

Wyre Forest District Council

Record of a Council Decision delegated to be made by an Officer

This includes a record of an Executive Decision made by an officer under Regulation 13, Part 4 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Item decided: Business Rate Pooling arrangements for 2020-21: the decision has been taken to join a Pan- Worcestershire 50% Business Rate Pool for 2020-21 that includes Hereford and Worcestershire Fire Authority.	
Officer who has taken the decision	Corporate Director: Resources
Date of the decision	16 th January 2020
Reason for the decision/alternatives considered	<p>An application to join the revised WBRP for 2020-21 was made to MHCLG by the October 2019 deadline. This was accepted was MHCLG and confirmed to Worcestershire County Council as the lead authority on the 18th December 2019.</p> <p>Local authorities in the pool had 28 days beginning with the date on which the draft Local Government Finance Provisional Settlement was published on the 20th December 2019 to consider if they wish to continue to be designated as a pool. Provided that no authority within the pool asks the Secretary of State to make a revocation during that period, the pool will come into effect on 1 April 2020, meaning that all local authorities covered by the designation will remain in the pool for the full financial year. No revocations were made so the new Pool membership is now confirmed.</p> <p>The deferment of the Funding Reforms, including the business rates baseline reset, and the opportunity to enter into a further Pooling arrangement for 2020-21 should be of financial benefit to this Council.</p> <p>The revised Pool is designed to continue to protect member authorities from the small ups and downs that are likely to arise in Business</p>

	Rate income in the future. These will have a direct impact on the amount of funding for the Council. By remaining in a pool, the Council can better protect against these smaller variations and thus provide some protection to its base funding.
Date and source of Delegated Decision (if appropriate)	Initial delegated decision on 30 th October 2019
Council/Cabinet member consulted – if applicable	Cabinet Member for Strategy and Finance
Any interest declared by the Consultee or officer	None