

Innovating Mobile Library Services – Briefing Note for LJs

Shropshire Council is currently looking at how best to provide services delivered by the mobile libraries and home delivery services. This note gives information on the review.

Background

The review was agreed by cabinet on 20th January 2010 and was set up to ensure that current service provision meets the needs of Shropshire residents. Current service provision is based principally on historic patterns and the opportunity has been taken to look at what should be delivered and how. One of the key areas the group wishes to look at is opportunities for partnership working to make the delivery of services simpler for the customer and more efficient.

Process

The review is being carried out by a cross-party group of elected members, the group members are Councillors Martin Bennett (chairman), Karen Burgoyne, Alan Mosley, Peggy Mullock, Peter Philips, Robert Tindall and Milner Whiteman, lead officers are James Anthony-Edwards and George Candler. The terms of reference accompany this note.

The group will review current practice and usage and compare Shropshire's provision with other similar authorities. A twelve week consultation period is being held to gather the views of stakeholders, including customers, non-users, Shropshire Councillors and town and parish councils. This will be mostly by questionnaire with meetings being held for town and parish councils in Craven Arms, Ellesmere and Shrewsbury, parish councils will be notified directly of dates for the meetings.

Timescale

September – meetings with town and parish councils

4th October – consultation period ends

w/c 25th November – final report to cabinet agreed

January 2011 – report presented to Cabinet

Role of LJs

Comprehensive attendance at LJC meetings does not form part of the consultation plan because of capacity constraints but attendance can be arranged if requested by individual LJs to provide information on the group's work and gather feedback on the service. If you wish to arrange to have a presentation to your LJC meeting please contact James Anthony-Edwards, Head of Libraries and Information, james.anthony-edwards@shropshire.gov.uk, 01743 255019,