

# Impact Assessment

## Budget reductions - Library Service 2022/23



12/01/2022

Reference: 7521-8062-3680-3010

Impact Assessments (IA) are a process of assessing how our proposals and decisions might impact upon different types of people and communities and developing proposals in line with relevant legislation.

**This is a legal requirement, and ensures the Council considers key legislation, including Equalities, Welsh language, Future Generations, Socio-economic Duty and Risk when developing proposals.**

**It will also help the Council make the best possible decisions for the people of Powys.**

# 1. Proposal Information

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Author name</b>             | Catherine Richards, Professional Lead - Arts and Culture   |
| <b>Head of service</b>         | Nina Davies, Head of Housing and Community Development   |
| <b>Portfolio holder</b>        | Rachel Powell, portfolio holder for Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People and Culture and Leisure |
| <b>Proposal title</b>          | Budget reductions - Library Service 2022/23  |
| <b>Description of proposal</b> | Reduce Library Budget by £5000 in 2022/23  |

## 2. Savings and Consultation requirements

### Profile of savings delivery

| 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026+ | Total savings |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------------|
| £0      | £5,000  | £0      | £0      | £0      | £0    | £5,000        |

### Further information

It is proposed that £5000 will be removed from the Library Service book fund

### Consultation requirements

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Consultation required?</b> | No  |
| <b>Justification</b>          | Consultation is not required as the proposed saving does not have a direct impact on service delivery |

## 3. Impact on other service areas, geographical areas and data protection

### 3a. Impact on other service areas

### 3b. Impact on geographical locations

The entire county

### 3c. Data protection impact assessment

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Will the proposal involve processing the personal details of individuals? | No |
| Is Powys County Council the data controller?                              | No |
| Further information   |    |

## 4. Impact on Vision 2025

### 4a. The economy

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 4b. Health and care

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 4c. Learning and skills

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Impact        | <p>The library service supports learners of all ages and abilities through provision of quality resources and help with accessing and using those resources, including independent study space, and providing a location for 1-1 tuition and courses. 76% of respondents in the adult library user survey said that the library has helped them to learn something new, and 48% said it helps them with education.</p> <p>The reduction in budget to purchase new book stock will have a small negative impact in terms of the provision of, and access to, a range of literature.</p> |
| Impact rating | Poor   |

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>              | <p>Carefully consider new stock selection to ensure a good range of books for all customers.</p> <p>“Access to Research” is an online service available through public library computers only, providing access to a huge UK collection of academic articles and papers (the terms of the agreement means that it is not available remotely via the library web pages). This is heavily used by researchers in Powys – usage statistics show that Powys was 5th in May and 3rd in June 2016, for usage, across the whole of the UK. Ancestry.com and FindmyPast local and family history online resources are similarly only freely available from library computers.</p> <p>Volunteer opportunities allow people to learn, practice and share skills locally in their community.</p> <p>Staff and volunteers provide sessions such as 1-1 computer support, coding, family learning through storytimes, lego clubs, homework support etc.</p> <p>Literacy is developed for all ages e.g., through rhythm and rhyme and storytimes to book clubs and poetry groups and reading aloud for adults sessions.</p> |
| <p><b>Mitigated impact rating</b></p> | <p>Neutral</p>  |

#### 4d. Residents and communities

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| <p><b>Impact</b></p> | <p>None</p> |
|----------------------|-------------|

#### 4e. Evidence

|   |
|---|
| <p>Adult library user survey data, Oct 2018<br/> Results of public and staff consultation, Feb – April 2019<br/> List of services provided by branch libraries<br/> Library management system membership and usage data<br/> “Connected and ambitions libraries” Welsh Public Library Standards framework 6, 2017 – 2020<br/> Libraries – bridging the digital divide. Libraries Wales 2016<br/> Analysis of library membership postcodes<br/> Analysis of library usage by road zones 2013</p> |
|---|

### 5. Impact on well-being goals including Welsh language and equalities

#### 5a. A prosperous Wales

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 5b. A resilient Wales

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 5c. A healthier Wales

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 5d. A Wales of cohesive communities

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 5e. A globally responsible Wales

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 5f. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

#### Using Welsh

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

#### Promoting Welsh

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

#### Sports, Art & Recreation

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

### 5g. A more equal Wales

#### Age

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

#### Disability

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Gender Reassignment

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Marriage or Civil Partnership

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Race

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Religion or Belief

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Sex

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Sexual Orientation

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Pregnancy and Maternity

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

### Socio-economic Duty

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

## 5h. Evidence

Adult library user survey data, Oct 18 data.  
 Children and young people library user survey Nov 2019  
 Mobile library user survey data Oct 2018  
 Results of public consultation, 2019  
 List of services provided by branch libraries  
 “Connected and Ambitious Libraries” Welsh Public Library Standards framework 6 2017-2020  
 Libraries – bridging the digital divide. Libraries Wales 2016  
 Impact of public libraries on the lives of older people. Society of Chief Librarians (Wales) 2014  
 Welsh Public Library Standards annual returns and reports

## 6. Impact on key guiding principles & workforce

### 6a. Sustainable development principles

#### Long-term

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Impact</b>                  | The current library book fund is already below that expected by Welsh Government. In Powys' Welsh Public Library Standard Annual Assessment Report 2019/20 it was noted that: proportionally expenditure on materials is still very low, but does not appear to have affected Powys' delivery of effective services, as evidenced by a variety of groups and activities for individuals across Powys. The materials budget has broadly been maintained since 2018/19 and the proportion of the budget spent on materials remains below the median in Wales. The acquisitions targets continue to be unmet in line with seventeen other services in Wales. Investment in Welsh language resources has reduced since 2018/19, but remains 16% above the total expenditure in 2017/18 and the target is met. |
| <b>Impact rating</b>           | Poor  |
| <b>Mitigation</b>              | Carefully consider new stock selection to ensure a good range of books for all customers. Continue to support and encourage users to access reading and research materials digitally.   |
| <b>Mitigated impact rating</b> | Neutral   |

#### Collaboration

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

#### Involvement (including Communication and Engagement)

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>Impact</b> | None |
|---------------|------|

## Prevention

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

## Integration

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

## 6b. Impact on the workforce

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

## 6c. Impact on payroll

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

## 6d. Welsh language impact on staff

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

## 6e. Impact on apprenticeships

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Impact | None |
|--------|------|

## 6f. Evidence

Adult library user survey data, Oct 18 data.  
Children and Young People's survey Nov 2019  
Results of public and staff consultation, 2019  
List of services provided by branch libraries  
"Connected and Ambitious Libraries" Welsh Public Library Standards framework 6 2017-2020  
Libraries – bridging the digital divide. Libraries Wales 2016  
Impact of public libraries on the lives of older people. Society of Chief Librarians (Wales) 2014  
Trent staff data (Corporate Insight Centre)  
Welsh Public Library Standards return 18/19

## 7. Likelihood and risks

### Risk 1

|                                  |   |                              |   |                             |     |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----|
| <b>Description</b>               | Possible action by Welsh Government in line with Welsh Public Library Standards. Powys expenditure on books will reduce and remain below the median in Wales. Acquisitions targets continue to be unmet.                        |                              |   |                             |     |
| <b>Likelihood score</b>          | 2   | <b>Impact score</b>          | 2 | <b>Risk rating</b>          | 4.0 |
| <b>Mitigation</b>                | The service will carefully consider new stock selections to ensure a good range of books for all customers. Officers will liaise with Welsh Government to access the impact on the Powys Welsh Public Library Standards return. |                              |   |                             |     |
| <b>Residual likelihood score</b> | 1   | <b>Residual impact score</b> | 2 | <b>Residual risk rating</b> | 2.0 |

## 8. Overall summary and judgement

### Outline assessment

The proposed £5000 reduction in the book budget will have a minor negative impact due to the decrease in number and range of books able to be purchased for the Powys libraries stock. Careful consideration will be given to new stock selections to ensure a good range of books for all customers. The service will also continue to encourage and support users to access information digitally as appropriate.

**Cabinet reference**

## 9. Additional evidence

## 10. Ongoing monitoring arrangements and governance

### Monitoring arrangements

Decision will be monitored and due attention paid to comments from Welsh Government following future Public Library Standards returns.

**Review date**

31/12/2022

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