



## Agenda Item No. 7

### Stockwood, Hengrove & Whitchurch Neighbourhood Partnership 18<sup>th</sup> June 2014

**Report of:** Kal Dale, Library Group Manager - South

**Title:** Improving Stockwood Library services

**Contact Telephone Number:** 0117 9038548

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Neighbourhood Committee approves the allocation of £9,877.53 from the devolved s106 from the former Langdown Court, Holloway Road for provision of improvements to Stockwood Library.

Spends to be allocated as per consultation feedback

1. Bristol Libraries delivers library services in the Stockwood area from Stockwood Library. The service offers free access to books, information and reader development.
2. A S106 agreement arising from the former Langdown Court, Holloway Road delivers a contribution of £9,877.53 for improvements to Stockwood Library. The funding needs to be spent by 24 May 2016.
3. A consultation survey was carried out inviting library users and non-users to give their views on ways to improve services and how the money is to be spent. 247 completed the multi choice responses and options in order of popularity were as below:
  - a. Add books, shelving and seating in the circular section 93 votes (37.7%)
  - b. Replace shelving with more flexible units so that library space can be used more flexibly 85 votes (34.4%)

- c. Refurbish the empty circular section so it is suitable for meetings 76 votes (30.8%)
  - d. Improve seating in the local studies area around the window 75 votes (30.4%)
  - e. Install noticeboards for the community posters 71 votes (28.7%)
  - f. Improve seating for computer users 56 votes (22.7%)
4. Cost per item breakdown is not possible at this stage. The Neighbourhood Committee is asked to approve spends as above allocation as the intention is to support all aspects of improvements as identified and prioritised by the survey

## **Legal Information**

When councillors decide how the wellbeing fund is spent they should have due regard to the public sector equality duty that applies to all public bodies. This duty is contained in the Equality Act 2010 and came in to force on 6 April 2011. It replaces previous equality duties under the Sex Discrimination, Race Relations and Disability Discrimination Acts.

The duty means that councillors are required to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Promote equality of opportunity between different groups
- Foster good relations between people from different groups

The duty covers the following protected characteristics:

- Disability, Sexual orientation, Age, Gender reassignment, Religion and belief; Sex, Race, Pregnancy and maternity.

It also applies to marriage and civil partnership, but only in respect of the requirement to eliminate discrimination and harassment.