



EQUALITY/COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. What is the name of the savings proposal and its current status?
CC110a - Permanent reduction to the book fund of £38,000, leaving a <u>£200,000</u> fund for books and other library resources.
2. Which Service is responsible for this proposal?
Customers and Communities Service
3. Does this proposal impact on other services or other service savings proposals and if so, have you discussed this proposal with the Service Directors from those other services?
This proposals does not impact on other services
4. Please state the name of the officer leading the EIA
5. Who has been involved in undertaking this assessment e.g. list the stakeholder groups which have been involved?
Management within Customer Access, Customers and Communities Service. The assessment will be updated to incorporate any considerations made throughout the consultation period.
6. What is the scope of this assessment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -what is included in this assessment • -does this proposal link to any other proposals (i.e. previous or current). If so, please state
This assessment seeks to set out the impact of the proposal to reduce the book fund. It is not considered that the proposal has an unequal impact on any protected group.
7 a). What does the function currently do?
b). Describe the needs which this service meets?
The book fund is used to buy books and related library resources (CDs, subscriptions, DVDs, talking books etc). The library service has a statutory responsibility to ensure a comprehensive service, which includes ensuring that there are adequate stocks to cover the borough's 17 libraries, housebound and mobile services.
8. What changes do you propose to make?
This proposal seeks to reduce the fund by £38,000, leaving an annual budget from which to buy books and related materials of <u>£200,000</u> from 2013/14. This allows us to replace/refresh approximately 6% of the library stock annually. In order to minimise the impact of this cut, it is proposed to stop lending DVDs and CDs on the basis that this is an expensive service for the library to run, has limited public benefit and alternative, cost effective commercial provision is available. This proposal will not however affect talking book stock which will continue to be bought as before.
9. Who are the key stakeholders who may be affected by the changes proposed?
Library service users will be affected by this proposal as it will mean that they are no longer able to access DVDs and CDs through the library service.
10. What impact will this proposal have on all the protected groups
Race Equality
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group. Books will continue to be made available in the World Books Collection, via the current method of loan collections from Bright Books. This means people from new and emerging communities will not be disproportionately affected.

Disabled People
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group. The procurement of talking books will be unaffected by this proposal.
Carers
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.
Gender
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.
Older and Younger People
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.
People who are Socio-Economically Disadvantaged
There is the potential for there to be a small impact on this group. The library currently charges a small fee for the rental of DVDs and CDs. Although commercial provision is available at roughly the same cost, this often involves a contract of some sort (e.g. signing up to a film download site or postal service for example), which may disadvantage people who cannot afford a regular payment. There are providers (e.g. Blockbuster) that do not have this requirement however, but they may be less accessible to those without transport. Overall, the rental of DVDs and CDs is not considered an essential service, so the overall impact is expected to be low.
Religion or Belief
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.
Sexual Orientation
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.
Gender Reassignment
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.
Pregnant Women or Those on Maternity Leave or Those who have given Birth in the Previous 26 weeks
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.
Marriage or Civil Partnership
There is expected to be no unequal impact on this group.

11. What are the main conclusions arising from this analysis?

At this stage we are not anticipating there to be a significant impact on any protected group. There may be a minor impact on people with less income however alternative provision is available. CDs and DVDs are not considered an essential council service and not having them in place will not present significant disadvantage.

12. What measures do you propose to put in place to mitigate any adverse impacts?

Possible Adverse Impact	Mitigation Measure
Lack of availability of CDs and DVDs	Ensure that all staff in the service are trained to make customers aware of alternative provision and how to access this.

What evidence do you have which demonstrates that these measures will be effective?

The commercial market is very well developed which suggests that it is a sustainable alternative to that provided by the library service. The costs charged by commercial operators are similar to the costs charged by the library service for this provision.

13. Please attach a copy of your consultation action plan.

Please briefly outline below who has been consulted and which consultation methods were used.

Consultation will include:

- Online consultation on the Council's website – www.rochdale.gov.uk
- Awareness raising through the prominent display of A4 posters at each library site, briefly explaining

the proposal, seeking feedback and including the date, time and venue of the nearest consultation meeting

- Availability of full reports at each of the borough's libraries
- Letters to Friends of Library groups, setting out the proposals and offering time with senior management to discuss.
- One consultation event per township, attended by senior management of the service.

14. Please complete the mitigation action plan below.

Mitigation Action Plan

Mitigation Measure	Action	Responsible Officer	End Date	Status
Signposting to alternative provision for CD and DVD loan	Ensure staff are aware of – and signpost to alternative commercial provision		Ongoing	Green

15. Equality impact analysis sign off by the Director of Service, and an Executive Leadership Team (ELT) Representative

Name	Position	Date
		13 th August 2012
		4 September 2012