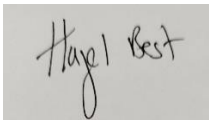


WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF OFFICER EXECUTIVE DECISION

TITLE:	Holyoakes Settlement Agreement
Decision Taken By:	Hazel Best, Assistant Director for Legal and Governance
Cabinet Member	Cllr Hart, Deputy Leader and with Responsibility for Corporate Services and communication
Decision Made	Settlement of dispute
Is this Report Exempt as per Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972	The attached legal advice is exempt on the following ground Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings. (12(5) Sch.12A Local Government Act 1972) *
Decision taken under the following delegation:	In accordance with the Officer's Scheme of Delegation, the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance (ADLG) is authorised under paragraph 4 to settle on appropriate terms any litigation claim taken by or against the Council. The ADLG authorised the Chief Finance officer to sign the settlement agreement.
Division(s) Affected	Redditch North
Date of Decision	31 January 2025
Summary of Decision	To settle a dispute arising from services and obligations arising from the Council's professional construction services agreement with Jacobs dated 31 October 2014 in relation to the construction of Holyoakes School Brockhill East, Redditch.
Reason(s) For Decision	The decision settles a dispute and is supported by legal advice Appendix One – Settlement Agreement dated 31 January 2025 (exempt)* Appendix Two – Confidential legal advice dated 17 December 2024*(exempt) Appendix Three – Confidential legal advice dated 3 May 2024 (exempt)

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected	Alternative option is not to settle, but this is not considered appropriate due to the risk and cost of litigation.
Summary of any financial implications	The settlement (which was reached without any admissions of liability) recovers part of costs expended on the project which were authorised as part of the Council's Capital Programme
Summary of any legal implications	The decision settles a dispute and is supported by legal advice (in the exempt appendices*)
Consultation process and results	n/a
Equality duty Implications	n/a
Social Value Implications	n/a
Any Conflict of Interest declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted	none
Background documents	Settlement Agreement and confidential legal advice*
Signature	
Reference/Date Published	24 February 2025
Monitoring Officer Review needed	Yes/No (delete as appropriate)