

## Funding the costs of wifi for your library

January 2016

Dear Ash,

In view of the financial challenges being faced, Suffolk Libraries is exploring ways in which costs can be reduced and additional income generated in order to minimise the impact of the reduction. For example, we are working on a project to generate more money in room hire income, looking at merchandise opportunities, reviewing charges for services such as printing and scanning, reviewing all contracted services and generating income through events and activities. We are planning to hold another conference in 2016, selling our expertise to other library services. A similar event in 2015 generated over £10,000.

Library member groups, such as Felixstowe Town Council, can help us to address the funding situation, and indeed several member groups have already asked how they can do so.

We would like to ask groups to consider funding the annual costs of wifi associated with their library for 2015 / 2016. This is a significant running cost which relates to an enhancement in service at **all** library buildings. Many community groups paid for the initial installation of wifi and a small number have continued to pay for the annual wifi costs. If every community group was to agree to pay the costs of wifi for their library, it would generate over £24,000. The annual cost of wifi for 2015 / 2016 in respect of Felixstowe Library is £835.20. We understand that some groups may not have the finances to pay the entire costs, but anything that you are able to contribute towards this would be appreciated.

If the Town Council is willing to make a contribution towards the cost of wifi, please can you email Community Lead Daniel Harvey at [daniel.harvey@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:daniel.harvey@suffolklibraries.co.uk) to let him know, and advise whether you are covering the full cost, or making a contribution. Daniel will then arrange for you to be sent the appropriate invoice. You can also call Daniel on 07824 474739 if you have any queries regarding this matter.

We are appreciative of your continued support of Suffolk Libraries and we will be grateful for any help you can provide in enabling us to overcome the financial challenge that we face.

Yours sincerely



Tony Brown  
Chairman  
Suffolk Libraries