

**Report for:** Culture, Community Safety and Environment Scrutiny Panel

**Title:** Engagement and consultation process to develop the library strategy

**Report**

**authorised by:** Jess Crowe – Corporate Director for Culture Strategy and Communities

**Lead Officer:** Kenneth Tharp - Director of Culture and Communities

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/** N/A

**Non Key Decision:**

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 The presentation provided sets out the engagement and consultation process to develop the Library Strategy for 2026- 2030 and the next steps.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Panel note and comment on the engagement and consultation carried out on the Library Strategy process
- 2.2 That the Panel consider and comment on the Vision and Priorities of the Draft Library Strategy included at slide 13 and on the Draft Library Strategy attached at Appendix 2 that went to public consultation from Sept -Nov 2025. To note an updated version of this Strategy will go forward to Cabinet in January 2026.

**3. Background information**

- 3.1 The Library strategy is due to be considered at Cabinet in January 2026 and the Scrutiny Panel are discussing and considering the engagement and process on the strategy in line with actions agreed at the previous Overview and Scrutiny Call in meeting that considered the Cabinet report and the call in on the changes to Library opening hours on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.
- 3.2 They are also asked to consider and comment on the Vision and Priorities of the Draft Library Strategy included at slide 13 and on the Draft Library Strategy attached at Appendix 2 that went to public consultation from Sept -Nov 2025.

**Statutory Officers comments**

- 4.1 N/A

**4. Use of appendices**

- Library Strategy (presentation)

- Draft Library Strategy - (September to November version)