

Committee	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Report Title	The Lewisham Library and Information Service Future and transformation		
Date	9 October 2019	Item	4

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Public libraries have changed substantially and Lewisham Libraries are no exception. What is exceptional, however, becomes apparent when looking back. Since the year 1999-2000, our libraries have been on a substantial transformation journey. A major shift happened after 2010 with the introduction of the Community Libraries model. In 2016-2017, the Service went through the most profound change process in its history, which produced a lean and responsive service that can proactively respond to the challenges ahead. In 2017-2018, the Service embedded the changes and completed the work on the savings targets. Now it is looking 5-10 years in the future, suggesting the start of a conversation about its strategic role and the development of the existing model.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. In relation to the financial year 2018 – 2019, this report offers
- 2.1.1. Appendix 1 – a general update on the performance of the Service
 - 2.1.2. Appendix 2 – an overview of activities in the Hub Libraries
 - 2.1.3. Appendix 3 – an overview of activities in the Community Libraries
 - 2.1.4. Appendix 4 – a summary of Issues and Visits statistics
 - 2.1.5. Appendix 5 – a draft paper on the future of the Library Service.
- 2.2. The analysis of performance is based on information recorded between April 2018 and March 2019, and on the CIPFA Actuals for 2017-2018.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. Members of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee are invited to:
- note the content of the report, and
 - comment on it.

4. Policy context

- 4.1. The Council's Corporate Strategy for 2018-2022, approved at full council in February 2019, includes the following priorities which libraries directly or indirectly contribute to:

Priority	The service directly	indirectly contributes
• Open Lewisham – Lewisham is a welcoming place of safety for all, where we celebrate the diversity that strengthens us.	✓	
• Tackling the housing crisis – Everyone has a decent home that is secure and affordable.		✓
• Giving children and young people the best start in life – Every child has access to an outstanding and inspiring education, and is given the support they need to keep them safe, well and able to achieve their full potential.	✓	
• Building an inclusive local economy – Everyone can access high quality job opportunities, with decent pay and security in our thriving and inclusive local economy.	✓	
• Delivering and defending: health, social care and support – Ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need.		✓
• Making Lewisham greener – Everyone enjoys our green spaces, and benefits from a healthy environment as we work to protect and improve our local environment.		✓
• Building safer communities – Every resident feels safe and secure living here as we work together towards a borough free from the fear of crime.	✓	

5. Legal implications

- 5.1. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1. There are no specific financial implications to this report. The community libraries use the book stock purchased by the Council and occupy their premises rent-free but otherwise receive no financial support.
- 6.2. The table below presents a summary of the Library and Information Service actual expenditure for the year 2018 – 2019 and budget for the current financial year. These figures do not reflect the “non-controllable” costs, which relate to internal recharges. The table also shows the budget of the Service in the years 1999-2000 and 2009-2010 for reference purposes.

DESCRIPTION	1999 - 2000	2009 - 2010	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	Change against		Change against	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	1999 - 2000 Actual		2009 - 2010 Actual	
Population	245,700	261,550.00	301,867.00	305,945.00	60,245	17%	60,245	25%
Expenditure								
Employees	£ 2,551,595	£ 4,480,685	£ 2,224,245	£ 2,453,720	-£ 97,875	-45%	-£ 2,026,965	-45%
Premises	£ 469,778	£ 71,340	£ 113,786	£ 75,200	-£ 394,578	5%	£ 3,860	5%
Transport	£ 28,010	£ 29,454	£ 16,643	£ 17,100	-£ 10,910	-42%	-£ 12,354	-42%
Other Expenditure	£ 1,139,065	£ 894,615	£ 663,065	£ 501,500	-£ 637,565	-44%	-£ 393,115	-44%
Third Party Payments	£ -	£ 2,047	£ -	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	-51%	-£ 1,047	-51%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£ 4,188,448	£ 5,478,141	£ 3,017,739	£ 3,048,520	-£ 1,139,928	-44%	-£ 2,429,621	-44%
Income Sub-total								
TOTAL INCOME	-£ 153,680	-191,132	-94,471	-85,000	£ 68,680	-56%	106,132	-56%
NET EXPENDITURE	4,034,767	5,287,009	2,923,268	2,963,520	-1,071,247	-44%	-2,323,489	-44%

7. Equalities implications

7.1. There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

8. Crime and disorder implications

8.1. There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

9. Environmental implications

9.1. There are no environmental implications in this report.

10. Conclusion

10.1. This report updates the Select Committee on the performance of the Library and Information Service and the provision of community library services in particular. It also offers an opportunity to start a strategic conversation on the future of the Library and Information Service in Lewisham.

For further information please contact

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