

**RENEWAL AND RECREATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE MEETING – 24 JANUARY 2018**

WRITTEN QUESTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON FAWTHROP

Can a list of daily newspapers provided to all Bromley's Libraries be presented (by Library) and the daily/annual cost of providing these newspapers. For last year 2017 and for next year 2018.

i.e in tabular format (the information I have included is an example not actual)

2017

Library	Papers provided	Daily cost	Annual cost	Supplier
Orpington	Times	£1.00	£318.00	WH Smith
Orpington	Financial Times	£1.00	£318.00	WH Smith
Orpington	Independent	£1.00	£318.00	WH Smith

2018

Library	Papers provided	Daily cost	Annual cost	Supplier
Orpington	Times	£2.00	£636.00	WH Smith
Orpington	Financial Times	£2.00	£636.00	WH Smith
Orpington	Independent	£2.00	£636.00	WH Smith

Can we also be advised of the newspaper supplier please and whether there has been an increase or decrease in the cost of supply from last year to this.

Portfolio Holder's Response

On the 1st November 2017 Bromley Library Service transferred to the management of GLL. GLL took this opportunity to review the newspaper and periodical orders for each branch that currently existed. I can confirm that GLL has decided to continue with the exact number of orders per branch.

GLL takes pride in listening to residents, and will purchase new periodical titles if demand is there, to meet the needs of our ever changing communities.

As part of the review we looked at the processing and business side. We found that staff locally were having to spend large amounts of time processing and invoicing for a multitude of newsagents. This was time consuming, in some cases challenging, and took staff away from frontline operations.

In other GLL Library Partnerships we use one company (Z News) to supply and deliver newspapers and periodicals to the branches. This alleviates time consuming administration tasks, simplifies billing, as its one monthly invoice and places staff back on the frontline. Alleviating these issues is particularly helpful to community branches who often run on smaller teams.

As a result of the review GLL now uses Z News to supply and deliver newspapers and periodicals to all fourteen Bromley libraries.