



# news release

PR portal launch/07

June 13 2007

## **New public service web site launched**

Herefordshire Council is the driving force behind a new public services website which is to be launched on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

myherefordshire.com is a county portal set up and managed by the council, which allows a wealth of information to be brought together from key organisations across Herefordshire to support residents, tourists and businesses.

The portal is community orientated and non-commercial, bringing together information about a wide range of services from more than 45 organisations.

Partners already include the Primary Care Trust, Chamber of Commerce, Hereford Farmers Market Group, Herefordshire Voluntary Action and a wide range of local parish websites.

myherefordshire.com serves a diverse community and its free events listing service can be used to promote all kinds of local events. Whether it is sporting, cultural or fundraising - event and festival organisers can raise awareness of their fixtures locally and internationally. There is a jobs page where users can find out about current vacancies across the council and NHS and in addition, users can upload their own photos, find out about the latest regional news, calculate their carbon footprint and much more.

Jane Jones, Chairman of the Herefordshire In Touch board says, "We've been working hard to populate the site, gather feedback and make sure everything works properly. Now that we're happy with it, we want to launch the site officially and raise its profile throughout the county.

"We anticipate the portal will continue growing and we would be interested in hearing from schools and other non-commercial organisations who would like to have a presence and get involved".

Councillor June French, cabinet member for corporate and customer services and human resources, said: "Herefordshire Council has driven this website as part of its commitment to improving services and access to information and facilities across the county.

"When there are so many organisations providing essential information for the public, it can be difficult to juggle all the different web sites and piece information together. myherefordshire.com is a major step forward in a drive to integrate services and make it easier for the community to find what it needs."

Ends

Note to editor

This project is supported by the Herefordshire Partnership through the Herefordshire In Touch Programme and part financed by Herefordshire Council, the European Regional Development Fund and the Advantage West Midlands through the Single Regeneration Budget.

The Herefordshire In Touch (or HIT) was a multi-sector initiative that aimed to develop ICT for the benefit of Herefordshire and ran from December 2000 to March 2007. A wide range of ICT projects were developed including increased broadband coverage across the county, better access to information, advice and services plus support to residential, voluntary and business communities to become more engaged with ICT. Herefordshire Partnership is currently looking at how ICT can further be developed to support communities across the County, building on the lessons learnt from the HIT Programme.