

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Executive Decision Record**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	8 July 2011
Title:	Proposed Changes to Library Charges
Reference:	2794
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. The decision:

- a) That the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation endorses the proposals to increase/introduce the following charges in the Library and Information Service:
- Re-introduction of children's overdue charges for those aged between 0-5 years as well as 6-17 years at 5p per day to a maximum of 40p per item
 - To encourage the return of library stock, the Library and Information Service reviews its overdue procedures in order to ensure that the principle of the non return of library books, after appropriate reminders, results in an inability to use the service
 - introduction of overdue charges on mobile libraries on the basis of a single overdue charge of 15p adult, 5p children
 - cease posting out notification that a customer's reserved book has arrived once the technology has been developed to alert customers via SMS (text) messages or an automatic message to their land line
 - introduction of a charge for children's reservation at a concessionary level
 - introduction of renewal charges for inter library loans
 - introduction of normal reservation charge for Large Print books with the proviso that no charge will be made to customers with visual impairments
 - introduction of annual Reading Group Reservation Membership at £15 per year
 - introduction of annual music CD membership at £15 per year
 - increase of the annual Film Membership charge to £45

- increase of language pack charges to £1 per loan
- the concession of free audio books and language packs to be targeted at the print disabled
- introduction of an annual Music Sets membership at £10 per year and changes to charges per set borrowed
- confirmation of 25% commission charged for art/craft etc sales on library premises
- introduction of an annual Deposit Collection charge at £200 where library staff select, deliver and exchange collections

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. These decisions will enable the Library and Information Service to maximise its income while ensuring that the majority of the people of Hampshire have access to library services.
- 2.2. Some other charges have been either held at the 2010-2011 prices or reduced to reflect changes in the market and to encourage greater take-up of the media.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Make no changes to any charges: rejected because the decline in income would continue and would have an adverse impact on the budget.
- 3.2. Increase the charges for CDs and DVDs: rejected as this is a declining market and increases are likely to have an adverse impact.
- 3.3. Increase the charges to a greater extent than is advised. This was rejected as it was felt that higher increases would result in a sharp decline in the use of the library service.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:
None.
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:
None.

5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

**Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Councillor Keith Chapman**

8 July 2011