

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference****E2974****Midsomer Norton Library**

Decision maker/s	Cllr Tim Warren, Leader of the Council Cllr Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency
The Issue	Midsomer Norton Library is one of our 3 main Libraries and is part of our overall strategic review of the Modern Library agenda in which we are seeking to integrate our Library and One Stop Shop services. Following an appraisal of the options; a review of local needs and public consultation on design, the recommendation is to relocate the Library within our One Stop Shop in The Hollies.
Decision Date	25 July 2017
The decision	The Cabinet Member agrees that with the creation of a combined Library and One Stop Shop in The Hollies, Midsomer Norton as set out in the report and that an options appraisal on the future of the vacated library premises on the High Street should be undertaken.
Rationale for decision	As described in the report, the option for integrating the Library and One Stop Shop in Midsomer Norton allows the Council to deliver its strategic objectives at the same time as meeting financial challenges. Alternative options for achieving the objectives have been considered and are limited. If we do not take the option to integrate the two services then the long term viability for delivering both services must be seriously questioned.
Financial and budget implications	The Capital costs for internal modifications and new fixtures to the Hollies and removal costs to relocate the Library are estimated to be £350k. This is to be funded from the Workplaces Programme (fully approved budget of £40.5m within the capital programme). No new approvals for this funding are required.
Issues considered (these are covered in more detail in the report)	Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Human Resources; Property; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Town Council; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	There has been consultation with a wide range of groups through our Community Forums and through a round of public consultation on design details/requirements. Information and feedback from this consultation has been taken in to account, as has the views of staff in Customer Services and the Libraries Service (including frontline workers).

<p>Other options considered</p>	<p>There are few options available in Midsomer Norton as the key driver is our longer term strategic vision and the One Stop Shop facility within the Hollies enables this to be delivered. However, conversations were held with the Town Council about relocating both Library and One Stop Shop facilities to the Town Hall, and whilst this may be worthy of future consideration the current set up does not afford itself to that option. Consideration was also given to integrating the services within the Library premises but this was not viable given the available space. We also looked at options for incorporating the Library into other buildings such as the Leisure Centre, but moving both Library and One Stop Shop would not be viable within the current timescales.</p>
--	---

<p>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted:</p>	<p><i>The nature of interest and whether interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or an-other interest, including any conflict of interest, (as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests). Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of their staff before taking the decision.</i></p>
--	---

<p>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</p>	
---	--

<p>Signatures of Decision Makers</p>	<p>Cllr Tim Warren Cllr Charles Gerrish</p>
---	---

<p>Date of Signature</p>	<p>1 August 2017</p>
---------------------------------	----------------------

Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision