

## Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel
MEETING DATE:	24 <sup>th</sup> January 2013
TITLE:	Library Service: Charging schedule for Peoples Network computers
WARD:	ALL

### AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM

#### List of attachments to this report:

Report for the Cabinet meeting in March 2013 - Library Service: Charging schedule for Peoples Network computers

## 1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 People's Network (PN) charging was introduced in 2007 with the aim of enabling the provision of the PN service to be partially self-financing. Income targets have not been achieved in the last few years and the target has therefore been reduced each year, requiring equivalent savings to be achieved in other parts of the Library Service. Since charges were introduced there has been a reduction in computer usage which is a concern as libraries have a key role enabling and assisting people to get on-line, particularly in respect of Central Government's 'digital by default' agenda.
- 1.2 Within the 3 year Library Strategy, agreed by Cabinet in April 2012, there is an intention to increase library hours in the smaller libraries by using volunteers. The current charging structure creates an issue as volunteers will not be trained to use the Library Management System to log users on and take money.
- 1.3 This report therefore lists options available for 2013/14 to facilitate greater up take of this service.

## 2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Panel are asked to note and comment on the report that will be presented to the Cabinet/Cabinet Member for approval.

## 3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

See attached.

## 4 THE REPORT

See attached.

## **5 RISK MANAGEMENT**

See attached.

## **6 EQUALITIES**

See attached.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

See attached.

## **8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION**

See attached.

## **9 ADVICE SOUGHT**

See attached.

<b>Contact person</b>	June Brassington, Library Services Manager, 01225 396424
<b>Background papers</b>	The Society Of Chief Librarians 'Digital Promise for Public Libraries 2012'  Martha Lane Fox: 'Direct Gov 2010 & beyond: revolution not evolution'
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	