

VC: GR

18 May 2011

Dear Councillor/Sir/Madam

You are invited to attend a **LIBRARY COMMITTEE** Meeting of Ashfield Council, to be held at the Haberfield Library, 78 Dalhousie Street, Haberfield on **TUESDAY 24 MAY 2011** at the conclusion of the Ordinary Council Meeting.

Yours faithfully

VANESSA CHAN
General Manager

SEE ATTACHED AGENDA

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING**
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY**
- 3. APOLOGIES/REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 4. CONDOLENCE AND SYMPATHY MOTIONS**
- 5. MOMENT OF PRIVATE CONTEMPLATION**
- 6. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Disclosures to be made by any Councillors who have a pecuniary / non-pecuniary interest in respect of matters that are before Council at this meeting.
(24/05/2011)

- 7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES**

LIBRARY COMMITTEE - 22/03/2011

- 8. STAFF REPORTS**
 - 8.1 REVIEW OF THE SWIFT STRUCTURE
 - 8.2 SOCIAL MEDIA AT ASHFIELD LIBRARY
 - 8.3 PROGRAM OF EVENTS FOR LIBRARY OPENING

- 9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 10. CLOSE**

ASHFIELD COUNCIL

LIBRARY COMMITTEE - 24 MAY 2011

8 SUMMARY OF STAFF REPORTS

- 8.1 REVIEW OF THE SWIFT STRUCTURE. Frances Riva - Manager Library Services. Report submitted.
(20/04/11)

Library
h:\reports.bp\Committees\Reports\LC240511SR_1.doc
LC 8.1 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

- 1/2 That Ashfield Council provide in principle agreement to the proposal to convert the Swift Library Consortium into a company limited by guarantee.
- 2/2 That council officers provide a further report on the specific detail relating to the formation of a company limited by guarantee before any changes are made to the current Swift structure.

- 8.2 SOCIAL MEDIA AT ASHFIELD LIBRARY. Frances Riva - Manager Library Services. Report submitted.
(04/05/11)

Library
h:\reports.bp\Committees\Reports\LC240511SR_2.doc
LC 8.2 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

- 1/1 That Council support the trial of social networking tools such as Twitter and Facebook for the Library

- 8.3 PROGRAM OF EVENTS FOR LIBRARY OPENING. Frances Riva - Manager Library Services. Report submitted.
(04/05/11)

Library
h:\reports.bp\Committees\Reports\LC240511SR_3.doc
LC 8.3 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

- 1/1 That a finalised program be provided to all councillors with dates and times for all events.

Subject	REVIEW OF THE SWIFT STRUCTURE
File Ref	Library
Prepared by	Frances Riva - Manager Library Services
Reasons	To provide background information on the proposal to change the current structure of the Swift Management Committee
Objective	To provide Council with information on the proposal, how the changes would operate and the reasons for wanting to make these changes

Overview of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide information in support of a proposal to convert the Swift Library Consortium from a project name into a company limited by guarantee.

To assist Council a summary of the history of Swift is provided together with the details of how the company limited by guarantee would operate as well as reasons for wanting to make this change are included.

This report does not set out to provide specific detail on every aspect of creating and managing company limited by guarantee. In some cases more work needs to be undertaken before finalising the details. This report provides general information on how a company limited by guarantee would operate and the reasons for wanting to make changes to the current structure.

Background

The origins of the Swift Project commenced when a group of library organizations, discussed the possibility of jointly seeking bids for an Integrated Library Management System, one that could be managed by a third party for and on behalf of participating libraries. Their existing library management systems were in need of being updated or replaced.

In 2005, with sponsorship from Public Libraries Victoria (PLV), and in turn the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), a Swift Library Consortium (Consortium);

- Steering Committee (later called the Management Committee) was established;
- User Group was established; and
- Project Manager was appointed.

A request for a proposal document was developed and issued to the marketplace on 11 November 2005. The name Swift was used as a project name it was derived from Jonathon Swift, the author of Gulliver Travels.

During the evaluation stage of the Project, eight responses were received from the marketplace, three additional library organizations joined the Consortium and one withdrew.

The nine Library organisations were a good cross representation of libraries in that some were corporations, others were attached to Local Government Councils, some were large, others small, whilst some were from the country and others from metropolitan areas.

SirsiDynix's Integrated Library Management System was chosen by the members of the Consortium as the system most suitable to satisfy their needs. Due to the way in which the Swift Project was managed, the Minister for Local Government granted to all Public Libraries in Victoria that wished to become participants in the Swift Project, an exemption for up to seven years, from needing to tender for a library system.

The first of the initial 9 libraries was converted in March 2007 with the last in June 2007, all within budget and on time. Since then, a further 7 Victorian public libraries have been converted. In addition, 6 public libraries from NSW have become members of the Consortium, making a total of 22 Swift member libraries.

Discussions are continuing with a variety of libraries about them becoming a member of Swift. Some of these are interstate libraries, others are educational institutions and some are libraries from overseas. Due to the success of the Swift Library Consortium, requests have been received from New Zealand, United Kingdom and the United States about how Swift has been formed, how it operates and why it has been so successful.

1. CURRENT SWIFT PROJECT ENVIRONMENT

1.1 GOVERNANCE

Currently, the Swift Library Consortium is simply a project name – it has no legal standing whatsoever.

Contracts

The contract that is in place with SirsiDynix is between SirsiDynix and MAV (acting as an agent for and on behalf of each participating library in Swift).

A second contract exists between MAV and each participating library which ensures that any liabilities entered into by MAV while acting as an agent for each member library, are underwritten by member libraries, as well as defining the requirements for the creation and operation of the Swift Library Consortium Management Committee.

Swift Library Consortium Management Committee

The Swift Library Consortium Management Committee, which meets every 2 months, has responsibility for the overall governance, direction and operations of the Consortium. Membership consists of the CEO/Library Manager from each participating Library, as well as a representative from the MAV and a non-voting representative from PLV. As additional Public Libraries become members of the Consortium, their CEO/Library Manager becomes a member of the Management Committee. No binding decision that affects the Swift Library Consortium can be made, other than by the members of Swift. Currently there are 24 members of the Swift Library Consortium Management Committee.

Swift Library Consortium User Group

In addition, a Swift Library Consortium User Group exists and consists of representatives from each of the Participating Libraries. The User Group is where the majority of activities occur e.g. if a new policy is to be implemented, the original work on developing that policy is undertaken by the User Group. Once completed, recommendations are forwarded to the Management Committee for consideration.

Swift Management Fee

In order to fund the general operations of Swift (meetings, System Administration staff, Business Manager costs) a levee is imposed on each member based on the size of each library organization.

1.2 VOLUMES OF SWIFT TRANSACTIONS

In order to gain an understanding of the size of the Consortium, the following is a list of some of the metrics on an annualized basis, using actual numbers up until 31 March 2011.

Number of councils	46
Number of participating libraries	22
Number of branches	115
Number of mobile libraries	13
Number of items in collection	3.5 million
Number of active patrons	850,000
Number of loans	15.8 million
Number of returns	13.9 million
Number of holds	1.78 million
Visits to library catalogue	2.4 million
Number of intra-library loans	637,774
Number of SMS Messages	211,961
Number of transactions processed	more than 90,000 per day
% uptime of operating system	99.99%

2. WHY CHANGE THE CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

As has been mentioned earlier in this document, the Swift Library Consortium is purely a project name. It has no legal standing. Accordingly, Swift cannot enter into any legal arrangement or contract of any type. If the Consortium wishes to under-take any business activities on behalf of members, it has to do so via the MAV.

This has worked satisfactorily up until now during the formative years of Swift. But this arrangement could start to become difficult, particularly with some of the potential business activities that Swift may become associated with. Swift is now at a stage where members have implemented a framework that provides the opportunity to greatly expand the services offered to patrons

Some time ago, Swift members agreed that the Consortium should develop and grow, providing two key objectives were realised, namely:

1. that the current levels of service to members cannot be compromised; and
2. members are to continually receive the benefits generated by the Consortium.

As members of the Consortium benefit through lower costs as the size of the Consortium grows, it is in the interests of members to examine business opportunities that will arise in the future. Some of these opportunities will require the need to enter into some form of legal arrangement. A good example is the tender that is currently in the marketplace for supplying a solution to all of the libraries in South Australia, some 80 in total. Under no circumstances would Swift offer to supply the solution on its own, but in conjunction with its supply partner SirsiDynix, there is every reason to believe that Swift could add value to such a solution.

Since the first member library went “live” in March 2007 the members of the Consortium have seen the services that they can offer to their patrons significantly develop and expand. By being able to enter into business arrangements that will provide benefits to members, will considerably enhance what Swift will be able to do into the future.

It is for these and other reasons that the time has arrived, when Swift needs to legally stand on its own two feet.

3. PROPOSED SWIFT ENVIRONMENT

3.1 WHAT IS COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

An organisation can incorporate as a company limited by guarantee when there are a number of stakeholders whose interests have to be accounted for and where a profit motive is not the prime objective of the organisation. The regulator for companies limited by guarantee is the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC).

A review by solicitors used by Swift to identify various options that could be available was conducted. It was recommended that the best option was to create a company limited by guarantee.

"Limited by guarantee" means that if the company is wound up, and it is in debt, the liability of members is guaranteed to be a nominal amount (often in the range of \$20 - \$100). Directors of a company limited by guarantee will be subject to all of the duties and obligations for a commercial company set out in the *Corporations Act 2001*.

A company limited by guarantee has the following key features:

- it can trade or operate throughout Australia;
- the liability of members is limited;
- there is a cost involved in establishing the company; and
- there are ongoing reporting and administrative requirements.

3.2 ADVANTAGES

- Separate legal Entity
- Limited Liability
- Termination of Membership and Addition of Members
- National Registration
- Objectives not Restrictive
- Indemnifying Directors

3.3 DISADVANTAGES

- Establishment Costs
- Disclosure and Reporting Requirements
- Name of the Company

3.4 REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPANY

Registration of a company creates a legal entity separate from its members. The company can hold property and can sue and be sued.

Companies are registered under the *Corporations Act 2001*, which is Commonwealth legislation administered by ASIC. A company's registration is recognised Australia wide.

At the very least, a public company must:

- have at least three directors and one secretary;
- have at least one member;
- have a registered office address and principal place of business located in Australia;
- have its registered office open and accessible to the public;
- be internally managed by a constitution or replaceable rules;
- maintain a register of its members;
- keep a record of all directors' and members; meeting minutes and resolutions;
- appoint a registered company auditor within one month of its registration;
- keep proper financial records;
- prepare, have audited and lodge financial statements and reports after the end of every financial year (this requirement does not apply to some companies that are limited by guarantee);
- send to its members a copy of its financial statements and reports, unless the member has a standing arrangement with the company not to receive them (this requirement does not apply to some companies that are limited by guarantee);
- hold an annual general meeting once every calendar year within five months after the end of its financial year;
- receive and review an annual company statement and pay an annual review fee (a charitable or not-for-profit company may be eligible for a reduced annual review fee if it meets the criteria under the definition of 'special purpose company' in reg 3(a), (b), (c) or (d) of the *Corporations (Review Fees) Regulations 2003*; and
- lodge notices whenever changes to its officeholders, office addresses, constitution and its name occur within specified timeframes as determined by the Corporations Act.

3.5 CONSTITUTION AND REPLACEMENT RULES

Under the provisions of the Corporations Act, a company's internal management may be governed by

- provisions of the Corporations Act 2001
- a Constitution or
- a combination of both.

Under the proposed arrangements, it is envisaged that the new company would be governed by the provisions of the Corporations Act 2001. However over time, it would develop its own Constitution. The Constitution has the effect of a contract between:

- the company and each member;
- the company and each director;
- the company and the company secretary; and
- a member and each other member.

Under the initial management provisions as provided for in the Corporations Act 2001, the following areas would need to be addressed:

- **Officers and Employees**
 - voting and completion of transactions- directors of proprietary companies
 - Power of Directors
 - Negotiable Instruments
 - Managing Director
 - Company may appoint a Director
 - Directors may appoint other directors
 - Appointment of Managing Directors
 - Alternate Directors
 - Remuneration of Directors
 - Director may resign by giving written notice to company
 - Removal by members – propriety company
 - Termination/appointment of Managing Director
 - Terms & Conditions of Office for secretaries
- **Inspection of Books**
 - Company or directors may allow member to inspect books
- **Directors' Meetings**
 - Circulating resolutions of companies with more than 1 director
 - Calling Directors' Meetings
 - Chairing Directors' Meetings
 - Quorum at Directors' Meetings
 - Passing of Directors' Resolutions

- **Meetings of Members**

- Calling of meetings by members by a director
- Notice to joint members
- When notice by post or fax is given
- Notice of adjourned meetings
- Quorum
- Chairing meetings of members
- Business at adjourned meetings
- Who can appoint a proxy?
- Proxy vote valid even if member dies, revokes appointment etc.
- How many votes a member has
- Jointly held shares
- Objection to right to vote
- How voting is carried out
- When and how polls must be taken

- **Shares**

- Pre-emption for existing shareholders on issue of shares in proprietary company
- Other provisions about paying dividends
- Dividend rights for shares in proprietary companies

- **Transfer of Shares**

- Transmission of shares on death, bankruptcy, mental incapacity
- Registration of transfers
- Additional general discretion for directors of proprietary companies to refuse to register transfers

3.6 NAME OF INCORPORATED ENTITY

It is envisaged that the new entity would be called Swift Library Consortium Ltd.

3.7 MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS

Members of Swift Library Consortium Ltd. would be each participating library in the Consortium, currently numbering 22.

Directors would be elected from the membership of the company. At this stage it is expected that there would be 10 Directors, with one being the Chairperson.

The exact number of directors, along with their roles and responsibilities, length of tenure etc. will be subject to more detailed work to ensure that the wishes of all members are reflected in the final arrangements.

4. ACTIONS TO BE UNDERTAKEN TO CREATE SWIFT LIBRARY CORPORATION LTD

- The existing Swift Participating Libraries consider and approve the proposal to restructure the Consortium into the incorporated entity.
- The existing Swift Participating Libraries obtain approval where necessary, from their controlling entity, seek approval for their library organisation to be party of the new incorporated entity.
- A draft constitution for the incorporated entity be prepared in consultation with a sub-committee of the Consortium's existing management committee.
- The terms of draft novation agreement for the Systems and Services Contract be agreed with SirsiDynix and the MAV.
- The existing Participating Libraries which are:
 - Victorian Councils or Regional Libraries under the *Local Government Act* 1989 (Vic), will need to comply with the risk assessment requirements of section 193(5) (see also s197(7)(g)); or
 - New South Wales Councils under the *Local Government Act* 1993 (NSW), may need to seek the Minister's consent under section 358(1), unless the incorporated entity is a company limited by guarantee authorised to omit 'Limited' from its name,However these requirements may be able to be addressed by single joint applications in Victoria and New South Wales respectively.
- The existing members of the Consortium formally resolve to:
 - form an incorporated entity and become its initial members;
 - appoint an initial Board of Directors.
- The appropriate paper work be completed for the registration of the incorporated entity through ASIC.
- The incorporated entity may seek a private binding ruling from the Commissioner of Taxation to confirm that it is a State/Territory Body.
- The existing Back-to-Back Participation Agreements between each member and the MAV are terminated.

The incorporated entity commences usual operations including providing library information management system services to its members and recruiting new member libraries.

Financial Implications

Glenn McMahon, Chief Financial Officer - There may be some difficulty in gaining the not-for-profit tax exemptions (income tax and GST) unless the constitution is approved by the ATO. The Swift group also needs to clearly establish the start-up capital amount and where the funds will come from. The new organisation will have an employee and operating costs, this will come from levies paid in advance from members as is currently the practice.

The financial implications for Ashfield are not yet quantified and would include start-up capital. There is also the need to develop a policy on directors fees (although for a not-for-profit the directors don't get paid) and a policy on guarantees to ensure that Council does not underwrite any of the liabilities or any guarantee provided is capped at a specific share.

Other Staff Comments

Gabrielle Rennard, Manager Governance – It is suggested that moving to a more formalised and structured governance model is a prudent longer term strategy for the management of the Swift Consortium. To date Ashfield Council has seen positive benefits as an active participant of Swift and as the Consortium membership continues to expand no doubt so will the nature of the business activities and hopefully potential for funding opportunities, costs savings and diversity of services. It would appear a logical progression to establish a structure such as a Corporation.

Public Consultation

N/A

Conclusion

SSROC has sought legal advice on this matter in relation to and whether they support the Swift recommendation to incorporate a company limited by guarantee as a vehicle through which the Consortium can act. The advice supports the concept of the company limited by guarantee with the following comment:

We consider that what the Consortium proposes to do will satisfy these requirements as:

- the formation of the company limited by guarantee is consistent with an existing service the councils provide based on community needs, i.e. library management software for council libraries;
- the company will be legally separate from the councils, liability of councils will be limited to the guarantee and capital for the company will be based on membership fees; and
- formation of the company is unlikely to impact on council staff.

This report does not set out specific detail on every aspect of creating and managing a company limited by guarantee. Additional work needs to be undertaken before finalising some details. The purpose of the report is to seek an in principle agreement to the concept of forming a corporation limited by guarantee to manage the growing Swift Consortium.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1/2 That Ashfield Council provide in principle agreement to the proposal to convert the Swift Library Consortium into a company limited by guarantee.**
- 2/2 That council officers provide a further report on the specific detail relating to the formation of a company limited by guarantee before any changes are made to the current Swift structure.**

NELLETT KETTLE
Director Corporate & Community Services

Subject	SOCIAL MEDIA AT ASHFIELD LIBRARY
File Ref	Library
Prepared by	Frances Riva - Manager Library Services
Reasons	To ensure Council implements appropriate social media initiatives
Objective	To update the Council on resolution 305/10, to investigate the use of social media to improve community consultation and participation

Overview of Report

Social media describes software that allows individuals and groups to use the Internet to create content, engage in peer to peer conversations, exchange online content and generally interact on issue and subjects of common interest. Council resolved to investigate the implementation of social networking tools.

The opening of the new Ashfield Civic Centre will be used as the first official Twitter and Facebook interaction with the community.

Background

Ashfield Council supports the principles underpinning the use of social networking technology (Council Resolution 305/10). The introduction of social networking tools such as Twitter and Facebook will ensure that the community is engaged and informed about Council's services, events and programs. Council will be able to manage key messages consistently and effectively, particularly in relation to the opening of the new Ashfield Civic Centre.

A trial has been established to introduce Twitter and Facebook. The trial will include Library and GreenWay staff establishing a Twitter and Facebook account. The protocol around the use of social media tools has been prepared and is currently being refined prior to the implementation of Twitter and Facebook.

The application of social media will also help reduce hardcopy paper based production of information and it will reach people in the community that may not traditionally access Council services.

Twitter

The purpose of Twitter is to enable staff to send out brief updates on projects or reminders on events and programs. Updates will include information on new books received, author talks, storytime, school holiday activities and changes to established programs. It will also include marketing of services such as the home library service for housebound residents or community consultation seeking feedback on services. Twitter will allow staff to be responsive in a very short period of time it allows staff to instantly alert the community about new services, upcoming events or changes to programming.

Facebook

Facebook is considered to be more static and is a social media service that will enable the library to provide large amounts of information on service and programs. It will also be used to engage with members of the community on a range of topics such as book discussions. Facebook is widely used by a broad range of people and it is easily updated. Facebook has been used to update the community on issues affecting the community such as road closures, rain effected playing fields and special events such as the Sydney Writers Festival and the Carnival of Cultures. Every time a facebook page is updated all followers of the page are notified of the changes made. This is a cost and time effective use of staff time as it reaches interested people immediately.

Facebook and Twitter both integrate with the current library management system. This means that all library members that use social media tools will be provided regular updates at no cost to the library.

Protocol and guidelines

Draft protocol and guidelines have been prepared to provide a safe framework for online participation by representatives of Council. For example in most instances senior staff along with communications staff will proof read and approve all communications. While some negative comments from the community will occur it is generally agreed that having the ability to respond to community concerns will benefit both Council and the community.

These new flexible, interactive and immediate communication forms have the potential to reach new audiences and engage the community more efficiently and may enhance Council's civic leadership and social responsibility. The use of social media will be conducted within the law and framework of current policy involving public comments, representation of Council and community communications generally.

Technology

Twitter and Facebook both work on external webpages that are hosted externally. This means that social networking will not impact negatively on the Council webpage.

Financial Implications

Glenn McMahon, Chief Financial Officer - From a finance point of view there are not any financial implications apart from the staffing inputs associated with providing content and moderating the site.

Other Staff Comments

Lauren McIver, Project Manager GreenWay Sustainability Project - The GreenWay Sustainability Project Facebook page has been active for over one year and currently has 97 active followers. The social media tool provides the GreenWay team with an efficient and effective means of keeping a large group of people up-to-date with current projects, news and events on the GreenWay. Additionally, followers can communicate interactively by posting their own ideas and photos. It will benefit the GreenWay team greatly when we were able to gain access Facebook at work in order to update and respond to posts daily.

Public Consultation

The trial of Facebook and Twitter will provide the Library with a communication tool for community feedback in both a formal and informal manner. Feedback from the community will be an important aspect of the trial and it will be included as part of the evaluation process.

SOCIAL MEDIA AT ASHFIELD LIBRARY

One of the quantitative measures of the evaluation process will be the number of people joining us on Facebook and Twitter and a qualitative measure will be the type of information provided and comments from the public.

Conclusion

Social media can be a powerful and effective tool for Council to use to communicate messages and engage with the community. While there is the potential for controversy, to minimise the risk and ensure that the tools are used effectively, draft protocols and guidelines are in place to assist staff to make informed decisions and follow the correct procedures.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

RECOMMENDATION

1/1 That Council support the trial of social networking tools such as Twitter and Facebook for the Library

NELLETTTE KETTLE
Director Corporate & Community Services

Subject	PROGRAM OF EVENTS FOR LIBRARY OPENING
File Ref	Library
Prepared by	Frances Riva - Manager Library Services
Reasons	To ensure the Library's program for the opening of the new community space are relevant and responsive to community needs.
Objective	To update the Committee on the Library's programs as part of opening celebrations and ongoing programs

Overview of Report

The opening of the new Ashfield Civic Centre is one of the most important community events for many years. The local community has watched the building progress and interest within the community has been very high. The opening of the new library is a major component of Phase 1 of the project and to celebrate the occasion staff have prepared a comprehensive schedule of events and activities to engage the entire community.

Technology will also be a major focus of the opening celebrations as we have implemented smart technology to manage workloads and improve services. The introduction of Ashfield Library to Facebook and Twitter also signify our move into using technology in our everyday activities to reduce costs, improve services and engage with our community.

'Something for Everyone' is the theme for the first week at the new Ashfield Library.

Background

The opening of the new Ashfield Civic Centre and in particular the Ashfield Library has provided an opportunity for staff to develop a broad range of events and programs to celebrate in the new community space.

The Library's events and programs schedule is a comprehensive program seeking to foster and enjoy Ashfield's unique cultural identity while providing important opportunities to engage with the community and celebrate the wonderful new community centre. The program includes live music provided by local schools, the celebration of our culturally diverse communities with multicultural events for all ages and an opportunity to showcase our local arts communities including poets, writers and artists.

As there is a range of new technology within the new Civic Centre there will be a focus on demonstrating all of the technology available with helpful staff positioned around the library to explain the benefits and use of the technology. This includes the ability to add an app to your iphone or ipad, self checkouts, email and text messaging notification of holds available or a reminder for overdue items and importantly the introduction of a new Facebook and Twitter account to engage and communicate directly with local residents.

PROGRAM OF EVENTS FOR LIBRARY OPENING

Twitter will be used to advertise and promote the large number of programs across opening week and in the future it will be used in preference to printed flyers that were the traditional way of advertising.

The following program has been developed to include activities that will appeal to a large cross section of the community. There really is something for everyone.

Every day

- Library Tours to introduce the community to the genre collections, new spaces and new technology
- Storytime – a different event everyday including English, multicultural and Dreamtime stories and activities for all children
- Children's give-aways and a range of activities in conjunction with storytime
- Library trivia competition to encourage exploration of the new spaces for the older children
- Jelly beans guessing competition to engage the mathematically inclined
- Volunteer recruitment and information for interested people to sign-up and contribute to the different programs available
- Learn how to use the new self checkout system, join us on Facebook or Twitter

Day one – Monday

- Morning Library Tour
- Community morning tea
- Introduction to Tai Chi
- Storytime
- Local school musical interlude
- Afternoon Library Tour

Day two – Tuesday

- Morning Library Tour in Chinese
- Local school musical interlude
- Multicultural storytime
- Reptiles for Grown-ups
- Afternoon Library Tour
- Evening Official Civic Centre Opening

Day three – Wednesday

- Morning Library Tour
- Community Opening – Mayor, Richard Glover, Big Book, Big Cake
- Sausage Sizzle
- Local school musical interlude
- Dreamtime Storytime
- Afternoon Library Tour
- Heritage Night (Strategic Planning)

Day four – Thursday

- Morning Library Tour
- Local school musical interlude
- Home Library morning tea
- Multicultural storytime
- Afternoon Library Tour
- Big Read Night of Poetry, Chinese finger food and Chinese tea

Day five – Friday

- Morning Library Tour
- Local school musical interlude
- Children’s storytime
- Adult Storytime with Van Badham (artist-in-residence)
- Afternoon Library Tour
- World Cafe – guest writers discuss their genres in each of the new genre areas.

This sophisticated evening event will showcase our new bookshop style genre collections. A light snack, along with mood music will lend ambience to the event. Authors, booksellers and other specialists have been invited to attend the evening to talk about their genre in the genre room. People will have the opportunity to walk around and meet with authors and others interested in the area. The new genre areas are:

Fiction

- Romance
- Australian Fiction
- In Translation
- Crime
- Science Fiction
- Fantasy

Non Fiction

- Body and Mind
- Digital Life
- World Affairs
- Lifestyle
- Planet Earth
- Graphic Novels

We have invited well known author and publisher to talk about Body and Mind; a local bookseller who specialises in crime fiction, a local author to talk about Australian fiction, a local resident and librarian to discuss the Romance genre, a technology expert from UTS to talk about Digital Life, Council’s Sustainability team to talk about Planet Earth and much more. It will be a very interesting mix that provides something for everyone.

Day six – Saturday

Commencing at 10.00am Children’s Day all Day

- Come dressed as your favourite cartoon/book/film character
- Storytime
- Face painting
- Tattoos
- Treasure Hunt
- All children attending the Library on Children’s Day will have the chance to paint the Hand Banner that will displayed in the children’s area as a reminder that they were at the Library during opening week
- Library Tours
- Reptiles for Kids (Planet Earth genre)
- Flashmob
- How to run a book club
- Local school musical interlude

Day seven – Sunday

- Library Tour
- Storytelling for Dads and Kids
- Face painting
- Tattoos

Financial Implications

The program has been funded out of the current budget with support from across Council

Other Staff Comments

Public Consultation

Conclusion

Council staff have prepared a comprehensive series of community events that are both educational and recreational, catering for all ages within the community. The celebration of the new Ashfield Civic Centre is a major community event and the program of activities seeks to engage as many of the local community as possible. The program really has something for everyone.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1/1 That a finalised program be provided to all councillors with dates and times for all events.**

NELLETTTE KETTLE
Director Corporate & Community Services