

<b>Skills Economy and Growth Scrutiny Commission</b> <b>18<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b> <b>Item 4 – Library of Things</b>	Item No <b>4</b>
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## **Outline**

A library of things is a community resource where people can borrow items they need for short-term use for a range of different purposes. The Dalston Library of Things was set up pre-pandemic and is a social enterprise that helps people save money and reduce waste by affordably renting out useful items like drills, sound systems and sewing machines from local spaces – and by helping neighbours share practical skills. This concept promotes resource sharing, reduces waste, and allows people to access items they may not want to buy or can't afford to buy outright.

This discussion will include information about the areas below.

1. Information about the Library of Things service in Hackney and how the service meets the Council's Strategic Plan objectives and net zero ambition.
2. Information about the hire charges, user cohort and customer feedback for the Library of Things service.
3. Information about why the 'Library of Things' has been successful in Dalston in comparison to other locations, the plans to manage and respond to increasing demand and the measures of success.

The purpose of this item is to review the performance of the service, the impact it is having on the local circular economy and consider the sustainability of the service in the long term.

### **Report in the agenda:**

To support this discussion the following presentation has been provided for background information.

- Dalston Library of Things

### **Invited Guests**

#### **Library of Things**

- Rebecca Trevalyan, Co-founder & Director of Library of Things.

### **London Borough of Hackney**

- Cllr Mete Coban, Cabinet member for climate change, environment and transport
- Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney, Director Environment and Climate Change
- Ander Zabala, Sustainability and Climate Service Group Manager

## **Action**

The Commission is asked to note the presentations and ask questions.