



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 21 March, 2022

Cabinet Members Present:

Councillor A Morgan (Chair), Councillor M Webber (Deputy Chair),
Councillor R Bevan, Councillor J Bonetto, Councillor G Caple,
Councillor A Crimmings, Councillor R Lewis, Councillor C Leyshon and
Councillor M Norris

Other Councillor(s) in Attendance

Councillor P Jarman and Councillor T Williams

Agenda Item : 11

SUBJECT: RCT LIBRARY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN 2022/25

1. DECISION MADE:

Agreed –

To approve the Library Service's proposed Strategy and Action Plan 2022/25.

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

Core entitlement 12 of the Welsh Public Library Standards requires every library authority in Wales to produce a Strategy and Action Plan that outlines the future development of its public library service. Once approved these documents must be placed on the Council's website so that the public can access them easily.

3. LINKS TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES/FUTURE GENERATIONS - SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

The proposal strategy aligns with each of the 3 Council Corporate Priorities:

- Ensuring people are independent, healthy, and successful.
- Creating places where people are proud to live, work and play.
- Enabling Prosperity, creating the opportunity for people and businesses to be innovative, entrepreneurial and fulfil their potential and prosper.

Libraries contribute to each of the 7 Well-being Goals by:

- Providing access to a world of lifelong learning through books and online information, free access to the internet and the delivery and facilitation of learning opportunities for people of all ages.
- Encouraging personal development and offering a range of services and activities that promote social and economic resilience.
- Working with partners to support wellbeing and reduce social isolation including providing information to support individuals to make informed choices and supporting the Book Prescription Scheme.
- Providing safe and inclusive facilities and offering support to those who are socially disadvantaged to access provision within their communities that will improve their prospects.
- Providing places where people can meet and connect with each other and with the services they need locally, including through the development of local hubs.
- Encouraging and promoting cultural activities for all ages, preserving local

collections that safeguard local heritage and ensuring access to materials, and activities in the Welsh language.

- Making efficient use of resources, recycling materials, and working with MALD and other library services in Wales to develop the All-Wales Library Management system and implement good practice that reduces impact on the environment.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

The draft strategy reflects learning gained from the Customer Satisfaction Survey undertaken by the service in 2019 and informal feedback from customers and partners provided to library staff that is fed back through the branch librarians during management and branch meetings that review our services.

Feedback on the draft strategy and action plan has been provided by the Community Development team and the Arts Service that are closely involved in developments related to community hubs and expansion of the cultural offer within libraries.

5. PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION BY A COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL:

The Library Strategy and Action Plan 2022/23 was pre-scrutinised at the Public Service Delivery, Community and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee meeting held on [17th February 2022](#).

6. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

None

7. DISPENSATION TO SPEAK (AS GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE):

N/A

8. (a) IS THE DECISION SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

Yes

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 clear working days after its publication to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

The closing date for Call-In is 5pm on the 24 March 2022

8.(b) IF NO, REASONS WHY IN THE OPINION OF THE DECISION-MAKER THE DECISION IS EXEMPT OR NON APPLICABLE:

I. COUNCIL / SCRUTINY FUNCTION (CALL IN IS THEREFORE NON APPLICABLE):-
Reason: N/A

II. URGENT DECISION:-
Reason N/A

8.(c) IF DEEMED URGENT - SIGNATURE OF PRESIDING OFFICER OR DEPUTY PRESIDING OFFICER OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE CONFIRMING AGREEMENT THAT THE PROPOSED DECISION IS REASONABLE IN ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IT BEING TREATED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 17.2:

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(PRESIDING OFFICER)

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(Dated)

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PUBLICATION

Publication on the Councils Website:- **Monday, 21 March 2022**

APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION: ✓