

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF MEMBER DELEGATED DECISION

Libraries Funding

Date of Decision	7 March 2023
Decision Maker	Cllr Marcus Hart, Cabinet Member for Communities
Brief Description of Decision	<p>a) To allocate £157,000 from the Business Rates Reserve for 2023/24 to offset the decision made by Worcester City Council to discontinue funding for Warndon and St John's Libraries; and</p> <p>b) To recommend that permanent recurrent funding is allocated from the County Council's budget for 2024/25 onwards to ensure both Libraries remain open.</p>
Reason(s) for Decision	<p>Worcester City Council decided in February 2023 to discontinue annual funding of £157k it had allocated previously to the libraries in St John's and Warndon in Worcester. In order for the current provision in both libraries to continue, the County Council is allocating the funding in 2023/24 from its reserves.</p> <p>To ensure continuity of the services, Cabinet and Council are recommended to make this funding part of the base budget for 2024/25 financial year onwards.</p>
Alternative Options Considered and Rejected	Not to provide the funding – this would have led to a diminution of service and the Council had indicated it wishes to ensure the continuity of the libraries.
Any Conflict of Interest declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted	None
Signature of Decision Maker	Marcus Hart

**Date of Implementation
of Decision**

15 March 2023