

	<p>Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</p> <p>20th April 2015</p>
<p>Title</p>	<p>Member's Item – Libraries</p>
<p>Report of</p>	<p>Head of Governance</p>
<p>Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p>Enclosures</p>	<p>None</p>
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<p>Summary</p>
<p>The report informs the Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee of a Member's Item and requests instructions from the Committee.</p>

<p>Recommendations</p>
<p>1. That the Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee's instructions in relation to this Member's item are requested.</p>

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 Councillor Anne Hutton has requested that a Member's Item be considered on the following matter:

1.2 Committee notes that the feedback from the libraries consultation which closed on 22 February is not available.

Council on 3 March agreed that residents should be further consulted on alternative plans including suggestions made by residents "if necessary." The Chair of the Committee said that he was "always keen to hear further suggestions."

Committee notes that the three options for the future of Barnet's library service presented in the consultation have been rejected as unacceptable by residents.

Recognising that time is short and that further consultation is the responsible course of action, Committee requires officers to report to the next Committee with a new consultation timetable including:

1. *Draft proposals for how Barnet can respond positively to the ideas in the independent Sieghart report on England's public libraries.*

2. *Proposals for:*

- *maximising the use of alternative funding streams such as developer contributions and government digital investment funds;*
- *more ambitious and creative income generation, working with local businesses and community organisations;*
- *developing libraries as community hubs for skills, culture, learning and improving community cohesion and literacy;*
- *drawing on best practice models from London boroughs and across the country*

The logical way to achieve this would be to establish a cross party sub-committee or Panel to act as a focus to gather information and to feed back to the committee, and I therefore ask that the Committee establishes this cross-party sub-committee with immediate effect.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 No recommendations have been made. The Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee are therefore requested to give consideration and provide instruction.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Post decision implementation will depend on the decision taken by the Committee.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 As and when issues raised through a Member's Item are progressed, they will need to be evaluated against the Corporate Plan and other relevant policies.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 None in the context of this report.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.3.1 The Council's Constitution (Meeting Procedure Rules, Section 6) notes that a Member, including appointed substitute Members of a Committee may have one item only on an agenda that he/she serves. Members items must be within the term of reference of the decision making body which will consider the item.

5.4 Risk Management

- 5.4.1 None in the context of this report.

5.5 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.5.1 Member's Items allow Members of a Committee to bring a wide range of issues to the attention of a Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution. All of these issues must be considered for their equalities and diversity implications.

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.6.1 None in the context of this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Email to Governance Officer, dated 7th April 2015.