

Title: Advisory Council on Libraries Abolition Ref No: Lead department or agency: Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Other departments or agencies:	Impact Assessment (IA)		
	Date: 14/10/2013		
	Stage: Development/Options		
	Source of intervention: Domestic		
	Type of measure: Secondary legislation		
Contact for enquiries: Colin Gibson			
Summary: Intervention and Options			RPC Opinion: RPC Opinion Status

Cost of Preferred (or more likely) Option			
Total Net Present Value	Business Net Present Value	Net cost to business per year (EANCB on 2009 prices)	In scope of One-In, Measure qualifies as One-Out?
£0.02m	£0m	£0m	No
			NA

What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary?

The Advisory Council on Libraries (ACL) was set up by statute in 1964 under The Public Libraries & Museums Act. The Secretary of State issued a ministerial written statement in July 2010 announcing the intention to abolish the Advisory Council on Libraries (ACL). Since July 2010, DCMS has conducted itself on the basis that ACL is effectively defunct. Membership of the eight members of ACL has expired in the intervening period and no formal advice has been taken from the Council. ACL is inactive and it last met in February 2010. The Government's preferred option is to use the powers in the Public Bodies 2011 Act to abolish ACL.

What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?


The Department's view at this stage is that the abolition of ACL meets the statutory test of improving efficiency, effectiveness and economy, whilst not undermining the Secretary of State's duty to superintend and promote the public library services. The Department considers ACL is an unnecessary duplication of the knowledge and sector expertise already found amongst other statutory and non-statutory organisations and within DCMS. This will also contribute to the objective of reducing the number of government's public bodies.

What policy options have been considered, including any alternatives to regulation? Please justify preferred option (further details in Evidence Base)

The preferred policy option is abolition of ACL. Other options that are being considered are: Transfer the functions of ACL or retain ACL and improve its functions. The Department's view at this stage is that the abolition of ACL meets the statutory test of improving efficiency, effectiveness and economy, whilst not undermining the Secretary of State's duty to superintend and promote the public library services. The Department considers ACL is an unnecessary duplication of the knowledge and sector expertise already found amongst other statutory and non-statutory organisations and within DCMS. The aims and objectives of ACL are being delivered through stakeholder meetings, consulting with Arts Council England, (the public body responsible for library development) and the knowledge of DCMS policy officials.

Will the policy be reviewed? It will not be reviewed. If applicable, set review date: Month/Year					
Does implementation go beyond minimum EU requirements?			No		
Are any of these organisations in scope? If Micros not exempted set out reason in Evidence Base.	Micro No	< 20 No	Small No	Medium No	Large No
What is the CO ₂ equivalent change in greenhouse gas emissions? (Million tonnes CO ₂ equivalent)			Traded: N/A		Non-traded: N/A

I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that, given the available evidence, it represents a reasonable view of the likely costs, benefits and impact of the leading options.

Signed by the responsible Minister:  Date: 28.1.14

Summary: Analysis & Evidence

Policy Option 1

Description: Abolition of ACL

FULL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

Price Base Year 2013	PV Base Year 2014	Time Period Years 10	Net Benefit (Present Value (PV)) (£m)		
			Low:	High:	Best Estimate: 0.02

COSTS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Cost (Present Value)
Low			
High			
Best Estimate	0	0	0

Description and scale of key monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

No Cost

Other key non-monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

BENEFITS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Benefit (Present Value)
Low			
High			
Best Estimate	0	0	0

Description and scale of key monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

Negligible saving of administrative costs of £2500 above the base case.

Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

Key assumptions/sensitivities/risks N / A	Discount rate (%)	3.5
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BUSINESS ASSESSMENT (Option 1)

Direct impact on business (Equivalent Annual) £m: Costs: £0	Benefits: 0	Net: 0	In scope of OIOO? No	Measure qualifies as NA
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Summary: Analysis & Evidence

Policy Option 2

Description: Transfer the advisory function of ACL to another eligible body or person

FULL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

Price Base Year 2013	PV Base Year 2014	Time Period Years 10	Net Benefit (Present Value (PV)) (£m)		
			Low: Optional	High: Optional	Best Estimate: 0

COSTS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Cost (Present Value)
Low			
High			
Best Estimate	0	0	0

Description and scale of key monetised costs by 'main affected groups'
No Cost

Other key non-monetised costs by 'main affected groups'
No net change in administrative costs.
Unnecessary duplication of the knowledge and sector expertise already found amongst other statutory and non-statutory organisations and within DCMS.

BENEFITS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Benefit (Present Value)
Low			
High			
Best Estimate	0	0	0

Description and scale of key monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'
No monetised benefits have been identified.

Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

Key assumptions/sensitivities/risks N / A	Discount rate (%)	3.5
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BUSINESS ASSESSMENT (Option 2)

Direct impact on business (Equivalent Annual) £m:	In scope of OIOO?	Measure qualifies as
Costs: £0 Benefits: 0 Net: 0	No	NA

Summary: Analysis & Evidence

Policy Option 3

Description: Retain and Reconvene the ACL and improve its functions

FULL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

Price Base Year 2013	PV Base Year 2014	Time Period Years 10	Net Benefit (Present Value (PV)) (£m)		
			Low: Optional	High: Optional	Best Estimate: 0

COSTS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Cost (Present Value)
Low			
High			
Best Estimate	0	0	0

Description and scale of key monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

Negligible cost of £2,500 as this is the yearly budget for travel of members of the ACL. However, with option 3 expressing the base case which, assuming no new cost of continuation of the ACL, costs are set to zero, option 1 shows the cost saving relative to option 3.

Other key non-monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

No net change in administrative costs.
Unnecessary duplication of the knowledge and sector expertise already found amongst other statutory and non-statutory organisations and within DCMS.

BENEFITS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Benefit (Present Value)
Low			
High			
Best Estimate	0	0	0

Description and scale of key monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

No monetised benefits have been identified.

Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

Key assumptions/sensitivities/risks N / A	Discount rate (%)	3.5
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BUSINESS ASSESSMENT (Option 3)

Direct impact on business (Equivalent Annual) £m:	In scope of OIOO?	Measure qualifies as
Costs: £0	No	NA
Benefits: 0		
Net: 0		