

REPORT OF THE
Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
PART II

188. LIBRARY SERVICE TRANSFORMATION – DRAFT STRATEGY TO 2020

1. On 30 October 2015, the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside gave approval to enter into a public consultation regarding proposals for the future delivery of the Library Service to 2020.

2. The Draft Strategy sets out the challenges, considerations and direction of travel over the next five years that would ensure the Library Service is run efficiently and positioned to meet the changing demands placed on it. The Strategy demonstrates a commitment to the delivery of a broad range of modern, affordable library services that would meet people's needs in reading, information, learning, literacy, health and wellbeing, business and leisure.

3. The public consultation involves three main audiences - the Library Service workforce who will be consulted via manager briefings and through workshops; the Library Service customers who will be able to contribute to the consultation by completing an online questionnaire or by accessing a paper version which has been made available in all libraries. The third group, stakeholders, will be approached individually and asked to complete the questionnaire on behalf of their organisation. In addition the Library Service has commissioned an independent research company to undertake telephone surveys with over 600 Hampshire residents, selected to reflect the demographic of Hampshire.

4. The consultation is running from 2 November 2015 – 16 January 2016, and by 7 December, 6,770 completed consultation questionnaires had been received. Feedback from the consultation will be collated and, where appropriate, amendments will be made to the existing proposals. Any alternatives put forward will be assessed before the final Strategy to 2020 is submitted to the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside for a decision on 18 April 2016.

Further details on this item can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Library Service Transformation - Draft Strategy to 2020 (7020)

COUNCILLOR ANDREW GIBSON
Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside

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