

Action from Education, Children’s and Leisure Services Committee on 20 February 2024

Agenda Item No:	13
Report Title	Education Resources and Communities Revenue Budget Monitoring to 31 December 2023
Responsible Officer:	Andy Hall, Programme Manager (Learning Estate) Kim Slater, Sport and Culture Service Manager

Information Sought:	Response:
<p>Councillor Warren asked about the disruption to the mobile library service and queried the budget implications.</p>	<p>At the Committee meeting Andy Hall (Acting Head of Service, ERC) advised that alternative provision was proposed, however, he agreed to provide more details in a written response following a review with the respective Service Manager.</p> <p>The Mobile Library was declared lifex in mid February following a failure to start and the non-functioning gearbox. A large transit van was on hire for 5 weeks to continue the current timetabled stops (offering a reduced service as not same volume of books to select from). The last intended circular was planned for last week (15 Mar 24)</p> <p>The Library’s team had already been tasked to identify new community locations for a new delivery model (as well as a housebound delivery service). The ongoing wider strategic decisions on the library service will likely impact this new model so the Team are ensuring a degree of flexibility.</p> <p>Delivery timescales for the new model delivery have slipped due to resource issues, absence etc within the team (both at the planning and operational level). The team has planned initial engagement before the end of March (with previous users of service) and services are anticipated to start through a phased approach from mid to late April into May.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial priority - Likely utilisation of staff to provide an initial run of deliveries for existing housebound mobile users in April. - Community Pop Ups - Mailshot to community councils promoting new service

	<p>and engaging them to identify suitable locations in key areas across Moray. Likely to focus on areas of Moray with high concentration of prior mobile library users, exclusions for housebound and proximity to a physical libraries. EG target Findhorn, Rothes etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Email to community councils by end of March to identify core set of locations and establish/promote service likely to be end of April/May. - Home Delivery – Engagement with existing mobile library customers to identify those eligible for home delivery service. (Exclusions will likely apply for those who can use a physical library due to transport or proximity) - Engagement with existing volunteers to ask them to take on new role in providing this service. Promote service and volunteering opportunities more widely once the initial set up has been established. - Care Homes – to be contacted to offer a service, homes can elect to receive book deliveries, or receive a complimentary outreach/engagement activity. - Schools – as care homes – offer to be developed and then schools to be engaged with. Schools likely to be offered a menu of a core set of services we could offer. (Reading/Digital/How to use the library etc.) <p>Once at a stage where there is confirmed timetable/provision in place the focus will be on significant promotion on this new model.</p>
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