

## AGENDA FOR

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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**To: All Members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Councillors** : R Caserta (Chair), T Cummings,  
E Fitzgerald, M Hankey, J Harris, M James, Leach,  
J Lewis, R Skillen, S Smith, J Walker and S Wright

Dear Member/Colleague

### **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which will be held as follows:-

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Date:</b>                | Tuesday, 18 July 2017   |
| <b>Place:</b>               | Meeting Rooms A & B - Town Hall   |
| <b>Time:</b>                | 7.00 pm   |
| <b>Briefing Facilities:</b> | If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted. |
| <b>Notes:</b>               |   |

## **AGENDA**

### **1 APOLOGIES**

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider whether they have an interest in any matters on the agenda and, if so, to formally declare that interest.

### **3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A period of 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to ask questions on matters set out on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

### **4 CALL IN OF CABINET DECISION - LIBRARY REVIEW - OUTCOME OF THIRD PUBLIC SURVEY ON PROPOSED OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Pages 1 - 126)**

Following the receipt of a Notice of Call-in within the required deadline, from Councillor Caserta calling in the decision of the Cabinet set out in Minute CA.04 of the meeting held on 28 June 2017, a meeting of the Committee has been convened in order to consider the matter in accordance with the reasons set out on the Notice of Call-In.

In considering the matter, the options available to the Scrutiny Committee are as follows:

1. The Scrutiny Committee decides not to offer any comments on the Notice. In this situation the decision of the Cabinet will stand.
2. The Scrutiny Committee decides to offer comments or objections, which will be referred back to the Cabinet at the meeting arranged for 26 July 2017.
3. The Scrutiny Committee may refer the Notice, without comment, to the Council. The matter will then be considered by the Council on 17 September 2017 (a standard item appears on all Council summons to consider referrals from Scrutiny Committees). Any comments or objections from Council will be referred back to the Cabinet at the earliest opportunity, in accordance with the Council Constitution.

The Cabinet will be required to consider any objections and comments but will not be bound by them unless..."it is contrary to the Policy Framework or contrary to or not wholly consistent with the Budget" (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules - Paragraph 16(g) of the Council Constitution)."

A copy of the original paperwork considered by Cabinet, along with the decision Minute and Call -in notice are attached.

### **5 URGENT BUSINESS**

Any other business which by reason of special circumstances the Chair agrees may be considered as a matter of urgency.



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**Extract of Cabinet Minutes : 28 June 2017****CA.04 LIBRARY REVIEW – OUTCOME OF THIRD SURVEY ON PROPOSED OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Cabinet Member (Children and Families) submitted a report presenting:

- The summarised outcomes of the public consultation on the Library Review relating to the 2 proposed options:  
**Option 1** - Retain Bury, Ramsbottom and Prestwich Libraries plus a service-wide team.  
**Option 2** - Retain Bury, Ramsbottom, Prestwich and Radcliffe Libraries plus a smaller service-wide team.
- An overview of additional work carried out since the last report to Cabinet, and;
- A recommendation for option choice and next steps.

The Chair invited questions from members of the public present.

- Can an assurance be given that the Council will support the Friends of Tottington Library to keep their local library open?

The Council will listen to proposals of the Friends of Tottington Library and will support them where it is cost neutral to the Council.

- Tottington Library has the highest number of young readers in the Borough and the Council's proposal to close the library will discriminate against them. How has the Council included young readers in its consultation?

The Council undertook its consultation across all areas including children at school. The libraries at Tottington and Unsworth were well used by younger readers with the support of family members and the Library Service would continue to work with families in the future.

- Can the Council reconsider the proposal to close Bury libraries? There will be an impact on the lives of residents if their library is closed. There will also be implications for older people commuting and disabled people who will not be able to travel into Bury or find a disabled parking space close to the library. Safety is an issue for these people. Unemployed people also

rely on libraries and may not be able to afford the cost of travel to get access.

The Council is not in a financial position to be able to keep all the libraries in the Borough open and must take decisions to provide a sustainable, high quality library service for Bury residents.

- Why has Option 3 not been mentioned in the report regarding a possible reduction in the size a libraries? The more libraries there are the more efficient the access to facilities will be for residents. Community groups and clubs could be lost if the closures happen. The volunteers mentioned in the report are not coming forward as expected.

Option 3 was considered in the previous stage of the review process but was it not financially viable. Also, the arrangements for the libraries involved would not have provided a level of service and quality appropriate for the whole of the Borough. Work with the community will still continue including luncheon clubs and work to reduce social isolation. Unfortunately the Council still has to make further financial savings on services and cannot afford to maintain the service in its current form.

- What sort of resources will be made available for library volunteers to promote a community library service? Can the Council commit resources to maintain a community asset?

The Council welcomes the support of community groups and will offer advice and help to identify and access funding but is unable to provide direct financial resources.

- When the Council refers to 'cost neutral' can details be provided because it is important for a group that is interested in taking on an asset to know the costs involved in order to produce a costed business plan.

The Council is not able to provide specific details on every asset at this stage of the process.

- Why has the Council not built up funds from Council Tax for use to maintain library buildings?

The Council has to meet a number of service demands and prioritises its resources accordingly.

- The Council promised that the Seedfield Library was safe for twenty years after receiving lottery funding and now after eight years the service is going to be lost.

A twenty year period was given at the time however the present financial situation in which the Council if finds itself means that this position cannot be sustained. The Council will continue to work for and support the local community. The lottery funding provided was a capital grant and the Council provided the staffing resources for the library.

- The library in Tottington is the only community asset available to hold meetings and clubs. The local churches have been approached but are not able to help. There is no bus service to the other closest areas with a library.
- Can Councillors take a knock like the people of the borough are experiencing through cuts to services and use the money saved to help fund a library service?

The Boundary Commission is to be contacted and enquiries made regarding a change to the electoral cycle and numbers of Councillors. If this is taken forward the money saved would not be ring-fenced specifically for libraries provision but would be directed to other areas such as emergency and priority spending and increases in costs.

- If a community group can demonstrate that it could successfully maintain a building would the Council consider a community asset transfer?

The Council would consider the transfer of a community asset if this could be successfully demonstrated.

- Once the library buildings are no longer providing a library services will groups still be able to use the space for community related activities?

There will be transitional arrangement plans which will need to be developed but this would take place after a decision to close a library facility.

- The three month period for setting up a community group to take on a building and negotiate an operating framework with the Council is a relatively short period. Can the Council set up meetings on a weekly basis to take negotiations forward?

Where there are plans produced that demonstrate a community group could take on the running of a building it will be supported by Council and meetings will be arranged accordingly.

Written questions were also submitted as follows:

- Who are the members of the Service-Wide team and how can they be contacted?

The service wide-team is not yet established. We will not be embarking upon a staff consultation until the decision is taken at Cabinet to approve one of the two options. The service wide team will be implemented after this consultation.

- What has this team done so far to promote this possible new option across all libraries users and residents in their neighbourhoods?

During March 2017 a presentation updating communities about the Library Review was given at all Township Forums. Time was also allowed for questions and discussion. The presentation covered: The outcome of the first public consultation; impact of the Council budget; phase two consultation (including discussions with community groups) and next steps.

All groups currently or recently using libraries have been given the opportunity to have an informal discussion with senior library staff in order to help them plan for the future of their group. A mapping exercise has been carried out so we understand every group that currently meets in the existing libraries.

- What has been done to identify and provide adequate support to volunteers and further community groups who would be willing to develop such community led projects?

Several groups have expressed an interest in developing a model to run library buildings which are proposed to close at the end of the review either as libraries or as other community provision. Discussions with these groups will be ongoing over the coming months. It should be noted that any library service provided by these groups will be outside the Council's statutory library offer and must be cost neutral to the library service and the Council.

- When are you going to make available to the public, community groups, library users and volunteers detailed information about what the Council intends to do with each buildings, fittings, equipment and books likely to be closed due to the review of the Library service?

Until a decision is made at cabinet we are not in a position to look at potential building usage post library review. In the Cabinet report (January 2017) appendix 5 lists an Asset Management view of opportunities to achieve savings, giving early indications of possible future usage. The next Cabinet report will also update on this item on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Following a Cabinet decision there will be a full transition plan implemented to change the structures of the library service to the new chosen model.

**Delegated decision:**

That approval be given to Option 2, as presented in the report submitted, to retain Bury, Ramsbottom, Prestwich and Radcliffe Libraries and a smaller Service-Wide Team.

**Reasons for the decision:**

The Council is reviewing its services in order to deliver significant savings over the next four years. The Council also has a legal duty to provide Bury residents with a comprehensive and efficient library service.

**Other option considered and rejected:**

To retain Bury, Ramsbottom and Prestwich Libraries plus a service wide team.

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To: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**For Urgent Delivery**

For the immediate attention of the Democratic Services Manager, Resources and Regulation Department, Town Hall, Bury

From: **COUNCILLOR** *ROBERT CASERTA*

**NOTICE OF 'CALL-IN' OF A LEADER/CABINET MEMBER DECISION**

In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Council Constitution

This notice shall require the Chief Executive to call a meeting of the appropriate Scrutiny Committee within 5 clear working days of the receipt of this Notice.

**DECISION TO BE CALLED IN:**

|   |           |               |            |
|---|-----------|---------------|------------|
| DECISION TAKER  | Yes Or No |               |            |
| <i>CLER SHARON BRIGGS</i>   |           | Meeting Date: | Minute No: |
| Leader/Cabinet Member Decision  |           |               |            |
| Officer Key Decision  |           |               |            |
| Subject of Decision... <i>CLOSURE OF BOROUGH LIBRARIES</i>  |           |               |            |
| Reason for 'Call-In' <i>INSUFFICIENT CONSIDERATION OF THE COST TO COUNCIL BY CLOSING LIBRARIES IN SOCIAL CARE AS THE WITHDRAWAL OF SUPPORT FROM VULNERABLE GROUPS AND ELDERLY PEOPLE IE DEMENTIA CARES LUNCHEON CLUBS ETC</i> |           |               |            |

**DECISION CALLED IN BY:**

(Any 8 Members or the Chair or any 2 or more Members of the appropriate Scrutiny Committee)

| Name of Councillor            | Signature          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. <i>ROBERT CASERTA (CH)</i> | <i>M A Caserta</i> |
| 2.                            |                    |
| 3.                            |                    |
| 4.                            |                    |
| 5.                            |                    |
| 6.                            |                    |
| 7.                            |                    |
| 8.                            |                    |

Note: This notice to be sent to the Chief Executive or the Democratic Services Manger or by fax on 0161 253 5041 only or by e-mail to l.m.webb@bury.gov.uk

**Reason for 'Call-In' (continued)**

INSUFFICIENT CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO:

THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST YOUNG PEOPLE  
MANY FROM DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUNDS WHO  
RELY ON THE LIBRARIES AS A PLACE TO DO THEIR  
HOMEWORK AFTER SCHOOL.

THIS ESPECIALLY APPLIES TO TOTENGTON LIBRARY

IT WILL DISCRIMINATE AGAINST PEOPLE WITH  
MOBILITY PROBLEMS WHO ARE UNABLE TO  
TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES

INSUFFICIENT NOTICE OF CLOSURE FOR APPLICANT  
COMMUNITY GROUPS TO TAKE OVER OPERATION OF  
THE BUILDINGS.

|                            |
|----------------------------|
| <b>REPORT FOR DECISION</b> |
|----------------------------|



|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>DECISION OF:</b>   | <b>CABINET</b>   |
| <b>DATE:</b>  | <b>28 JUNE 2017</b>  |
| <b>SUBJECT:</b>   | <b>LIBRARY REVIEW - OUTCOME OF THIRD PUBLIC SURVEY ON PROPOSED OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>   |
| <b>REPORT FROM:</b>   | <b>COUNCILLOR SHARON BRIGGS<br/>CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</b>   |
| <b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>   | <b>KLARE RUFO<br/>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (LEARNING AND CULTURE)</b>  |
| <b>TYPE OF DECISION:</b>  | <b>KEY DECISION</b>  |
| <b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:</b>   | <b>PUBLIC DOMAIN</b>   |
| <b>SUMMARY:</b>   | <p>This report will inform the Cabinet of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The summarised outcomes following Phase 2 of the public consultation on the 2 proposed options</li> <li>• An overview of additional work carried out since last report</li> <li>• A recommendation for option choice and next steps</li> </ul> |
| <b>OPTIONS &amp; RECOMMENDED OPTION</b>   | Based on all available evidence we are recommending Option 2 – Four libraries is approved by the Council Cabinet.  |
| <b>IMPLICATIONS:</b>  | The closure of 10 Bury Libraries.  |
| <b>Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:</b>   | Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? <b>Yes</b> No   |
| <b>Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:</b> | Rationalisation of all Council services is necessary given funding constraints. This review seeks to develop a sustainable library service, which meets the needs of current and future service users.   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Health and Safety Implications</b>               | No implications.  |
| <b>Statement by Executive Director of Resources</b> | Property Services will work with the Library Service to ensure that the closure and disposal of buildings is done as efficiently as possible. The future of buildings will be under regular evaluation for the remainder of the review and the possible transfer of buildings to community will be considered at each stage.<br><br>Other resources, e.g. IT, books etc will be redistributed as outlined in section 6.3. |
| <b>Equality/Diversity implications:</b>             | Yes                      No<br>(see paragraph below)  |
| <b>Considered by Monitoring Officer:</b>            | Yes<br>Legal advice has been sought throughout the review process and the Council's legal duties are set out within the report.<br><br>Legal advice and support will continue to be provided during implementation of the recommendation decided upon.  |
| <b>Wards Affected:</b>                              | <b>ALL</b>  |
| <b>Scrutiny Interest:</b>                           |   |

**TRACKING/PROCESS**

**DIRECTOR:**

| Chief Executive/<br>Strategic Leadership<br>Team | Cabinet<br>Member/Chair | Ward Members | Partners |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|----------|
|  |                         |              |          |
| Scrutiny Committee                               | Cabinet/Committee       | Council      |          |
|  | <b>28 June 2017</b>     |              |          |

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

**1.1** In response to the continued pressure on Council budgets as a result of the 2016/17 Comprehensive Spending Review, the Council must review its services and find ways of delivering savings over the next four years. This has to be undertaken whilst continuing to meet its legal duties to provide Bury residents with a comprehensive and efficient library service.

- 1.2** The Council remains fully committed to retaining a comprehensive and efficient Library Service in the borough but in reviewing this service, it anticipates that there will need to be changes, including the possibility of a reduction in the number of libraries. Despite this the Council will continue to provide a service that meets its legal duties and supports the aspirations of residents of all ages for development of reading skills for the youngest, lifelong learning and access to books and information.
- 1.3** The Council also recognises the importance of libraries as community spaces and wishes to explore ways of working together with local communities to strengthen the role their local library plays in meeting community needs.

## **2.0 LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

In undertaking a review of the Council's Library Service, there are 3 matters that the Council needs to consider from a legal perspective:

1. The duty to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service pursuant to the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964,
2. The requirement to have due regard to its public sector equality duty and other equality obligations under the Equality Act 2010
3. That the consultation process is fair and thorough.

The Public Libraries and Museums Act (1964) states that it is the duty of every Council to "provide a comprehensive and efficient library service". Case law and guidance on this indicates that this cannot mean that every resident lives close to a library but rather delivering a service that is accessible to all residents using reasonable means, including digital technologies, making the best use of the assets available in order to meet its core objectives and vision, recognising the constraints on Council resources.

The Equality Act 2010 sets out the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and states that Councils must have 'due regard' to the matters set out in the Act when exercising its functions and when considering and making decisions about service provision. Guidance recommends that to evidence 'due regard', a library review process should demonstrate how proposed changes might impact vulnerable communities.

Recent case law relating to consultations, in particular related to library services, has shown that Councils should have a vision for the service and key principles which may then be used to develop options for change. The process for consulting upon these should then be undertaken in a reasonable time frame, be sufficiently thorough, so as to ensure all those wishing to contribute are able to do so and be fair both in terms of the process and in dealing with the results of the consultation itself.

## 3.0 CONSULTATION RESULTS

### 3.1 Public Consultation

The second phase of the public consultation took began on 2 February 2017 and involved a 12 week survey (both online and paper), presentations to Township Forums and community meetings held at libraries.

A number of petitions were also received and considered as part of the consultation.

The public survey was available for 12 weeks and asked people to select one of two options for the future of the Library Service.

2,693 surveys were submitted. In brief the results are as follows:

| <b>Options</b>   | <b>Number of responses in favour</b> | <b>Overall percentage</b> |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Option 1 Retain Bury, Ramsbottom and Prestwich Libraries plus a service wide team                    | 493                                  | 18.3%                     |
| Option 2 Retain Bury, Ramsbottom, Prestwich and Radcliffe Libraries plus a smaller service wide team | 1,920                                | 71.3%                     |
| No selection made  | 280                                  | 10.3%                     |

### 3.2 Comments made

In addition respondents were able to make comments about the review. Over one thousand comments were received via the survey with an additional 30 comments received via email or letter. Comments were divided into subject categories. NB some comments covered more than one subject area.

| <b>Subject</b>   | <b>Summary</b>   | <b>Number received</b>            |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Radcliffe        | Retain Radcliffe Library. Consider closure in relation to loss of other Council facilities. Radcliffe disadvantaged compared to rest of the borough. | 398 plus 3 petitions              |
| Council          | Comments on the approach of the Council to library closures and other issues   | 239                               |
| Uncategorised    | Primarily pleas not to close libraries   | 202                               |
| Consultation     | Options not acceptable. More options needed. More explanation regarding impact/staffing  | 147                               |
| Books/reading    | Importance for Leisure and Education. Access to books and reading for disadvantaged groups.  | 141                               |
| Travel           | Concern over accessibility. Travel times. Insufficient consideration given to difficulties.  | 124                               |
| Community/ies    | Communities need libraries. Greater need than in town centres. Loss of facilities.   | 118                               |
| Whitefield       | Retain library and adult learning provision. Gap in coverage. Loss of kiln and pottery studio.   | 118                               |
| Children         | Libraries vital for children. Adverse impact on families.  | 106                               |
| Unsworth         | Retain library. Community use increasing. Loss of needed resource.   | 90                                |
| Computers        | Free access vital. Many people will lose access.   | 64                                |
| Sculpture Centre | Close and reinstate library space  | 54                                |
| Tottington       | Retain library. Vital community resource. Important to the town.   | 53                                |
| Bury             | More space needed. Close Sculpture centre. Re-instate as the Central Library.  | 38                                |
| Adult Education  | Valued resource.   | 31                                |
| Moorside         | Community activities of great value. Concern for future of service users especially the elderly.   | 21                                |
| Prestwich        | Retain library   | 16                                |
| Topping Fold     | Community activities particular for old and youth essential  | 16 plus petition and presentation |
| Ramsbottom       | Retain library and adult learning provision  | 14                                |
| Ainsworth        | Retain library. Only council resource in the village   | 7                                 |
| Brandlesholme    | Retain library. Community activities needed. Youth group threatened by closure.  | 7                                 |

The results of the survey in full are available at

<http://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=13578>

## **4.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **4.1 Township Forums**

During March 2017 a presentation updating communities about the Library Review was given at all Township Forums ([Appendix 1](#)). Time was also allowed for questions and discussion. The presentation covered: The outcome of the first public consultation; impact of the council budget; phase two consultation and next steps.

### **4.2 Community Groups**

The Library Service works with a wide range of community groups, some for many years. In addition to groups which existed previously a good number of more informal groups have developed due to projects begun by the Library Service.

All groups currently or recently using libraries have been given the opportunity to have an informal discussion with senior library staff in order to help them plan for the future of their group. A mapping exercise was also carried out ([Appendix 2](#)).

Several groups have expressed an interest in developing a model to run library buildings which are proposed to close at the end of the review either as libraries or as other community provision. Discussions with these groups will be ongoing over the coming months. It should be noted that any library service provided by these groups will be outside the Council's statutory library offer and must be cost neutral to the library service and the council.

### **4.3 Supporting vulnerable groups and individuals**

Additional meetings have been held with groups who have members with additional needs including:

- Visual Impairment Group
- Macular Society
- Bury Society for Blind and Partially Sighted People (BSBPSP)
- Luncheon Clubs and Over 50s groups

As a result of these meetings a number of steps will be taken to enable these (and other) groups to be able to continue to use the library service:

- Additional training for staff in all library buildings with regard to assisting people with disabilities to ensure each building has the same level of expertise.
- Resources for people with sensory disabilities at all libraries e.g. specialist software to assist with IT use
- Assistance with relocation to other libraries e.g. working with BSBPSP to help people plan and try journeys to library locations new to them
- Continuation of the Home Library Service
- Expansion of online resources
- Continued support for job seekers and people requiring access to and advice on benefits system
- Online access and IT support and training.
- Continuation of social activities to help reduce isolation and encourage positive use of leisure time e.g. knit and knatter, creative writing and adult colouring group.
- Continuation and development of health related activities in partnership with council and other providers e.g. smoking cessation sessions, health trainers and weigh and go sessions

## 5.0 EXPLORING ALL THE OPTIONS

We have researched extensively the other options that may be available to us as part of the library service review. Below are some of the options explored. See also ([Appendix 3](#))

### 5.1 Greater Manchester (GM) options

Over the last decade there has been discussion across the Greater Manchester Library Authorities in regard to both joint working for parts of the service and, the possibility of a single library service. So far any possible benefits would not exceed the current financial and staffing efficiencies. However Bury is part of a number of joint projects which provide both savings and improved services: GM stock purchasing consortium; Zinio online magazine provision; e-books/e-audio purchasing as well as a number of one off activities

### 5.2 Other Local Authority solutions

All library authorities have already or are currently facing budget cuts and service re-organisations. We have considered a number of schemes taken up by other authorities similar to our own, including:

| Scheme  | Bury's response   |
|---|---|
| Increase income                                 | <p>Introduction of 'Inspirations' shop at Ramsbottom with mini-shops at other locations. Now making a profit and expanding into craft fairs.</p> <p>Ensuring services that are meant to generate income actually do e.g. DVD provision will be withdrawn as this is losing money.</p> <p>Introducing small charges for activities e.g. author visits now make a small profit and allow us to provide more visits.</p> <p>Exploring a wider range of letting and room hire opportunities.</p> <p>Using our resources e.g. local history and archives to develop unique items for resale via a newly developed website.</p> |
| Volunteers                                      | <p>Bury libraries have worked with volunteers for many years but not in the larger libraries. We now intend to train volunteers to work alongside library staff in order to expand the resources and provision we can make to the public. It must be noted that our volunteers will be there to add variety and value to our library service not hold huge responsibilities for core service.</p>   |
| Exploring sponsorship and funding opportunities | <p>Bury's Libraries have gained considerably from external funding and our approach to this now needs to be revised in order to add to resources likely to be very stretched with the proposed budget. Sponsorship by local businesses along the lines of Bury in Bloom can also be introduced.</p>   |

## 5.3 Other management options

There are a number of management/funding opportunities available to library authorities however Bury's size and current financial position limits its suitability for most of these.

- **TRUSTS** help reduce outgoings e.g. rate exemptions and provide freedom to revise services. However they can be stressful for staff and have frequently not received approval from unions. A number of library trusts have failed in recent years.
- **MUTUALS** have to be guaranteed/supported by councils for an initial period (approximately 5 years) and usually depend on significant income generation ability.
- **PRIVATISATION** several companies now provide library management services; however these have not always proved to be immune from ongoing cuts. No companies have come forward to explore working with Bury.

## 5.4 Community management

As has been previously stated (report to cabinet January 2017) the Council is amenable to former library buildings being managed by community groups. Asset transfer of buildings and/or services can be very beneficial, saving valuable community resources from closing completely and increasing community engagement. However it can also put a large amount of financial liability on community groups and remove potentially valuable assets from the council/public ownership.

## 6.0 PROPOSED TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS

We are developing a Transition Plan which has two main functions: firstly to ensure all our current customers continue to use the library service and secondly to ensure all resources from buildings to books are used/disposed of efficiently.

### 6.1 Supporting Customers

As was outlined in section 4.0 we are actively looking at ways for all current library users to access libraries and continue to enjoy the resources and activities they value.

We intend that revised library opening hours will provide adequate time for both existing and new community activities and also encourage wider involvement in libraries including volunteering and assisting in such things as stock selection.

Frontline staff will be able to provide practical assistance e.g. timetables, routes and contacts. We will also look to provide welcome sessions for groups and individuals in their 'new' library.

## 6.2 Buildings

Property Services will work with the Library Service to ensure that the closure and disposal of buildings is done as efficiently as possible. In the January report to Cabinet Appendix 5 dealt with the potential use of redundant library buildings. The future of buildings will be under regular evaluation for the remainder of the review and the possible transfer of buildings to community will be considered at each stage. Initial proposals include:

| <b>Building</b> | <b>Updated information</b>  |
|-----------------|---|
| Ainsworth       | Little contact from community. Size of building limits potential. Return to leaseholder.  |
| Brandlesholme   | Consider retaining building and seeking Good or Outstanding child care providers as tenants. Provide space for community use.   |
| Bury            | Meet the need for extended IT and community space.  |
| Castle Leisure  | Return space to Leisure Centre, remove fixtures and fittings.   |
| Coronation Road | Local groups feel community management is not an option.  |
| Dumers Lane     | Organising a community groups day to test local interest in retaining building.   |
| Moorside        | Talks between church and other community groups ongoing to try and continue community activities. Rent expected for any community use.  |
| Prestwich       | Space being reviewed for extended use by community groups. Adult Learning provision increased.  |
| Radcliffe       | Potential for creating adult learning classroom/community space under consideration. Several community groups from libraries under threat of closure would like to use Radcliffe. |
| Ramsbottom      | Potential for increasing adult learning and community use.  |
| Topping Fold    | Local community feel unable to take responsibility for the building but support from other organisations could provide potential for local use. Ongoing solutions being explored. |
| Tottington      | Local group's business plan being explored.   |
| Unsworth        | Discussion with community groups to re-house them at Radcliffe. Future use/disposal linked to the fact that the NHS building next door is interconnected.                         |
| Whitefield      | Demolition and redevelopment still likely.  |

### 6.3 Resources

Resources, including books, audio visual items, IT equipment, furniture and other items will be dealt with as follows:

| 1   | 2   | 3   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources that can be used by the Library Service will be retained for either immediate or future use</li> <li>• Resources will be relocated to improve the overall appearance and efficiency of retained libraries</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources no longer needed will be offered to other council departments</li> <li>• Some resources e.g. small collections of books will be offered to community groups. Once accepted these collections will not be part of the Library Service.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remaining items will be offered for sale or, if appropriate given to charity.</li> <li>• Unwanted book stock will be offered to the public through booksales or to commercial outlets.</li> <li>• Books with significant valued will be sold separately</li> </ul> |

### 7.0 RECOMMENDATION

Based on the outcomes of all public surveys, extensive research carried out by Mott Macdonald, internal research of all available alternative options combined with listening and exploring all suggestions heard as part of the community consultation events we are recommending **Option 2 – 4 Libraries (Bury, Prestwich, Ramsbottom and Radcliffe)** is approved by the Council Cabinet.

It is important to note that Option 2 will involve an increase in staffing and resources from the statutory minimum the budget is based upon.

### 8.0 PROPOSED TIMELINE

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Final Report to Cabinet on decisions to be taken | 28 June 2017          |
| Staff consultation                               | July/August/September |
| Implementation                                   | From 1 October 2017   |

### 8.0 CONCLUSION

Option 2 provides the Council with a good geographical spread of library buildings in the north, south and centre of Bury whilst providing a service in our most deprived township (Radcliffe) ensuring our commitment to our vulnerable residents. The proposed remaining libraries have the four largest registered library population and cover 77% the current offer Bury (34%), Prestwich (20%) Radcliffe (14%) and Ramsbottom (9%). Option 2, when looking at the overall population, identifies that 95% are located within 20 minutes travel time and 100% the population can access a library within 30 minutes.

## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 – Township Forum Presentation



06-28-17 Appendix 1  
Lib.ppt

### Appendix 2 – Community Groups



06-28-17 Appendix 2  
Lib.xls

### Appendix 3 – Background Reading



06-28-17 Appendix 3  
Lib.doc

### List of Background Papers:-

<http://www.bury.gov.uk>

Home>Libraries & Archives>Library Service Review

**For further information on the details of this report, please contact:**

**Klare Rufo, Assistant Director (Learning and Culture)**

**Email: [K.Rufo@Bury.gov.uk](mailto:K.Rufo@Bury.gov.uk) Tel: 0161 253 5477**

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**Saved by the Book**  
 Help raise money for Bury Hospice by reading!

Pick up your Bury Hospice collection box from Ramsbottom Library to have at home, at your reading group or at school. Choose on an amount to donate for each book you borrow and read from Bury Libraries - it could be 10p, 20p, £1, or more, it's up to you!

Every time you finish a library book, put your donation in your collection box.

On 30th November 2017 all boxes need to be handed into Ramsbottom Library where monies raised will be collected and sent to Bury Hospice.

If you are interested in taking part pop into Ramsbottom Library or email Louise at L.Guilfoyle@bury.gov.uk.

**Bury Libraries**

[/BURLIBRARIES](#)
[SEARCH "BURY LIBRARIES"](#)
[@BURLIBRARIES](#)  
[WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES](http://WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES)



# THE LIBRARY REVIEW

Department for Children, Young People and Culture



# 6 Principles

1. Library services across the borough
2. Protecting the vulnerable
3. Cost effective
4. Technology
5. Volunteers
6. Communities



Literacy is a foundation to build a more sustainable future for all  
- UNESCO Director-General

Bury Libraries

An advertisement for Zinio for libraries. It features a background of various magazine covers. The text reads: 'zinio for libraries. Read complete digital editions of popular magazines any time, anywhere on your PC, Mac or mobile device for free with your Bury Libraries membership! Check out a magazine at www.bury.gov.uk/emagazines'. A 'Bury Libraries' logo is at the bottom right. A magazine cover for 'EMPIRE' featuring 'STAR WARS ROGUE ONE' is prominently displayed.

An advertisement for 'The Wool Whisperers'. It features a background of colorful knitted wool. The text reads: 'The Wool Whisperers. A craft group to help with social isolation amongst our population. Saturday Mornings 10am - 12.30pm Ramsbottom Library Free session All welcome to join us. For more information drop into Ramsbottom Library or call 0161 253 5352.' A 'Bury Libraries' logo is at the bottom right.

[f /BURYLIBRARIES](#) [v SEARCH 'BURY LIBRARIES'](#) [t @BURYLIBRARIES](#)  
[WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES](http://WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES)

**Bury**  
COUNCIL



# 2 consultations showed...

- Books & Reading
- Community
- Staff
- Volunteers
- Children
- Access
- Technology
- Learning

Meet the Author  
of *Sunshine Over Wildflower Cottage*  
and *Afternoon Tea at the Sunflower Café*  
**Milly Johnson**  
Tuesday's (term time)  
10.30am - 11.00am  
*Rhyme Time*  
at Radcliffe Library  
Bury Libraries

**DID YOU KNOW...**  
THAT YOU CAN BORROW EBOOKS FOR  
FREE WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD?  
BURY.LIB.OVERDRIVE.COM  
Bury Libraries

**The Western Front Remembered in Poetry**  
Local historian David Galloway will be looking at the events of the First World War. This will include a presentation, accompanied by images of cemeteries and memorials on the Western Front, interspersed with readings of poetry from the Great War.  
**Friday 10 March - Starts 12pm**  
**Moorside Library - open to residents of Moorside £2 per person. Booking is essential.**  
This is the first of a series of weekly lunch clubs with invited speakers during March. These clubs have been made possible via funding obtained by Seedfields Tenants and Residents Association from Comic Relief.  
For more information about other lunch clubs during March, call Moorside Library on 0161 253 6471.  
Bury Libraries

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BURLIBRARIES @BURLIBRARIES  
WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES



# The Core Offer

Reading & Literacy



Digital Inclusion



**Bury Libraries**

### Digital Buddy Volunteer Sessions

Whether you've never used a computer, tablet or smartphone before, or just want to enhance your existing skills, we're here to help with weekly, free of charge, one-to-one sessions.

Call into one of the libraries or phone to book a slot with one of our friendly Digital Buddy Volunteers.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Bury Library</b><br>Computer Centre - 0161 253 7089<br>Tuesday/Thursday/Friday at 10.30am.<br>Saturday 10am-12pm | <b>Tottington Library</b><br>0161 253 7214<br>Thursday 10am-12pm |
| <b>Prestwich Library</b><br>0161 253 7214<br>Tuesday/Thursday 10am-12pm   | <b>Whitefield Library</b><br>0161 253 7510<br>Tuesday 10am-12pm  |

**Thinking outside the books**

[/BURLIBRARIES](#) [@BURLIBRARIES](#) [SEARCH 'BURY LIBRARIES'](#) [WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES](#) **Bury COUNCIL**

Information & Learning

Community Support & Development

**Baby Basics Donation Bin at Ramsbottom Library**

Our Baby Basics bin welcomes second hand newborn and 0-3 month clothing (or new if you wish), first size nappies, baby wipes, lotion, soap, shampoo, towels, Moses baskets and blankets.

Baby Basics also need items that Mums require such as maternity pads, breast pads, body wash, shampoo and conditioner, toothbrush and toothpaste (for labour bag).

Baby Basics accepts knitted and crocheted items, or if you can sew you could donate quilted blankets for Moses baskets.

**Bury Libraries**

Department for Children, Young People and Culture



# The thing we cannot escape...

## COUNCIL BUDGET

65M cuts to date

32M further cuts  
2017/20

By 2020 –

no more Central  
Govt Grant

Council to be self  
sufficient

## LIBRARIES BUDGET

Reduced in 2013/14  
by £870K

Currently £2.4\*  
million

Reducing in 2017/18  
by £500K

Reducing in 2018/19  
by £500K

## OPTION 1

Retain Bury,  
Ramsbottom  
and Prestwich  
Libraries plus a  
service wide  
team



## OPTION 2

Retain Bury,  
Ramsbottom,  
Prestwich and  
Radcliffe  
Libraries plus a  
smaller service  
wide team

Children's Services Department

# Have your say about your Library Service



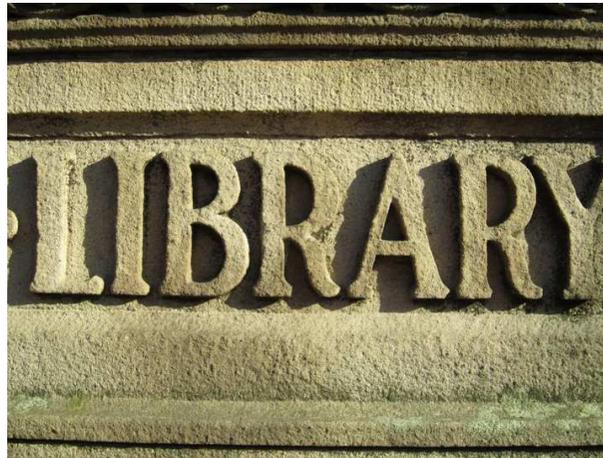
## Complete the survey now

Take part in the survey online:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bury-libraries-consultation>  
or pop into any Bury Library for a paper copy



**Did you know...**  
 We offer help in researching local history?  
**Digitised local trade directories**  
<http://bit.ly/2e1g00v>  
**Bury Times stories (1855 to 1909)**  
<http://bit.ly/2eFPPrTw>  
**Thinking outside the books**

Facebook: /BURLIBRARIES, Twitter: @BURLIBRARIES, Search: "BURY LIBRARIES", Website: WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES



**Rammy Snappers Photography Exhibition**  
 An exhibition of photography by Ramsbottom Photography Group.  
 Ramsbottom Library  
 Mon 20 February - Fri 3 March  
 Free entry  
 Some photos may be for sale (at the exhibitors discretion)

Facebook: /BURLIBRARIES, Twitter: @BURLIBRARIES, Search: "BURY LIBRARIES", Website: WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES



Department for Children, Young People and Culture

# Next Steps

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Public Consultation on proposed models / options for change | Ends 26th April 2017             |
| Final Report to Cabinet on decisions to be taken            | May 18 <sup>th</sup> 2017        |
| Staff consultation  | Begins July 2017                 |
| Implementation  | From August 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017 |

[library.suggestions@bury.gov.uk](mailto:library.suggestions@bury.gov.uk)



Department for Children, Young People and Culture





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| SPACE USED | FACILITIES PROVIDED | CHARGE |
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| library    |                     |        |
| library    |                     |        |
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| GROUP           | CONTACT DETAILS |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Community Group |                 |
|                 |                 |
| Youth Club      |                 |
| Readers Group   |                 |
| Craft group     |                 |
| PCSOs           |                 |
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**FUTURE PLAN**

Explore potential for retaining building/renting out space to nursery

| GROUP                    | CONTACT DETAILS |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| National Careers Service |                 |
| Card Making              |                 |
| Story time               |                 |
| Rhyme time               |                 |
| Reading Group            |                 |
| LEGO Club                |                 |
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**REVIEW SPACE & CONTINUE**

| GROUP                 | CONTACT DETAILS |
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| No regular activities |                 |
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| GROUP                  | CONTACT DETAILS | DAY        |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Knitting Group         |                 | Mondays    |
| Creative Writing Group |                 | Tuesdays   |
| Knitting Group         |                 | Tuesdays   |
| Work Club              |                 | Tuesdays   |
| Jewellery Making       |                 | Wednesdays |
| Gardening Club         |                 | Wednesdays |
| Computer Help          |                 | Friday     |
| Craft Group            |                 | Friday     |
| Councillors Surgery    |                 | Saturday   |
| Abbey Close TRA        |                 | Various    |
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| FREQUENCY                       | TIME            | NUMBER ATTENDING | SPACE USED               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| weekly                          | 10am-12pm       | 6                | community room           |
| weekly                          | 2pm-4pm         | 6                | community room           |
| weekly                          | 10am-12pm       | 7                | community room           |
| weekly                          | 2pm-4pm         | 4                | main library area        |
| weekly                          | 10.30am-12.30pm | 7                | community room           |
| weekly                          | 1.30pm-4.30pm   | 9                | courtyard/community room |
| weekly                          | 10am-12.30pm    | 1                | community room           |
| weekly                          | 2.30pm-4.30pm   | 6                | community room           |
| monthly<br>(1st sat.)           | 10am-11pm       | various          | community room           |
| Monthly<br>(frequency can vary) | Various         | 15-20            | community room /Library  |
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| FACILITIES PROVIDED                             | CHARGE | FUTURE PLANS                |
|---|--------|-----------------------------|
| Tables and Chairs, Cups and Hot Water           | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
| Tables and Chairs, Cups and Hot Water           | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
| Tables and Chairs, Cups and Hot Water           | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
|   | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
| Tables and Chairs, Cups and Hot Water           | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
| Tables and Chairs, Cups and Hot Water + Storage | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
| kitchen   | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
| Tables and Chairs, Cups and Hot Water           | none   | ROC/Radcliffe               |
|   | none   |                             |
| Tables and Chairs, Cups and Hot Water + Storage | none   | Discuss with 6 Town Housing |
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| CHARGE         | FUTURE PLAN      |
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| none           | Continue £church |
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| TIME            | NUMBER ATTENDING |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 10am-12pm       | 20               |
| 10am-12pm       | 10               |
| 10.30am-11.45am | 10               |
| 10.30am-11.30am | 5                |
| 10am-11am       | 14               |
| various         | various          |
| 7pm-9.30pm      | 40               |
| 7.30pm-8.30pm   | 10               |
| 7.30pm-8.30pm   | 8                |
| 10.45-11.30am   | 20-30            |
| various         | 30+              |
| 4pm-5pm 10am 12 | 15-20            |
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| GROUP                 | GROUP                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Adult Colouring Group | Adult Colouring Group |
| Rhyme Time            | Rhyme Time            |
| Card Making           | Card Making           |
| Knit & Natter         | Knit & Natter         |
| Family History        | Family History        |
| Lego                  | Lego                  |
| Drama                 | Drama                 |
| Heritage Society      | Heritage Society      |
| Literary Society      | Literary Society      |
| Health Trainers       | Health Trainers       |
| Readers Group         | Readers Group         |
| Councillors Surgery   | Councillors Surgery   |
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| NUMBER ATTENDING | SPACE USED     |
|------------------|----------------|
| 12               | Main Library   |
| 45               | Main Library   |
| 15               | Main Library   |
| 15               | Main Library   |
| 5                | Main Library   |
| 25               | Main Library   |
| ?                | Main Library   |
| 10               | Heritage aroom |
| 15               | Main Library   |
| Various          | Small Room     |
| 13               | Main Library   |
| Various          | Heritage Room  |
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UNAFFECTED

| FACILITIES PROVIDED                         | CHARGE                 |
|---|------------------------|
| pens & colouring sheets Refreshments        | 50p                    |
| musical Instruments & books                 | Nil                    |
| Nil   | Nil                    |
| wool patterns knitting needles Refreshments | 50p                    |
| Computers Refreshments                      | 50p                    |
| Lego Refreshments                           | 50p                    |
| Nil   | Room Hire              |
| Nil   | Nil                    |
| Nil   | Nil                    |
| Nil   | Nil                    |
| Books and Refreshments                      | Donations refreshments |
| Refreshments                                | Nil                    |
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**TESTED IF LIBRARY OPEN**

| GROUP                              | CONTACT DETAILS | DAY      |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Maria Yoga                         |                 | Saturday |
| Wool Whisperers                    |                 | Saturday |
| Readers Group (2nd Monday)         |                 | Monday   |
| Readers Group (Last Monday)        |                 | Monday   |
| Readers Group                      |                 | Thursday |
| Readers Group                      |                 | Friday   |
| Busy Hands, Busy Tongues           |                 | Friday   |
| Stained Glass Class (Private Hire) |                 | Thursday |
| Health Trainers                    |                 | Tuesday  |
| Spanish Class (Private Hire)       |                 | Monday   |
| Art Class (Private Hire)           |                 | Monday   |
| Holcombe Heritage Society          |                 |          |
| R.N.L.I.                           |                 | Tuesday  |
| Lego Club                          |                 | Thursday |
| Storytime (Sarah Howell)           |                 | Tuesday  |
| Storytime (Jean Swanson)           |                 | Thursday |
| Calligraphy                        |                 | Thursday |
| Ramsbottom Heritage Society        |                 | Sunday   |
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| GROUP           | CONTACT DETAILS | DAY      |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Adult Care      |                 | every    |
| Beasties        |                 | Friday   |
| Craft ladies    |                 | Wed      |
| Over 50s        |                 | Wed      |
| No Barriers     |                 | Tuesdays |
| No Barriers     |                 | Wed      |
| BAEC            |                 | ad hoc   |
| Six Town        |                 | ad hoc   |
| Luncheon club   |                 | Wed      |
| One Recovery    |                 | Tuesdays |
| Kids activities |                 | Sat      |
| Streetdance     |                 | Tuesdays |
| Knit and natter |                 | Wed      |
| TRA             |                 | Monthly  |
| TRA events      |                 | adhoc    |
| PCSOs           |                 | adhoc    |
|                 |                 |          |
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| FACILITIES PROVIDED | FUTURE PLAN                        |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Room, kitchen       | Dependent on plans of Persona      |
| none                | Relocate to East Ward School       |
| none                | Bury                               |
| none                | Likely to fold                     |
| none                | Bury                               |
| none                | Bury                               |
| Whiteboard          | Bury                               |
| none                | Relocate to town centre?           |
| none                | Likely to fold                     |
| none                |                                    |
| none                |                                    |
| none                | East Ward?                         |
| none                | Bury?                              |
| none                | Assist to find local meeting place |
| none                | Assist to find local meeting place |
| none                |                                    |
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| CHARGE             | FUTURE PLAN              |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| £0                 | Dependent on future/FOTL |
| £15 per session    |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| £10 per hour       |                          |
| £8 per hour        |                          |
| £7 per hour        |                          |
| refreshment charge |                          |
| £12.25 per session |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| refreshment charge |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| refreshment charge |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| 50p each           |                          |
| refreshment charge |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| £20 per session    |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| £20 per session    |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| £0                 |                          |
| £10                |                          |
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| FREQUENCY                      | TIME               | NUMBER ATTENDING |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <b>monthly</b>                 | <b>1pm-3pm</b>     | <b>12+</b>       |
| Weekly (term time)             | 9.30-11.30         | 12+              |
| <b>Weekly (term time)</b>      | <b>10.30-12.30</b> | <b>10</b>        |
| <b>Weekly (term time)</b>      | <b>10-11.00 am</b> | <b>10</b>        |
| <b>Fortnightly (term time)</b> | <b>1-3pm</b>       | <b>10+</b>       |
| Monthly                        | 7.30-8.30pm        | 8+               |
| Monthly                        | 2pm - 3pm          | 7+               |
|                                |                    |                  |
| Monthly                        | 4-5pm              | 10+              |
|                                |                    |                  |
|                                |                    |                  |
| Weekly                         | 10am - 1pm         | 7+               |
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**FUTURE PLANS**

Assist to relocate to Prestwich

Prestwich

Dependent on kiln relocation

Prestwich or Radcliffe

contacted 21/03/17

contacted 21/03/17

Prestwich or Radcliffe

Prestwich or Radcliffe

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## **BACKGROUND READING & RESEARCH**

### **GM Authorities**

<http://www.bolton.gov.uk/website/Pages/Librariesandleisure.aspx>

<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries>

<http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/libraries>

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries/>

<http://www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-lifestyle/libraries/libraries.aspx>

### **Other Library Authorities**

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/libraries>

<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/leisure-and-libraries/libraries>

<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/libraries/libraries.aspx>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/library>

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries>

### **Reports and publications**

Annual reports to parliament on public library activities 2012-15. DCMS. 2016

Income generation for public libraries. Arts Council England. 2014

Independent library report. DCMS. 2015

### **Other sources**

<https://www.cilip.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/library-services>

<http://www.publiclibrariesnews.com/>

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