

## Notification of Call-in

<b>Decision title and reference number</b>  Future Library Services Strategy 2019-2024 - FP/461/06/19	
<b>Cabinet Member responsible</b> Cllr Susan Barker	<b>Date decision published</b> 23 July 2019
<b>Last day of call in period</b>  26 June 2019	<b>Last day of 10-day period to resolve the call-in</b>  8 August 2019

**Reasons for Making the Call in**

The strategy document approved by Cabinet and the responses to questions at Cabinet:

- Failed to give assurances about delivery /reservation/courier service
- Failed to assure how suitability of volunteers will be achieved
- Failed to provide a development scheme for the professional development of permanent staff/library assistants
- Failed to address the need to have at least one permanent member of staff during opening times at all service points
- Failed to give assurance that all stock on catalogue/all loans reckoned for public lending right, will be available at all service points
- Failed to explain how the wish to sell certain existing buildings squares with the impossibility of volunteer libraries having the funds to acquire suitable premises.
- Failed to give clarity regarding the criteria for revisiting the strategy in the event of "continuing decline"
- Failed to give assurances regarding equivalent shelf and floor space in the event of a move to other premises
- Failed to give assurances on ECC funding assistance in years 4/5
- Failed to explain if community groups would receive a discounted purchase price or rental cost if taking over an ECC property
- Failed to give clarity around the minimum number of opening hours required to qualify for ECC support
- Failed to acknowledge the flawed consultation process in that the questions were 'loaded' in such a way as to lead a respondent to answer in a way that favoured the ECC strategy
- Failed to explain how possible arrears of maintenance will be met
- Failed to have any safeguards in place to ensure that library services would be continuously maintained by a genuine community operator.
- Disguised the intention to close and only partially re-provide Loughton Library under guise of "Land for Housing Development, Epping Forest "
- Misled the public and Members as to the true meaning of keeping a library "open" by quoting Ramsey Community Library, which in fact is only open on one day a week for two hours only.

**Signed: Mike Mackrory, Chris Pond,  
Julie Young**

**Dated:**  
25<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**For completion by the Governance  
Officer**

**Date call in Notice Received**  
25/07/19

**Date of informal meeting**  
N/A

**Date of Audit and General Scrutiny  
Committee Meeting (if applicable)**  
08/08/19

**Date call in withdrawn / resolved**