

Equality Impact Assessment



Hampshire
County Council

Library Service Consultation – Delivery Efficiencies

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Department: Culture, Communities and Business Services

Date of assessment: 09/01/2020

Description of current service/policy

The Library Service aims to deliver an efficient service to meet the changing needs of library users. This means that, over time, parts of the service offer have become less well used and in some cases alternatives have become available.

Geographical impact: All
Hampshire

Description of proposed change

It is proposed to:

- Withdraw, relocate or reduce poorly used collections and physical/digital resources
- reduce the number of Go-Online public computers
- Make it easier for people to pay fines and charges promptly
- reduce transport and postage costs

This would make a saving of £146,000 a year

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out?

Planned

The Library Service will be undertaking a 10 week public consultation to seek customers', residents', staff and stakeholders' views on the emerging Libraries' Strategy to 2025, proposed changes to the Library Service and the impact of these changes, and any alternative options. Information on the previous Balancing the Budget Consultation (www.hants.gov.uk/balancingthebudget) is contained in paragraphs 19-22 of the Exec member for Recreation and Heritage decision reports, which can be accessed here: <http://sites.digital/hants1>, with further details also available in paragraphs 55-60.

Statutory considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Age: Neutral		
Disability: Neutral		
Sexual orientation: Neutral		
Race: Neutral		
Religion and belief: Neutral		
Gender reassignment: Neutral		

Gender: Neutral		
Marriage and civil partnership: Neutral		
Pregnancy and maternity: Neutral		
Other policy considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Poverty: Neutral		
Rurality: Neutral		

Neutrality statement (if all considerations have a neutral impact)

The service is unable to assess the full impacts until the consultation is complete and decisions can be made based on the responses. As further information is available more detailed Equality Impact Assessments will be completed.

Any other information

The consultation information pack and response form are also available in Easy Read, large print and audio format. Copies in other languages or formats (such as British Sign Language or Braille) are available on request.