**SAVINGS OPTION 2018/19 – 2020/21 BUDGET PROCESS**

Communities and Service Support

1) **Title of the Proposal**

Review of Alternative Service Delivery and Digital Channels for Visitor Centres

2) **What actions are required** to deliver the saving and what are the key timescales?

The Visitor Centre in the Central Library is a shared desk facility and could be closed relatively quickly. However, Hebden Bridge is in rented premises and so would require a break of the lease. There would need to be consultation with public/staff/Trade Unions and appropriate HR processes. Closures could take place from October 2018.

3) **Why is this savings proposal being put forward**/what is the rationale behind it?

These are discretionary services and there are increasingly alternative ways to provide information using digital technology. There may be opportunities to provide more information on-line or by other services broadening their scope.

**4) a) What are the expected savings?**

2018/19 0

2019/20 50,000

2020/21 50,000

b) Number of staff posts likely to be at risk (in terms of Full Time Equivalents) TBC

**5) Major risks**, impact on service users/partners and the Council’s agreed priorities (Growing the Economy, Reducing Inequalities and Building a Sustainable Future) that have been identified. Included here is any effect this proposal may have on relevant performance measures.

Tourism is an important, and growing, part of the Calderdale economy, contributing around £300m per year. Being able to provide relevant information to current and prospective visitors is an important element to attracting people to the Borough and encouraging them to visit again.

6) How can the effects of any impact identified in 5) be reduced?

It may be possible to provide some of the current functions as part of existing library provision in Halifax but this would require consultation with staff and Trade Unions. In Hebden Bridge, it may be possible to provide basic information from Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Equal opps

Review of Alternative Service Delivery and Digital Channels for Visitor Centres

**Aims/outcomes of Service/Function**

Tourism is an important, and growing, part of the Calderdale

economy, contributing around £300m per year. Being able to provide relevant information to current and prospective visitors is an important element to attracting people to the Borough and encouraging them to visit again.

**Option being proposed**

Closure of Visitor Centres in Halifax and Hebden Bridge (limited info to be available in Central Library and Hebden Bridge Town Hall)

**Saving**

2019/20 £50,000

2020/21 £50,000

**EIA findings**

Service delivery impact

No differential impact identified as closure will have a similar effect on all groups protected by equality legislation

**Employment impact**

There will be a staffing impact. A number of full time equivalent posts could be affected

**Justification** (where no impact) and action(s) to manage/mitigate

**Impact**

A full service and workforce EIA will be undertaken and where service impact is identified actions to manage/mitigate impact will be considered and implemented wherever possible / appropriate.

Where staffing impact is identified, efforts will be made to offer additional support and alternatives such as redeployment and training opportunities as appropriate.

It may be possible to provide some of the current functions as part of existing library provision in Halifax but this would require consultation with staff and Trade Unions. In Hebden Bridge, it may be possible to provide basic information from Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

There may be opportunities to provide more information on-line or by other services broadening their scope.

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<https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/sites/default/files/Cabinet-budget-growth-savings-proposals_2018-19_to_2020-21.pdf>

Feedback form (last page)

<https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/sites/default/files/Cabinet-budget-proposals-for-consultation_2018-19_to_2020-21.pdf>

Feb 7th deadline