

Communities Commission

Scrutiny Commission

10th October 2019



Report of: Colin Molton – Executive Director Growth and Regeneration

Title: Library Project

Ward: Citywide

Officer Presenting Report: Kate Murray; Head of Libraries

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Recommendation:

Commission members are invited to comment on the ongoing work leading from the October Cabinet in 2018, to start an ongoing citywide engagement with all communities and residents on how they can shape and influence their local library provision and take forward community led ideas.

For commission members to provide any feedback on the draft summary of the Library Strategy

The significant issues in the report are:

- 1. Explanation of the engagement and findings (paragraphs 6 - 22)*
- 2. The process of how the suggestions and ideas are turned into action (paragraphs 23 – 30)*
- 3. Summary of the pilots (paragraph 35)*
- 4. Strategy production (paragraphs 39 – 44)*
- 5. Timeline (paragraph 45)*
- 6. Property statement (paragraph 55 – 61)*



1. Summary

The Library Service have undergone a citywide engagement with residents to talk about local libraries and how the community can influence service design and put into action community led ideas. We are also producing a Library Strategy for signoff in December 2019.

2. Context

The full report is contained in Appendix 1

3. Policy

Not Applicable

4. Consultation

a) Internal

Property Services

IT Services

b) External

Not Applicable

5. Public Sector Equality Duties

- 5a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
 - ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

- iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.

5b) This is not a decision making report but we will be providing a equality impact assessment of the Library Strategy. We are currently in discussions with our Equalities Team colleagues on a workshop focusing on protected characteristics and the impact (positive and/or negative) of any changes.

Appendices:

- 1. Library Project report**
- 2. Outline Business Case**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None