

Subject: Annual Plan 2010/11 Activity Report - Libraries

Prepared by: Pene Walsh

Meeting Date: 5/6 May 2010

Report to COUNCIL for decision

SUMMARY

Three submissions to the draft 2010/11 Annual Plan contained comments relating to the HB Williams Memorial Library activity. Detailed officer responses and recommendations to these submissions are attached. The issues covered by these submissions were grouped into the following areas:

- Library building extension
- Extend hours of opening.

The following overarching issues/themes have emerged from the submissions:

- Support for planned extension to existing Library building 2013/2014 as identified in the Ten Year Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council

1. receives the report
2. approves the officer responses contained in Attachment 1 - HB Williams Memorial Library activity submissions and responses
3. makes no changes to the draft Annual Plan 2010/11 in relation to this activity
4. consult as part of the 2012/22 Ten Year Plan concerning the question of the Library being open on Sundays.

Pene Walsh
Activity Manager

Douglas Birt
Department Manager

1. BACKGROUND

H B Williams Memorial Library building is over 40 years old and has outgrown predicated usage from a pre-technology age. Civic buildings, in particular public libraries have an identified 20 year growth life. In 1967 there were nearly 3000 members, today over half the population are members with many others making use of the library without borrowing materials.

The current building and land, the library park and adjacent Bright Street car park were purchased and donated to residents for the express purpose of a public library by the Williams family in memory of H B Williams. The current site and building design are a fine testament to the original foresight of the planning team and remains the ideal site for future library development.

5000 people visit the library each week making it the most used civic facility on a daily basis in the Gisborne District.

Building expansion has been mooted for 10 years and now lies in 2013/2014 of the Ten Year Plan due to an initial donation toward the project by Stan Green in 2004. A note identifying the project in the Annual Plan has prompted 3 public submissions.

Summary and Response by Issue

For: Annual Plan 2010/11 - LIBRARIES

Issue	Submitter
Libraries	
3	Mackay, Heather Gordon
<p>The library should be extended and opened on Sundays. It is a great resource and should be more accessible. Would be great to go to the library on a wintery Sunday.</p> <p><i>Officer Response: Most NZ public libraries are open on a Sunday. It is a very good idea to suggest seasonal opening and this could work well in Gisborne. The library is not open on a Sunday at present due to budget restraints, as additional hours of opening require salary x 4-6 (with some overtime) and costs associated with building and equipment. Officer Recommendation: That there be no change to the draft Annual Plan.</i></p>	
22	Short, Tania Eruatua
<p>Any efforts to support the library extension and grow the capacity of this outstanding public resource is welcomed.</p> <p><i>Officer Response: We acknowledge your support for the proposed library extension scheduled to begin construction in 2013/14. Officer Recommendation: That there be no change to the draft Annual Plan.</i></p>	
47	Creative Tairawhiti
<p>The HB Williams Memorial library is one of Gisborne's most celebrated cultural facilities. Creative Tairawhiti supports the extension of the library, as it clearly supports our organisational vision of social good for communities. Recently published statistics show that 30% more people have come into the library in the past year of operation showing that the extension is vitally needed.</p> <p><i>Officer Response: We acknowledge your support for the proposed library extension scheduled to begin construction in 2013/14. Officer Recommendation: That there be no change to the draft Annual Plan.</i></p>	