

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

29TH MARCH 2021, AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors C.A. Hotham (Chairman), J. Till (Vice-Chairman), S. J. Baxter, A. J. B. Beaumont, S. R. Colella, R. J. Deeming, R. J. Hunter, A. D. Kriss, P. M. McDonald, C. J. Spencer and M. Thompson

Observers: Councillors K. May, G. Denaro, M. Sherrey and P. Thomas.

Officers: Mr K. Dicks, Ms D. Poole, Mrs B. Talbot, Mr M. Bough, Mrs J. Gresham and Ms K. Somers.

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IMPACT OF LIBRARIES REVIEW TASK GROUP - FINAL REPORT

Councillor S. Colella introduced the Impact of Libraries Review Task Group Final Report for Members' consideration. He thanked Members and Officers from Bromsgrove District Council and Worcestershire County Council for their involvement in the Task Group during such a difficult period and was pleased with the recommendations that had been proposed as a result of the investigation. He highlighted in particular that the Cabinet Member for Communities at Worcestershire County Council, Councillor L. Hodgson, had thanked members for scrutinising the Library Strategy and that Bromsgrove had been the only Council in Worcestershire to do so.

After the discussion, the Chairman extended his best wishes on behalf of the Board to Councillor L. Hodgson who had recently been unwell.

Councillor K. May was invited to comment on the report in her capacity of Portfolio Holder for Strategic Partnerships. She informed the Board that much like the Wigan Deal, which had been considered as part of the investigation, Members were looking at a similar asset-based approach to library services going forward and that Members would be provided further information on this in due course.

Councillor P. Thomas, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Cultural Services and Community Safety commented that Libraries were a very, useful resource within the District and thanked Members and Officers for a comprehensive report.

RECOMMENDED that the report and recommendations detailed within it be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 2nd June 2021.

Overview and Scrutiny Board
29th March 2021

The meeting closed at 7.54 p.m.
Chairman