Department for Communities
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

Easy Read

Public libraries

What do you think?

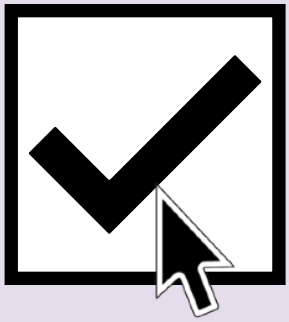


How to use this survey on a computer



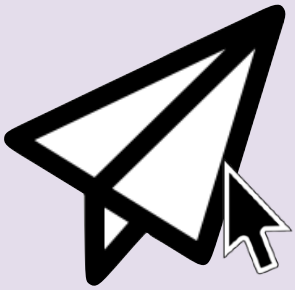
You can complete this survey on your computer.

First, you will need to download it.



Then open the survey on your computer.

You will be able to click or write in the boxes.



When you have finished the survey, save it to your computer.

Then email a copy to: HCCpublicconsultation@communities-ni.gov.uk

Easy Read

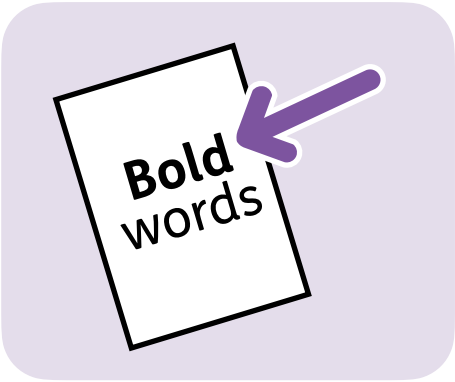


This is an Easy Read version of some information.

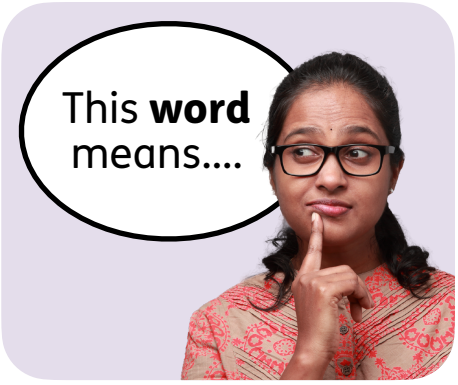
It uses easier words and pictures.



Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are **bold** to show they are important.



We explain bold words if they are hard to understand.

What is in this booklet

About this booklet 5

About you 6

What our libraries should be like 8

Our aims 10

People 11

Places 29

Working together 36

The public library service 46

How you use libraries 51

If you do not use libraries 55

Final ideas 56

Find out more 57

About this booklet

We are the Department for Communities.

We are part of the government in Northern Ireland.



We provide money to and support our public libraries.



We are making a new plan for our public libraries.



We want to know what you think of our ideas.

Answer the questions in this booklet to tell us what you think.

About you



First, we would like to know about you.



Question 1: Are you answering for yourself, or for an organisation?

Please tick 1 box.

- [ ] For myself
- [ ] For an organisation



Question 2: If you are answering for an organisation, please tell us the name of the organisation:



Your answers will help us to write a report about what people think.



We might want to include your answers in our report.



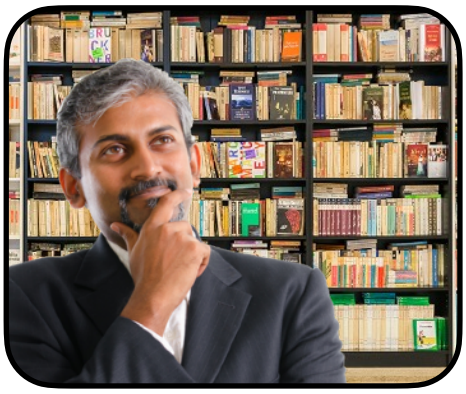
We will not include your name or anything that could say who you are.



Question 3: Do you agree that we can use your answers in the report?

- [ ] Yes, I agree
- [ ] No, I do not agree

What our libraries should be like



We have thought about what our library service should be like.

We call this our **vision**.

We want our libraries to be:



- Places that people trust.



- Places that people care about.

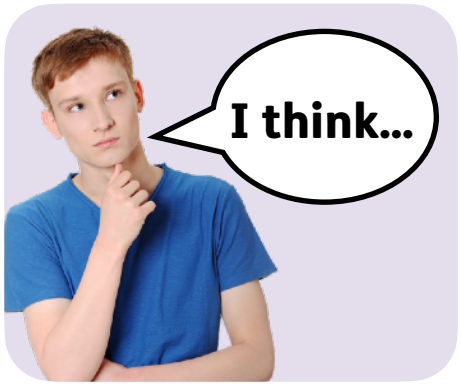


- Part of people's local communities.



Question 4: How much do you agree or disagree with our vision?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 5: Please tell us what you think about our vision:

Our aims



Our **aims** are what we want our libraries to achieve.



We have 16 aims for our libraries.



We will ask you how much you agree or disagree with each aim.

People



This part is about **people**.

We think that libraries can help people in many ways.



They can help people to:

- Learn, read and understand information.



- Use computers.



- Spend time with others and feel happier.

Aim 1: Help more people to read



We want to help people to read more and get better at reading.



We will give people free books to borrow.



We will help people to read, like by running classes and giving people reading tips.



We will run activities and events to show how important reading is.



Question 6: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 1?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 2: Support people to feel healthy and happy



We want people to be healthy and feel good.

We will help people to feel healthy and happy by:



- Running activities and events that help people to spend time with others.



- Bringing people together in a safe place where they feel welcome.



Question 7: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 2?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 3: Help people to be creative and keep learning



Being **creative** means making new things, like making art or writing.

We want to help people be creative and learn new things by:



- Giving people things to read.



- Running events and activities.



We also want to help people be creative and learn new skills.



Question 8: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 3?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 4: Helping children and young people



We want to help children and young people to learn and grow.

We will:



- Get more children and young people to come to their local library.



- Make libraries good places to read and study.



We will also make sure that libraries are safe places for children so that parents trust them.



Question 9: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 4?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 5: Getting more library members



We want more people to be members of their local library.

This means that they have library cards and use their library.

We will do this by:



- Telling people about our work.



- Finding people who might get the most help from our services.



Question 10: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 5?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 6: Support people to get information



It is important that people can get information they can trust.

We will help people to:



- Find information that they can trust.



- Stay safe online.



Question 11: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 6?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 7: Supporting access to technology



We want our libraries to help people have access to technology and the internet.

We will make sure that:



- Libraries have computers and wifi that people can use.



- Libraries offer books, activities and events online.



Question 12: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 7?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 8: Change for the future



We want to make sure our libraries are right for the future.

We will:



- Make sure changes are based on what people want and need.



- Follow the law about what libraries must do.



We will also look at new ways to improve what libraries do.



Question 13: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 8?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Tell us what you think



Question 14: Please tell us more about what you think about these aims:

Places



Libraries are important places.

We want our libraries to be:



- Places where people feel welcome.



- Important places for their local area.

Aim 9: Looking after history



We want public libraries to have books and information that are important for local history.



We will make sure that people can look at these books.



Question 15: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 9?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 10: Make places where everyone feels welcome



We want everyone to feel like they can use our libraries.



We want to make sure we include and respect everyone.



Question 16: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 10?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 11: Protect the environment



The **environment** is all of the plants, trees, animals, the air and the sea.



We want to make sure our libraries are good for the environment.



We will help local people to learn about how they can protect the environment.



Question 17: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 11?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 12: Looking after money



We will make sure that our libraries use money well.



If our library service looks after their money, it can make best use of it to help the people who visit.



Question 18: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 12?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Tell us what you think



Question 19: Please tell us more about what you think about these aims:

Working together



It is important to work with others.

Libraries will work with other people and organisations, like:



- Their staff.



- Other places, like schools and prisons.

Aim 13: Showing that libraries are important



Libraries will work with many different parts of the government.



The government has aims for what it wants to achieve.

Libraries will show that they can help the government's aims.



They will show that they are important for what the government wants to do.



Question 20: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 13?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 14: Funding libraries



Funding means providing money to something.



We will give libraries enough money so they have what they need to provide good services for everyone.



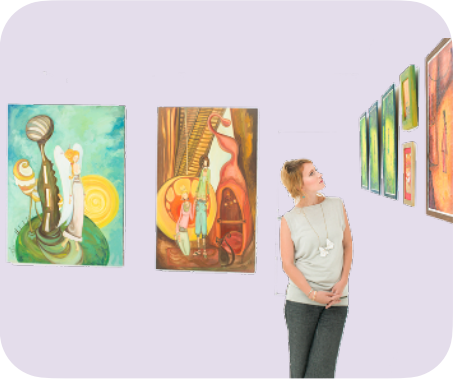
This includes having buildings, staff and equipment.



Question 21: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 14?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 15: Supporting local history, art and culture



Culture includes arts, crafts, the way people live and the things that people believe.



Many people come to libraries to learn about their local history and take part in art and culture activities.



We will help more people learn about their local history, art and culture in their libraries.



Question 22: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 15?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Aim 16: Finding new ways to help local people



Our staff know a lot about how to help people.



If they find other organisations to work with, they can help even more people.



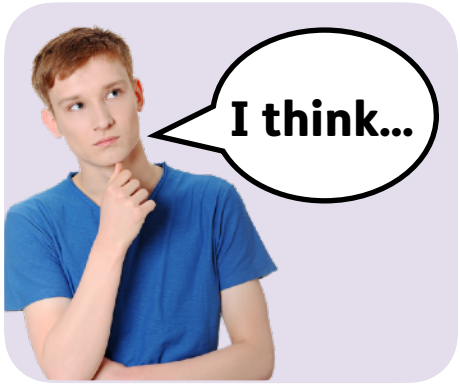
We will look for new ways of working with others.



Question 23: How much do you agree or disagree with aim 16?

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Tell us what you think



Question 24: Please tell us more about what you think about these aims:

The public library service



In this part, we want to know how important you think different parts of libraries are.



We have written 8 sentences over the next 4 pages.



Please tell us how important you think they are.



Question 25: Libraries are places that everyone can use and feel welcome and have things that interest me

This is...

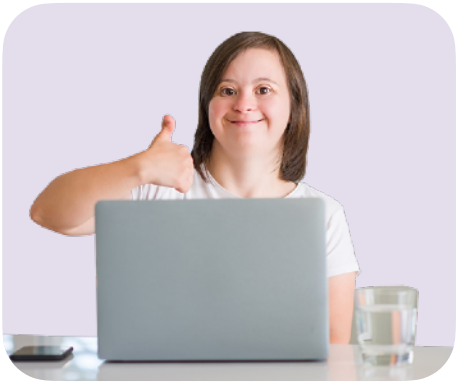
Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 26: Libraries have free books, newspapers, magazines, services and activities that are **in person**.

This is...

Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 27: Libraries have free online services, like e-books and online activities.

This is...

Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 28: Libraries are easy for people to use and have everything I need.

This is...

Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 29: Libraries have enough of the right books.

This is...

Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 30: Libraries have activities and books that are right for all of the people who live locally.

This is...

Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 31: Library services help people in towns, cities and the countryside.

This is...

Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 32: Everyone can take part in activities in all libraries.

This is...

Very important	Important	Neither	Not important	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

How you use libraries



We want to know how you use libraries.



Each question is a sentence.

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each sentence.



If you do not use libraries, please do not answer these questions.

Please answer the questions on page 55 instead.



Question 33: My nearest library service is easy for me to get to and use.

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 34: My local library has everything it needs.

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 35: My local library service has good books, services and activities.

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 36: I know how to get library books and other services online if I want them.

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 37: There are good online books and activities for me.

Agree a lot	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Disagree a lot
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Question 38: What more could the library service do for you?

If you do not use libraries

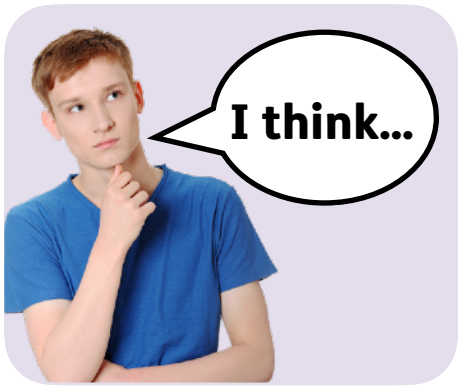


Please answer this question if you do not use libraries.



Question 39: What would make you want to use libraries?

Final ideas



Question 40: Is there anything else you would like us to think about when we write our plan for libraries?

Find out more



You can look at our website here:

www.librariesni.org.uk



What do you think about this Easy Read booklet?

Please fill in this survey to tell us what you think: www.easy-read-online.co.uk/easy-read-feedback-survey

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