

WIRRAL COUNCIL
TRANSFORMATION & RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT HEALTH AND WELL BEING
MAY 2014

SUBJECT:	CO-LOCATION OF BEBINGTON ONE STOP SHOP IN BEBINGTON CENTRAL LIBRARY - TEMPORARY CLOSURE
WARD/S AFFECTED:	BEBINGTON
REPORT OF:	HEAD OF BUSINESS PROCESSES
RESPONSIBLE HOLDER:	PORTFOLIO COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE MEADEN
KEY DECISION	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report requests that Bebington Library is allowed a short period of closure to allow its refurbishment and merger of the One Stop Shop into it from Pennant House to be effectively completed while not compromising health and safety for public and staff for a maximum of four weeks in June 2014.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 To allow Bebington Central Library building work to be undertaken to merge the library and one stop shop as previously agreed on 21 January 2014. This will allow the merger of the site and staffing to be progressed. It will see four booths created adjacent to the Library counter and two interview rooms. At the same time we will improve the ICT suite and sympathetically modernise the library shelving.
- 2.2. To minimise costs the One Stop Shop facility will close first and furniture and fittings will be moved to the library which will then need to close to be refitted with the required items to include a One Stop Shop there.
- 2.3. The decision to delay the actual work into the start of 2014/15 financial year has been due to agreeing tenders and contracts as well as to minimise disruption at a key public time, alongside the need to finish the work prior to the increase in usage at the end of the school year and commencement of holiday sessions on site.
- 2.4. Work on the Library site is to begin 16th June when it closes and the One Stop Shop will remain open until approximately the fourth week to then close and move over within the library.

- 2.5. Library OSS staff will look to minimise disruption and inconvenience as much as possible to users. Formal permission is sought for a minimum of three weeks and maximum four week closure. The date of the closure will be advertised locally and to ward members once agreed.
- 2.6. No closure time is ideal and we will look to mitigate impacts on the local community. When the Library closes we will offer a reduced service from a small pop up library on site with a varied selection of the latest titles, a free reservation service if books are required and to be obtained as soon as possible from another library and be able to be picked up from the pop up library. The One Stop Shop service will be closed for one week with limited advice available in the pop up library area.
- 2.7. As a well used and trusted central library we want to carry on other key library activities such as bounce and rhyme and reading groups which will still be held if at all possible. Library activities and events will also still be available at neighbouring libraries for this short period

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 Potential delays in the closure, the ongoing use of Pennant House will require considerable expenditure.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The Library site remaining partially open was considered not feasible.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The plan for the site will be publically available at the Library to ensure users are aware of the work and we will be locally alerting users to the changes and specific dates of the changes.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 A modernised facility will facilitate increased partnership working.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 7.1 Financial - The funding required of £50,000 is from the library one stop shop maintenance budget and is within budget already agreed for this work..
- 7.2. IT – The changes to IT are part of the programme of work.
- 7.3. Staffing – There are none arising directly from this report.
- 7.4. Assets – The changes detailed are all undertaken via asset management.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Equality Impact Assessment is attached.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION

12.1 Bebington Library be closed for a period of up to four weeks from 16th June 2014 in order that this refurbishment work be completed.

13.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 To allow the necessary building work undertaken and allow a short period of closure.

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APPENDIX None

REFERENCE MATERIAL None.

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Dates