

REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 NOVEMBER 2005

REPORT ON: ACCESS TO PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES FOR UNIVERSITY OF ABERTAY STUDENTS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES

REPORT NO: 679-2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Committee of the seamless access arrangements to Dundee City's library service for students of the University of Abertay, Dundee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and the successful partnership working between Dundee City Council's Public Library and Information Service and the University of Abertay, Dundee.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Demand will be contained within existing resources.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This proposal will ensure the most effective and efficient use of resources by creating better access.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This strategy for partnership working increases social inclusion in Dundee by widening access to services for both the citizens of Dundee and the students of the University of Abertay, Dundee.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 Developments in the use of SMARTCARD technology and the partnership between Dundee City Council and the University of Abertay, Dundee, have led to a seamless access path to library services. University of Abertay students can now use their SMARTCARD in the Council's libraries. Previously, students from the University of Abertay were required to produce a matriculation card and library staff would then issue a library card. The SMARTCARD technology now means that students can move seamlessly between University of Abertay and Dundee City Council's library services without being required to produce additional identity or hold more than one card.

6.2 Discussions have been taking place between Abertay University staff and Council staff over the past few months to explore the possibility of members of the City Council's libraries being able to borrow material from the University using their Discovery Card. Preparations are now underway to enable this facility to be introduced early in the New Year.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executives (Finance and Support Services) and the Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) in the preparation of this report.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

Signed: Stewart Murdoch
Director of Leisure and Communities

Date: 11 November 2005