

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 5
APRIL 2016

FUTURE STRATEGY FOR THE DELIVERY OF LIBRARY SERVICES

DRAFT MINUTE EXTRACT

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Adults and Communities providing an update on further engagement held in Braunstone Town, Mountsorrel and Narborough regarding proposals made by local groups to manage their local library. The report also set out the progress made in relation to Kirby Muxloe and Quorn libraries. A copy of the report, marked "Agenda Item 8" is filed with these minutes.

In introducing the report, the Director advised that ongoing engagement with the above libraries to date was positive and it was hoped that all of them would transfer to the community management. In addition, members were updated that Fabula, a social enterprise which put forward a Registration of Interest (ROI) to manage Braunstone Town library was due to meet with the Town Council and Save Our Library Action Group the following week.

In response to questions raised, members were advised as follows:-

- (a) A list containing contact details for Relationship Managers assigned by the County Council to assist the community libraries throughout the transition process, and to act as the first point of contact with the Council would be shared with members of the Committee following the meeting;
- (b) The costs borne by the Council for the provision of legal advice to Quorn Parish Council in resolution of queries in respect of the lease, and providing a dialogue with Rawlins Academy to reach a mutual compromise equated to £1,680 inclusive of VAT. This cost had been charged to the Legal Services, though members could be provided with further details following the meeting;
- (c) There was no additional register of interest received for Barwell library, however members were advised that should any fresh proposal for library provision in the village come forward at any time during the next 12 months it would be given due consideration by the Council;
- (d) It was hoped that a community group would emerge to run Kirby Muxloe library following the consultation period and the deadline for submission of the ROIs was 29 July 2016. Members were advised that lease arrangement for this library was complex and that further information on this and the remaining libraries in respect of the cost of breaking and the time remaining on the leases, and break clauses would be circulated to the Committee in due course;

- (e) It was not anticipated for the cost of the mobile library service to increase as a result of no further groups coming forward wishing to run Barwell library. This was due to the revision of rural site visits resulting in a reduction from fortnightly to monthly stops;
- (f) The Director would seek information on the estimated savings for all 36 libraries and this would be circulated to the Committee in due course.

RESOLVED:

That the latest position with respect to Braunstone Town, Mountsorrel and Narborough libraries, as well as the most recent update on the progress made with regard to Kirby Muxloe and Quorn libraries be noted.