

The Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames Library and Heritage Service Acceptable Use Policy and Notice for Wireless Internet Connection Service (05/2011)

The Library Service provides public access to the Internet through a wireless connection to help meet the educational, information and recreational needs of the community.

The following policy details the conditions governing the use of the Internet by members of the public. By accessing the Internet through this wireless connection you are taken to have read, understood and agreed to be bound by these conditions.

If you do not agree to all of the conditions of this policy you must not logon to use the wireless network. Subsequent failure to adhere to these terms will result in the termination of your session.

Internet

The Internet is an unregulated medium that the Library Service does not control. Users should be aware that by offering the facility the council is not endorsing or recommending any organisation, service or information which may be accessed on the Internet. Some information on the Internet may be inaccurate, or misleading, or a matter of individual opinion. This is especially true of commercial sites. You are responsible for questioning the validity of the information found as the Library Service cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy, quality, authority, or usefulness of any information accessed or retrieved.

Dangerous, obscene or offensive material

Personal computers and the Internet must not be used in any activity which is a criminal offence and your Internet use may be monitored and random checks made on sites visited. If library staff learn of any such misuse your session will be terminated. In serious cases this will be reported to the police and could lead to prosecution.

It is your own responsibility to be aware of the following laws and to comply with all legal requirements.

- **The Copyright, designs and Patents Act (1988).** You must make sure that you have the necessary permission before downloading and distributing copyright information from the Internet.
- **Telecommunications Act (1984).** This applies to e-mail and forbids the transmission of messages of any other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character.
- **Computer Misuse Act (1990).** This covers unauthorised access to a computer (computer hacking) and writing or the intentional introduction of computer viruses.
- **Obscene publications Act (1959 and 1964).** You are not allowed to view, download or print pornographic material.
- **Data Protection Act (1988).** This applies to obtaining, using and publishing information about identifiable individuals on the Internet

These laws may be amended by Parliament from time to time and other laws may also apply to your use of the internet service.

The Library Service is bound by the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998 and will not release information on the use of specific Internet resources by members of the public except as required by law or as necessary for the proper operation of the Library.

Disclaimer

Users should be aware that all use of computers and the Internet is at their own risk.

The Council will not accept any liability for damage or loss of computer files. As a condition of use you acknowledge that the Council accepts no responsibility or liability of any kind as a consequence of your access and use of this facility. The Council accepts no liability for any inaccurate or misleading information you obtain. The Council accepts no liability for any problems or loss relating to financial transactions you make over the Internet.

The Library service assumes no responsibility for the safety of equipment or for laptop configurations, security, or data files resulting from connection to the Library's Public Access Wi-Fi. Library staff cannot assist you in setting up Wi-Fi access on your laptop/device. You are responsible for setting up your own equipment; as the configuration of each manufacturer's device is unique, please refer to your documentation for connection instructions. The Library Service does not accept any liability whatsoever for technical problems or damage to users hardware or software in using the wireless network nor accepts responsibility for access or access related problems with the wireless network. The Library Service does not accept responsibility for technical malfunctions that may prevent access to the Internet or web based e-mail services.

No guarantee is provided that you will be able to make a wireless connection.

No guarantee is provided that you will be able to access the Internet service or third party website you require.

You acknowledge that by accessing the Internet you can be exposed to programs, such as viruses, worms and Trojans, which can damage your computer and data. Your computer may be attacked by unauthorized or unwanted third parties as information sent from or to your laptop can potentially be captured by anyone else with a wireless device and the appropriate software. Kingston Libraries staff cannot advise you on how to protect yourself, it is solely your responsibility as the wireless device owner/user to configure the device with the appropriate security settings, firewall and anti-virus protection to control access from other wireless devices and the Internet itself. The Library Service cannot and does not guarantee the privacy or safety of your data and communication while using the service, and cannot and will not take responsibility for damage incurred from incorrect, insufficient or incomplete security settings or lack of up-to-date virus protection.

The Library Service is not responsible for the misuse of personal information entered on websites and the Library Service does not accept responsibility for losses or problems caused by sending confidential information over the Internet.

If you experience problems with the Wi-Fi hotspot please tell a member of staff who will log your problem for referral to ICT

Physical equipment security warning

You, the user are solely responsible for the security and safety of your equipment, papers and personal belongings within Kingston Libraries.

Please do not leave your wireless laptop, PDA or other device unattended at any time.

Kingston Libraries cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage incurred to your personal devices.