

## WIRRAL COUNCIL

### CABINET

1 SEPTEMBER 2011

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>LIBRARY SERVICE - INTRODUCTION OF INFORMATION SCREENS</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF FINANCE</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR CHRIS MEADEN</b>
<b>KEY DECISION</b>	<b>NO</b>

#### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1.1** This report details progress in introducing plasma information screens into Libraries which will allow access to information to all visitors as is already available in One Stop Shops. The same contractor will be used as installed the One Stop Shops network, as an extension to the existing contract. This will provide value for money but under the Council Constitution it is an exception to the procurement procedure and therefore requires the approval of Cabinet.

#### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1** That Members approve an extension to an existing contract for installation of information screens.

#### **3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**3.1** To ensure that similar screens can be introduced into Libraries and One Stop Shops in line with Council minute 327 (21 February 2011).

#### **4.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

**4.1** On 21 February 2011 Cabinet agreed to invest £120,000 in a number of Library developments which were installation of wi-fi, information screens in each site and an e-book service available via the web.

**4.2.** Wi-fi will be introduced as IT Services extend the capacity of each site and I reported the letting of a contract to Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 June 2011 (minute 7) for the introduction of e-books which should be live in October 2011.

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- 4.3. The installation of information screens in Libraries replicates the facility already in the network of One Stop Shops. These screens, which are plasma screens, host a range of local and relevant information. The system was purchased following a tendering exercise accepting the lowest tender from Universal AV.
- 4.4. The proposed investment in digital signage within the Library service should, by necessity, take the form of an extension to the existing One Stop Shop digital signage network. This will limit the impact on resources and staff time in Marketing, Graphics and IT Services. It will also ensure compatibility with the existing infrastructure.
- 4.5. It represents value for money for the extra equipment to be considered as an extension to the existing contract and for the work to be awarded to the existing supplier of equipment Universal AV.
- 4.6. This extension will conclude this particular contract and any future requirements the Council may have regarding digital signage will be undertaken through a new tender process.
- 4.7. Installation would be undertaken approximately one month after ordering.

## **5.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

- 5.1. Unless I utilise this current contract there will be delays in delivering this policy option. Alternative suppliers would risk the system being harder to use, provide poor value for money and not be as successful.

## **6.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 6.1. No other options were considered.

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

- 7.1. None was undertaken for the purposes of this report.

## **8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS**

- 8.1. There are no implications arising directly from this report albeit the screens will be used by this sector to show what their organisations do in a local setting.

## **9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING AND ASSETS**

- 9.1. **FINANCIAL** – The cost of the system for Libraries is £36,000 which will be met from the approved policy option.
  - 9.2. **STAFFING** – There is no direct staffing implications.
  - 9.3. **IT** – The system will be installed and maintained by the manufacturer. Sufficient band width is available for the equipment to be effective at each site.
  - 9.4. **ASSETS** – There are no implications arising directly from this report.
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## **10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

## **11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

## **12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

## **13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

FNCE/172/11

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## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

### **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
Cabinet (minute 327)	21 February 2011