

**CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL –
25 JANUARY 2010**

PLYMPTON LIBRARY REPLACEMENT

BRIEFING NOTE –

Background

The temporary library in the Ridgeway opened on 2 February 2009 and has been very successful with increased visitor numbers.

Plans were developed for two options for a replacement library on the former site. Both would be delivered jointly with the PCT through the strategic partnering agreement and both were two storey including library and health facilities. One of the options had reduced health facilities on the first floor but included living accommodation for people with learning disabilities.

Meetings were held with the planning service and resolved issues sufficiently to present the options for public consultation.

Public consultation, Design Panel Review & Planning application

The proposed schemes were subject to public consultation and design panel review during April & May 2009.

As a result of the response from the design panel and overwhelming verdict on the preferred option from the public consultation, the project proceeded with the health and library option and was submitted for planning approval in August 2009 and approval gained in September 2009.

The site investigation and transport assessment are complete.

Scheme finalisation and commencement on site

The scheme is being prepared for tender following which exact costs will be known and final commitment will be gained from all parties to commence works on site.

Depending upon the results of the tender exercise works are expected to commence on site in spring 2010 and open to the public in February 2011.

**Chris Trevitt
Head of Capital & Assets
14th January 2010**