

Officer responsible Property Manager	Author Property Projects Officer, Steve McCarroll
Corporate Plan Output: Surplus Property	

The purpose of this report is to seek the views of the Community Board with regard to the future use of the former New Brighton Library in Shaw Avenue and to advise the Property and Projects Committee recommendations for its future use.

BACKGROUND

The former New Brighton Library in Shaw Avenue has been vacated by Library staff with the move to new premises in the Pier Building.

This property was circularised under the Property Decision Making Flow Chart with a comment at the time from the Community Advocate that the building could be suitable for use by community groups.

It is understood that there is some interest in the building from a number of groups and they may have made applications through the annual plan process for funding in the hope of being able to occupy this building.

It is important from a property perspective to consider all possibilities for the building and to this extent some preliminary work has been done to ascertain if there is any outside interest in the premises from a letting perspective. To date the letting of the building has not been actively marketed but I can advise that there has been some genuine interest expressed from private individuals.

The building has a floor area of 343m² and based on the independent rental advice that was received, the annual rental for the premises is likely to be just under \$40,000 per annum.

Under the Property Decision Making Flow Chart we are now at a stage in the process where the Property Unit summarise the registrations of interest and advise on the options with regard to this property.

Under the circularisation process it has become evident that there is no internal interest in the building from other Council Units and the property unit must now consider options for the building.

Shaw Avenue, where the property is located is situated to the northeast of the Brighton Mall some distance from the main retail tenancies of Brighton and at the opposite end of the mall from the recently completed pier building. The profile of the property is such that it would be the Property Unit's intention to market the property from a letting perspective with a number of agents to gain the greatest exposure should it not be retained for community purposes.

SUMMARY

There has been no Council internal interest expressed in this property and it is considered that a marketing programme for letting purposes should be embarked upon with a view to securing an appropriate tenant and possibly in time consider sale of the property.

It is an appropriate time for the Community Board to put forward their views as to their thoughts as to an appropriate use for the property for consideration by the Council.

Recommendation: Either:

1. That the Community Board confirm a community use (if applicable) and provide supporting information.

Or

2. That the Community Board recommend to the Projects and Property Committee that the Property Unit seek a tenant for the New Brighton Library building in Shaw Avenue and negotiate an appropriate leasing arrangement.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the Board recommend Option 1 for Council consideration.