 financial year. To agree that Herefordshire Council will act as the accountable body for the management, administration and commissioning of the funding, once approved by DWP, including any subsequent Skills Bootcamps allocations awarded to the council. To delegate to the Service Director for Economy and Growth and Service Director for Education, Skills and Learning, all operational decisions necessary to implement and deliver the programme, including the appointment of training provider(s) and the management of associated funding and contractual arrangements.	Cabinet member economy and growth 30 September 2026	Cabinet member economy and growth Alexia Heath, Post 16 Senior Advisor aheath1@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432383416	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Portfolio: environment					
Portfolio: finance and corporate services					

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
Public Notices To approve a contract via a direct award process for the placing of public notices in newspapers circulating within Herefordshire.	Cabinet member finance and corporate services 25 September 2026	Cabinet member finance and corporate services Ed Bradford, Major Contracts Programme Director Edward.Bradford@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260786	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	KEY Open
Portfolio: local engagement and community resilience					
Portfolio: roads and regulatory services					
Portfolio: transport and infrastructure					
Active Travel Capital Fund 2026/27 To present the proposed allocation and planned expenditure of the 2026/27 Active Travel Grant and set out how the funding will be used to deliver Herefordshire Council's priority integrated transport policies and strategies. The report outlines selected project for capital investment and seeks formal approval from the Chief Operating Officer and the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure to proceed.	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure 1 September 2026	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure Ffion Horton, Transport Planning Services Manager ffion.horton@herefordshire.gov.uk	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	Non 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
Passenger Transport Open Framework To seek approval for the establishment and implementation of a new Open Framework for Passenger Transport Services. The framework will provide a compliant, flexible and efficient procurement route for the commissioning of passenger transport services, including home-to-school transport, SEN transport and public transport.	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure 24 September 2026	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure David Land, Head of Transport and Access Services, Sarah Morris, Programme Coordinator david.land@herefordshire.gov.uk, Sarah.Morris2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383484, Tel: 01432 383698	Economy and Environment	21 August 2026	KEY Open