

A synopsis of the document with [COMMENTS/QUESTIONS from TICKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL in red square bracketed capitals] are shown below:

1. States that Residents value:
 - book lending service
 - Use of community buildings and computers
2. Strategy takes into account that access to:
 - Books
 - digital resources
 - learning materials
 - safe workspace
 - skills development support

is vital. [THIS IS NOT A STRATEGY, MORE A HIGH LEVEL PROPOSAL WITH IDEAS ON THE "WHAT" AND "HOW". WE WOULD EXPECT THE FINAL DOCUMENT TO BE MORE OBJECTIVE ON ITS STRATEGY ON THE "WHAT" WITH MORE DETAILS TOGETHER WITH ESTIMATED COSTINGS.

It needs to be for the next 10 years, but with the strategy divided up on the delivery over this period, say in 2-year periods and the funding required for each period.

3. Libraries can provide assistance to those lacking digital skills to gain access to digitised Council and other services which particularly supports older members of society
4. Our children and young people are the future of the area
5. Need new funding sources to achieve the strategy [NO INDICATION OF THE SOURCES OR EASE OF DELIVERY OF THE NEW SOURCES]
6. Need to consider whether using our library buildings in additional ways can support this and consider whether alternative delivery models are appropriate [NO INFORMATION SUPPLIED]
7. Libraries have made financial savings of £1.4m over the last 10 years. These savings have also created considerable challenges in terms of service resilience and reach
8. Libraries have a vital part to play in delivering the council's vision of an open, fairer, greener North Somerset, contributing across multiple priority areas, including developing healthy, sustainable, thriving places and empowering and caring for people.
9. Will deliver on four 'Universal Library Offers':
 - reading,
 - digital and information
 - culture and creativity
 - health and wellbeing.
10. Library service is growing [NO FACTS OR NUMBERS SUPPLIED]
11. Strategy will address
 - digital exclusion highlighted by the pandemic,
 - providing community-based employment and skills support
 - helping improve health and wellbeing
 - reducing social isolation
 - providing safe, accessible, community spaces
12. Comments that libraries are the heart of communities [FOR TICKENHAM THE CENTRE OF OUR COMMUNITY IS THE VILLAGE HALL AND FIELD]
13. The most common reason given for not using libraries was a poor choice of books.
14. States that residents wanted:
 - provision of books, and:
 - i. community (information, advice, clubs),
 - ii. learning (short courses, lectures, volunteering expertise, adult education, skills and crafts), social aspects (meetings/café)
 - iii. links to other libraries or organisations (NHS, social care, benefits, university libraries and schools).
15. Almost 40% of North Somerset's residents live in rural communities or 'rural town hubs' such as Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea.

16. Weston-super-Mare is already the third largest settlement in the West of England, with significant further expansion planned
17. North Somerset population is projected to grow significantly over the next two decades, to almost 252,000 by 2041, an increase of 40,200 people or 16%. It is also predicted that the population profile in North Somerset in 2041 will include a lower percentage of younger people and higher proportion of less economically active older people.
18. Around 30 different languages are spoken in North Somerset and 5.7% of children do not speak English as their first language. Libraries, and the services and stock that they provide, need to be able to meet the needs of all these people. [EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON EDUCATION TO SPEAK & READ ENGLISH]
19. Pre-pandemic, North Somerset was considered prosperous, with below average unemployment and above average weekly earnings. However, within the district there are big differences, with areas in both the most and least deprived 1% in England [DOES THIS MEAN WE HAVE 1% VERY RICH AND 1% VERY POOR WITHIN NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL? THIS FACT DOES NOT ENHANCE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CURRENT POSITION]
20. Unemployment levels in North Somerset rose by 142% between March and May 2020. Universal Credit claims also rose, from 671 across the BS postcode area in mid-March to a peak of over 9,700 in late March
21. Library staff also supported the local emergency response, demonstrating their wide skill base, forging new community connections and generating new longer-term opportunities for working together. [SO DID 1,000'S OF UNPAID VOLUNTEERS]
22. Pace of Technological change, page 8: ...library access to those unable to attend libraries..... [HOW WILL THIS BE ACHIEVED? PAGE 8 SPECIFIES: "PROVIDE SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITIES – AVOIDING THE NEED FOR RESIDENTS TO TRAVEL UNNECESSARILY TO ACCESS SERVICES". WILL THERE BE A MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE TO ALL OUTLYING COMMUNITIES? SPECIFIES "AIM TO MOVE TO A ZERO-EMISSIONS VEHICLE FLEET BY 2030" SO ASSUME THERE WILL BE A MOBILE SERVICE, BUT IT DOES NOT SAY THIS EXPLICITLY.]
23. [LOOKING AT THE DIAGRAM ON THE 4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGY, IT APPEARS THAT DIGITAL PRESENTATION SKILLS NEED TO BE ENHANCED]
24. Section 6. Next Steps [THE "NEXT STEPS" IS THE "HIGH-LEVEL ACTION PLAN" TOGETHER WITH A COMMUNICATIONS PLAN, BUT THERE ARE NO TIMELINES AND FUNDING IS REQUIRED (THE QUESTION IS HOW MUCH?) TO BE SECURED BEFORE THIS CAN BE TAKEN FORWARD. WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR SECURING THIS FUNDING? MENTION OF SECURING PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT THE STRATEGY WITHIN BUDGET. WHAT TYPE OF PARTNERSHIPS WILL THESE BE? WITH WHAT TYPE OF ORGANISATIONS? WILL THIS BE TO SUPPORT THE TECHNOLOGICAL REQUIREMENT FOR COMPUTER ACCESS AS PART OF THE DIGITAL STRATEGY? SUGGESTIONS ON LIKELY PARTNERSHIPS WOULD AID BETTER UNDERSTANDING ON HOW THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED. WHAT IS A "HIGH-LEVEL ACTION PLAN" OR WILL THERE BE MORE DETAILED ACTION PLANS TO ACHIEVE THE "HOW"? WHO ARE THE "STAKEHOLDERS" WHO WILL BE COMMUNICATED WITH ANNUALLY?]
25. Delivery Digital Information and Skills: [REALLY ANNOYING USE OF ABBREVIATION – STEM, TWICE IN A DOCUMENT THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE COMMUNICATING WITH US. DOES STEM STAND FOR: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS – IF SO, WRITE IT IN FULL – WHY USE THESE MEANINGLESS ABBREVIATIONS WHEN YOU ARE TRYING TO COMMUNICATE WITH US?]
26. Delivering Health and wellbeing: [NOT SURE ABOUT THE ROLES THAT LIBRARIES WILL PLAY IN HEALTH AND WELLBEING – WHAT IS NEEDED ARE BETTER DIETS AND MORE EXERCISE INVOLVING INTERACTION WITH OTHER PEOPLE – HOW CAN LIBRARIES PROVIDE THIS?]
27. Case studies
- Rise and Inspire Group: [WHAT IS A HOME EDUCATED FAMILY?]
 - Code club at Clevedon Library: [GOOD THAT THE KIDS AND ADULTS ARE LEARNING CODING – PRESUMABLY THIS INCLUDES PRODUCTION OF USEFUL PHONE APPS]

[THE GREATEST WEAKNESS IN THIS STRATEGY IS THE LACK OF FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT THE COST OF THE STRATEGY COMPARED WITH CURRENT SPEND - CAN THE STRATEGY BE IMPLEMENTED AND IF SO HOW?]

[WHY IS THE DOCUMENT IN WORD WHEN GENERALLY DOCUMENTS OF THIS NATURE ARE CONVERTED TO ADOBE ACROBAT FORMAT?]

[WHY NO VERSION NUMBER?]

[BEING GIVEN 15 DAYS TO RESPOND IN A PERIOD THAT INCLUDES THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR BREAK IS UNFAIR AND SMACKS OF TICKING THE CONSULTATION BOX AS OPPOSED TO ACTUALLY CONSULTING]