

## STATEMENT OF AN EXECUTIVE DECISION BY AN INDIVIDUAL

### Statement made where:

- an executive decision is taken by an Officer and/or Member following a Cabinet report which delegates a decision to an individual;
- an executive decision is taken by an individual Officer, but there is no follow up report to Cabinet;
- an executive decision is taken by a Cabinet Member in accordance with the Constitution.

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**Subject: Payment of £14,500 contribution towards Warndon Skills Centre build**

**1. Decision**

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) grant funding has been secured to build a new purpose built training centre in Warndon. Once complete and operational, this centre will offer a range of training and courses in the construction field which are highly needed in the local and regional job market.

Worcestershire County Council is acting as the Accountable Body for ERDF funds and is project managing the build. Since the start of the project construction costs and fees have increased, leading to an increase in the original budget. Worcester City Council has agreed to fund a proportion of the shortfall to ensure the build goes ahead.

**2. Date of Decision**  
4<sup>th</sup> December 2014

**3. Reasons for the Decision**

The deadline for securing the lowest tender was 5<sup>th</sup> December, which fell before the next Cabinet meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December. The decision was made in order to finalise the contract within the timescale, and avoid costs rising which may then require additional capital funding.

**4. Alternative Options**

An expression of interest has been submitted to DCLG to increase ERDF funding. This was rejected at the time but there may be an opportunity to apply again in the New Year. However, that would further delay the project and there is no guarantee it would be forthcoming.

**5. Any Interests Declared**  
None

**6. Dispensation Granted in Respect of Declared Conflict of Interest**  
None

**7. Decision Taken By**  
Duncan Sharkey, Managing Director

**Background Papers: None**