

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Officer Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Nicola Horsey, Assistant Director Community and Regulatory Services
<b>Date:</b>	14 May 2019
<b>Title:</b>	Hampshire Library Service – Changes to opening hours

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### 1. The decision:

1.1 To approve a small reduction in the evening opening hours of five libraries, as listed below:

- Havant Library – Closing at 5.30 p.m. on 4 days per week – no reduction as opening hours will be shifted to bring hours in line with the Meridian Centre.
- Liphook Library – remove late night opening (Friday 5-7 p.m.)
- Leigh Park Library – remove late night opening (Thursday 5-7 p.m.)
- Overton Library – remove late night opening (Thursday 5-7 p.m.)
- Whitchurch Library – remove late night opening (Wednesday 5-7 p.m.)
- Bridgemary Library – remove late night opening (Thursday)

### 2. Reason(s) for the decision:

2.1 Evening opening hours were introduced some years ago in response to a perceived need, to make libraries available to a wider range of customers – particularly those who work full time. However, with the greater availability of digital resources and online access to information, this need is now provided for in other ways.

2.5 The branches selected have particularly low evening visitor numbers.

### 3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. To not reduce the opening hours.

### 4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1 None

**5. Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service:**

5.1 None

**6. Supporting information:**

Equality Impact Assessment attached.

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**20 May 2019**

**(Nicola Horsey, Assistant Director Community and Regulatory Services)**

**On behalf of the Director of Community, Culture and Business Services**