

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF OFFICER EXECUTIVE DECISION

Item	Outcome
Date Of Decision	17 March 2023
Decision Maker	Hazel Best, Assistant Director for Legal and Governance
Brief Description Of Decision	To allow carry forward of unspent divisional fund money of up to £2,000 per Councillor from 2022/23 to 2023/24 financial year
Reason(s) For Decision	<p>The Divisional Fund scheme allocates £10,000 per Councillor each financial year for them to spend on initiatives and activities which benefit their division. The scheme governing this allows each Councillor to carry forward up to £1,000 of uncommitted fund from one financial year to the next.</p> <p>Members allocate funds according to local priorities and often to support specific events in the community. Whilst many have restarted following the impact of the Covid pandemic, some have not taken place this year. Some members have not been able to allocate the full £10,000 in 2022/23.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed to enable each member to carry up to £2,000 from this financial year into 2023/24.</p>
Alternative Options Considered And Rejected	<p>To leave the carry forward limit unchanged at £1,000. This would potentially mean the ability of councillors to support activities in their communities could be reduced, which is against the spirit of the fund.</p> <p>Allow greater than £2,000 to be carried forward. This is not supported as it potentially penalises those councillors that have spent in year and creates a larger balance remaining unspent at the end of 2023/24.</p>
Any Conflict of Interest declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted	N/A
Reference	01/2023