ANGUS COUNCIL CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE 24 FEBRUARY 2015

Service Review – Education Resource Service

Background

A service review was established in April 2014 to plan how to manage agreed savings of £102,000 in 2015/2016 to the Education Resources Service (ERS) (Angus Council Revenue Budget 84/14, reference PSL-S-6 (EDS). The ERS provides a resource lending service to Angus schools and advises on the establishment of school libraries. This review concluded in September and made a number of recommendations. These were considered in conjunction with Communities colleagues who are in the process of redesigning library and access services to Angus' communities. In light of this, we have decided to undertake a comprehensive review of our children and young people's library services to include the role and remit of secondary school librarians alongside the functions currently provided by the ERS.

Outcome

The design of one integrated Library service will be explored. This service would incorporate various strategic strands, one of which would be services for children and young people. It is also highly likely that the delivery of library services would be incorporated as part of an alternative delivery model for culture and leisure services (Angus Council report 506/14), if the Council progresses this. The proposal is therefore to develop a model of a children and young people's library service that redesigns some of the functions currently delivered by the ERS and secondary school librarians and library assistants. A part budget saving of the ERS will be made in 2015/2016 whilst this work is underway, the remaining budget efficiency will be addressed by an underspend in an associated budget in order to allow the required service modelling to take place. The Communities Service Manager for Libraries will be fully involved in this work which will be led by a Service Manager, Schools and Learning. The full budget efficiency of £82,000 will be made as part of integrating schools' library services.

Contact for further information: Pauline Stephen, Head of Schools and Learning Email: PEOPLE@angus.gov.uk