

**REPORT OF THE TEMPORARY SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES
AND CULTURE****CO-LOCATION OF TUXFORD LIBRARY INTO TUXFORD PRIMARY
ACADEMY****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for the co-location of Tuxford Library into the Tuxford Primary Academy building in Tuxford and the development of a community partnership library.

Information and Advice**Context**

2. The Strategy for Nottinghamshire's Libraries outlines priorities for the service for 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. Tuxford is one of the 28 level 3 libraries in Nottinghamshire. Visitors last year amounted to 5,963 with over 12,200 books and other items being issued.
6. The library is currently leased from the Read Foundation Trust. The current lease has expired which has provided the opportunity to consider alternative accommodation.
7. The current library is housed within a 17th Century Grade II* listed building which has listed structural access difficulties including a short flight of stone front steps and narrow, heavy wooden front doors. This has previously affected customers with mobility issues and those with wheelchairs and pushchairs.

8. The Principal of Tuxford Primary Academy and the Board of Governors have agreed to the co-location of Tuxford Library within the Academy site and will alter access to the Academy to allow library customers a front level entrance and bespoke access during and outside of Academy hours.
9. Ofsted inspected Tuxford Primary Academy in October 2014 and awarded it 'Good' but recommended some improvements including increasing opportunities for pupils to read widely and often in subjects other than English. Nottinghamshire Libraries have agreed that teachers may use the library room when it is closed to the public and the Academy will ensure that all library materials are in order and available to customers after each use. Pupils may borrow items for individual use at home and the Academy will maintain its own library for classroom learning purposes.
10. 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 Academy building. The library service will contribute to the running costs of the room. Overall premises costs will be at least 80% lower than current provision.
11. A library partnership with the Academy through increased volunteering and community activity will be developed as the library is co-located.
12. A report on the terms of the future lease of the room for co-location of the Tuxford Library within the Academy will be considered by Finance and Property Committee at its meeting on 14 September 2015.

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 re-location 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, furniture, equipment and minor works will be found within the modernising libraries capital budget allocation. This cost is estimated to be £10,000.
19. The recommendation is estimated to save premises related revenue costs of around £20,000 over five years.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

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

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the co-location of Tuxford Library into the Tuxford Primary Academy building be approved.
- 2) a community partnership library be developed with the Tuxford Primary Academy.

Laurence Jones

Temporary Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Peter Gaw

Group Manager Libraries, Archives, Information and Learning

T: 0115 977 4201

E: peter.gaw@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (LM 23/06/15)

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

Financial Comments (SS 06/07/15)

22. The financial implications of this report are contained within 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(s) and Member(s) Affected

Tuxford Cllr John Ogle

C0666