

To: Members of the Cabinet

Date: 11 January 2010

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

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Dear Councillor

CABINET - THURSDAY 14TH JANUARY, 2010

I refer to the agenda for the above meeting and now enclose the following document which was unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No.

Item

4.

Southport Cultural Centre - Temporary Library Service

In accordance with Paragraph 2.5 (ii) of the Cabinet Procedure Rules, Councillor Tattersall (as a Cabinet Member) will report on the attached resolution passed by the Southport Area Committee at its meeting held on 6 January 2010 with regard to a petition to be presented by a local resident requesting the provision of a temporary Southport town centre library during the work on the Southport Cultural Centre.

The Cabinet will be aware that the provision of a Temporary Library Service was considered at the last Cabinet meeting held on 17 December 2009 (Minute No 236) and it was resolved that Minute No.29 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) held on 9 December 2009 be noted at this stage; namely:

That the Cabinet be advised that this Committee considers:

- (1) that the timetable and funding for the refurbishment of the Southport Cultural Centre should not be jeopardised in any way; and
- (2) that Party Groups should be invited to include financial proposals for a temporary Southport town centre library in their budgets at the appropriate time, should they wish to do so.

Yours sincerely,

C J Elwood

Legal Director

CABINET – 14 JANUARY 2010

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SOUTHPORT AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 JANUARY 2010

113. OPEN FORUM

During the Open Forum the following questions/comments/petitions were submitted:

(g) Mrs. P. McNeish submitted a petition signed by 30 Southport residents seeking the provision of a temporary Town Centre library in the Southport Market Hall. The terms of the petition were as follows:-

- “We, the undersigned, believe that Southport cannot do without a Town Centre Library.
- We call on Sefton Council to locate a temporary Library in the vacant space at the rear of the Southport Market Hall.
- This would benefit library users and also market traders, due to the extra 150,000 to 300,000 visits a year to Southport’s “Library within a Market”.”

Motion by Councillor Hands, seconded by Councillor McGuire and resolved:

That this Southport Area Committee supports the terms of the 7000+ strong petition, and:

1. agrees that Southport cannot do without a Town Centre Library;
2. supports the call for the Council to locate a temporary Library in the vacant space at the rear of the Southport Market Hall;
3. agrees with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 9 December that “the timetable and funding for the refurbishment of the Southport Cultural Centre should not be jeopardised in any way”;
4. notes that, should the use of the Market Hall not be possible, 2 alternative Town Centre locations have recently been advised to officers;
5. notes that there will be savings in premises-related costs arising from the closure of the present Town Centre Library during the period of the redevelopment of the Southport Cultural Centre which would be of the order of £150,000, and that such savings could be used to cover most or all of the costs of a temporary Library located as in 2. or 3. above;

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- 6. calls on the Cabinet to reverse its previous decision not to provide a temporary Town Centre Library for Southport residents.**

(In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules:

- (i) the following Councillors requested that their vote in support of the above resolution be recorded, namely;

Councillors Booth, Brodie-Browne, Dodd, Lord, Fearn, Hands, McGuire, Preston, B. Rimmer, D. Rimmer, Sumner, Tattersall and Weavers; and

- (ii) the following Councillor requested that his vote against the above resolutions be recorded, namely:

Councillor Byrom)