

**REPORT OF THE TEMPORARY DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CHILDREN, FAMILIES  
AND CULTURAL SERVICES****CO-LOCATION OF COLLINGHAM LIBRARY INTO THE NEW PARISH HUB****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for the co-location of Collingham Library into the new Parish Hub building.

**Information and Advice****Context**

2. The Strategy for Nottinghamshire's Libraries outlines priorities for the service for the 10 years 2012 - 2022.
3. The strategy has key pledges including:
  - putting libraries at the heart of communities
  - libraries being where people live
  - increasing community involvement.
4. The strategy has key actions including:
  - investing, developing and re modelling the library network
  - to locate library services in the best location for the local community, with a key outcome of co-locating with other services.
5. Library services in Collingham were established by volunteers before 1879, with the service being merged into the County Library service shortly after the First World War. The current library was opened in 1981 in a purpose built library and health centre building. It was originally a fold away library to allow for flexible use by the health centre when the library was closed.
6. Collingham is one of the 28 level 3 libraries in Nottinghamshire. Visitors last year amounted to 14,000 with over 22,000 books and other items being issued. Collingham Library also acts as the hub for South Scarle Library Access Point (LAP).
7. The library is currently leased from the health centre. The current lease has expired which has provided the opportunity to consider alternative accommodation.

8. Collingham Parish Council has recently acquired a former shop unit next to Collingham Post Office to create a Parish Hub. The Parish Council at its meeting on 22 January 2015 confirmed the purchase and future use of the building. The inclusion of the library within the Parish Hub was also agreed. The new building will be called Collingham Parish Hub and Library.
9. It is proposed that the County Council be given a pepper corn rent and long lease to secure the provision of a public library service within the Parish Hub building. The library service will contribute to the running costs of the building and manage the income and bookings for community hire. Overall premises costs will be at least 50% lower than the current provision.
10. The potential for increased volunteering and community activity will be enhanced by this development.
11. A Community Partnership Library development will be more likely following the co-location of the library within the Parish Hub, either with the Parish Council or a community organisation.
12. Investment to relocate the service and create a modern and flexible library will be made by the County Council including internal fittings, design and library shelving. It is estimated this will be around £20,000 which will be identified within the services minor works budget.

### **Other Options Considered**

13. The option not to co-locate was considered. This however would prevent achieving a reduction in ongoing running costs.
14. These options were evaluated following an appraisal of the suitability of locations, cost, potential for increasing levels of use, sustainability and access to other community services.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

15. The proposal will facilitate a more sustainable library service at a lower cost.
16. This development allows for future development of volunteering and greater partnership working.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

18. The cost of relocation and minor works will be found within the revenue budget of the library service.
19. The recommendation is estimated to save premises related revenue costs of around £35,000 over 5 years.

## **Public Sector Equality Duty Implications**

20. This scheme enables ongoing provision of a static library service in the Collingham area and improves the library environment.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That the co-location of Collingham Library into the new Parish Hub building be approved.

**Derek Higton**

**Temporary Deputy Director, Children, Families and Cultural Services**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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## **Constitutional Comments (LM 11/02/15)**

21. The Culture Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

## **Financial Comments (SS 13/02/15)**

22. The financial implications of the report are set out in paragraphs 18 and 19 above.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

A Strategy for Nottinghamshire's Libraries – report to County Council on 15 December 2011

## **Electoral Division Affected**

Collingham                      Cllr Maureen Dobson

C0585