

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.  
PORTFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION  
BY**

**CLLR GRAHAM BROWN (PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PROCUREMENT AND  
COMMISSIONING)**

**Sept 2016**

**REPORT AUTHOR: Kay Thomas, Principal Librarian**

**SUBJECT: Powys Library Service Annual Return 2015/16  
Welsh Public Library Standards: 5<sup>th</sup> Performance  
Framework, 2014 - 2017**

---

**REPORT FOR: Approval**

---

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to give consideration to the Annual Return (see Appendix A) to the Welsh Government on the Library Service, for the year 2015-16, as required under the Welsh Public Library Standards (5<sup>th</sup> Framework).
- 1.2. The Welsh Government has a supervisory and monitoring role in relation to the 22 Library Authorities in Wales.
- 1.3. Welsh Public Library Standards (WPLS) were first developed in 2002. The period 2014 -2017 is covered by a fifth performance framework. Under this framework, the Authority's performance will be measured annually against a revised set of Standards and a range of key Performance Indicators.
- 1.4. The Standards are intended to help define the responsibilities of library authorities in providing a "comprehensive and efficient" service under the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964. The performance framework aims to:
  - Safeguard the improvements achieved since 2002
  - Protect library services from disproportionate resource reductions
  - Reflect the ways in which libraries can make significant contributions to the delivery of key national policy agendas
  - Provide a suitable tool to support the management of services, and to ensure that services are delivered efficiently

## **2. Proposal**

- 2.1. It is proposed that the Annual Return on the Library Service 2015-16 is submitted to the Welsh Government as required under the Welsh Public Library Standards.

### **3. One Powys Plan:**

3.1. During the year of the report, Powys Library Service contributed to the achievement of the One Powys Plan vision, values and priorities; in particular:

- We will work together to meet the needs of Powys citizens, delivering high performance and value for our communities, providing our residents with accessibility to services, in an atmosphere of openness, respect, learning and trust.
- Older people are supported to lead fulfilled lives within their communities
- Carers have a good sense of wellbeing, through access to social and leisure opportunities
- Providing a boost to mental and emotional wellbeing
- Addressing child poverty
- Powys citizens will be supported and empowered to lead active and healthier lives
- Supporting children and young people to achieve their full potential
- Stronger communities – bringing people together in Powys, so they feel that they matter, belong and can contribute to their community.
- Enabling joined up services for Powys citizens through public and third sector partnerships

### **4. Options Considered / Available**

4.1. The Authority is obliged to comply with the reporting requirements of the performance framework and of the Welsh Public Library Standards.

### **5. Preferred Choice and Reasons**

5.1. To aid compliance with the Welsh Public Library Standards.

### **6. Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)**

6.1 Finance - There are no financial implications as far as this report is concerned.

6.2 The Professional Lead – Legal has no comment to make on the recommendation in this report save to confirm that the legal services will assist in any legal matters when and where required

### **7. Statutory Officers**

7.1 The Strategic Director Resources (Section 151 Officer) notes the comments made by finance.

7.2 The Deputy Monitoring Officer notes the legal comment and has nothing further to add.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Recommendation:</b>   | <b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>  |
| That the Annual Return on the Library Service 2015-16 submitted in the appendices to this Report, be approved for submission to the Welsh Government | To aid compliance with the requirements of the Welsh Public Library Standards. |

|                               |   |                       |   |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b> |   |                       |   |
| <b>Within Policy:</b>         | Y | <b>Within Budget:</b> | Y |

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b> | n/a |
|----------------------------------|-----|

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>         | Kay Thomas, Principal Librarian |
| <b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b> |                                 |

|                              |              |              |                         |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Contact Officer Name:</b> | <b>Tel:</b>  | <b>Fax:</b>  | <b>Email:</b>           |
| Kay Thomas                   | 01597 826864 | 01597 826872 | kay.thomas@powys.gov.uk |

**Background Papers used to prepare Report:**

**Appendix A – annual return on Powys Library Service 2015/16 [Powys Library Service return WPLS Reporting Template 2015-16 en.xls](#)**

**Appendix B – case studies 2015/16 [Case studies 20152016 Powys Library Service.docx](#)**

**Appendix C – contribution to Welsh Government priorities [Narrative supporting WG priorities, Powys Library Service.docx](#)**

**Appendix D – future direction statement [Future direction statement, Powys Library Service June 2016.docx](#)**

**Appendix E – “Libraries making a difference; the 5<sup>th</sup> framework of Welsh Public Library Standards 2014-17 [..\14-15\Framework 5 final Oct 2014\Libraries making a difference 5th quality framework 2014 2017.pdf](#)**