

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THIS DECISION EXPIRES AT 5.00PM ON TUESDAY,
19 JULY 2011. THE DECISION CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED UNTIL AFTER
THAT DATE.**

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS AT COUNTY
HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT ON TUESDAY, 12 JULY 2011

Present: Cllr Barry Abraham - Cabinet Member for Fire, Culture and Resident's Services

Jonathan Baker – Democratic Services Officer

Item	Extending The Support To Community Libraries
Decision reference	25/11
Notice of Decision Published	Thursday, 30 June 2011
Decision taken	Option A - To continue to fund the libraries in Bembridge, Brighstone, East Cowes, Niton and Shanklin as in 1 March decision, until 31 July 2011. Further Member decisions, complete with the relevant full Equality Impact Assessments (EIA's), will be taken at the end of July, and again at the end of September 2011, to introduce the new community libraries formally as negotiations reach a successful conclusion.
Reasons for decision	<p>To underpin the new Eco Island theme of a Skilled and Sustainable Island because it supports the development of new skills bases in the community libraries, and provides additional time for those three skills to be developed in a safe and supportive environment.</p> <p>To contribute towards the new Eco Island theme of Inclusive Island, because it sees the Council supporting community groups to succeed in developing their own library services.</p>
Additional reasons	To deliver budget savings, through changed service provision, because it will result in the Isle of Wight Council managing its resources and minimising its financial risks.
Options considered and rejected	<p>Option B - To cease to fund the libraries listed in Option A, but replaces them with a mobile library service from 1 July 2011;</p> <p>Option C - To continue to fund the libraries listed in Option A, but for only half a day each week until 31 July 2011.</p> <p>Option D - To cease to fund the libraries listed in Option A, due to a lack of significant progress in negotiations with community groups, and the library sites close on 31 July 2011. This option does not make provision for a substitute mobile service in each of the areas.</p>
Representations Received	A letter of representation from Solicitors, Leigh Day and Co acting for a Serena Brunke was received by the councils legal services and placed before the Cabinet Member advising that an urgent injunction was being sought from the court, and inviting the Council not to dissociate itself of

	<p>ownership or control of the library premises and agree to procedures being delayed, pending the outcome of proceedings challenging library closures in the London Borough of Brent and which were listed for a rolled up hearing in the High Court on 19 July 2011. There was a further proposal requesting that the Council agrees with the speedy conclusion of the proceedings prior to the end of September 2011.</p> <p>The Council have responded to the letter advising that it would be opposing the applications being made to the court and that it is satisfied that it will continue to meet its statutory duty in the provision of a library service. It also advised that it has consulted and taken decisions appropriately, taking into account relevant communications</p>
Declarations of interest	None
Additional advice received	None declared