EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Plymstock Library (as part of the proposed Plan for Libraries)



STAGE I: WHAT IS BEING ASSESSED AND BY WHOM?

What is being assessed - including a brief description of aims and objectives?

PLYMSTOCK LIBRARY

Plymstock Library and the services that run from it are being assessed in this EIA. As part of the Plan for Libraries proposal, **Plymstock Library has been earmarked for staying open.**

Plymstock Library has 6242 active users which is 13.1% of the total active library users

The aims of the PfL proposal are to deliver five universal offers (in line with Society of Chief Librarians and Libraries Taskforce). These are Reading, Information, Digital, Health and Learning. These will be delivered through our objectives:

Our online offer is accessible 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and provides an online library catalogue, eBooks, audiobooks and magazines plus a range of premium online resources.

Our library buildings will be fit for purpose and include meeting spaces so we are able to offer a full range of services based around the offers of Reading and Literacy, Information and History, Digital, Health and Wellbeing and Learning. They will be clean, modern and welcoming and run by friendly and trained staff.

Our outreach offer will increase. Investment in technology will mean we are able to take the library into communities, providing a pop up library with click and collect activities and services. This will include our Home library Service for housebound users. The Home Library Service is for Plymouth residents who want to borrow books and audiobooks but who are unable to get to a library; either through ill health, injury or disability. This free service allows access to the library and books as well as a regular visit from a friendly face.

Rationale for staying open

Those libraries ranking in the top 7 of the scoring criteria are detailed in the proposal as libraries that would be retained and operate an enhanced service to customers. As a result of retaining this library as part of our estate it may result in additional usage and footfall from those residents displaced by the closure of their nearest library.

In respect of coverage we aligned ourselves to the four geographical areas (localities) as defined by one of our key

Version 2, February 2015 OFFICIAL

partners Livewell Southwest.

Using existing best practice each of our libraries has been assessed against the following criteria:

- Proportion of population in ward aged 0-17
- Proportion of population in ward aged over 60
- Total transactions (book issues)
- Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score 2015. IMD is a measure to show deprivation across the country, using a variety of measures (for example barriers to housing, or local area crime), rather than just traditional poverty measures.
- Total visits
- Cost per visit
- Computer Hours used
- Total event attendance
- Suitability and sustainability of building (ability to deliver our new offer)

All criteria had an equal weighting, and each library was ranked 1 to 17 against each criteria. With 17 being the lowest value scoring. Plymstock ranked number 1 out of 17 libraries.

Opening hours

■ Monday: 8.30am to 6pm

■ Tuesday: 8.30am to 6pm

Wednesday: 8.30am to 6pm

Thursday: 8.30am to 8pm

Friday: 8.30am to 6pm

Saturday: 9am to 5pm

Sunday: Closed

Services and facilities

Computers for public use

- Free Wi-Fi
- Printers (colour and black/white)
- Photocopiers (colour and black/white)
- Scanners
- Meeting rooms for hire
- Café
- Books for loan
- DVDs for hire
- Audiobooks
- Request a library item books, periodicals, plays, DVD's, Audiobooks

Events at Plymstock Library

Children & Young People

- Rhymetimes Thursdays and Saturdays weekly
- Half Term activities
- Share a Story Wednesdays weekly
- Chatterbooks Mondays monthly

Health & Wellbeing

- Active Steps Wednesday weekly
- Stop Smoking Mondays weekly
- Feel better with a book Tuesday weekly
- Mindfulness workshop ad hoc; run by Plymouth Options

Community and Leisure

- History presentations ad hoc
- Film Shows Mondays monthly

	Classic Movie shows – Tuesday monthly
	■ Craft Group – Friday monthly
	■ Book Group – Friday monthly
	Training, Skills & Employability
	■ Gadget Drop In -Tuesdays monthly
	■ Hello Word – Coding and Making – Tuesdays fortnightly
	■ IT for Beginners – Tuesday monthly
	In the event that libraries identified for proposed closure in the Plan for Libraries do close, Plympton Library is an alternative venue for displaced library users.
	Demand for existing services hosted by this library may increase as a result of the proposed closure of other libraries. For example, Rhymetime is heavily subscribed at Peverell library. Additional sessions may be required at this and other libraries to accommodate any additional demand along with outreach in the local areas of the proposed closures.
Author	Tim Binding / Karen Renshaw / Jack Harrison
Department and service	TCC06 (Plan for Libraries) Project Team (Transforming the Corporate Centre Programme)
Date of assessment	23.02.2017. Reviewed and completed on 02.05.2017.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Page 4 of 12

STAGE 2: EVIDENCE AND IMPACT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act)	Evidence	e and infor	mation	(e.g. data	and feedback)	Any adverse impact See guidance on how to make judgement	Actions	Timescale and who is responsible
Age	data for F Figures ill data (Plyr library us assumptic outlined i figures ar caused by The repre	Plymstock Li ustrated be mstock Radf ers from dis on gives an i in the propo e indicative displacing uses esentation con pan the city ouples looki	low takes ord) and splaced li ndicative osal could of the po users fro of the 64- average.	ard. (Plymstock adds the p braries to the figure of he d impact ex otential imp m the gene thage group This area t	ographic indicator ock Radford) I location ward level otential additional he sum total. This ow closing libraries sting sites. These act that could be ral population. Is significantly raditionally houses uburbs, away from	Events at this library cater for a wide age range and the only demographic targeted with any exclusivity via events are parents and children via Rhymetimes and Storytimes, and Active Steps events aimed at the Over 50s. Other events cater for all ranges. There may be an adverse impact to users if there is significant displacement to this library from the libraries that are closing. For example more demand on services like public access PC's for young or older	Promote online lending of eBooks Library staff will provide assistance to anyone who needs help accessing the service on line Promote click and collect service which will be available at outreach venues Promote the outreach locations where library services will be delivered Reassess staffing levels as a result of closure of library to provide additional capacity for in-library and outreach offers.	A Macdonald tbc

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Page 5 of 12

	the lib sched figure	0- 2264 2655 221 15 16- 7172 9803 106				641 partito podate of tof dibrary	opularity is demand. Indicative displaced persons		people, or demand for targeted children's activities e.g. rhyme time etc. However this impact will be reduced due to the commitment that has been made for the activities and services which currently run from these libraries to be provided by an alternative library, or through the online and outreach offers		
	Max	netime PW ndees	67	NA	15			-45	People 64+ have free bus passes		
Disability	Curre	ently peo	ple age	1 60+ ar	e entitle	ed to	a free b	us pass			
Disability		to day a		Numb			% var		There may be an adverse impact to	Promote the outreach service effectively in areas	A Macdonald
		ted a lot ted a litt		1180		.5 1.1	-0.5 +1.3		users if there is significant	where a library is closing	
	Figure	s above	relate t	o Plymst	ock Lib	rary	Ward (F	lymstock eported	displacement to this library from the	Ensure that outreach	

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

that they had a long term health condition or disability at the last Census, this is slightly higher (+0.2%) than the citywide average.

There are six people who recorded their first language as British Sign Language. in the last census.

Private transport is the preferred option for the majority of mobility impaired adults (69% in 2013).

Transport statistics reveal that despite 85% of the UK bus fleet being accessible 25% of mobility impaired passengers report experiencing difficulty using public transport.

There are some health related activities and provision available at Plymstock Library. This aimed at mixed ability groups and there are some events targeting particular issues including mental health.

There are suitable car parks (The Broadway) within close proximity to Plymstock library with dedicated disabled parking spaces.

Figures illustrated below takes Plymstock location ward level data (Plymstock Radford) and adds the potential additional library users from displaced libraries to the sum total. This assumption gives an indicative figure of how closing libraries outlined in the proposal could impact existing sites. At present we are able to provide a breakdown of active users by age group as Management Information is unavailable. These figures are indicative of the potential impact that could be caused by displacing users from the general population. (To note; as above, Laira and Efford fall under the same ward, therefore have the same number of potentially displaced users

libraries that are more demand on disabled spaces for parking.

will be reduced due to the commitment that has been made for the activities and services which currently run from these libraries to be provided by an alternative library, or through the online and outreach offers

An adverse impact may be the availability of wheelchair accessible spaces on public transport, generally only one on each bus.

The limited availability of parking spaces for blue badge holders in the vicinity of the alternative libraries may have an impact on users.

locations that are selected closing. For example for delivering library services are DDA compliant

Reassess staffing levels as a result of closure of library However this impact to provide additional capacity for in-library and outreach offers.

	Day to Day Activities Limited a Lot Limited a	Central		Efford 394	Tothill 1238	Variance with displaced users +1473				
	Little									
Disability	Safe Place Locations If a person with a learning disability with an 'I need help' card, needs assistance when they are in the community, they can show this to a member of staff in a Safe Place. Someone will then call their designated person or the Police, depending on what the circumstances may be. Venues involved in the scheme are easily identifiable by the yellow logo displayed in their front window. Going to a Safe Place can be used in any situation where a person with a learning disability is feeling vulnerable. For example, if someone is being called names or if they are being bullied. Or they may have missed the bus and are feeling overwhelmed. Plymstock Library is a designated safe place along with 8 other Plymstock locations.						an will g on ne a	No adverse impact as this Safe Space will be retained.	N/A	N/A

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Page 8 of 12

Faith/religion or								
belief	Religion	Number	%	% var		No impact	N/A	N/A
	Christian	8322	66.7	+8.6	ar	nticipated.		
	Buddhist	30	0.2	-0. I				
	Hindu	4	0.0	-0.2				
	Jewish	4	0.0	-0. I				
	Muslim	19	0.2	-0.6				
	Sikh	2	0.0	0.0				
	Other Religion	33	0.3	-0.2				
	No religion	3184	25.5	-7.4				
	Not stated	882	7. I	0.0				
	Residents in Plymsto profess Christianity than the citywide po	and less likel						
Gender - including marriage,	Residents are more average (+1%). Men			han the	ac	There may be an adverse impact to women if there is significant displacement to this library from the libraries that are closing in order to	Promote the outreach service effectively in areas where a Library is closing Reassess staffing levels as a result of closure of library to provide additional capacity for in-library and	A Macdonald
pregnancy and maternity	Residents are less like the city wide average 1.8%) and more like. Anecdotal evidence	e (-14.7%), le ly to be widd	ess likel owed (+	y to be (2.5%)	ed than signed (- di			
	who accompany chil		•		ar or H	ccess Rhymetimes nd other children rientated activities. However this impact will be reduced due	outreach offers.	

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Page 9 of 12

						to the commitment that has been made for the activities and services which currently run from these libraries to be provided by an alternative library, or through the online and outreach offers.		
Gender reassignment	Data covering gen level.	der reassignm	ent is no	t availab	le at ward	N/A	N/A	N/A
Race	Ethnicity	Number	%	% var		No adverse impact is anticipated.	Consider making closure information available in other languages where required / requested.	A Macdonald tbc
	White British	12107	97.0					
	White Other	157	1.3	-1.9	-			
	Mixed	99	0.8					
	Asian/Asian British	59	0.5					
	Black/Black British	42	0.3	-0.4				
	Other ethnic group	16	0.1	-0.3				
	Over 99% of residence of their main language average. Portugue language.	e. This is 3.4%	higher t	han the	citywide			

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Page 10 of 12

	Census 2011.			
	Residents are more likely to be White British (+5.4%) than the average across the city. All other minority and BME groups are substantially less represented in this ward.			
Sexual orientation -including civil partnership	, 9	No impact anticipated.	N/A	N/A

STAGE 3: ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING? IF SO, PLEASE RECORD ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

Local priorities	Implications	Timescale and who is responsible
Reduce the gap in average hourly pay between men and women by 2020.	The libraries service employs four staff per opening hour at Plymstock library, no impact is anticipated on current pay levels.	N/A
Increase the number of hate crime incidents reported and maintain good satisfaction rates in dealing with racist, disablist, homophobic, transphobic and faith, religion and belief incidents by 2020.	The library does not currently carry information about reporting hate crime; Fully trained staff are available at Central Library are on hand to support. Residents are able to report hate crime incidents on the www.plymouth.gov.uk website.	N/A
Good relations between different communities (community cohesion)	The headline rate of Community Cohesion in Plymstock Radford is 85%, this is 9% above the citywide average and 4% below the national average. The library will continue to make a key contribution to providing an effective community space. No impact is anticipated	N/A
Human rights Please refer to guidance	The Council is required to act in a way which is compatible with the rights granted under the European Convention of Human Rights. The Council also has a duty under section 7 of the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 to provide a comprehensive and efficient service for all persons desiring to make use	N/A

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Page 11 of 12

thereof.	
This provision will continue to reduce the potential risk of social isolation for elderly or vulnerable members of the public.	

STAGE 4: PUBLICATION

Date 02.05.2017

Responsible Officer

Assistant Director for Customer Services