

SPORTS, LIBRARIES AND CULTURE POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

MEETING, 11TH DECEMBER, 2012

Present – Councillors S. Harkin (Chairman), Peacock (Vice-Chairman), J. Byrne, Cox, Dean (as deputy for Councillor Mrs. Fairclough), Evans, Hayes and Kellett.

Also in Attendance

Mr. J. Rowlands	-	Assistant Director Customer Services
Ms. J. Spencer	-	Head of Service
Mrs. V. Ridge	-	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs. Fairclough.

Councillor S Harkin in the Chair

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Policy Development Group held on 5th September, 2012 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

3. SIX MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE NEW LIBRARY NETWORK

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which reviewed the performance of Bolton's Public Library Service over the previous six months, April to September, 2012, since the implementation of the recent Library Network Review.

Information was provided in relation to the following areas, viz:-

- Additional opening at the Central Library and Museum;
- Services to Schools, Children and Young People;
- Library Link;
- Requests received for books not currently held at their local library;
- Use of technology;
- Digital services;
- The Ask Bolton Libraries service;
- Neighbourhood Book Collections;
- The new network – six monthly performance data;
- Decommissioning;
- The priorities and next steps for the network over the next six months;
- and

- The financial implications.

A discussion ensued with the regard to the information provided and the following observations were made:-

- The impact, if any, on the increase of academies within the Borough
- An analysis as to whether the correct libraries had been closed; and
- The impact of information technology and how this could be addressed.

It was agreed that the report be noted including the priority actions list.

(The meeting started at 5.00 p.m. and finished at 5.50 p.m.)