

<b>Officer responsible</b> Libraries Manager	<b>Author</b> Susan Coleman, New Brighton Community Librarian
Corporate Plan Output: 8.2.15 New Brighton Library	

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the new New Brighton Library and the services to be provided from it.

During the past year a great deal has been accomplished to ensure that when the New Brighton Library opens it offers the community a dynamic facility with wide appeal. This update predominantly explains the ‘extras’ which enhance the traditional services and will contribute to making it a unique amenity in Christchurch.

Based on the results of two surveys the library will offer a seven day service year round. In addition the library will be open slightly longer during summer. These hours will be reviewed during the first year of operation.

March to November:

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 6.00pm

Saturday / Sunday 10.00am – 4.00pm

December to February:

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 7.00pm

Saturday / Sunday 10.00am – 4.00pm

Situated on the ground floor of the library is the local history area housing an interesting collection, which includes photographs, books and information folders. A visual display and comfortable seating will entice people to discover the heritage of their local community. It is envisaged that this will become an on-going community project with the development of a World Wide Web site.

The ‘play and display’, located near the children’s area of the library, offers a space for children’s activities, exhibits and community activities. A kitchen is situated next to the play and display for groups who are using this facility. To ensure security of the building a hire charge will apply if the facility is used outside normal library hours, this will cover the cost of a security guard.

Technology will be prominent in the library encompassing a variety of mediums. Listening posts are located at various points around the library and will offer customers a range of music to enjoy while reading, enjoying the view or passing the time of day. Public Internet Terminals and Online Public Access Computers are strategically placed throughout the library to enable ready access to electronic resources. The Media Centre is a computer suite that has been created to provide our customers with a facility that can be used by individuals or groups. The library will be offering tutorials to customers to enable them to utilise the computers effectively. Initially they will be for people with limited or no skills and will be promoted to the local community. Restricted Internet access is a free service, however a charge will apply for e-mail, full Internet access and printing facilities. New Brighton Library will be offering black and white and colour printing options.

“Pipeline” is located on the mezzanine floor and offers an alternative dimension to the library. Since its inclusion in the new library many concepts have been explored and much advice sought. The outcome has been to design this area for young adults and the initial three to six months will be a trial to ensure that the library is providing a facility which is used and enjoyed by the target group. During the trial the library will be conducting informal research to determine whether or not it is appropriate. This area will have a broad theme and provide a range of interactive activities to compliment it. It will include a video area offering a range of sporting videos, a visual display provided by Coast Care, a couple of interactive exhibits and several simulation games.

The book stock will be arranged in an alternative format based on the ‘living room’ concept. Books and other items are arranged under broad subject headings to make them easier to find. Symbols rather than numbers point the way. While the numbers are still there, the traditional system of arrangement – Dewey Decimal classification – is no longer the primary one. Instead you will find material on related subjects in one ‘living room’- much like books are arranged in a bookshop. For example, material on sports, hobbies and crafts are all found in the “Leisure” living room.

The New Brighton Library team is increasing from just under six full time equivalents (FTE) to 16 FTE. This has occurred because of the size of the facility which incorporates two entrances and exits, the increased hours of opening and the extra services being offered. It is envisaged that a member of staff will be rostered to ‘rove’ around the library offering help to customers. The library is expecting to attract some customers who have not previously used library facilities and this will help those who find it difficult to approach staff at desks.

This is an interesting and exciting project that will result in a fabulous facility in the North East of Christchurch. The New Brighton community and the library team are looking forward to the opening of the Pier Terminus Building on Saturday 24 July.

**Chairman’s**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.