

Stage 2 - Information gathering/consultation

Please give details of data and
research which you will use when
carrying out this assessment:

All 252 Worcestershire School who can purchase access to the Schools Library Service will be contacted and their input and feedback sought.

Staff Consultation will be conducted.

Please give details of any consultation findings you will use when carrying out this assessment:

Chronology and summary of engagement with Stakeholders

November 2017 February 2018 - Initial engagement Outcome of schools engagement:

24 survey responses received from 112 primary and middle schools; 12 subscribers and 12

non-subscribers

92% of non-subscribers have their own school library and/or purchase their own books

Subscribers value project boxes (67%), mobile visits (33%) and Book Awards (16%)

No new business leads were generated

No interest was expressed in the free Library Audit Survey response

04 May 2018 Letter to Heads Nick Wilson

Outlining reduction in demand

Fall in SLS Income by 64%

Outcome of recent engagement

Next steps opinions will be sought on proposed closure

May 2018 - Staff Consultation

Staff consulted on a proposal to close Schools Library Service

04 June 2018 Letter to Heads Hannah Needham Invitation to complete online survey regarding proposed closure and options for the future of SLS.

04 June 2018 Member Briefing Hannah Needham

04 June 2018 29 06 2018 - Schools Engagement Survey Full results can be provided if required

13 July 2018 Letter to Heads Hannah Needham Letter detailing summary results of Engagement Survey and next steps.

A total of 242 schools were surveyed and 64 schools responded. Key findings are set out below:

Key impacts highlighted by schools of the closure of SLS:

- Reduced ability to plan curriculum topics
- Insufficient budget to invest in books, particularly multiple copies of texts
- o Greater reliance on digital reading sources
- o Loss of networking opportunities and advice
- Loss of support to maintain and update the LMS systems



Based on your findings, please indicate using the table below whether the policy could have an adverse, neutral or positive impact for any of the protected groups:

Protected characteristic	Adverse	Positive	Neutral
Age	7		
Disability			
Gender reassignment			



we anticipate that the most popular/most requested SLS stock will be available to schools in pre-defined, fixed project boxes and reading/literacy boxes only. Schools will be able to submit requests for these boxes and collect and return them on six days each year at the end of each half term.

No other aspects of Council's wider SLS services will be provided by Red Hill School. There will be no selection and preparation of bespoke project or literacy boxes, no delivery or collection service, no mobile library service, no telephone enquiry service, advisory service, or networking service.

A charge for the service will be made to schools that use the service to ensure that it remains cost-neutral for the hosting school. However, the school will not generate a profit from the book warehouse service and the Head teacher has no plans to invest in or increase services offered to schools. We anticipate that the service will be trialled for an initial 12 month period from the end of the first spring half term 2019, with a view to extending it to June 2023 if it proves to be successful. The service will prioritise stock for 2018/19 SLS subscribing schools.

Do you consider that this policy will contribute to the achievement