

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**

E 2686

Radstock Library Consultation Outcomes

Decision maker/s	Cllr Paul Crossley, Leader, Cllr David Dixon, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
The Issue	The Council has been consulting the residents of Bath & North East Somerset on the type of services they would like to see in a new library facility in the Radstock area, this decision takes in to account the outcome of this consultation.
Decision Date	11 August 2014
The decision	(1) To AGREE that Library facilities are re-located to new premises in the RADCO superstore; (2) To AGREE that the Library will be open to Customers during the opening hours of the store, through a mixture of staffed and self-serve provision; (3) To AGREE that the new Library facility will take into account other requests made through the consultation process and be designed to accommodate as many as possible; (4) To NOTE the concerns expressed relating to Children Centre provision and to CONFIRM that these will be provided for.
Rationale for decision	The re-location of Library Services into the Radco Superstore will enable the Council to provide a big increase in its opening hours to local residents. It aims to use the new space to increase the number of issues and users from people who will not have used the facilities before. It will provide a wider range of services and improved digital access to services. Co-location with Radco is in line with the Council's policy to work closely with partners and offers the potential for using this innovative solution to learn about how future provision may develop.
Financial and budget implications	Repair and maintenance of the Library building is the responsibility of Library Services – currently £11,815. An all-inclusive rental for the space in RADCO will be £15,000. Therefore there is a slight increase in annual costs for Customer Services. The new arrangement would bring about a staffing saving of £11,537 which will be achieved through natural wastage. Overall Revenue savings will be around £5,000 per annum, with a huge increase in opening times. There will be Capital costs to fitting out the new space in RADCO and this work is currently on-going. It is anticipated with furniture and fittings included that the budget required may be up to £185,000, funded through Property Capital Support & Maintenance budgets. It is anticipated that Children Services will take over responsibility for the Library building in order to support the needs of Radstock Children Centre since it is designated as one of the main hubs for

	Children Services in the area.
Issues considered	Customer Focus; Property; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Impact on Staff
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Town Council; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer
Other options considered	<p>Maintaining the Library in its current location This has always been part of the consideration and an issue which has been raised by some of the existing users, but given the opportunity to use the new innovative co-location with Radco to increase usage and provide extended opening hours this was not the preferred option.</p> <p>Old Nat West Building This was suggested as an alternative venue but again this would not offer the same level of opportunity.</p>

Signatures of Decision Makers	
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Date of Signature	
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Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision