

Buckinghamshire Mobile Library Service Consultation 2017

Introduction

The County Council's budget has been steadily reducing in recent years, and there is now much less money available to us for funding all of the services that we have previously provided to our residents.

The library service has generated savings of £2,350,000 over the last eight years and this represents a reduction to our budget of approximately 40%. We have saved money through a combination of measures including management and staffing reviews, reducing back-room costs, making systems and processes more streamlined and the introduction of community libraries.

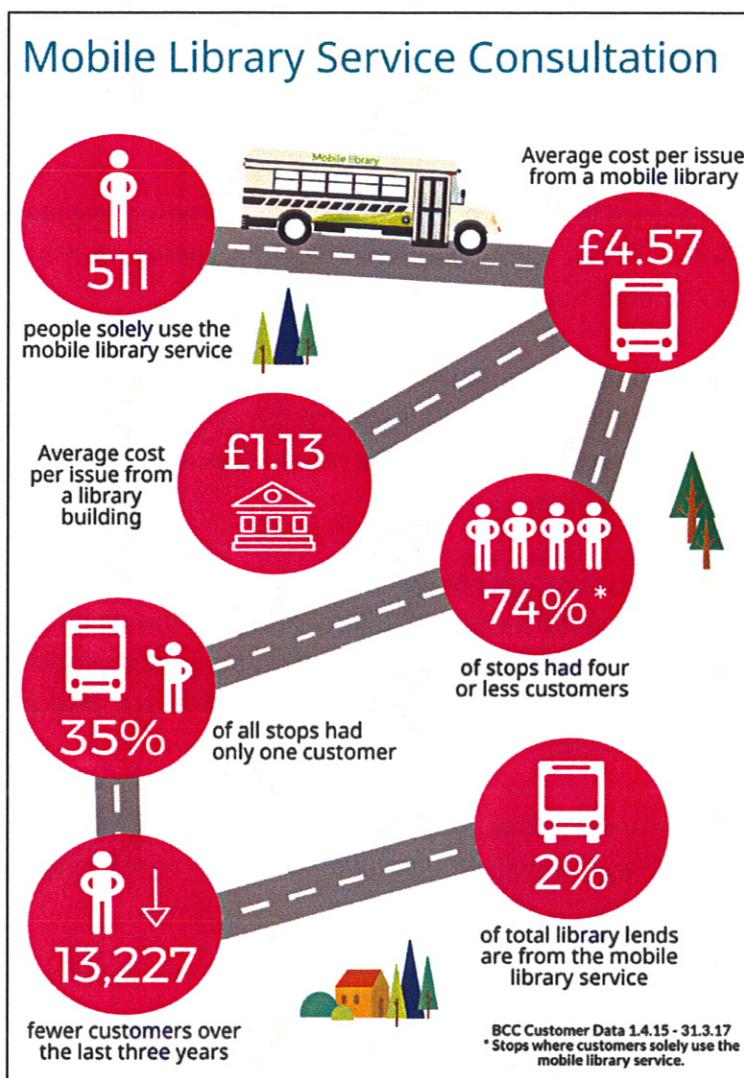
The library service still has a challenging savings target, with over £500,000 needed to be saved over the next two years, and so we need to continue to look critically and creatively at every aspect of the service we provide.

When we reviewed mobile library usage over the last two years we looked at the number of customers using our library services. We found that 511 customers solely use mobile libraries and do not visit a library building. We also found that at one third of the service stops made by our mobile library vehicles there was only one mobile customer using the service. The cost of running the mobile service is also high and increasing, with the average cost per item issued at a mobile library being substantially higher than items issued at library buildings.

We are proposing that from May 2018 the current mobile library service is discontinued. However, we are committed to ensuring that all of our mobile library customers will still be able to access library services and so we are proposing to put in place alternative community-based options.

Why are we consulting?

We would like to know what you think of our proposals for discontinuing the current mobile library vehicle service and for your views on alternative options that we could develop. Under our proposals, mobile library customers could be served by a range of different options including the



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Q4. Have you borrowed any items from any Buckinghamshire library building during the past 2 years?

Yes ☐ Please indicate which building location(s) below:

No ☐

Amersham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chesham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Little Chalfont	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aylesbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	County Reserve Stock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Long Crendon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aylesbury Study Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	Farnham Common	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marlow	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beacon Villages	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flackwell Heath	<input type="checkbox"/>	Micklefield	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beaconsfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gerrards Cross	<input type="checkbox"/>	Princes Risborough	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bourne End	<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Missenden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stokenchurch	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckingham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Haddenham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wendover	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burnham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazlemere	<input type="checkbox"/>	West Wycombe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Castlefield	<input type="checkbox"/>	High Wycombe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalfont St Giles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Iver Heath	<input type="checkbox"/>	Winslow	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalfont St Peter	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Q5. Have you downloaded any free electronic services - eBooks, eAudiobooks or eMagazines from the library?

Yes ☐

No ☐

**Q6. If you've never downloaded any electronic library services please say why not:
*You can choose as many as you want.***

I didn't know about these ☐

I wouldn't know how to use them ☐

I prefer paper books ☐

I don't have the technology ☐

I'd need help with the technology ☐

Other (please say why) ☐

Buckinghamshire Mobile Library Service Consultation 2017

Do you have any children aged under 16 in your household?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

What is your gender?

- ☐ Female
☐ Male
☐ Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Prefer not to say

Which race/ethnicity best describes you?

- ☐ White/White British
☐ Black/Black British
☐ Asian/Asian British
☐ Mixed race
☐ Prefer not to say
☐ Another race or ethnicity (please specify)

What is your postcode?

Which of the following categories best describes your employment status?

- ☐ Employed, working full-time
☐ Employed, working part-time
☐ Not employed, looking for work
☐ Not employed, not looking for work
☐ Retired from work
☐ Permanently unable to work for health reason
☐ In education or training (including apprenticeships)
☐ Looking after the home
☐ Other
☐ Prefer not to say