

Libraries Deliver: Ambition for Public Libraries in England 2016-2021

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Today's session

How we got here

Consultation process

Final Ambition document

What happens next?

What can you do?

How we got here

Independent Library Report for England
published December 2014

Call for a shared vision for public libraries

Libraries Taskforce drafted the Ambition document as a response

Ambition consultation

Draft published: 23 March 2016

Gathered views on the draft document:

Workshops

Online questionnaire

Emails / letters

Closing date: Friday 3 June

Consultation responses

13 workshops

Plus 1 specifically for Councillors

~ 300 attendees

Online questionnaire
responses* 181

Emails / letters 39 responses*

Tweet / blog 1 response*

* Many written responses from representative groups and organisations as well as individuals

Consultation responses

Attendees / responders included:

Heads of service

Library staff

Friends groups

Library volunteers

Library boards

Partners

Campaigners

Non-users

Councillors

Commissioners

Other LA services

Community libraries

Academics

Suppliers

Library users

Lapsed users

**So what does the final
version say?**

**[Embargoed until
publication...]**

Context

Reinforces what libraries have to offer

For everyone, throughout their lives

Libraries deliver

services for everyday life



Users' needs including:

- Reading
- Digital literacy
- Family activities
- Life skills

Libraries deliver services including:

- Free WiFi and computers
- Bookstart
- Rhymetime
- Summer Reading Challenge
- Code Clubs
- Volunteering



Users' needs including:

- Reading
- Study space
- Connectivity
- Careers information
- Learning resources

Libraries deliver services including:

- Free WiFi and computers
- Free study space
- Books and e-resources
- Homework clubs
- Social spaces
- Reading Ahead and Quick Reads



Users' needs including:

- Reading
- Community
- Business support
- Family activities
- Health and wellbeing

Libraries deliver services including:

- Free WiFi and computers
- Local information
- Business and IP Centres
- Books and e-resources
- Job clubs
- Health information



Users' needs including:

- Reading
- Digital literacy
- Family activities
- Health and wellbeing
- Social activities

Libraries deliver services including:

- Free WiFi and computers
- Health information
- Books and e-resources
- Events and activities
- Social spaces
- Home delivery service

Targeted services for specific situations



Context

Reinforces what libraries have to offer

Describes the legal position

Outlines the local government funding constraints

Vision

Libraries and the people working in them change lives:

Promoting **enjoyment** in reading and other cultural and creative activities

Raising **aspirations** and building **skills** so people can achieve their full potential

Actively sharing **information**, encouraging people to engage with, co-create and learn from each other

Providing trusted and practical **support** and advice to those who need it

Vision

If our ambitions are achieved, describes what:

Individuals

Communities

Public services and other partners

Library services

will see, feel and do in 2021

Reinforces the importance of following ethical principles of librarianship in delivery of library services

Outcomes libraries deliver

Stronger, more resilient communities

Increased reading and literacy

Improved digital access and literacy

Helping everyone achieve their full potential

Healthier and happier lives

Greater prosperity

Cultural and creative enrichment

Outcomes libraries deliver

For each outcome, it describes:

The challenges we are responding to

Examples of existing good practice

What success would look like in 2021

Initial ideas on progress indicators

How we'll achieve this

Emphasises importance at local level of:

Strong local leadership

Strategic planning, using common principles

Cross-boundary working and partnerships

Co-creating services with the community

Exploring all options to achieve resilient services

How we'll achieve this

Describes the role of the Taskforce, including:

Supporting and enhancing local leadership

Providing guidance / frameworks / common principles to inform local action

Producing shared assets (eg. for advocacy)

Sharing and promoting good practice

Addressing difficult issues once (eg. data)

Action Plan: Taskforce

Make the case for investment in libraries: advocacy

Raise public awareness of what libraries offer

Identify and showcase good practice and support innovation

Support workforce development

Support development of the digital offer

Monitor and report on progress

Action Plan: Challenges

Challenges to central and local government and library services, including:

Acknowledging the role libraries play

Thinking 'Libraries First'

Using the guidance the Taskforce produces

Identifying, sharing and adopting good practice

What happens next?

Finalising text and action plan with Taskforce, central government and LGA (on behalf of local government)

Publish final document: summer 2016

Publicise it: getting messages out to Ministers / Councillors / Chief Executives in particular

Deliver the action plan

What can you do?

Promote the document through your networks once published – be an ambassador

Use it as a prompt for discussions in your organisation and with partners

Help us deliver the Taskforce actions

Deliver on the challenges we've set (if applicable)

How can we help you?

We need you to be ambassadors for Ambition and library services:

How can we help you do this?

What are the barriers to you doing this?

How do we help you and your organisation to share and adopt good practice and use the guidance we produce?

Any Questions?

If you don't get a chance to ask me now:

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GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/libraries-taskforce>

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