NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Services

Appendix to consultation analysis report

December 2018 to March 2019

Author: Consultation, Equalities & Accessibility Team, BIPM, Northamptonshire County Council

Owner: Public Health, Northamptonshire County Council
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Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services

Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

Copy of questionnaire and full results

Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Services

Consultation Questionnaire

[Library name]

In October 2017 a public consultation was held around three proposals for the future of Northamptonshire Libraries. Details of this consultation are available on our website www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/past-consultations.

Following a Judicial Review in August 2018, the decision to keep 15 libraries under Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) control and offer the other 21 to community groups to be run as independent libraries was quashed. In September 2018, the new Chief Executive of NCC conducted a new review of the library service, to make sure that NCC delivers its statutory duty to provide a “comprehensive and efficient” library service, whilst achieving the necessary savings for the Council by identifying opportunities to work with community groups to co-produce community managed libraries where possible. Following meetings with community groups, parishes, towns and Borough and District councils, individual proposals have been identified for nearly every library within the county. We are now consulting on these proposals.

This questionnaire asks you to respond about just one library, and the proposal for the library that you are responding to is explained later in this questionnaire. If you would like to know more about all of the proposals developed so far, please visit our website www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations for more information.

[Details of the current stage of the consultation outlining which libraries were open to consultation were outlined here within each questionnaire.]

Please let us know if you would like us to contact you when we begin consultation on the above libraries, our contact details are below.

The proposals we have developed set out how we might deliver library services in your community in future. The proposals demonstrate the aim to keep as many libraries open as possible. However, for a number of libraries, we need community support to help us to achieve this.
If we are unable to keep libraries open in certain communities, we will explore the potential to deliver library services in other ways, such as through alternative venues within communities, online services or through the Library to You Service.

NCC cannot consider maintaining the library service in its current form due to budgetary constraints and the need to deliver savings to stabilise the organisation and to ensure that the remaining Library provision is sustainable. The proposals being put forward meet the statutory requirement in any event.

We recognise that there are a number of alternative models in other areas, however the current proposals are able to offer a solution which maintains the optimum number of libraries within the most efficient and sustainable cost model.

The proposals harness already strong community support for local libraries and use local knowledge and enthusiasm to provide the building blocks for a sustainable library offer. We are very grateful for the commitment shown by local groups in developing these proposals, which, as presented offer the best possible solution for each community.

Please see our website www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations for a copy of the Cabinet paper and details of the proposals for each library.

Your feedback will be used to help us have a better understanding of people’s views on the above proposal and will help us shape the future of Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Services. Your feedback will be part of a report with many other people’s feedback, so you will not be personally identified.

You do not have to answer all of the questions. If you don’t want to answer a question, or don’t know the answer, then move on to the next question.

You can also give us your comments at the [library name] consultation drop-in event and speak to a member of staff about the proposal. Please contact us or see our website www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations for details as to when this will be held.

You can also give us your views by emailing or writing to us. Please see our contact details below.

If you need any help in completing this questionnaire, please speak to a member of Library staff. Completed questionnaires can be returned to a member of library staff or in a pre-paid envelope, which are available upon request.
Before completing this questionnaire we recommend you read the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, which is available on our website www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations.

If you have any queries, comments or would like a copy of this survey in another format (including easy read or large print), or would like a questionnaire for another library, you can contact us by email, post or telephone. Our contact details are as follows:

**Email address:** consult@northamptonshire.gov.uk  
**Postal address:** Consultation, Equalities and Accessibility Team, BIPM, Northamptonshire County Council, One Angel Square, Angel Street, Northampton NN1 1ED  
**Telephone:** 0300 126 1000

The deadline for completing this survey is *[deadline date]*.

Thank you for helping us by completing this questionnaire.
About you

Q. Please tell us in what capacity you are responding to this questionnaire? Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 1,970 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

A Northamptonshire Library & Information Service customer | 1,273 | 64.6%
A user of Universal Children’s Centre services at a library | 170 | 8.6%
A resident of Northamptonshire | 1,354 | 68.7%
A Member of a Library Friends group | 173 | 8.8%
Library volunteer | 196 | 9.9%
Member of library staff | 29 | 1.5%
Councillor (please state below which council you represent) | 30 | 1.5%
User representative group | 38 | 1.9%
Provider organisation | 13 | 0.7%
Partner organisation (e.g. Clinical Commissioning Group, Community NHS Health Trust) | 10 | 0.5%
Borough, District, Town or Parish Council | 28 | 1.4%
Other | 62 | 3.1%

If ‘Other’ please specify:
- A local Clergy [name...] I am a [name...] resident in Burton Latimer for a period of almost [number] years. Along with other professionals, I am concerned that the
children of the Town have continuing access to a Library with all it's varied facilities. I am also a Grand[parent], and at least three of my Grandchildren have been, (or still are), users of the Library when they are here with me. [name].

- A member of school staff in the area
- A resident who supports the library for our community.
- A user of libraries... a facility that she be offered as part of children's education and the ongoing betterment of all adults...
- An ex children's services professional
- An ex teacher with a passion for everyone to have access to a local library
- and representing a community organisation that will collaborate with Abington Library
- Billing Parish Council
- Borough Council of Wellingborough – Councillor (2)
- C.E Academy, tutoring young people permanently excluded from mainstream education.
- C.E. Academy
- [Redacted] Bridgwater Residents Association (Abington Vale)
- Cllr - Burton Latimer Town Council (2)
- Councillor with Towcester Town Council
- Craft group
- Craft group Tues PM
- Desborough
- Desborough Town Council
- Earls Barton Parish Council
- [Redacted] of Northgate School Arts College and The Bee Hive.
- Governor Deanshanger Primary School
- Grandparent
- Have recently applied to be a volunteer and join the Friends’ group.
- I am a library customer and member of groups that use the library facilities for social and community events
- I am a user of my local library in Long Buckby which I visit with my young son on a regular basis. I'm also [redacted] of a local branch of the Federation of Children’s Book Groups, Northamptonshire Children's Book Group, who's aims are to promote reading for pleasure in children.
- I come for regular sessions with my little one
- I have put my name down to volunteer, but haven’t started yet
- I'm a regular at Abington library and maintain the libraries surrounding areas, as a volunteer which I enjoy doing plus it helps my mental state of mind.
- Irchester Parish Council – Councillor (2)
- Irthlingborough (councillor)
- Little Irchester – councillor
- Local teacher and Dad of 3
- Long Buckby Parish Council - councillor
• NCC employee
• Northamptonshire County Council – Councillor (2)
• Parent of a primary age child with a disability
• Parent of children who are also customers of Rothwell Library
• Parish councillor for hartwell
• Prepared to help out as a volunteer for a few hours a week and 10 mins walk away if needed 2 [post code] [name]
• Regular user of local library
• Regular visitor to Northamptonshire the county of my birth
• Resident (2)
• Resident of Higham Ferrers
• School Governor
• South Northamptonshire Council
• Spaces for children next month
• St George, Northamptonshire County Council (councillor)
• Student and life-long resident in Northamptonshire.
• Thrapston Town council
• Weedon Bec parish councillor
• Wootton Parish Council

Library usage

Q. Please tell us which library(s) you regularly use? Please tick (✓) all that apply

There were 1,926 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.
Please tell us which library(s) you regularly use?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abington</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brackley</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brixworth</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton Latimer</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corby</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danesholme</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daventry</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deanshanger</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desborough</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duston</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earls Barton</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Cotton</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consultation, Equalities & Accessibility Team

v1.0
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finedon</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higham Ferrers</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunsbury</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irchester</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irthlingborough</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsthorpe</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Buckby</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middleton Cheney</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moulton</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton Central</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oundle</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raunds</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roade</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothwell</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushden</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St James</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrapston</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towcester</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellingborough</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weston Favell</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wollaston</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodford Halse</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wootton</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable - I do not regularly use a library</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[The paper questionnaires were specific for each individual library. The following question was only asked on the online question to identify which library the respondent wished to provide their feedback on. The number of paper questionnaires received for each library has been included within the below results.]

**Q. Please select a library to give your views on. If you don’t use a library, you can give your views on your closest library. If you would like to give your views on another library, please complete another questionnaire for that library.**

There were 1,871 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

Please select a library to give your views on. If you don't use a library, you can give your views on your closest library. If you would like to give your views on another library, please complete another questionnaire for that library.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abington</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brackley</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brixworth</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton Latimer</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corby</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danesholme</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daventry</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deanshanger</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desborough</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duston</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earls Barton</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Cotton</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finedon</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higham Ferrers</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsgrove</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Buckby</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middleton Cheney</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moulton</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton Central</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orton</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raunds</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roades</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothwell</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushden</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St James</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrivinston</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towcester</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellingborough</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westfield</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetherden</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodford Halse</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wootton</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This questionnaire is about [library name], so please provide answers to the following questions in respect of this library. If you would like to give your views on another library(s) please complete another questionnaire for that library(s).

Q. As we are asking people to fill in a questionnaire for each library they regularly use please can you tell us if you have already completed a questionnaire about another library(s)?

There were 1,491 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.
As a reminder this questionnaire is about [library name], and the analysis of such will be considered **on this library alone**. If you wish to provide feedback on another library you regularly attend please do so by completing another questionnaire.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>54 3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>1,437 96.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abington Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Abington Library?

There were 38 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Abington Library</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Abington Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 39 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>84.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Learning Services
- to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Services</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Digital Services
- to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Services</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Health Services
- to access information and advice
- health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Information Services
- to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Services</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>41.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Culture Services
- to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| I do not currently use library services in Abington Library | 2 | 5.1% |
| **TOTAL**                                                                 | 39 |     |

### About Abington Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Abington Library will become a Community Managed Library service in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with the Friends of the Library and members of the wider community to explore potential to develop a partnership with the nearby Community Centre to share resources to exploit the potential for joint working.

It is proposed that Abington Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 2 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Weston Favell and has a relatively low number of physical visits.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 37 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>24.3%</td>
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Response number

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 27 responses to this question

- Abington library is a loved place for the local community. The proposal will benefit the Community Center and Library and keep this much needed library open. This would mean that all the children’s services and activities for all ages will be available to the local people who presently benefit from having this vital hub within reach. As a volunteer I see how much the library is needed.
- The library would remain open and be of service to the local community. Although hours of opening may be restricted, at least there would be some assess
- I think this is a great idea and if successful this could give the library, community center and services a wider scope.
- Keeping the library open for the community is essential. This option is a good one and the only one that achieves that outcome. I have volunteered at the library for 9 years, I have first hand knowledge of the high esteem the library holds within our community.
Abington Library is vital to the local community - especially our children. It ought to be fully funded by NCC and then the new unitary LA. Millions of pounds of public funds have been squandered by NCC. We cannot let our community services pay for their mismanagement and potential corruption.

Answered on the assumption that the above solution means become a community managed library (CML). CML will not necessarily confine 'partnerships' to the nearby community centre (and no others).

Would provide people of all ages, especially the elderly, easy access to a library

Abington needs to stay open. It gives the opportunity for young children, busy parents, elderly local residents to have access to information in many forms. The residents do not all have cars or are able or mobile enough to wait at bus stops to get to other libraries.

Abington Library is in an area which benefits from the library but also for other social needs of the community

Working jointly with the community centre has real potential, especially if room booking becomes easier, rooms become more versatile and this service is well promoted. The audience for Abington Library is wide, and with the right advertising especially through social media (as demonstrated at the Magic Show held during the last half term) could easily become even wider. The library volunteers and the Friends are passionate about keeping the library open, and as a team we will work together to ensure this happens. Abington library is a unique, special venue. It has the potential to: not only continue to be a community run library, host all the wonderful events, groups and children's activities, but to also become a place that other groups, organisations and individuals choose as a base, or as a place for their special event.

The library needs to be kept open for the community

The decision to close this library deprives the surrounding community in Abington, Headlands, and Eastfield, of a vital service which offers a wide range of library and information facilities. This library is small, comfortable and welcoming. It offers easy access to those with mobility handicaps. The garden is a particular attraction and benefit to young children. It has a long tradition as a place where all in our community find contact with the local authority services and information in a non threatening environment. It has become the essential hub in an area not well provided with other services. The facilities for young families and school age children are reinforcement to the welfare and education networks. Older users have a place where they can use newspapers, magazines, on line information with the back up of friendly local government staff. The support of volunteers and a coffee machine make this a welcoming haven for those who want company, information and social contact. In summary this place is a centre for social cohesion and well being. The opportunity to read should be a right for all in terms of Lifelong Learning. Without Abington Library residents have difficult and long journeys to access Weston Favell
Library with attendant difficulty in access to an upper floor library with long walk from the entrance via 2 lifts.

- This is an important place for all residents in the locality to access library services, not everyone has a car. I went to this library as a child (now [age]) I have taken my grandchildren there and would be devastated to loose the vital part our community. I don't see why we should lose this service due to the appalling mismanagement of Council funds by the so called people in charge. Shame on them and the huge pay off they got for destroying this town.

- Library should remain in council provision. The extortionate rents and other charges mean this is closure in all but name

- Lack of training of volunteers, its all very well being keen but without the training duties such as issue of bus passes have a dramatically reduced value as the volunteers will not have the skills to identify fraudulent applications.

- Very upset that the library will relocate and cease to be part of the statutory set-up. I have seen people in tears about this. How are older local people or mums with pushchairs supposed to pop up to Weston Favell?

- Voluntary run library is likely to fail through difficulties of managing and recruiting volunteers.

- I think the closure of any local library is a negative step. What does it say about a community that can provide nail bars and takeaway shops at all hours yet does not feel that it can fund a basic local library service?

- It would be detrimental to the local area if the library services ceases. Abington library may well be within a couple of miles of Weston Favell library, but there are many elderly local residents who are unable to access the service at Weston Favell. (If they do somehow manage to get to Weston Favell these people have not been helped recently by the lift at the library being out of order for a ridiculously long time.) There seem to be a succession of groups which use Abington library, most especially children's services and it would be such a shame if these had to cease. Children can pop into the library on their way home from school, and I personally value the fact that the library is within walking distance of my home. Please save Abington library if at all possible.

- Libraries are of absolutely fundamental importance to their local communities and the cutting of funding will have a direct impact on the literacy of the local community, most particularly young people. It is a terrible shame that it is proposed to all but close Abington library, so that it will rely wholly on volunteers. It provides an absolutely vital service to the local community, many of whom will not have the transport to be able to access the Weston Favell centre library. It is within walking distance of more than one local school and restricting its service will have a direct detrimental impact on the local children. It is a hub of vital services that supports local families. The council should be taking a long hard look at how they got themselves to a situation where they are cutting such wonderful and vital services. The government should be providing funding to support children's literacy, without
which children’s lives and their opportunities are stunted. I am gravely concerned that the council are disregarding their duties.

- Because the library should stay part of the NCC statutory provision
- This excellent branch library serves a local community with some deprivation. I am concerned that a move from a professionally managed and publicly funded library will eventually lead to a deterioration in the quality of the library provision-no matter how well intentioned volunteers are.
- If there is no support for the Library at all then it will struggle to meet the cost of overheads. It will need the County Council to use it on a paid basis as a venue for other services such as children's services such as early years support, Sure Start, parent support groups, safe provision to support homework etc. The needs of the elderly and vulnerable to reduce loneliness, support carers can also be met here as can the provision of local meeting space for social care workers to meet with service users. The responsibility for the outcome being poor or good is not leaving the Council. If you set it up to fail then inevitably it will do so. If no support is going to be given then a tapered reduction in the withdrawal of support for overheads is a must and could be met from the recent government announcement that NCC can claim a 5% increase in Council Tax. Much better if the Council agrees to meet the over heads completely from the 'breaking of the rules 'especially for this... council!
- Libraries are of absolutely fundamental importance to their local communities and the cutting of funding will have a direct impact on the literacy of the local community, most particularly young people. It is a terrible shame that it is proposed to all but close Abington library, so that it will rely wholly on volunteers. It provides an absolutely vital service to the local community, many of whom will not have the transport to be able to access the Weston Favell centre library. It is within walking distance of more than one local school and restricting its service will have a direct detrimental impact on the local children. It is a hub of vital services that supports local families. The council should be taking a long hard look at how they got themselves to a situation where they are cutting such wonderful and vital services. The government should be providing funding to support children’s literacy, without which children’s lives and their opportunities are stunted. I am gravely concerned that the council are disregarding their duties.
- This would at least, allow the service to continue in some way.
- It’s a good solution if it keeps the library open but not good is the threat of it closing altogether if the new arrangements don’t work. It puts an important public service in a precarious position, due wholly to the mismanagement of our local councils by those who were trusted to provide such public services to the people of Northamptonshire. Library services are an essential part of the fabric of a civilised society, in my view, along with clean streets, good road surfaces & pavements, green spaces, public toilets that are free to use and open, good reliable public transport & cycle provision - in fact those things that provide the basis of civilised living to make life & leisure pleasurable for citizens. To not have these services as a matter of course
is detrimental to us all and in my view sends a very poor message about what those who “run” this town consider important.

- This service is an important local resource in a deprived area. Children can avail themselves of workspace, reading material, homework clubs and generally a safe area they can reach out to. I would not like for any of this not to be available to the children in the local community.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 20 responses to this question

- To not have this service would be detrimental to the children in the area. Weston Favell is not within safe walking distance for the majority of the pre-school and primary school aged children. This service is an important local resource in a deprived area. Children can avail themselves of workspace, reading material, homework clubs and generally a safe area they can reach out to. I would not like for any of this not to be available to the children in the local community.
- Financial resources will be limited and the potential risk of failure is high. Volunteers will be placed under increased stress trying to make a success of something that should be provided by NCC
- The area surrounding this library has some of the lowest income per household of the entire town, the services that are provided here are the most valuable to these people, this small library literally changes lives of community around it. It’s loss will be devastating to it.
- This library should remain, it is a vital part of our community.
- No charges to the new management structure
- Would be a good solution to use the building for this purpose
- Impact on provision of library and community resources for a relatively deprived part of the borough community.
- The Prison Service currently accept the Bus Pass as identification. Already the NHS does not so it is too late for you to recover the situation.
- Limited access to services for local residents with limited mobility (e.g. older people, single parents, young people)... need to give assurances that the community centre provision will be open at right times and have time to get going
- Loss of focus for community and loss of source of reading and information for residents.
- I have witnessed the help and support being given to children studying and completing homework at this Library and as wonderful as volunteers can be I am concerned that they will not all have the skills of a qualified librarian or trained educator to make this work successfully. Similarly volunteers will need training and support to identify children, young people and other vulnerable adults and all carers
who are at risk of harm and they will need to know how to handle that and where to refer attendees as needed. Given that the Council seems to be on a course to 'walk away' from this community which has some deprived people in its ranks I am concerned that they will suffer a loss of support in crisis and real need as a result. I believe that volunteers can provide a good service if, and only if, they are supported with training, mentoring and the guidance that is needed. The Council needs to ensure that this is available to them. Local Councillors must provide advice and support facilities at the Library on a regular basis as services are cut both in Education and Social Care.

- Abington Library is vital to the local community - especially our children. It ought to be fully funded by NCC and then the new unitary LA. Millions of pounds of public funds have been squandered by NCC. We cannot let our vital community services pay for their mismanagement and potential corruption.
- There isn't anything positive regarding closure of a varied source of information, contact and learning facility in a populated area.
- Whilst Abington library has a committed Friends Group I do not think they will be able to replicate the facilities that should be provided by a local library open (at least) 5 days per week.
- See above!
- The potential negative impact of the present proposal is the threat to add stress on to a local community which experiences a level level of social deprivation. The Unitary authority or County Council should provide a regular forum and staff as Librarian and financial support. 2 part posts of professional Librarian and Finance officer should be set up to service this and the other small libraries to be taken out of County Management. They should visit all these libraries and liaise with the community committee taking on responsibility for Abington. Arrangements should be offered for regular updating provision of fresh book stocks for loan. Information via leaflets and online sources should be made available. Ongoing I.T advice should be available from LGSS or County service to ensure continuity of maintenance and advice.
- Negative because the building should still be supplied and maintained by NCC. It is unfair to put that burden on the local community, which is not wealthy. Also negative that it will have to accommodate fewer books simply because more space will most probably be required so that volunteers can run money-generating activities. This will be an undesirable outcome for me and all other library users who want to continue to access a good selection of books - fiction, non-fiction, large print etc and to use what is at present an excellent LIBRARY facility in our local community. I have long avoided using Central Library because it has become such a mish-mash of areas and Weston Favell is not easily accessible for anyone with disabilities and often seems to have VERY noisy activities going on that are off-putting to the traditional library browser.
• Please see above. Negative impacts should be mitigated by halting the proposals to cut these services which are absolutely vital to the local community and cannot be adequately replaced by a volunteer service.
• Visiting a library further afield isn’t as convenient for me as a user of the service with mobility issues. Additionally, the current building adds to the experience of visiting the library, from childhood memories of time spent there to the atmosphere that is comfortable & enjoyable to read, learn & relax in.
• Please see above. Perhaps some of the marketing budget or other unnecessary expenditure could be utilised to support essential services such as libraries. I would suggest that weekday opening until 6pm and being closed at weekends means that the service is now unfortunately completely inaccessible to people who are at work during the week.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Abington Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 11 responses to this question

• I am happy to extend the services provided there; for it to become a hub for the local community for other reasons as well resources. It seems a shame that local resources are paying the price, for problems created by other areas of the economy and governance. That forethought and innovation from previous generations is to be lost. The impact of these decisions will be visited on the children of the coming decades - a cost which it is impossible to put a figure on now but future generations will be able to cost this loss to their communities and families. Info tech is a shifting landscape still, the cost of the loss of this resource to the richness of these communities, their resilience and ability to flourish are at least in part due to the resources found in their communities.
• The library should be part of NCC statutory provision.
• Keep it as it is.
• retain within ncc
• Seek additional funding from central government. Seek to raise council tax.
• I am afraid that I have come to the conclusion that you are not able to do anything properly and simply waste money for a laugh
• I have said before A) Use some of the 5% council Tax rise to support the Volunteers and meet the buildings overheads. B) Support Training for Volunteers to enable them to identify those who are vulnerable and to provide good signposting to services to them and to others who need support. C) Offer Fundraising training and support to the management group. D) Support Voluntary Impact to enable them to do some of the above...
• The NCC keeping the library open.
• Abington Library is vital to the local community - especially our children. It ought to be fully funded by NCC and then the new unitary LA. Millions of pounds of public
funds have been squandered by NCC. We cannot let our community services pay for their mismanagement and potential corruption.

- I think it should be kept open, ideally for at least 5 days per week. Once opening hours for a library are restricted a vicious circle seems to set in.
- NCC keep the library open as now

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Abington Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 13 responses to this question

- I do not think that the value of the building and the land that it is sited on is worth more than the impact of the loss of the library. The 'fruit' of the service is not accounted for anywhere in terms of the mental wellbeing it provides; opportunity for self-help, control over one's own destiny when family life around you seems to be out of your control, an oasis when times are difficult and that is before you start choosing a book! Once replaced by homes, space in the 'right place' is lost the library is central to this community.
- NCC support will be essential in making this a success and no information regarding the level of this support has been outlined to in this consultation.
- Shame on the Council for allowing their highly paid CEO on bringing this Council and this town to its knees.
- At least the proposal gives some hope of a future and possible restoration of properly funded and maintained local authority resource.
- The library service is short of reference books (which is why I have stopped using it regularly). These can cost hundreds of pounds a copy. Information on the World Wide Web can be inaccurate to say the least. For example I am currently trying to find out about [redacted], there is a lot of information on the Web some of it accurate but perhaps 90% rubbish though it does not look to be so at first sight. Most of the video presentations, which are very professional in deed, attribute [redacted] to the [redacted] - I think that this might be wrong but interestingly nobody is specifically ruling it out. Even the [organisation] are to be doubted - on the TV news they are today (1 Feb) maintaining that in the USA they have set the railway tracks on fire to keep them warm - I don't believe that either, it's more likely to be poorly maintained points heaters. By failing to provide a decent service you are undermining the education system and fueling a society that runs on rumor and untruths.
- Abington library is a real gem. Please reconsider this decision
- Libraries need professional support.
- I feel exceedingly sad that this proposal is necessary whilst those who have created this situation seemingly survive and prosper.
- "Community Managed Library" is a limited definition in my eyes. Positives and negatives will change over time and I am optimistic that the range of the former will
come to outweigh any negatives. The negatives are relatively unknowable at present but may depend in part of any understandings, or future actions of NCC. A "free rein" to community management will be an initial positive I suspect.

- What does "a relatively low number of physical visits" mean? (p8) Instead of being used as a stick with which to beat the service shouldn't our head of library services be asking why and how these visits can be improved?

- Friendly building, helpful staff. Keep it open

- The presence of an active Friends Group and much loved Librarians has provided invaluable benefit to this community. All those involved should be thanked and acknowledged. Total commitment from the Local Authority is due to continue their legacy.

- This library was opened in September 1939. It welcomed evacuee children then and it continues to provide an excellent facility for local children. It is a great shame that, if NCC continues with its plan to remove this library from the statutory provision, it can only celebrate its 80th anniversary in September if volunteers 'rescue' it.
Brackley Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Brackley Library?

There were 35 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>7 20.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>9 25.7%</td>
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<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>10 28.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>4 11.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>4 11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Brackley library</td>
<td>1 2.9%</td>
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Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Brackley Library:
Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 36 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

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<th>Response number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>31 86.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>13 36.1%</td>
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Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

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<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Digital Services</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culture Services</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>30.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Brackley Library</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>36</td>
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About Brackley Library and its proposed future

No changes are proposed for Brackley Library and it is proposed that Brackley Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability. There is £270,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.
A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 33 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

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<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 18 responses to this question

- Only a good solution for Brackley Library. I don't know how well it will work out for many other libraries.
- Brackley is a growing town and certainly has potential to make more money by using its building in different ways. The investment of the section 106 money would create spaces that could be hired and create revenue. Brackley library would provide services at the southernmost end of the county for those that are unable to reach Towcester such as job club, universal services for the under 5s, computer use, bus pass and Blue Badge provision.
- The library is a great resource for our whole family
• This is a valued and, above all, well used community facility. Anything that helps to maintain and develop it gets my approval.
• It’s a brilliant library and is well used, it’s very important for the local area and is used by all sections and ages of the community. It is a great social hub and helps all whether young or older.
• It would be excellent to retain the services to the ever-growing community and all the community services that the library provides.
• This is a busy, important library and the staff work extremely hard to make it a viable service for many different groups of people. I am pleased to hear that NCC recognise this and are prepared to continue supporting it. I hope that this decision lasts and that the uncertainty that the library staff and users have been experiencing for the past year disappears.
• Because it’s a vital service in the community
• I am so pleased that there are no plans to shut or relocate Brackley Library! I go there 3 times a week with my 3 month old son, and it’s great to get access to story stomp, rhyme time and play and learn! This is good not just for my son’s development, but also for me to meet other parents in the area. The staff are also wonderful.
• Brackley Library is an essential service for Brackley and the villages/population in the surrounding area, it is a relevant consideration that there is no longer a mobile library service.
• Using this approach keeps the library open which is what the community wants. Our family makes use of the library regularly for various reasons and wish to continue doing so.
• Brackley has expanded hugely and has several schools and also several areas of sheltered living accommodation. Young and old people are less likely to be able to travel far for their needs. Schools should have the facilities for all kinds of educational activities which are provided by Brackley library. It also provides many social activities such as under 5s provision to mothers and babies and toddlers, meeting areas for people with disabilities and many more. Bus passes are renewed here and the IT and reference facilities are first class.
• No changes please. Brackley library and Children's Centre is a superb service to the community particularly to those groups who need it the most.
• Brackley library serves a wide area of mainly rural residents who have no other opportunity of easy access to the services Brackley Library provides.
• I think it is good that they have decided to keep Brackley Library open as it serves a lot of people and has been helping children read and access books since I was a child - over 30 years! I look forward to continuing to use it with my children.
• Brackley Library is an essential service and it is good to see it being retained.
• Opening hours have been reduced at Brackley. Newspapers have been withdrawn and book stock drastically reduced, to say nothing is going to change is unsatisfactory
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

- The opening hours have been reduced which means it’s hard for us to get there in time to use it. We used to go weekly but now we hardly go because it shuts at 5 instead of 6.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 3 responses to this question
  - I see nothing negative about keeping this library open and under NCC statutory provision.
  - Increase opening hours, particularly evenings & weekends. Drastically improve book & newspaper stock
  - What happens when the section 106 funding is used up? Will the council find itself in the same position of consulting to close it?

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Brackley Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 3 responses to this question
  - Increase council tax. Stand up to government austerity
  - Keep open till 6pm please!
  - Proposal lacks details on hours and services - would be disappointed to see any reduction in operating hours

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Brackley Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 3 responses to this question
  - The staff and volunteers in the library are excellent in complementing the services provided.
  - Brackley’s library is an asset. The staff are fantastic. You would be doing the public and the staff a disservice by closing it. The proposed plans to keep it open are fantastic
  - An increase in the current opening hours, especially at weekends, would be welcome.
Brixworth Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Brixworth Library?

There were 11 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>More often than once a week</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>27.3%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<td>Fortnightly</td>
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<td>Monthly</td>
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<td>27.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Brixworth library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Brixworth Library:
Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 11 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
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<td>27.3%</td>
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**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

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<td>2</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
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**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

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**Health Services** – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
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</table>

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

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<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
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**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

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<td>3</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Brixworth Library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL** 11

**About Brixworth Library and its proposed future**

No changes are proposed for Brixworth Library and it is proposed that Brixworth Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

There is £11,800 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 9 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
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<tr>
<td>0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 33.3% 44.4% 22.2%</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 33.3% 44.4% 22.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 2 responses to this question

- I am very happy that our library will be largely unchanged but consider that the budget of less than £12k is a bit of a joke. Surely such an important community service deserves more.
- Because it is a well used library, especially being located alongside the Community Centre, so if the library closed the activities in the Community Centre would also be at risk. The whole Library and Community Centre building is central to the community of Brixworth and the surrounding villages.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 0 responses to this question

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Brixworth Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There was 1 response to this question
- Larger range of books

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Brixworth Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 0 responses to this question
**Burton Latimer Library**

**Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Burton Latimer Library?**

There were 70 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar chart showing frequency of library visits]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Burton Latimer library</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Burton Latimer Library:** Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 70 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serices</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Services</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
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Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Services</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
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Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

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<thead>
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<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Services</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
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Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I do not currently use library services in Burton Latimer Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
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</table>

TOTAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
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</table>

About Burton Latimer Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Burton Latimer Library will be run by a community group in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with Burton Latimer Town Council and The Friends of Burton Latimer Library.

It is proposed that these groups will work together to take over the running of the library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services, such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services currently provided in Burton Latimer Library will continue to be delivered.

This could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.

It is proposed that Burton Latimer Library will no longer form part of NCC statutory library provision. This library was not part of the original proposals, however, the latest needs
analysis shows that this service does not need to be part of statutory provision. The needs assessment has identified that this library is not required to be statutory due to its low deprivation, short travel distances to alternative provision being within 5 miles of a Kettering which is remaining as part of NCC statutory provision and no high ‘need’ in the 0-10 and 60+ populations.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

There is £48,800 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.  
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 55 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 is poor solution and 5 is good solution</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Poor solution</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 Good solution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 33 responses to this question

- It is important that the library will still have access to books in other libraries and the electronic infrastructure.
- The town needs a library. It is not just about books buy other services such as bus pass renewal. Some older people would feel uncomfortable going into a large library like Kettering’s (That is not a criticism of Kettering Library)
- To close the library would be the worst solution. The suggested groups will have Burton Latimer’s best interests at heart and can probably extend the service.
- I am happy to see that the Library, with all its varied services, will be continuing.
- It would be good to have some money spent on the library. Please could you use the money to provide toilet facilities which can be accessed without going through the staff and storage area?
- Best of bad job! Like to have seen it continue as is.
- Many older people and parents with young children do not have access to their own transport and public transport links into Kettering are not reliable enough to get to Kettering library regularly. The library is a place to go with young children that does not cost money and can be a real life line to parents of young children without means to pay for transport etc. It is also a source of books for their children which is very important. Reading with children at a young age is important to their future education and language development. Older people can become very isolated and lonely the library is somewhere they can go to speak to other people and find support and useful information as well as free entertainment in the form of books. The library is a central part of the community of our town and my children and I would be incredibly sad to see it go.
- Rationing the availability of libraries along the lines of a "deprivation index" is nonsensical. There is deprivation in Burton Latimer.
- The council should provide library services, Burton Latimer is a growing town and needs more basic services not less!
- This will only work if there are enough local volunteers to run it on a regular basis - most people have their own jobs to do to earn money to survive so opting to help this keep afloat will be hard work. It is a nice idea to be run by locals but realistically I can’t see it succeeding. Also the KBC office will be lost which means local residents will once again have to bus/car into Kettering offices/library adding more time on their day and also costs for having to travel and park.
Burton Latimer library is the only library that my children and I can reasonably get to in amidst a busy lifestyle. Changing the library to community lead would inevitably impact service, opening hours and provision for the community. The library is too important to our community to allow this.

The money will run out and within 5-10 years it will close.

You consider it's not required to be a statutory provision because it's within a short distance of Kettering. But it is £5 return ticket on the bus to Kettering. I would not be able to afford to access the services, due to the cost of transport in the local area. I understand Kettering library Children centre services are very busy and crowded already. Burton Latimer is busy growing town with lots of young family's having moved to the area. Infrastructure and facility's should be enhanced to support the growth of our community.

I think it is disgraceful that this library is not being supported by the NCC it is not feasible to easily get to Kettering. The people are suffering because of the incompetence of NCC.

Residents pay for their libraries through their Council Tax. If you steal their library services from them, they may withhold part or all of said tax.

It is easy for me and my [partner] to get to the library walking, if we have to go to kettering it will cost money to get a bus and mean we are unable to go with out little [child] as often.

This library is literally the heart of the community bith as a building and as a communal hub. It is used by young and old a like many of whom are on a low income and struggle to travel. The bus service is expensive and poor so Kettering is not a viable local alternative. As an educator this is yet another resource our children are to be denied and adds another reason why the gap between the have’s and have not’s are growing in our local area. The small amount saved to close this library does not justify the impact it would have on our community. NCC is a disgrace for the wasteful way it has run itself and doesn’t know the local area or its needs.

simply because it would be outside NCC statutory library provision

It is vital that this library stays as part of NCC to ensure its continued functioning. The idea of it being community run could fail for various reasons and the idea of no library in Burton is devastating. It is a community hub. I am over 60 and disabled and it is an integral part of my life.

I think the library should continue to run as part of the County Services. With the changes to local and county councils I think the current organisation of the library should continue in its current format until after the changes to local government have taken place. The long term future of the library is important.

Community space , great services for those who cannot drive and afford ridiculous fares to other local towns on public transport

A community run service is only a good solution if sufficient support and resources are available to run the library as an efficient and accessible service. There is a considerable amount of community support for a project of this kind but if the
community is unable to fund the building and find enough volunteers to provide the service it would be likely to fail and put an additional burden onto the local council.

- I believe that the library in Burton Latimer is a very good community service giving all ages a chance to access activities, education, learning support, IT services, general reading services. To get rid of this service would be a shame for the community as a whole.

- What happens when the grant runs out? What happens when volunteers can’t be found because people need jobs that pay the bills? Why should people give their labour away for nothing?

- I am not liking the idea to travel to Kettering to the library when we have a perfect set up here in Burton Latimer we pay £10.00 a year more than Kettering on pur rates too

- I am totally against any threat from NCC not to fully fund this Library, which let’s be honest is ultimately down to austerity measures being pursued by a Conservative central government and a Council that has no Balls....! How long do you expect us to keep coughing up more for less?

- It is a valuable service for the whole community.

- It’s success will depend on the quality of the volunteers. For example, will training be provided to all volunteers so that they are well informed and able to assist with all services being run at the library during all opening hours.

- The Conservative government is hell bend on reducing Council funding, this suggests to me that the country cannot afford Library provision. Libraries were started when books were the only form of communication, today we have many forms of communication, newspapers, TV news, drama, factual, scientific, entertainment etc. programs. We have computers, e books, these are very informative. The library provides social notices and certain social events, The Civic Centre is next to the Library I would have thought one building was enough not two. If you are short of money you should charge people for lending books. How many local people actually use the library services, if to few people use the service it should be closed. You say there is £48,800 of 106 money available for library services. As one of the people providing the 106 money it should be used for the benefit of the 106 providers. The Council insist that Open Space must be provided on new developments and it must be paid for by the residents of the of the new estates. It should be provided by the 106 monies. Just as the library is open to all residents so is the open space. You are creating a two tier society. I suspect very few people use the library but everyone has to pay for it. If the service is not required by statutory provision and the country cannot afford it, the service should not be provided. You should not expect people who buy new houses to subsidize people living in older properties

- I think this could work well for the library if enough people can be found to support the library.

- It is not clear whether there will be paid staff or if this will be run by volunteers. I think the library is an excellent resource and brings residents together. I feel that
more could perhaps be done to encourage those harder to reach residents. In some ways I am in favour of the library being run by the community. However, there is not enough information on how this will happen in practice, hence my 'don't know.'

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 25 responses to this question

- See above comment
- In a large town like Northampton, libraries are often within a few miles walking distance of each other. Here in Burton Latimer this is not the case.
- Stop wasting money and run the council properly.
- Can't really comment on this as haven't come across anything similar to compare it to - no local libraries run like this currently so have no idea of the practicalities of it. Impossible to comment on something you haven't experienced before or viewed elsewhere.
- The service provision would be negatively impacted for both me and my children but also for many of the community groups and people in the town who regularly use better Latimer library.
- We need employees staffed at the library to keep opening hours and service.
- How would these services be provided? Would they be provided at no cost or would the community be expected to pay? Would professional staff to supervise be allocated and how would they be paid?
- Volunteers don't have the knowledge of professional library staff. And there will be little money for new books or updating computers/software etc. The opening hours will be cut, people will use it less and it will close. The only answer is to fully fund every library in Northamptonshire! Raise council tax, make the wealthier pay more!
- It should be a statutory provision.
- It is negative as it will impact on young mothers and the elderly mostly how are you to get to Kettering to use services or get books. The library is needed in this growing town and it should be fully provided by the NCC
- Residents pay for their libraries through their Council Tax. If you steal their library services from them, they may withhold part or all of said tax.
- Visiting the library less, risk the library is not open as often, less services as no longer supported by NCC. NCC continue to support the library as with previous proposals
- My fear is a community run library will not survive - it needs to be statutory or this is just closure by stealth.
- Again, I am unsure. How will the community groups be managed to ensure funding is distributed fairly and appropriately. Will they have the support to manage the budget?
- a rundown over time of the library. to remain under NCC control
The funding proposed for a community library is not necessarily long term. Burton Latimer residents are less likely to use library facilities if they cannot access them locally. They are unlikely to use a bus to travel to Kettering or Wellingborough libraries. To reduce library opening times and services by having a community led service is a waste of current resources.

The thing is you have to change with the times. I think we need a place where people can have a drink, something to eat. It's more things to do with the children.

Resources and support need to be in place to help the community access funding and staff expertise. Some sort of local enterprise scheme which could be accessed by several community libraries with similar aims could be a good way of sharing knowledge and skills to help mitigate the dangers.

A negative impact would be an increase in our council tax. Income from the Windfarm Community Fund should be utilised.

Failing to run the Library yet continuing to charge us Council Tax is the same as stealing from us. Don't steal from us.

The provision on offer will tide the community over in the short term but whether people will want to volunteer in the long term is open to question. Hopefully the country will not remain cash strapped in the long term and voluntary provision might facilitate library provision for a little while longer for those who use it.

It would be a shame to lose the family sessions which I attended at a previous location before moving.

Perhaps you can tell me what else Burton Latimer has to offer its Council tax paying residents? We've already lost our only high Street bank - and so it goes on. You're wrecking what little community we have.

The staff at the library have many and varied roles. They are crucial to the library service and I am worried that their jobs may be at risk if the proposal goes ahead. Will the current library staff retain their jobs and still get paid?

Many Mother’s attend under 5’s activities which is a needed resource.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Burton Latimer Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 13 responses to this question

- It is the neo-liberal dogma of the NCC that has brought about the need for these consultations. These plans should be scrapped NOW and the money needed to maintain our current libraries should be obtained by a raise in Council Tax.
- For NCC to hand the building over to the Town Council. The mess that NCC is in isn't our fault and it seems hard that so many local libraries are having to be closed especially when we need to keep children reading etc.
- Keep it open as it is
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

- Keep services as they are.
- Continue to support the library as a statutory service. Increase parish/town council tax to support the library.
- Keep it open or link it to the local school as an extra space/resource.
- Continue with the current system which works well
- Run the Library properly, as before.
- Close it down
- I suppose any way we can still keep the services open For the community
- There should be no need for any alternative. Central government - grubby little penny pinchers at our expense!
- It would be wonderful to see a co-existing business with the library building, such as a coffee shop. There is certainly potential to rearrange the library to accommodate this and it would ensure a constant income into the library through rental of the space. Other smaller businesses could sell their products through the library. Is there potential to rent out space in the library when it is not open for lending, e.g. exercise classes, adult learning. The civic centre appears to have a lot of room bookings - could the library be used in this way? Can the library apply for funding from the building of the wind farms?
- Get local businesses to donate money for books e.g. Sainsbury's ...Weetabix ...local pubs clubs etc Have more social events in the library and charge

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Burton Latimer Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 7 responses to this question

- Rhymetime with [name] is great. Good quality, well trained volunteers need to lead sessions otherwise people will stop attending. I travel from Irthlingborough to go to this rhymetime on a Thursday morning.
- Another solution needs to be found
- The library and the groups were a huge support for me after the birth of my child. My health visitor encouraged me to attend after becoming very low and isolated. It was a huge step for me to go down there and I don't think I would have managed to go all the way to Kettering as an anxious new mother. The services have help my daughter socialisation and development. The weaning and dentist sessions have been really benifical for me as a 1st time mum. But the staff and groups also helped me with my anxiety, built my confidence and helped me make friends at a very lonely time. I can not afford to take my daughter to pay as you go classes, or the bus to Kettering library several times a week, so fear she will become isolated and miss out if the library is unable to continue and is not a statutory provision.
- The original proposal was much better.
- The library is so important for all age groups in Burton Latimer. To see families and elderly conversing and meeting together means that community spirit is high. We all pay our taxes and this is a benefit to the good of all.

- Walking for Health is an important user service at this library and should be listed under health services provided. This growing service needs a community base which the library currently provides.

- Although the indicators suggest that there are low levels of poverty in Burton Latimer, the library is used by many parents with young children and by isolated elderly people who have very limited incomes. These people would find it very difficult to use public transport to go the library in Kettering. The high cost of bus fares would create inequality as many people would be unable to afford travel to another town and would be excluded from services if the community project failed.
Corby Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Corby Library?

There were 14 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Corby library</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Corby Library: Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 14 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>7.1%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong> - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong> – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong> – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong> - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Corby Library</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About Corby Library and its proposed future**

No changes are proposed for Corby Library and it is proposed that Corby Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability. To this end, NCC is also working with Corby Borough Council to look at the potential for reducing the running costs of this library.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making. 

[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations)
Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 12 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Graph showing responses to the question](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>58.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 5 responses to this question

- I work with many vulnerable, young people at Libraries all over the County, I work predominantly at the Corby Library inside the Cube. The young people rely on this venue as a safe place to carry on with their education whilst out of mainstream school, any option that keeps the place open for them is a good solution.
- I live in Corby area and the library is a useful service for me to get to.
- Corby Library is an invaluable service for Corby residents. It would be a crime to lose it keep it open & find the money to improve it. It’s essential for our children to have access to books.
- Keep libraries open by cutting executive staff salaries and perks e.g. pension.
- The Library is closed on Sundays, which is not ideal since I like to frequent it on Sundays (days off). Also the range of books is limited a bit.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 2 responses to this question
• Open on Sundays
• I am homeless and if the library was to close I would find it difficult to access what I need locally

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Corby Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 0 responses to this question

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Corby Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 2 responses to this question
• [Name] was very nice and helpful
• Staff are amazing!
Danesholme Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Danesholme Library?

There were 2 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Danesholme library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Danesholme Library:

Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 2 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>0.0%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Danesholme Library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About Danesholme Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Danesholme Library will become a Community Managed Library service.

Discussions have taken place with representatives from the Danesholme Community Centre.

It is proposed that elements of the current service at Danesolme Library are run by this community group in an alternative location. The book lending service would be relocated to Danesholme Community Centre, approximately 1 minute’s walk away from the current venue. This will provide a self-service facility for lending and returning books. Volunteers from the Community Centre will be available at certain times to assist customers.

This could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.

Under this proposed arrangement, the building that the library is currently in would close.

Danesholme Library would no longer form part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision in Corby and is not well-used.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.
A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 2 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There was 1 response to this question

- As far as library users are concerned this is a poor solution - we will lose our dedicated library - I feel inspired when I go in. Great little library for children - needed to encourage habit of reading

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There was 1 response to this question

- Danesholme Lib is an inspiring sunny library a lovely space to think - this would be lost/watered down if moved to another (smaller) area

It is proposed the library will relocate to Danesholme Community Centre, Danesholme Rd, Corby NN18 9EJ http://www.danesholme-community.org.uk

Q. Thinking about Danesholme Community Centre (where it is proposed the Danesholme Library will be relocated) please place the following in order of importance for the new venue.

Please rank these in order of importance using a scale of 1 – 5, with 5 being the most important and 1 the least important. Please only tick (√) each column once

There were 2 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option per row.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thinking about Danesholme Community Centre (where it is proposed the Danesholme Library will be relocated) please place the following in order of importance for the new venue. Please rank these in order of importance.</th>
<th>Least important</th>
<th>Most important</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A comprehensive range of books</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular events for under 5s</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If ‘Other’ please specify:
There were 0 responses to this question

Q. If you feel there is anything that would prevent you from accessing Danesholme Library if it moves to the Danesholme Community Centre, then please tell us what these are and how they could be overcome.
There were 0 responses to this question

Q. Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposed relocation of Danesholme Library, including if you feel there is an alternative venue that should be considered and why:
There were 0 responses to this question

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Danesholme Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There was 1 response to this question
  • Sponsorship to keep library open?

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Danesholme Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 0 responses to this question
Daventry Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Daventry Library?

There were 19 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approximately how often do you usually attend Daventry Library?</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Daventry library</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Daventry Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 19 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>89.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

| Learning Services | 0 | 0.0% |

### Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

| Digital Services | 1 | 5.3% |

### Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

| Health Services | 1 | 5.3% |

### Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.

| Information Services | 6 | 31.6% |

### Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

| Culture Services | 0 | 0.0% |

### I do not currently use library services in Daventry Library

| I do not currently use library services in Daventry Library | 1 | 5.3% |

**TOTAL**

| TOTAL | 19 |

---

**About Daventry Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Daventry Library is kept by NCC, but it will relocate to a newly fitted out space in the nearby Abbey Centre.

It is proposed that Daventry Library remains under NCC statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue. All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

A separate public engagement on the future accommodation for Daventry Library has recently been held as the current building is owned by Daventry District Council and there is a desire to redevelop the site.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 17 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>Response number</td>
<td>Percentage (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 10 responses to this question

- It is a great shame the library is moving. I am glad the library is being kept open.
- Generally not opposed to the proposal provided that the facilities and features offered are at least as good as at present - preferably better
- It will be a shame if the library has to relocate as it has been there since I was born in Daventry almost [number] years ago when my mum used to take me and my siblings there.
- Hopefully more modern and up-to-date premises
- Good to hear library will stay open... hope the new space at Abbey Centre will be good and not result in reduction in hours and accessibility
- The current library is a wonderful facility for the people of Daventry and surrounding villages. It is spacious, allowing use for groups, plus giving the library the stature it deserves for the very valuable service, free at the point of use for ALL sections of
society. The proposed site is far too small, the parking is inadequate. The service will be downgraded. It is not a convenient site, off town centre on a hill. The working conditions for the staff is appalling, particularly lacking in natural day light. I would think this against workers rights and not something NCC or DDC should be considering. The move should be put on hold until the DDC provide a better alternative

- I don’t think it should be moved to the Abbey. It has a good location currently
- Whilst the internal layout and efficiency of the new library may be much better than the existing library, its location is further from the centre of the town. Abbey Street has a low footfall compared to other parts of the town.
- I feel the Abbey Centre is not central, and the extra walk MAY deter some from using it.
- Have not had a chance to view the location, have not yet managed to locate the building, so am not sure if this is as central and has as much parking including disabled. It worries me that the area is smaller. Daventry is already quite a small library and the choice of books limited, especially as we now seem unable to order books in. I moved here from [location name] and have since discovered that they actually allocate more per person to their libraries, how do they manage this? Not throwing money away on jollies and helping football teams I presume.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 7 responses to this question

- The new location will not encourage people to drop in as they are passing. For most it will require a specific visit to that part of the town. As a result numbers visiting the library are unlikely to increase.
- It will discourage the use of library service due to the position of the site. The health of the staff will be affected detrimentally due to poor conditions. The only way these things can be mitigated is to provide something equal to what is in place now
- As above.
- No comment
- It will not be utilised so well in the Abbey as people may not know it is in there.
- Clever use of more adaptable shelving creating a better use of the space. We really do not need such a large computer area? Computers have got much smaller in recent years. Systems to make sure that books do not get stolen. It has come to my attention when trying to locate books to order in just how many are missing. Proper training provided for unpaid helpers, many books are now not getting put back in the right places. The labeling system also needs a review.
- I’m concerned about the library moving sites as the current site is very pleasant to visit and the Abbey Centre is cramped and far less accessible.
Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Daventry Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 6 responses to this question
- Number visiting the library have fallen significantly since the withdrawal of newspapers and magazines. These should be reinstated. A more central location would also lead to greater use. There are a number of empty shop units in the town centre.
- Ask the DDC to defer the proposed move until a better site is provided.
- Unfortunately I have no alternative site or building, other than rebuilding on the present site.
- None
- Leave it where it is
- Daventry District Council seem to have offered the library quite a good deal. Covering all the costs of the move. But I hope the Library will be provided with a secure future in the new premises as they will only be renting as far as I understand.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Daventry Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 3 responses to this question
- None
- Please can the staff let us know what they would prefer, in the past we have been told that they cannot comment. Surely the staff should be consulted they should know best.
- Dav library has a fantastic collection of OS maps and local history, but not many people seem to know about this amazing resource.
Deanshanger Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Deanshanger Library?

There were 258 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Deanshanger library</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Deanshanger Library:
Please tick (✓) all that apply

There were 259 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Learning Services
- to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

| Learning Services | 29 | 11.2% |

### Digital Services
- to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

| Digital Services | 12 | 4.6% |

### Health Services
- to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

| Health Services | 58 | 22.4% |

### Information Services
- to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

| Information Services | 38 | 14.7% |

### Culture Services
- to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

| Culture Services | 56 | 21.6% |

### I do not currently use library services in Deanshanger Library

| I do not currently use library services in Deanshanger Library | 39 | 15.1% |

### TOTAL

| TOTAL | 259 |

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### About Deanshanger Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Deanshanger Library will be run by a community group in the current location but will remain part of the countywide statutory provision.

Discussions have taken place with The Friends of Deanshanger Library. This group is well established, runs many activities in the current library and is currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

It is proposed that this group takes over the running of the library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services, such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services currently provided in Deanshanger Library will continue to be delivered.

This could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.
This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is outside the 5-mile catchment area of another statutory library within South Northamptonshire District and with high needs for 0-10 year olds in the area, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

As Deanshanger Library would remain part of the statutory provision, should it become unviable as a community-run library, NCC would seek to find alternative provision to ensure it continued to provide a statutory service.

There is £21,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 241 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.
Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 91 responses to this question

- Deanshanger library is central to the village & as your research has shown is an essential resource without which users would not be able to access library services.
- In the circumstances of the Council’s desperate financial situation & the likelihood of the Library closing if the FoDL did not volunteer to maintain this essential service, the proposal is the least worst alternative.
- It plays a big part of my children and my lives as we dont go out of the village and I can go to relax, meet up with other parents or go to look for a certain book or piece of information.
- As an active member of the Friends of Deanshanger Library we have fought long and hard to save our library, this solution provides us with the opportunity to further develop it as a Community Hub that delivers a wide range of activities beyond what is provided already. We are pleased that NCC has listened to the proposals we put forward and recognised that our library is a vital part of Deanshanger and the people it serves.
- Local people understand local needs
- Any and all support for this library is needed. Even if it’s staffed by volunteers money is required for the upkeep of book stocks, computers etc... Please do everything you can to help keep this vibrant community library open.
- Deanshanger needs this service. We have residents unable to access WiFi at home and unable to travel to other libraries. (Mainly due to the cut in bus services). Deanshanger library provides vital services to the young and elderly alike and try to alleviate loneliness. There is a lively lunch club, reading group and creative writing group as well as a well attended Rhyme Time. There is a very well attended and lively Knit and Natter group. Blue badges and bus pass service is vital to the community.
- Library facilities will still be available in a rapidly growing community. Once Northamptonshire County Council ceases to exist the new unitary authority can look again at the situation.
- The library runs a variety of events for adults and school children as well as some events for young children accompanied by parent(s). Currently a 3 day astrology event is starting the week commencing 6th January. The friends, of whom I am one, have many ideas in the pipeline to enable Deanshanger library to continue supporting the local community at all age levels.
• This enables the library to continue within the village for the children and isolated adults
• Great I very much enjoy using the library with my two children aged [age] and [age]. Thank you.
• I am a mum on maternity leave and this library is critical for me for getting out and about.... I enjoy the group's and the volunteers here are so welcoming.... i also have a [age] year old and we come to the library together each week to read books and borrow them... if it wasn't for amenities such as this I fear our future generation will all be glued to the tv or tablets! I really can't express how grateful I am that it has stayed open... I really don't know what we would have done without it. Thank you.
• I can also volunteer training in IT and programming and run a few free courses
• The library and community centre is a vital part of the village as a contact and meeting space, as well as the services it provides for all.
• This proposal is much preferable to closing the library. I love going there and it is the only place in walking distance where my kids can play and look at books. Deanshanger is short of activities for under 5s and the library is a big part of what's on offer. I am a bit concerned about being volunteer run because volunteers can leave temporarily or permanently without notice and cannot be made subject to the same performance standards as paid staff. The current volunteers are great but this is surely a fragile solution.
• The library is extremely important to our community and is a lifeline for so many people including new and young mums, children, families and the elderly. This solution is far better than losing this facility completely.
• It's a good outcome when previously closure was considered but loss of weekend opening means it less useful for me.
• Better than nothing at all. Will depend on the budget allocated to book fund etc unless the FODL are to supply stock too?
• I would hate for the library to close or have very limited opening hours because of my own working day. I think this is a very good option. Thank you for supporting it.
• The volunteers are dedicated and wiping to keep this Community asset alive and workable.
• This is the only alternative to closure that I can see and we are lucky to have such a committed group of friend of dl who do a great job with this facility already as should be given the opportunity to continue.
• As my children are now growing this is a resource that we will use in the future when they are of an age We have used rhyme time in past and health visitor sessions which is greatly needed in the area
• It is another source for information and help,
• Ideally the library would be kept open and fully run by NCC. Our children used the library when growing up and enjoyed the selection and process of reading books
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

regularly. For the future of our kids, and other residents who use the facility this should be maintained. The above is a satisfactory alternative.

- The library is a valued facility in Deanshanger and this option allows it to remain open.
- It will allow my family to continue to access vital support and services albeit on potentially reduced hours.
- There is no other community provision in the village and public transport which would allow access elsewhere is minimal.
- Would encourage community interaction.
- Its good that they will offer other services other than reading but this only works effectively if they have access to the systems. When i joined the library they couldnt use the system and i had to wait a week for it to be activated.
- Having the library is a great benefit to the community.
- Accessable for both old & Young and is a meeting place for the community with all the services it provides.
- The library remains open and part of the statutory provision which is important.
- Deanshanger library is a fabulous resource that I regularly use with my young children to read books, meet friends and partake in craft and village activities. It is an essential hub in the village and needs to remain.
- I feel that the library is part of the heart of the village. If NCC is unwilling/unable to invest in it as it has previously then the community taking on that task seems like the next best option.
- We need the library in the village as it provides a point of reference for those who cannot use the internet and they can obtain information, such as the new bus time table. Books and reading are important for the development of minds and maintaining mental health for those who need it. The use of the "listening" books is also valuable for those who have sight issues. The groups that use the library need a meeting place and this is a viable option.
- It should be funded and run by the county and I hold the county accountable for their financial failure which has led to this action however FODL are the next best solution.
- I really want the library services to continue being available in the village please.
- We still get to keep our library and the facilities. Which is very important to me as I have a [child] and don't drive so the play and stay classes are essential to me and the development of my child.
- It is important for the community that it stays open in some format.
- Library should remain open.
- The services my family currently use are remaining. My only concern is around reduced opening hours and the feasibility of running it with volunteers over a long period.
- I am just happy that the Library can remain open as it is a huge benefit to the community.
- It seems like the best answer and should keep the services provided relevant to local needs.
- Although I would prefer to see it managed by paid staff I am realistic enough to know this is the best alternative. We remain within the county provision which enables the library to have new books and move stock around the county keeping the offer fresh for all users.
- As I feel our growing village is in need of libraries
- Better solution would be to have more employed library staff more frequently visiting. We seem to have staff visit only once a month currently.
- This solution appears good insofar as it maintains library provision even in the absence of a volunteer workforce, however is not as optimal as having a professionally staffed amenity.
- Deanshanger library is a great facility for the villagers.
- I don't mind how the library is run as long as it remains open. It's such a nice community space and it's very well used.
- Any support to keep this library open and running is a good thing. The services that happen here are so much needed in our community and are appreciated greatly.
- I have [number] children under [age], they have great children friendly groups at the library and a good community has developed around the library. Both my children have attended rhyme time on a regular basis and love it, it's a beautiful and unique program and my children love looking and reading books without library we would be lost. I also enjoying reading and feel in a age where Digital media /technology has taken people away from traditional reading it's vital to have access to traditional libraries and get children away from TV and computers.
- I feel the library is an important link in communication in the village
- Keeps the library local to the village.
- We will be able to keep our library services supported by community volunteers. It is a very valuable resource in our village and the added benefit of remaining part of the statutory provision and some possible investment. I think this is an excellent solution to the challenge that was faced.
- Good option using money wisely but keeping services :) we love our library!
- The Friends of Deanshanger Library have been doing a great job and should be allowed to continue to do so...
- The library provides a safe and friendly environment for many of the community, especially myself as a first time Mum.
- Whilst not a user of the library, I appreciate the benefits that the library offers to the whole community and the impacts that it has on the lives of people that use it, which then have further positive impacts on our community as a whole. It's part of our foundation as a community and the building blocks that continue to make Deanshanger a fantastic and welcoming village.
- Anything that keeps the library open is good.
The library is vital community asset and the team of volunteers are committed to making it a success.

This would keep the library in use for residents and run by residents who understand the local needs.

Although I don’t use the library myself I did when my grandchildren were younger and it was a lovely time spent with them. As a facility for young families and older residents I feel it would be greatly missed if it was to close. Unfortunately these cuts always affect the vulnerable who haven’t always got the means to give their children books and computers or even the company of other children. The lunch club and knit and natter groups are good places for people to socialise and would be greatly missed.

It is a hub of the community, if that’s what it takes to keep it running, then so be it.

Important for a village the size of Deanshanger to have a library. Relied on by the elderly and important that young children still have access to books.

I feel that the Deanshanger library is an essential part of our village, both for families with children and older people. Essential.

Retaining a library is good.

This solution is the one we as a friends group have been fighting for since Oct 2017. Two personal friends have put in hours and hours of their time, traveled far and wide to meetings to get the position to this point. This is the best we can expect, it allows us a great deal of versatility with what we provide BUT ensures the vital support without which we can NOT open.

Provides important group sessions for mums and children which provides essential opportunity to socialise for mums. Also provides access to health visitors which is important to be local for mums who don’t have a car/ mums with newborns who are unable to drive e.g. following caesarean.

I believe Libraries need qualified staff to run and offer the best possible service.

As it will keep the library operating providing all the great services that it has in the past.

I love reading and I am trying to get this passion to my young child. If the library was to close we will not be able to get access to book anymore. This will be a big loss for the village.

Probably the best that can be hoped for, given the current financial situation of NCC. Also, fully involves inhabitants of Deanshanger.

We pay enough council tax to NCC if they stopped agreeing to building more unwanted houses in the village bringing more unwanted people & traffic but NCC do not accommodate the extra residents with much needed facilities. I have lived in the village [redacted time period] as do my [relatives] who rely on local village facilities which are being cut all the time. Enough is enough start using the tax we pay you to find facilities in the village, STOP ruinating our village with new houses & more unwanted residents!!!!
• this wouldn't suit the locals who work all day as they would struggle to continue using the facility. Having limited opening times doesn't suit the needs of the local school children, elderly and other residents.
• Because it won't be the same hours could be cut and those that work won't be able to access the services
• The village needs a library as the children use it in many ways. Plus it’s a lovely place to have a quiet minute or two.
• ncc should do it
• I think that any solution to keep our village library open is a good solution but I have concerns.
• should be run by ncc
• The library is a key service to the community of deanshanger and although it's great that the library can be run by the community I feel that it should not be down to us to run it on a volunteer basis.
• I am glad the friends of the library are taking it over, it is a shame that the hours the Library is now open has been cut.
• Resources have no professional basis, volunteers will only maintain the status quo, innovation and development likely to suffer long term without ongoing funds.
• It’s beter than closing it all together. Want my village to have a library
• Financial situation being as it is, I think the proposal is the best solution for our village.
• It depends on the opening hours & what is offered in the way of children services. The baby clinic monthly still needs to run as the next location is too far away to see a health visitor
• At present the library is not open enough and so it makes visiting very difficult.
• i feel more is needed to ensure efficient opening of this facility
• The library should not be run by volunteers. They should be paid or the NCC should sort themselves out with paid staff.
• Community Groups rely on goodwill which is a risk to long term services.
• I have only scored 3 on the above scale because, having attended the consultation at the Library and spoken with [NCC officer], I was led to believe that the Friends of Deanshanger Library would be required to PAY for the privilege of keeping the library open. I note that there is £21000 from S106 agreements but, as I see it, there is no explanation of how this is going to be used and whether it jeopardises other provisions that it was intended for. S106 agreements are also time limited. I believe that the County Council has a Statutory duty to provide a Library Service free at the point of delivery. IF the Friends were required to PAY for the Library to operate in Deanshanger then that does not constitute a FREE service. Were it to be clear that the provision, supported by the Friends was completely funded by the County Council my score would be 5 although I would be concerned if there were questions about its continuance were there not sufficient volunteers to run it.
Not really sure how that would affect the Deanshanger library all I know is we use the Deanshanger library every month my boys love going there they prefer it more than the one at Milton Keynes the staff are amazing really helpful the amazing activities there for the children would be a shame if it was closed or if the hours were shortened even more

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 29 responses to this question

- L
  - I think this would have a negative impact because volunteers are very generous with their time but are not professionals and so their attitudes are not always very professional and they cannot perform all the services that we need. For example I had to make a trip to Towcester to join the library service because I couldn’t make it to a staffed session at deanshanger.

- I see no negative impact on the community. The only negative is the lack of training provided by NCC and the inability to use NCC computer system. Use of this would help the volunteers, customers and alleviate pressure on Towcester staff. Currently work is duplicated.

- I am a bit concerned about being volunteer run because volunteers can leave temporarily or permanently without notice and cannot be made subject to the same performance standards as paid staff. The current volunteers are great but this is surely a fragile solution. I guess you could try and mitigate this with training and staff available to cover volunteer absence.

- Weekend opening if possible

- Depending on volunteers can be difficult and will still need to be someone to organise to recruitment and timetabling etc. if hours are cut or at times when no one can get in will mean no one can use it anyway.

- N/A

- It doesn’t have a negative impact the danger is if commitment wanes. We are very lucky to have fodl

- I do have concerns whether the library solely relying on a volunteer group, can be run as efficiently and whether there would be continued funding and investment in our village library in years to come.

- If the volunteer basis reduces the hours of opening it will give all of those that use restrictions.

- If opening hrs were cut i wouldnt be able to use the library as its a tight timescale currently as i work

- It could cause stress for the volunteers. This could be limited by giving them more training.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

- By cutting the hours the library is open when it is a central point in the community of Deanshanger
- I'm worried that the library will disappear in time because it will get so squeezed for resources that the opening hours will be decreased to the point that it is unviable for the majority of working villagers to use it.
- Have county fund and run the library
- N.a.
- I would make more use of the library if there was opening hours when I wasn’t at work. Please continue some form of weekend opening hours.
- Our library has been a popular location for local people to use this facility and also covers lots of other small villages. Please do not take this current facility away as this is a core service, and important service for the community and other surrounding local villages. by reducing the opening times will not suit everyone who currently uses it and my fear is that it will eventually be removed due to the lack of support.
- Potential negative impact is hours could be lessened.
- Don’t make the changes and stop cutting all the services in Deanshanger or it will turn from a thriving community to one which has no educational offering to young and old, we have lost most of our pubs our bus service and now our library is being phased back - we pay our council tax don’t take everything away from us
- My only concern is that this relies heavily on the availability of volunteers to maintain the library provision. There is a small band of dedicated volunteers but if ill health or other commitments cause them to step back the load could be too much for those remaining. NCC need to ensure there will be cover for our lovely volunteers if it becomes too onerous.
- communication in the village would be lost and the village would become detached
- I think there will be minimal negative impact and if there is a little, it is far better than losing the library
- I’m not sure whether in the long term it would be sustainable - an investment is needed from county to help the community run it successfully
- Delighted that it will continue as part of the countrywide provision
- As long as the energy, enthusiasm and support from the friends group and Deanshanger community can be kept up, it will be OK. Although this is a big undertaking and will have teething problems. However I think the [redacted] mentioned in last question have overcome so many difficulties recently that they will survive and lead us on.
- Employ library staff to ensure continuing services. This could be supported by a Community Group.
- I think this is largely covered by my comments in the above section. The negative impacts could be mitigated by a contract ensuring that the service will not require local fund raising in order to keep it open. This facility is a community hub which would have been obvious to those County Council officers that attended the
consultation. The village of Deanshanger has few facilities and it is a large village. The future provision of this facility is essential to the well being of many groups of people, ranging from the under 1’s to the over 60’s who meet for lunch clubs, knit and natter and readers groups as well as support from children who need the computing facilities in order to complete homework assignments.

- Volunteers are of tremendous importance, but grow older, lose impetus, and do not have the professional skills of a professional librarian. Therefore, the long term viability is uncertain.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Deanshanger Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 29 responses to this question

- We feel that regarding opening hours that there should be a degree of flexibility if enough volunteers can be found---in addition to those already supporting the library. Also the 106 monies when used should involve the whole community and not be just at the discretion of NCC.
- Give volunteers access to the full library service which would cut down on duplication of work and make life easier for customers.
- Due to the fact that Northamptonshire County Council has created the problem through financial mismanagement of public funds I do not see any other alternative.
- Your continued support and access to the library IT system would be a great benefit.
- I think viability could perhaps be increased by tying the centre in more with other local services such as the pharmacy AND by increasing provision of doctors surgeries in the building to provide more reason to visit the building and by extension the library.
- I understand the money issue at present however if this does change it would be good to see some funding towards kids groups at the library as there once was.
- Community engagement and training for adults in newer technology This could aid those seeking employment
- Longer opening hours on more days to make it more accessible to everyone
- Weekend activities for school children 5+
- Perhaps section 106 money could be spent on putting in some sort of automated out of hours access as is available in Milton Keynes in Kingston library - might mean it would get more use.
- N/A
- fund library services properly
- For NCC to invest in the library to make it even more of a resource for the village. This is especially important in light of the fact that the benefit system is increasing making online access essential, and many people do not have the skills or resources to do this without the library.
• Have county fund and run the library
• Na
• Please do everything you can to keep this much-needed and much-valued facility in our village.
• Don't mind just needs to be kept open!
• Continue with employed staff but have them funded by Deanshanger parish council through a precept on the parish rates
• Keep it open
• Integrate a coffee shop to increase footfall and to generate profits to invest in increasing the opening hours.
• Support our volunteers. Ensure they have the training they need and access to the systems that will ensure our library stays up to date with both books and materials.
• More staff. Most volunteers are of retirement age and ongoing health concerns will become increasingly concerning. We can manage now, but am concerned that this may not be viable in 5-10 years time.
• Love the fact that we will keep our library provision!
• No alternative, the volunteers are doing a great job!
• I think our village will really benefit for our library remaining open and run by our team of volunteers.
• At this point in time I have no alternative solutions. I intend to support this solution to the best of my ability.
• Use funds to pay for part time librarian to manage volunteers.
• The solution would be for the County Council to supply a member of staff to support the volunteers who are all VERY generous with the time they give to the community.
• There needs to be a steady professional presence to maintain the quality and consistency of what ratepayers have contributed to for many years and to come. Without this, the project will fizzle out, and we will have returned to 19th century council services. Is that a legacy to be proud of?

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Deanshanger Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 29 responses to this question
• I feel that as the service moves forward there needs to be regular communication between us and NCC so as to ensure that the friends group are able to share their ideas and aspirations and also seek advice if needed re what will be possible to deliver in the future
• Would like some weekend access please
• We have worked hard to keep this service and welcome the opportunity to continue. We hope to expand on the services we provide but need security in order to take our projects forward.
- An integral part of the village community which must be retained
- I am pleased that the library will remain open for my young children to use. It is a lovely well run place they enjoy going to
- N/A
- Please save the library it’s an essential community asset especially for the elderly and young people and families.
- The library is a public service. It is important to keep the library open for the residents of Deanshanger
- The village is expanding (to rapidly) and needs more facilities and not less. A regular surgery, policing on a regular basis (even community police), descent roads without potholes etc.
- Please support this proposal. The library is also used for community purposes such as toddler and baby groups which are invaluable to families in the village. The space could also be used for other community activities.
- It is a fantastic community space for all, with a range of activities on offer for the village
- In Deanshanger we have no cafe - I would love to see the library and it’s services combined with a cafe. Surely this would be a great opportunity to turn a library into a profit center
- N.a.
- I think it’s a necessary asset to the village for the children as we have two schools here, also the older people who find it difficult to go to any other library especially as our bus service has decreased since January 5th
- More events, more advertising of them on local pages to get the facility used more.
- It’s appalling
- Big thanks to our volunteers, especially those who fought hard for it to remain open. They are a credit to our community.
- This is an excellent community resource that we should strive to maintain.
- Please support our library and help keep this service open
- It will be very sad for the library to close, for some people it’s some where to go for a chat, also young people need to know about books there is nothing better than reading a book not reading from a iPad
- Library is a treasure for us :) brings community closer and great reading resource!
- Simply community hub
- Happy that we are keeping it ... the benefits will be seen in years to come ! Thank you for keeping our library as part of the country wide position !
- I am concerned as to the limitations of opening s it is in my opinion essential to development especially of young people and for my retired it is a place to meet and access information without having to leave the village. it should be a focal point
- O
I am grateful, relieved and glad that a workable solution has been found to save our library. Deanshanger is a unique library with events, activities and learning opportunities for a wide age range, from 0 to 100+. It strives to be central to the community and plays an important part in the social life of Deanshanger.

- Very useful service
- The volunteers are doing a great job with many other activities in the pipeline and long may it continue.
- The library is being run beautifully currently by the volunteers, they are all very helpful, friendly and welcoming.
Desborough Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Desborough Library?

There were 66 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar chart showing frequency of library visits]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Desborough library</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Desborough Library: Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 64 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>71.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Desborough Library</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About Desborough Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Desborough Library will be run by a community group in the current location but will remain part of the countywide statutory provision.

Discussions have taken place with Desborough Town Council and a newly formed Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The CIO and The Friends of the Library group are currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

This would be a community managed library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate, at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services currently provided in Desborough Library will continue to be delivered.

This could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. Desborough sits just outside the border of the 5-mile radius of Kettering Library. Ensuring that this library is included in
the statutory provision will ensure coverage across the district. There is high usage of children’s centre services, high numbers of active library users and higher populations for 0-10 year olds and 60 plus populations nearby.

As Desborough Library would remain part of the statutory provision, should it become unviable as a community-run library, NCC would seek to find alternative provision to ensure it continued to provide a statutory service.

There is £2,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 54 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage (%)</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 33 responses to this question

- Because it offers the only solution I can see to keep out library open which is so important. It would be wonderful to think it could be saved and run by NCC but that is not possible in these difficult financial times, so this way gives our library a chance.
- The library is our community hub and all suggestions to help us keep it should be looked into and considered.
- It is not perfect as I believe the library should be paid for by NCC but I am pragmatic enough to realise that this solution offers a future for Desborough Library which the first offering did not. I want our library to survive and thrive so I am willing to try this for the sake of the community.
- It’s an excellent community facility that needs to be retained. It provides so much more than a book lending service and with the reduction in local bus services it is necessary to provide an array of services for everyone to access.
- I feel the library, as a community hub is vital to the well being and development of this expanding town.
- I feel it is very important to continue with a properly sourced and resourced library in Desborough. The community is diverse and there are a lot of social needs as well as literacy ones. Ideally the community would not have to run such a resource itself, but I understand the economic restraints of delivering the service without extra charge to the residents. The solution is the best solution except for the one of still remaining part of the main service with a paid NCC library service manager.
- The library provision is important to many members of the community in Desborough, so it is good that there will be a provision in the town.
- It’s a good solution but I don’t think the property should be purchased by dlch I think it should be leased by this group until it can prove it is viable. I feel that the 5-6 members of dlch that are town councillors have a conflict if interest within voting for this and should not be allowed to decide whether it should be purchased and it should go to a public poll.
- Although NCC can't afford to run the library, by providing the equipment and books etc to meet the statutory requirements the volunteers will have a good basis to start from. However there do need to be firm plans in place if DLCH buy the building with help from DCT, so that in the unhappy event it became unsustainable the money invested in the building is completely safeguarded for the residents who paid for it through their council tax precepts, and to return any grants repayable if the venture fails.
- We need the Library as cannot reach Kettering by bus.
- Great for access to services and some community groups including childrens play groups.
• Pleased will still be open for the community to use for various activities. Unsure of upkeep for future of the building and finances.
• Anything is better than nothing
• Good because library will remain. Poor because not run by KCC therefore costing the community
• To allow libraries to remain open and provide information for people not on the internet e.g. older citizens
• It would enable people to meet and discuss opinions regarding their selections. Lonliness of the elderly
• The Desborough Library and services touches the lives of very many of the town's population, either direct or indirectly. Each time I go into the library there is always a hive of activity and a loss would take away many residents loneliness solutions.
• You have not explained how the library will be run. Will NCC still staff and run the library with volunteer support or will the volunteers need to staff and run it? What are the financial implications?
• I think NCC should continue to run the library and employ librarians - not amateurs. I strongly disagree with Desborough Town Council's (DTC) agreement with the new Desborough Library and Community Hub (DLCH) to pay so much to purchase the library building and have no faith in Desborough Town Council to act in the best interests of the town in relation to this. On what planet is it a good idea for DTC to purchase a building of over £350,000 that can only be used as a library and its library and community function is a statutory duty for NCC anyway. To add insult to injury they have agreed to pay £8000 a year rent to DLCH as well. The "business plan" put forward by DLCH is pie in the sky and would not hold up as being realistic under any kind of scrutiny, it is not viable. It will fail, there is not enough money in the community to pay for the functions etc. People will not pay to attend, it is hard enough for them to get the community to attend free events. However activities for children are well used, that will change if they have to pay. People have no money.
• There appears to be a conflict of interest between the charity and council. Further if there is a statutory duty to provide this service why should precept money be used to buy the building. If the responsibility is taken from NCC to run it surely NCC should gift the building to the town or offer period of free rent to get the running of the library started
• For a town the size of Desborough we deserve to have a fully funded service to serve the ever increasing population. The building show be gifted to the residents of Desborough who have paid for the property over the years through council tax.
• Unsure as to what financial cost this will be to Desborough council tax paying residents, as we have not been given any details on the business plan proposed by the charitable group that will run the library
• All an unknown scenario - re hours to be open and services to be continued. Will there be sufficient volunteers to be viable. If not opened more days per week still a very limited service and can’t see how economically can be viable. Also imagine need
to offer more services/events/hire etc to generate more income to make viable and a
lot to ask for unpaid volunteers. Will volunteers be there for the long haul? Will there
be any paid staff and who over sees everything?

- I think the money Desborough would have to pay to buy the library (raised through
council tax) could go to better use eg resurfacing roads that DESPERATELY need
doing. The library isn’t open very often and the services it provides are not up to
date. The children’s clubs are not as advertised (eg a non walking group had walkers
in it) and the session wasn’t engaging enough so parents just took it as an
opportunity to chat.

- I feel NCC should gift the building to DLCH to run, or lease or rent it out to them. To
expect Desborough residents to pay for a building they have already paid for time
and again in their rates is not acceptable. The town will already have to find money
to run the service, and maintain the building. I think it is essential to keep the Library
in its current building, but the cost of buy8ng the building is prohibitive.

- Libraries should be a community hub. Outsourcing to volunteers sound a good
solution BUT it MUST haveprofessional support. As a community library Desborough is
NOT served by bus service from the suourounding villages so is somewhat inaccessibe.
Can NCC look comprehensively at acccess so that buses and libraries are integrated.
I occasionally visit Desborough - for bus passes and to look at complex planning
applcitons, but at 75 cying the four miles into Desborough will not always be an
option

- It’s not clear whether when referring to ‘statutory’ this means children’s services
duties or libraries duties or both. It would be very difficult to reproduce this provision
in another location in Desborough, with all it contains. The staffing costs are more
than justified.

- The library provides such a good service for children, and is vital to the community.
They have already lost some excellent staff through the uncertainty. It can not afford
to lose any more. By providing a childrens service, it also acts as a support group and
for staff to monitor any safeguarding concerns.

- I’m pleased that the library will be staying open but I worry that the children’s
services will be watered down as there are already fewer groups that there were two
years ago. I think the county need to take responsibility of ensuring these continue to
the high standard they are at now.

- Concerned that there is only a limo to the number of people with time to volunteer.
- Depends on fuller plans, ie wether it’s going to be lease or bought.
- Can’t mark accurately as not enough info to do so
- Don’t really understand what you mean - surely this could have been explained in a
more simplistic way. What do you mean when you talk about statutory provision? I
cannot reasonably make a decision when the information is not clear.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 19 responses to this question

- An additional cost to the tax payer to fund the purchase of the library. As tax payers we have already purchased it through our annual council tax payment. The property should be signed over to the residents for ownership.
- The running costs are perceived by some as a problem, and the price to buy the building. NCC contributions to the provision of children’s services plus a relaxation that the price of the library needs to reflect the massive undertaking the CIO and the town stepping up to would help reassure residents. Future support and the allocation of any money, s106 or other, would also help plus the continued support of NCC staff.
- As long as local residents are not expected to pay an additional tax to pay for the services.
- They should put in some paid staff to manage the library.
- If open even less hours than already is on it’s already very part time opening and reduced services offered.
- The cost to the community to keep the library open - in monetary terms (as well as the cost through volunteering) is considerable. These would be mitigated if NCC and KBC could work in whatever ways they can to seek funding through s106 or other means in every development that comes forward. Also, the value of the building was at ‘market value’ and this has been recognised as something completely different to how the building will be used as a library, so movement on that value is necessary and by a ‘good’ way. There are lawful ways of doing this and NCC did sign up to the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) protocol. The following key points encapsulate what CAT is about and how it could be used to help the CIO purchase the building to keep it safe for the future.
  - Community asset transfer involves
  - transferring the ownership of land or buildings from a statutory body to a community organisation at ‘less than best consideration’ – that is at less than its full market value – in order to achieve a public benefit. It is underpinned by Treasury guidance (in ‘Value for money and the valuation of public sector assets’, HM Treasury 2008) which makes clear that councils do not own land for its own sake.
  - Instead, assets are held for pursuing policy objectives, and the valuation of a publicly owned asset is based on the interests of society as a whole, rather than those of the council alone.
With regards to a freehold disposal, Local Government can dispose of its assets at less than best consideration under the General Disposal Consent (England) 2003, where the asset to be disposed of has an 'undervalue' of less than £2million, (in practice, therefore, this means that the vast majority of assets proposed for transfer will meet this criterion). The legislation also requires that the transfer should help to secure the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of an area. Transfer to a local community organisation can unlock community enterprise, volunteer commitment, local intelligence, and risk capital to test new approaches and opportunities, which can then attract the necessary capital investment to create a thriving community hub. Emergent trends are best illustrated by some examples of community asset transfer from around the country.

- With no money left in the pot (the library will cost more than Desborough can afford), we are stuck with no money to improve other services. The roads and parks will continue to deteriorate.
- The cost of buying the building is the negative impact. NCC should consider leasing us the building.
- see above. Libraries should be integrated with other services including access. However many willing volunteers there are the libraries MUST be integrated with local government as well as community. Professional support is needed.
- I do not think the council tax payers should have to borrow money to buy the building from NCC. The tax payers have already paid for this building! It is amoral to ask the community to pay again for something we already own!!!!
- The only negative effect will be the difficulties of funding the building and maintenance etc which will mean we will probably need to charge for activities. A secondary negative effect might be the volunteers not being as well informed as the current library staff, which might put people off, however they do make allowances at the moment for 'volunteers'.
- If a statutory children's provision, appropriate contribution needs to be made by the County. I think it should be in the form of paid staff time, and the staffing ought to be at least 1.5 paid workers, with some experience in children's services. In addition, breastfeeding support group needs to operate in Desborough, not necessary in the library but could be organised from them or operate in the other half of the building. The long term cost implications need to be thoroughly thought through. Why buy the building when it belongs to us?
- [Comment redacted]
- Any changes will be viewed as a negative by some members of the public - who, despite repeated information and explanations being given, still insist that NCC should continue to pay for everything. The recent consultation exercise at the library did not seem to reassure everyone that attended unfortunately, as it appears that contradictory information was given regarding the options of renting or buying the building. In the event of the precept money being used

a) it should be at a fair price which should be at below market value as a service that should be provided is being off loaded. Not at above market price as is being suggested
b) it should be established at arms length in relation to the money being used and there appears to be a conflict as the majority of the council are in the trust or in the alternative married to a trustee.
C) The trust is proposing to buy the building with precept money why should the building not belong to Desborough if it is Desborough people’s money purchasing it. D) transparency in relation to finances and the business plan together with the whole structure of the deal should be standard in all council business to gain support and trust
• My thoughts are the proposal for the CIO to take over running could be beneficial but before purchasing the building they need to prove it will work.
• Lack of trained staff
• Persons would be unable to congregate in a social manner
• A negative impact would be to take away the social and community impact on the lives of many Desborough and surrounding villages lifeline, when loneliness is something that we all need to embrace and make lives bearable and better for many residents

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Desborough Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 18 responses to this question
• WE SHOULD NOT BE NEEDED TO PURCHASE THE BUILDING. IT IS TAXPAYER OWNED BY THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN SO SHOULD BE GIVEN BACK. IT IS Q POSTCODE TAX ON SERVICES WHEN WE ALL PAY THE SAME TAXES. I WILL VOTE AGAINST THE COUNCIL OR CHARITY PURCHASING IT AND WILL DO ALL I CAN TO MAKE SURE NCC GIFT IT TO US.
• This is the mist sensible, practical and pragmatic way forward. There is nowhere else in the town which can provide everything thiss library does now, the facilities, the position (central and near the doctors, chemist and warden assisted housing, retirement living). Anyone who suggests that a church hall would work, or a mobile offering or a school is not aware of what the library is. It should also be remembered that the DTC offices Are within the building and a KBC desk.
• Believe the NCC should ‘gift’ the building the library is housed in to Desborough, as we have already paid for it in our council tax, and will still be paying for the 15 libraries that will be kept
• NCC cover the cost of running the services with volunteers providing the staffing.
• I think the town should look into renting the library and continue using the volunteers offering to work at the library. If this proves successful after a period of 2 years then consultation should be held to look at the possibility of buying the library.
• None which I believe are practical and practicable as there are no more suitable sites than the current building which also houses the town council and a KBC desk. It is in the centre of the town, close to the doctors, Hazeland House (warden-assisted housing) and Saxon Close (retirement living) plus two chemists, a small supermarket
with cash point and with a crossing point directly in front of it. The building has
disabled access and toilet facilities.

- Desborough and Rothwell could easily share a library so that people that want to use
  its out of date services still can. It would be better if the children’s clubs were run by
  a qualified teacher/musician to ensure quality learning for our children.

- See previous comments. I believe it will have a very positive effect on the town and
  continued library usage if the building is gifted or leased to us.

- The volunteers with some employed help can operate the services with money raised
  from the town precept

- See previous answer. More money from government and sign over the building
  rather than paying for it again. Build in the potential to expand. Work on consistent
  staff costs, which really ought to come from the County.

- I think NCC should keep the building and identify independent members of the
  community to run it along with NCC. It can then be costed and budgeted realistically.
  It is not fair to the town that the town council and the cio are basically the same
  thing and I do not trust the financial assessment and decision making. It is a glory
  seeking exercise. There are some wonderful people in Desborough who could help
  but are being prevented because DLCH suddenly appeared without notice and has
  taken all involvement and decision making away. Desborough may be small but
  history shows residents will not be ridden roughshod over by the few.

- There is already a hall near the church that could be used for books , the books could
  be rotated / shared between other book hall’s . It would take a small amount of
  money to get it going . The schools in Desborough have library's so the children
  would not miss out.

- The only comment I have is whether NCC ought to be providing 1 staff member to
  meet their statutory needs - rather than relying on DLCH to fund the post.

- Desborough Town should own the building if we are paying for it

- to consider leasing it rather than forcing them to buy.

- Be open on a Saturday morning/afternoon or both!!

- NCC could run it

- I do not have or know of any other library proposals that I would consider

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Desborough Library proposal
that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 12 responses to this question

- Just to reiterate the price tag needs to reflect the commitment of the CIO supported
  by the Town Council.

- As the Town council intend to use reserves money, that was paid as precept by the
  residents, I believe we have the right to see the full details of the business plan put
  forward by the charity
The library is an essential meeting place within the town, and as such should be retained.

I would like to know what is meant by "some universal children's services" and hope this does not mean a reduction.

I am nervous about the service we would be given if DTC decide it is too expensive to buy the building, would NCC close the Library as it is and give us a much more limited service. I feel we need more transparency about what the offer will involve and how much it is going to cost us. I also feel the Library value has been estimated too highly.

As a council taxpayer who has lived in this town for [number] years I object strongly to the proposal for the charitable group to buy the building THE TOWN ALREADY OWNS IT

Don't try and fix what already works. I have seen an "equality assessment" from 2018 which listed "alternative children's centre provision". This list was largely meaningless - preschool provision and private providers and a local church group were thrown in together with no analysis of what is free. Most apart from one were costing families money. There was no acknowledgement of religious bias - the church group is an overtly Christian group. It is inclusive but not normal for "universal children's services". There needs to be a clear discussion with the children's services directorate about their planning for Desborough. I think that one breastfeeding group and two baby/toddler groups as a minimum ought to be supplied free to families. This would allow higher level services to link in - as previously.

Residents of the town are so worried [redacted comment]. Desborough is being pushed and rushed into making decisions without all, or hardly any, information and contribution to the issue. It has suddenly become a done deal and residents are not happy. It will fail, residents will not pay the money needed for activities there are plenty of other charities to contribute to and money is tight. The library basically needs to be free, to use it should be free, they say older people use it to go and sit it, they don't but if they did they would be prevented through the fee paying activities or those people with 1st class membership as opposed to 2nd class or poor people's membership. I wish I could get more involved but I work full time but there are many others. I am very frustrated as I see the council and trust not listening to the community at all.

The children’s groups are such an important lifeline for parents. I think it is imperative that they continue.

The library and their children’s service provided an amazing opportunity for me to get out with my young child while on maternity leave!! The rhyme time sessions allowed me to meet with other, local mums and form a supportive friendship group. With the loss of the surestart Center in Desborough and rothwell I feel that the loss of the library would be terrible For other new mums.

Every town needs a library, they fulfil a need, a place to go to meet friends, resources available that some do not have any other access to. Important that children learn about books not just computers!!
• The library in town is the only building that enhances the lives of the very young to the very elderly - other than churches and they do not offer the same facilities
Duston Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Duston Library?

There were 11 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approximately how often do you usually attend Duston Library?</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Duston library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Duston Library: Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 11 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Universal Children’s Services** – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.

| | 
|---|---|
| | 3 | 27.3% |

**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

| | 
|---|---|
| | 0 | 0.0% |

**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

| | 
|---|---|
| | 2 | 18.2% |

**Health Services** – to access information and advice on health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

| | 
|---|---|
| | 1 | 9.1% |

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

| | 
|---|---|
| | 3 | 27.3% |

**Culture Services** - visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

| | 
|---|---|
| | 2 | 18.2% |

I do not currently use library services in Duston Library

| | 
|---|---|
| | 0 | 0.0% |

**TOTAL**

| | 
|---|---|
| | 11 | |

**About Duston Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Duston Library is retained by NCC and forms part of the countywide statutory provision.

A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, it is a designated Children’s Centre with high 0-10 year old populations and with no other Children’s Centre provision in the area. Duston is also an area with high numbers of active library users and high populations of those aged 60 and above nearby.

All of the above factors indicate that that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability. There is potential to
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

work in partnership with the Parish Council and opportunities to fully exploit the advantages of shared premises will be explored.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 11 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
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<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 5 responses to this question

- Myself and my family attend the library at least once a month. The staff in the library are always very helpful, friendly, welcoming and knowledgeable. They have a good range of books available for everyone in the family. They have books to rent and things in the shop to purchase that are relevant to school topics making doing homework much easier. We’ve made use of the IT facilities. We have also rented DVDs as well. They run fun and interesting activity/play sessions during the holidays, which provides interesting activities to do with my son that can also be used as a place to meet up with his friends to take part in the same activity.
• I am pleased the Duston library is keeping council funding
• I visit Duston Library weekly different days and different times and it is always busy. People looking for books, young children having stories or singing and all ages using computers. A very busy, lively, clean and happy place to be.
• Good news that the plan is keep Duston library open as part of statutory provision. Such a big population of active library users... just hope that opening hours will not reduce dramatically... and still worry about future reviews
• The council should be able to offer universal access to users of duston library as it been a vital touch point for me as a new parent and will continue to be so as my child grows.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?  
There were 2 responses to this question
• Closing the library would make school homework and projects much harder to achieve. There are very few places to take children during the holiday to do activities if you are without a car and this provides a good, fun, safe place for my son.
• Work with users when reviewing opening hours

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Duston Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:  
There were 4 responses to this question
• I would request that you did not reduce the opening hours of the library. As a family with both parents working, it is already a challenge to go there as often as we would like.
• Longer opening hours that fit in with evening events at rest of centre
• It would be much better to maybe close the library two days a week rather than close completely. We could all adapt to it open only on certain days but dreadful to see this lovely building closed for good. Please keep our lovely library open!!!!!!!
• Libraries are doing a great job and has done so for decades, I used them as a child and my kids. When I used them it help to inspire me to continue to keep learning and everyday I am still learning ‘it’s a good day when you learn something new’ and I am 50. Libraries should keep adding relevant services and keep joining with other organisations like the Citizens Advice Bureau. Also Libraries should be opened later say 9pm to give dads like me a chance to take the kids in after I get home from work in the evening, I don’t get home to 7pm
Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Duston Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 1 responses to this question

- Since the staff changes I have used the library less as the current staff are not so welcoming or friendly, there is now a distinct lack of local knowledge from them also. The building has become shabby. Some love needs injection in back into it.
Earls Barton Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Earls Barton Library?

There were 79 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar Chart: Approximately how often do you usually attend Earls Barton Library?](chart.png)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Earls Barton library</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Earls Barton Library:

Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 75 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>77.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

| Learning Services | 14 | 18.7% |

Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

| Digital Services | 8 | 10.7% |

Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

| Health Services | 7 | 9.3% |

Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

| Information Services | 15 | 20.0% |

Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

| Culture Services | 27 | 36.0% |

I do not currently use library services in Earls Barton Library

| TOTAL | 75 |

About Earls Barton Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Earls Barton Library will be run by a community group in the current location but will remain part of the countywide statutory provision.

Discussions have taken place with The Friends of Earls Barton Library and Earls Barton Parish Council. The Friends are currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

It is proposed that this would be a community managed library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate, at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services provided in Earls Barton Library will continue to be delivered.

This could mean changes, either an increase or a decrease in the opening hours, but with an agreed minimum.

It is proposed that the library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library has a high number of active library users and a
high number of children under 5 and those over 60 in the area, indicating that statutory provision should continue. Although Earls Barton Library falls within the 5-mile radius of Wellingborough library, a gap has been identified regarding travel times to that library and other statutory libraries.

As Earls Barton Library would remain part of the statutory provision, should it become unviable as a community-run library, NCC would seek to find alternative provision to ensure it continued to provide a statutory service.

There is £27,400 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 78 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar Chart]

- 1 Poor solution
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 Good solution
- Don’t know
Poor solution | Good solution | Don’t know
---|---|---
2 | 2 | 10 | 21 | 39 | 4
2.6% | 2.6% | 12.8% | 26.9% | 50.0% | 5.1%

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 45 responses to this question

- Given the lack of public funds generally available within the County, a solution based on local community support seems the best solution. Furthermore, this would help foster more community involvement and "buy-in" to the library as a valuable local resource.
- I am currently a volunteer at this Library and do 2 - 3 hours a week. I feel this has really benefited the community in being able to keep the services running. The amount of library users is vast and if any closure was to be implemented it would affect ALL in the village.
- Although not ideal Earls Barton is a large village that needs its library otherwise a large contingent of the community (both young and old) will lose a vital service. The villagers of Earls Barton are committed to making the community library proposal work.
- Provided the voluntary group can run the library in the way that they, and the village, wish, providing the hours and services for which local residents are asking, this will be a good solution.
- Earls Barton needs to stay open as it is such a vital service in this large village for young and old, and is always busy.
- Keeping it open, even if reduced, is better than closing it.
- This seems a well thought out proposal to ensure EB library remains open as an essential service for the village taking into account the lack of funds.
- Earls Barton Library is important to many residents. Perhaps especially important to children, families and the retired. Although the proposal is very heavily dependent on volunteers there is hope that a future could still be found even if there weren’t enough volunteers. It seems the best option we can hope for but it is very regrettable that the changes have been thrust upon us so abruptly.
- Earls Barton is a big village and the library is well stocked it is very important it remains available for the residents of the village. A community Library will make it important to everyone and one which they can be more involved
- A community library will give the residents of Earls Barton Library ownership and might increase awareness of its value
- I feel that, under the circumstances i.e. constrained finances, the proposal is reasonable. However it will be necessary to have regular support from qualified librarians.
• The library is an essential part of Earls Barton life and whilst volunteers were prepared to keep it running, the regular input from a member of library staff as we currently have will make it so much more effective.
• I think that it a good solution that should not be necessary as access to library services is crucial to any community and should be funded centrally.
• Because Earls Barton is a growing community - new housing bringing in families with young children - it is essential that the services run by the library continue.
• I have worked in schools to support children with reading and literacy skills, and it is so important that libraries are kept open so that children can access a range of books, work on computers etc. If children are not encouraged and supported to read/practise computer skills, they fall behind in every area of the school curriculum. The library service is thus vital in supporting children’s education. As a senior citizen, I am appreciative of the services the library offers. As well as being able to access books to read, local information etc, the activities/groups supported by the library enable people to get out of their homes and socialise, which, given that loneliness is a major factor among the elderly (and those not so old) is an extremely valuable support mechanism.
• At the moment, the Volunteer support system seems to be well managed and is facilitating current community activities to continue, as well as making book-lending & IT facilities available several times per week, a relief to those who worried about future prospects. With this proposal, new activities with other community groups can be encouraged to help make the library a vibrant centre in the village.
• I need to know more about future LA support if EB becomes a community library. What will 106 money be spent on? Will need books be purchased?
• The Library is an essential part of our village, always in use. It provides vital services for many, across the generations.
• it is a vital part of the Earls Barton community of all ages and with NCC support the services could continue to be delivered by volunteers. Earls Barton has a committed group of volunteers and Friends of the Library who will work hard to maintain the library and other services the library facilitates. lots of people find it difficult (for many reasons) to access services at other libraries.
• Earls Barton is a very close knit community. As well as offering traditional library services the library is a base for a variety of community activities which are well attended by local people; without this base the majority of groups would likely have to end. There appears to be an adequate number of willing and able volunteers to keep the library open. I think it would be necessary to remain part of the statutory provision to retain some (expertise) input from NCC, and would like to think this included funding awards the upkeep of the premises, books, utility bills and so on.
• Earls Barton Library is an important part of our village, not just for use as a book borrowing service but also as a venue for several village social groups.
• Although i do not now use Earls Barton Library I did so when my granddaughter was under school age and it was actively used by many parents and grandparents to give
their children the benefit of the sure start program. Now my granddaughter is at [name] School and I pick her up regularly and see parents and grandparents using the library in the same way that I did. I cannot emphasise enough how much the interaction contributes to a familiarity with reading and interaction with other infants

- We are pleased that Earls Barton will remain part of the countywide statutory provision. The Library is very well supported by the local community and the Friends of Earls Barton Library have been successful in attracting volunteers and to look at fundraising in order to keep the library open. However, being part of the statutory provision gives an additional safety net.
- A good way to keep Earls Barton Library open
- Would be a real shame to close yet another library
- Be a big help and great chance to bond with other children and parents
- As long as there is still access for residents with groups and activities going on I don't think reduced hours would be a problem
- As long as there is still access for residents with groups and activities going on I don't think reduced hours would be a problem
- Earls Barton is a well used library for many different groups as well as borrowing books
- This is a good solution if your only other option was to close it.
- There is a lot of volunteers working in the library at the moment and they should be encouraged, in any way possible, to continue.
- Excellent community hub, for children, adults. Helping voluntary staff. Provides a good community spirit for the village.
- It is the best of a bad job!
- It is important to both young and old in this village to keep the library open for as often as possible
- The library is the only social facility in this village which is freely available to all, regardless of age, gender, nationality, religious or political affiliation, nationality or social class. It is a particularly valuable asset for local pre school children and for the children from the adjacent primary school. It is also an asset for elderly local people for gaming, knitting and computer learning
- The library is a hub in the village. The solution as offered provides the community with the opportunity to ensure this valuable provision continues.
- The library should be run by the council as it had been in Earls Barton for almost 50 years. Community groups / volunteers are all well and good, but cannot be a sustainable long-term solution.
- I want it returned to a full service with daily opening hours with qualified librarians
- Their are considerably reduced opening times, hence my children are using it alot less.
- NCC should be providing the service to the residents of N'shire living in EB, using qualified staff and providing current bookstock and other materials. If volunteers do
have to run the Library, they should not have to raise the money for rental of the building as all council tax payers have already contributed for this service through payment of their council tax. NCC is asking the residents of EB to pay twice.

- The library needs to stay open as its incredibly important to the community. In its position next to the school its in a brilliant location for supporting young readers. The current reduced hours mean its very difficult for me to access the library at the minute. I used to take my children every week around my work hours and this is now all but impossible
- Obviously the library would benefit from proper paid staff but this is an improvement on no library
- Keeping the library open is great however I would worry about the impact should a volunteer be unable to make it one day. The library and the services it offers and very valuable to the local community.
- I think we already own this library as tax payers. We need total flexibility to run it as we think fit.
- The library in Earls Barton is well supported and well used. It would be a shame if the opening hours were reduced further
- Need to know what 'alternative provision' would be.
- The volunteers are doing a wonderful job and have the village best interest at heart.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 18 responses to this question

- Take back fully under the council aegis.
- needs proper support from trained librarians in an ongoing capacity. I don't understand how the library will get new books etc
- This is the beginning of the erosion of our wonderful library service. Leave it as it was, before the initial cuts
- It would heavily rely on volunteers and fundraising at a time when there is much uncertainty around Brexit. This option needs to be given enough time to bed in and get over this Brexit period to see if the really is a viable option. It also allows NCC to wipe its hands of this when a degree of support to make this work is also required.
- As above but putting staff in where volunteers could be on standby should an illness occur would be preferable.
- However, the negative impact will be if the village is forced to buy the building. Even the option of renting it is only postponing the inevitable. The Parish Council is unlikely to be able to fund the rental for an indefinite period. The ratepayers have already paid for library services for years - the building belongs to the village, not the NCC and, as such, should be given to the village for their use.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

- The Library would only be open half the week and not on Saturdays when many people like to use the Library as they are not at work elsewhere at this time. A resident Librarian is able to answer many questions for users, and to offer suggestions for reading material, and other information material.
- I imagine the ongoing costs of running a library - upkeep of the property, fuel bills etc would prove a problem if NCC was to withdraw it's support.
- My concern is how the rotation of book stock in the lending library will be maintained - or will that not happen?
- Main concern is about sustainability if 'community led.'
- I only see things from a technical point of view. I have met and seen the problems these people already have trying to take over a library
- n/a
- N/A
- Please keep this library open for the people of Earls Barton and surrounding villages.
- Not sure a developer would have the same community spirit.
- We need this library to remain so much is being taken away from the community. I am sure we in Earls Barton can keep this running.
- It relies heavily on volunteers to do librarians work and take on more responsibilities. These are usually elderly people
- Limited access hours for working people

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Earls Barton Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 10 responses to this question

- As far as is known, the only other solution would involve the County Council gifting the library building to a local Charitable Trust with the ability to run the library service (and other community-based activities) utilising either the Countywide library service or an independent library provider. However, this would presumably involve local fundraising (to support utility costs and building maintenance etc) and this adds a level of uncertainty. Ongoing County Council ownership and running of the building and the service in partnership with local community volunteers to be available during opening times seems the best compromise.
- As it is unlikely NCC will reverse its decision regarding direct funding for libraries this seems the only option to keep the library in Earls Barton.
- The library could easily be expanded upon and used as a community centre/private hire centre too. It's location and parking available lends itself to so many ways it could fund itself long term with a little short term investment.
- In an ideal world, keep it open full time with a member of staff.
- The proposal does not make clear how often a professional librarian would be at the library. I suggest more details be added to the proposal so that the Library Friends, the volunteers and the Parish Council have more information to guide them.
- The new unitary authority could reconsider the closure of the Library and offer a proper Library service, as it is likely that the new authority would have greater control over its finances.
- Bus passes and blue badges could be issued at the Borough Council of Wellingborough offices as previously done so.
- In order to sustain Earls Barton Library and allow it to grow and provide additional community services, ancillary to the library service, NCC either need to gift the building to the local community or provide a lease with a peppercorn rent. The point of devolving the library service to community groups was to save NCC money, not to make money. Therefore, they should not be considering rental a market value.
- We could use this building as a community hub for retired men - ie doing jobs for less able people in the village.
- Stop paying huge salaries to council members and use the money for that which it was intended i.e. for the benefits of the people.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Earls Barton Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 16 responses to this question

- I am very disappointed at the way ncc has managed this process and also outraged at the lack of support being provided. It's immoral that ncc want to 'hire' out their officers to help.community groups create their business cases and appalled at the short timescales given. I also can't believe how much ncc valued the building for, much higher than the market value. GREEDY!!!!
- Just to reiterate this is a vital resource for young and old. Parents with babies and toddlers rely on the groups to get out and meet other people and for children to interact with other children. Older people needs it to meet people otherwise they would be alone. We cannot and should not under estimate the impact closing this library would have on these and other vulnerable people.
- I'm pleased it has been decided that it will remain open, with many new houses coming to the village it will be a valuable resource. Having suffered with [condition] when my children were little I found the children's services invaluable and the library being open meant I had somewhere to go if it all got to me at home.
- No where does this questionnaire mention the social implications of the Earls Barton library. A lot of people, particularly elderly, use the library as their only means of socialising a contact with other people. To remove the library would leave a high number of people without that lifeline as most cannot physically get to Wellingborough. The large libraries do not have the same personal and intimate connections with their users.
• He library is a vital part of the community and there is always something going on! I don't think there would be an alternative place to go if it closed.

• I guess the library being open less is better than not opening at all. I can see this as being a scapegoat and to keep people quiet for the time being and in the future it will sadly close for good.

• NCC should gift the building and the land to the people of EB, either through the Parish Council or Friends of Earls Barton Library so that services can be continued without the volunteers having a millstone of raising rental finance around their necks. A Community Land Trust model could be considered to manage the asset.

• I would like to thank the Friends of the Library for all their hard work in endeavouring to keep our library open - and the volunteers who are now in place to help with the day-to-day running of the service.

• Community support is good and volunteers plentiful at present. I am concerned about other financial matters such as building repairs, computer maintenance etc vital to keep the services within a system that allows the volunteers to stand a fighting change of maintaining the use of the building and infrastructure. vital for health and wellbeing of the residents of Earls Barton.

• Volunteers are regularly covering 3 half days at the library. They are ensuring a space that is welcoming and friendly.

• As I understand it, the Council are going to charge rent from the library - surely if the library closes down then the Council make nothing at all!

• We are in a good community and we deserve to be considered to keep our library and diverse into other things.

• Please continue with the jigsaws.

• I am rather concerned about buildings maintenance (inside and out) in the future

• What is the situation regarding maintenance of the current building
Far Cotton Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Far Cotton Library?

There were 20 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>More often than once a week</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>20.0%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Far Cotton library</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Far Cotton Library:

Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 20 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>70.0%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services — to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Far Cotton library</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About Far Cotton Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Far Cotton Library becomes a Community Managed Library in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with the Friends of the Library and potential for sharing space with an external partner is being explored.

It is proposed that Far Cotton Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 2 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Hunsbury.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.
Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 15 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 6 responses to this question

- It is essential in my opinion that the Rec Centre Library stays open. If it can be achieved as a community managed Library that is fine, but I cannot see how such an arrangement could meet financial costs of running the Library. Has this been examined?
- I do not drive and public transport is too costly to use every day.
- I am wheelchair bound having to travel that extra distance is impossible especially this time of year.
- The people of far cotton need and deserve a library. There are several local schools that can use the library. It is also easy to access for older people and those less able to go all the way up the hill to Hunsbury or into town. It is a valuable asset to the area. Please keep it.
- The library is a valuable service in the community and the running of the library by a community group could result in reduced hours and services. Additionally the fact that this cannot be guaranteed as a solution and it may instead be closed is wholly unacceptable. There are people in real need of this services and the number of
people utilising these could be massively increased if NCC made the effort to market and fund them effectively.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 7 responses to this question

- I will be isolated from information, internet connection and books.
- To not have this service would be detrimental to the children in the area. Hunsbury is not within safe walking distance for the majority of the pre-school and primary school aged children. This service is an important local resource in a deprived area. Children can avail themselves of workspace, reading material, homework clubs and generally a safe area they can reach out to. I would not like for any of this not to be available to the children in the local community.
- Far Cotton is a comparatively poor area and the children of Delapre and Far Cotton deserve the benefits a good Library provides. If you must close a Library in the area, then close the one at Hunsbury where families have more ability to travel.
- the residents deserve their own library.
- My main concern would be for those who are less mobile or who have transport difficulties and so might find it difficult to get to Hunsbury library easily.
- It’s a local service that is needed. without it people will have to travel further, it is the hub of the area.
- The library is a valuable service in the community and the running of the library by a community group could result in reduced hours and services. Additionally the fact that this cannot be guaranteed as a solution and it may instead be closed is wholly unacceptable. There are people in real need of this services and the number of people utilising these could be massively increased if NCC made the effort to market and fund them effectively. Clear funding a support structure to help the community group, should they take over, must be in place. The council should also work to still ensure there is connections between local libraries (NCC run or not) to continue effective service delivery and support.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Far Cotton Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 6 responses to this question

- I am guessing the Rec Centre is not able to help, this would be my only suggestion.
- I am happy to extend the services provided there; for it to become a hub for the local community for other reasons as well resources. It seems a shame that local resources are paying the price, for problems created by other areas of the economy and governance. That forethought and innovation from previous generations is to be lost.
The impact of these decisions will be visited on the children of the coming decades - a cost which it is impossible to put a figure on now but future generations will be able to cost this loss to their communities and families. Info tech is a shifting landscape still, the cost of the loss of this resource to the richness of these communities, their resilience and ability to flourish are at least in part due to the resources found in their communities.

- it belongs to the community by the coommunity for the community
- Far Cotton Library could be run by volunteers even if it only opened part-time each week, but it would still need Local Govt financial help if not fully funded by the Council.
- Use resources better.stop wasting money on silly frivolous schemes and get back money stolen from council and cobbler by ? "Persons unknown"
- I believe the best structure would be part council funded and then additional support provided by the community group and volunteers.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Far Cotton Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 6 responses to this question

- It is a disgrace that shuch a wonderful purpose built library will close, further isolating the poor and disadvantaged, the very people the Government say they want to look after. This will have a bad effect on my mental health, but I suppose the NHS can then pay the costs.
- I do not think that the value of the building and the land that it is sited on is worth more than the impact of the loss of the library. The 'fruit' of the service is not accounted for anywhere in terms of the mental wellbeing it provides; opportunity for self-help, control over one's own destiny when family life around you seems to be out of your control, an oasis when times are difficult and that is before you start choosing a book! Once replaced by homes, space in the 'right place' is lost the library is central to this community.
- please dont take it away
- Far Cotton Library is convenient & local to area. Older people can easily access it, whereas to access Hunsbury Library from Far Cotton, one has a considerable distance to travel. This would deter many older residents from using the Library at Hunsbury if Far Cotton Library closed. It would also deter many young mothers with children & prams who do not have a car, and find bus usage inconvenient & difficult.
- The staff are dedicated helpful and knowledgeable. Far cotton needs it's library
- I am whiskey disappointed to see NCC choosing to reduce funding in valuable community services and in such large number. It disgusts me how much we will potentially be limiting support access to vulnerable people and how this could affect a new generation of young people.
Finedon Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Finedon Library?

There were 28 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Finedon library</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Finedon Library: Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 26 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>84.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services** - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>11.5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong> - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong> – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong> – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong> - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Finedon Library</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 26 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 16 responses to this question

- I really hope Northamptonshire County Council to continue helping to keep library open!!!!!!
- the library is used by a large number of pensioners of which make up a large proportion of our residents we also have a lot of young families who like their children to use the library.
- I am fortunate to still be able to drive, but I am aware that many older people in Finedon rely on the Library for a variety of reasons, many of them having no transport or a computer at home.
- Finedon needs it's own library - to be able to continue a good service for the local population.
- It is preferable to have a library service kept running if the alternative is to have it close as NCC are unable to continue to fund it
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

- It would continue to supply a service that is good for the town
- It would maintain a library as a service central to the community providing those without travel capabilities to access materials. It would maintain a place for accessible children's services.
- To ensure the continuity of Library facilities in Finedon
- To ensure the continuity of library services in Finedon. There is a very active group of volunteers willing to undertake the duties.
- In the absence of full NCC funding, the proposal provides a viable alternative with adequate NCC support to local volunteers in their service to Finedon library services users.
- Trying to make the best of a bad job. A proper NCC library service would be the best option, a community volunteer run is the next best option
- Yes I think it would be good solution as we really need a community library where people can meet for a nice chat and get together as well as a selection of books to read
- Finedon library is convenient for many residents as well as myself. However, while many users are unable to travel to Kettering, I can.
- Libraries need to be in our home towns, I can't go 5 miles to a library unless someone takes me. In fact I often have to get my husband to return and bring me books as on those days I am unable to leave probably my bed and most certainly the house. Libraries need to be run by paid staff, volunteers have other things going on and can't be guaranteed upon, and if they lose interest getting new ones can be impossible. If each library is insular and run by that little group, how can we take books back to any library?? I go to whichever library I can get to and return my books to whichever I'm going to next. This is the same for many people, if they rely on friends or family then you go with what they can do for you.
- I understand many people using the library do not have access to their own transport and some older people use the library to combat loneliness. It seems like the proposal to close the library does not consider the impact to the people currently using it. As a working parent, it is convenient for me to be able to walk to the library with my son rather than consider a longer period of time to use a library outside of Finedon. It would be something we wouldn't do despite my desire for my son to access libraries and the services available.
- The best of a bad selection, I would rather the service was provided as part of a national service, as Finedon has a large proportion of elderly residents and has few amenities for a high proportion of deprived and low income families.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 8 responses to this question
The impact is obvious, in that many older users rely on it.

Even though Finedon Library is one of the County’s smallest and perhaps does not have as much footfall as others, it does form part of a community which deserves the opportunity to engage in such activities, especially those organised for younger children which might not be seen in terms of pure library provision.

I hoped that this does not have a negative impact, it would be saying that you don’t care about pensioners or young children being able to read/learn from what they gather from the library.

If NCC continue to provide computers, IT support, books, training etc it is viable. If these are withdrawn at a later date it will not be. The Friends are able to manage running the service but not if any of this support is withdrawn. It is the management time and expertise more than the financial pressure that would be required if NCC were to revert to an Independent library model.

Many older and less able people or those like myself with long term illnesses meaning Im am regarded as disabled, libraries are a lifeline, a friendly face who knows your name, not some towny who only want to speak for a few minutes and then forget you like the [job title] you have put into [location]. Some people i know the time they spend in the library is the only time they see other people all week. They cant travel 5 miles to another library the bus stop is too far away. This will lead to more isolation, more depression, more loneliness apparently the biggest problem facing out nation! Most of the knit and natter at Burton Library do so to ” get out of the house” your condemning them to a lonely isolated life. Where are young people aho cannot afford ;laptops and wifi going to go for help with homework, if they cant afford that theyen they cant afford the bus fair to the nearest library, your dening the next generation a brighter future.

As a community library stock maintenance would be challenge; NCC support and liaise with central libraries to support stock rotation.

as above.

Lack of leadership and experience of volunteers will have an unfortunate impact. Hopefully volunteers enthusiasm will come through

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Finedon Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 8 responses to this question

- Local users could run the library.
- Finedon library is small place, but there are lots of people who came regularly, it’s gonna be a big mistake if that library be closed!
- To help Finedon Library not to fail, I would ask that the County Council continue to support the community by providing the IT facilities and access to books which is offered to other County libraries. This would go a long way in helping the local
volunteers to support its operation and form a solid baseline upon which to develop services further.

- if the ncc does not want us then this is the only other alternative.
- Keep it open as it is and as our tax is paid for, make the football teams and sports people pay some of the costs of their hobbies and some of the cutbacks and stop attacking our librarians and the next generations future. Books are knowledge. Knowledge means growth both in mind and spirit. Drastically cut the fat cast wages and bonuses., stop wasting money on buffets drinks and corporate boxes at events.
- A full time library manager would be the best option
- More volunteers
- More investment

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Finedon Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 6 responses to this question

- Please keep Finedon Library Open for our needs! Books makes us happy!
- Having been the [redacted] a Management Committee when the first set of proposals were announced (i.e. to close Finedon Library) I am very aware of the difficulties which any group of volunteers will face in running such an operation such as costs, legal and health & safety/safeguarding issues. Without some support from the County Council this will provide to be very difficult.
- It is important that such options as bus passes, parking permits etc are still available via the library as this brings in footfall
- This new consultation has been made as awkward as possible, so that unless your prepared to sit and do it 28 times you can only speak on 1 ;library, this new consultation is a vindictive response to the fact we all fought so hard to the last one, and it has been noted that those who fought the hardest have now been earmarked for closure,/handover when they were not before. People are being asked to work out proposals without any financial figures, volunteer led libraries are not the answer
- The building is central to the community and provides a place to centralise services so it would be appreciated if the building could maintain it's use as library and town hall.
- Only to say we desperately need for the library to be kept open
Higham Ferrers Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Higham Ferrers Library?

There were 27 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Higham Ferrers library</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Higham Ferrers Library: Please tick (V) all that apply

There were 30 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong> - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong> – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong> – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong> - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Higham Ferrers Library</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About Higham Ferrers Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Higham Ferrers becomes a Community Managed Library in the current location.

This will be a transitional arrangement while plans are developed to relocate the service to a new build community centre. Should the library move to a new build community centre it is anticipated this will not happen within the next 2-3 years. The library will stay in its current location until these plans are developed.

Discussions are ongoing with the Friends of the Library and the Town Council.

It is proposed that Higham Ferrers Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 2 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Rushden and has relatively low physical visits.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

There is potentially £64,600 Section 106 money available to invest.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 24 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 16 responses to this question

- It is a good solution, although the best solution would be for the library to remain under council control
- It is an important facility for the Town.
- Its acceptable but ideally it would be lovely if the building could be kept long term due to its value to the community. New is not always better. I am glad it is staying open.
- Good that the library stays open but bad that it might move or worse cease completely
You have not defined that the library will be in the current location until the plans are developed for a community centre. That is not the same as saying that the library will remain in the same place until the community centre is built. I understand that the Town Council is working to achieve this with in 2 to 3 years. So concerned that you are saying it will not happen in 2/3 years: "should the library move to a new build community centre it is anticipated this will not happen within the next 2-3 years"

A library in Higham is essential. Using another library 2 miles away isn't possible for elderly and young families. This library has been used in Higham for generations, it is so many things to so many people.

The library has been refurbished and closing it down and setting up another would be a waste of money / resources. I think the library should remain in the same building and it should not be closed due to mismanagement of our money. The missed opportunity for learning and preventing access to the community would be detrimental.

A library is part of our community, it is accessible to all who live in Higham. To not have it any longer would be a huge loss to those who live here and even greater to those who are not as mobile and to whom 2 miles is long way

I don't agree with closing libraries and am concerned that this propel may eventually lead to this service no longer being available. It relies on volunteers and on new premises, that are suitable, being available. It is said that residents don't use library services but one should be available. Reading is a very important skill and if you can't read you will often go to a library for independent help.

Higham Ferrers library is an essential part of the community facilities in this rapidly growing town.

I would be happy that the library be maintained in its current location, however it would be disappointing not to be part of the NCC’s wider library service. I have a teenager who has always been able to access a wide range of books at this library, borrow from other libraries and benefit from the links between them. I am concerned that she and future generations of children will not have access to this facility. Our town has few services, and these cuts risk further isolating already vulnerable families.

I'm relieved the library will remain in its current building. It’s an excellent location and familiar to everyone in the town. My concern is that most people seem to have assume the library is already closed. To be fair this is my anecdotal evidence! But this perception d

It depends on the cost of transfer of assets to the community e.g. the building. It also depends on the rates payable. The above plan does not clearly explain the proposition. On one hand it talks about becoming a community managed library and then it later talks about the service ceasing. It’s a bit ambiguous.

Having a community library run by volunteers is better than not having a library at all. However, there are obvious caveats as to ongoing goodwill of volunteers and what provision of "assistance" (books, computers, electricity, et al). The limited opening
hours will already have effected the footfall and engagement of residents as to what is happening and their usage of the facility. It is a catch-22 if you haven't got internet access to have found this page.

- Until the arrangements are in place it is difficult to know how this will work.
- I don’t know why it has to move?

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 8 responses to this question

- Is new community centre going to be centrally located and accessible?
- I understand that the level of service offered will not be at the same standard. Universal services will not exist as this will simply not be viable for a community run project.
- Continue to maintain the links with NCC’s library network. A ‘booklending service’ as provided by volunteers would not offer the same level of provision.
- The negative impact is that it would appear as soon as plans are developed to relocate the library to a community centre you would ask it to move from the current building leaving Higham Ferrers without the much needed public space. This could be mitigated by allowing the Town Council 2 to 3 years to achieve the building of the community centre.
- Libraries are much more than just a book lending service. They are the centre for some many activities supporting families and children.
- See above
- I think the provision of information is essential and the means to apply for e.g. blue badges. I think there could be an impact on the groups that use the library and many of them are less likely to travel. Social isolation leads to costs in other services and anything the library can do to assist helps.
- Closing the library would remove the very necessary community facilities it provides. Keeping the library under statutory provision would avoid this.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Higham Ferrers Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 4 responses to this question

- The portacabin idea was daft. No one uses Higham solely for books. The library is used for groups, meetings, get togethers. Its somewhere of historic value that provides warmth, shelter, a welcome to the whole community.
- All assets should be transferred over to the community managed library group for £1 and access provided to the NCC library system for a nominal annual cost.
• Keep it open!
• Keep the library under statutory provision.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Higham Ferrers Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 4 responses to this question

• would prefer it to stay in current building
• The library is a vital space for the community in an area where there is no other communal spaces. Uncertainty about the future of the library and fluctuating opening hours have led I feel to a fall in footfall and use. This would be the case in the others libraries I suspect too.
• Thank you for giving our library a stay of execution. Communities should not pay for the councils mistakes. There is no greater investment than in people. Pay forward.
• I think it is grossly irresponsible for this service to be under threat at the same time as council tax is increased by 5%
Hunsbury Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Hunsbury Library?

There were 15 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Hunsbury library</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Hunsbury Library:

Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 14 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2</th>
<th>14.3%</th>
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</table>

Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4</th>
<th>28.6%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3</th>
<th>21.4%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2</th>
<th>14.3%</th>
</tr>
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</table>

Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3</th>
<th>21.4%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

I do not currently use library services in Hunsbury Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
<th>0.0%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

TOTAL

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>14</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

About Hunsbury library and its proposed future

No changes are proposed for Hunsbury Library and it is proposed that Hunsbury Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue. All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations)
Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 12 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 7 responses to this question

- Hunsbury library is fantastic. I regularly use the children's services as well as borrowing books frequently. The staff are brilliant. It was a real lifeline for me when I moved to Northampton 3 yrs ago not knowing anyone. Both my children enjoy coming to the library for books or groups and so do I. I also use borrowbox ( but realise that is not specific to hunsbury)
- Because it is the right solution for any library: remains within NCC control and remit.
- Fabulous decision
- I use the library regularly and it is clearly a bit of a community hub, with regular activities for children (rhymetime etc) and for adults (knitting sessions etc), along with the health aspect (prenatal classes, mother and baby sessions, smoking cessation service etc).
- Hunsbury library is a fantastic resource, and I will be happy to see it continue to remain open and be developed.
- Vital for the community
- This service is an important local resource in a deprived area. Children can avail themselves of workspace, reading material, homework clubs and generally a safe area they can reach out to. I would not like for any of this not to be available to the children in the local community.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 3 responses to this question

- right decision
- As a first time mother which at times can be lonely, attending the free sessions at the library has been a life saver, the classes allows you to socialise with other parents and also my daughter greatly benefits from the class by socialising with other children, helping her with her speech, language and understanding.
- To not have this service would be detrimental to the children in the area. Weston Favell is not within safe walking distance for the majority of the pre-school and primary school aged children. This service is an important local resource in a deprived area. Children can avail themselves of workspace, reading material, homework clubs and generally a safe area they can reach out to. I would not like for any of this not to be available to the children in the local community.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Hunsbury Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There was 1 response to this question

- I am happy to extend the services provided there; for it to become a hub for the local community for other reasons as well resources. It seems a shame that local resources are paying the price, for problems created by other areas of the economy and governance. That forethought and innovation from previous generations is to be lost. The impact of these decisions will be visited on the children of the coming decades - a cost which it is impossible to put a figure on now but future generations will be able to cost this loss to their communities and families. Info tech is a shifting landscape still, the cost of the loss of this resource to the richness of these communities, their resilience and ability to flourish are at least in part due to the resources found in their communities.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Hunsbury Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There was 1 response to this question

- I do not think that the value of the building and the land that it is sited on is worth more than the impact of the loss of the library. The 'fruit' of the service is not accounted for anywhere in terms of the mental wellbeing it provides; opportunity for self-help, control over one's own destiny when family life around you seems to be out of your control, an oasis when times are difficult and that is before you start choosing a book! Once replaced by homes, space in the 'right place' is lost the library is central to this community.
Irchester Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Irchester Library?

There were 87 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approximate Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Irchester library</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Irchester Library:
Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 85 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>70.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services — to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Irchester library</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About Irchester Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Irchester Library becomes a Community Managed Library in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with the Parish Council.

It is proposed that Irchester Library no longer forms part of the NCC statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of 2 libraries remaining within NCC statutory provisions at Rushden and Wellingborough and has a low number of physical visits.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations
Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 85 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 61 responses to this question

- A lot of people do not have transport to visit Wellingborough, or access to internet. Also a very good meeting place for people of all ages.
- The question you are asking is actually two questions! 1. Do you want it to cease as a NCC Library. 2. Do you want it to become a Community Managed Library. My answer is actually referring to the fact that I want it to become a Community Managed Library.
- Am assuming you mean this is referring to keeping it as a community managed library.
- Community libraries are a valuable resource and should be retained by whatever means possible.
- I believe it’s a valuable Community Resource and important to retain the building as a Library and meeting place.
- It would be a great loss to the local community of our Library closed. I have used it several times to borrow books, use the computers and I can it is an important part of local amenities.
I grew up in Irchester, using the library from a very young age. Without it’s use and the love of literature it brought me along with the peace it brought as a safe space of learning, my education and lifelong learning habits would not be with me. Children and young people need and deserve access to the library as a basis of their educational career.

I think it’s not fair that NCC will no longer fund running our library however this is a good alternative.

As I am [age] years old and don’t have transport and with the poor bus service it is not practical to carry books to other libraries.

Although I don’t personally use the library service my neighbour (a pensioner), heavily relies on it. It would be inconvenient and difficult for [them] to travel to services in Wellingborough and rushden. I also think it’s very important for young children to have access - and pre-school and school visits provide opportunities to some children that they would not have otherwise. Although I’d prefer the council to still have responsibility for the library, I also realise that historical MIA-management of funds makes this an impossibility. This is the next best option.

It is a focal meeting place for residents as well as providing books etc.

Current open hours and stock provision do not meet my needs so I hope becoming community managed will resolve this issue although I am concerned about volunteers having access to my personal details. I have been unable to access the library since it closed on Saturdays as I work during the week.

This is a well loved and well used facility across all ages. Our village needs all the services currently being offered and there is a willingness for it to continue with strong community support.

Accepting the inevitability of the change it is important to at least try and maintain a library service of sorts in the village. The library is purpose built and has a history which it would be a real shame to lose.

The idea of keeping a library in Irchester would greatly benefit the community by providing a focal point. The library is for everyone and is a neutral place. It provides for both young and old. It is an environment for learning and engagement. It cannot be lost for future generations.

It will only be a good solution if NCC supports this proposal for a community manage library in a timely and well thought out manner. Irchester has been privilege to have had a library for over 100 years in a building that erected for library use for the community. It is rather a disgraceful shame that NCC are dismissive of the library in Irchester and the role it has played in the community. I would hope that NCC will support the community and give the parish council the support and time to make this venture possible.

The proposal that Irchester Library should still exist in its present location, because it was provided for this village by Andrew Carnegie, because this community needed the facilities for people to access reading study and cultural activities. He provided
the building on land provided by Lady Wantage to be managed by the Parish Council. The building cannot be used for anything else.

- All local communities should have access to a library. Young families and the elderly with limited transport need local access.

- It would be a good solution to propose that the library becomes community managed, the village library is a landmark within the village that needs to be brought into a community space that can function as a multi use area. At present the service is poor and the facility is not being used because of the changing times and to some unworkable times. Placing it within the community, discussions could be raised regarding opening times and events and how the space is used that will be of use within the local area. Also the bus routes have changed and this is causing some issues regarding the time that people can have visiting the other nearby libraries. So this will be a good provision for some people with no transport or limited transport.

- Irchester has had a library for well over 100 years in a building that built to house a library. It is strange that you are considering giving it back to Parish Council that had it taken away from them in the first place by a county council who wanted to run it as a library and no longer want to. Overall I am very supportive of this idea - if it has the help and support it needs from the local authority to make it achievable. Whilst the libraries at Wellingborough may be 5 miles away - how are we guaranteed in the future there will be a bus service to get to these places. Libraries provide so much more for the community that just books - they provide a place to learn, meet and spend time with people in a lovely environment.

- There is no other option to be consider - give Irchester Parish Council all the help and support it needs to take over the library as a Community Managed Library. The community I am sure will rally to help and support a building that has been in use for 110 years. In fact the building was built for the Irchester Parish Council originally and was forced out of the Parish Council hand in the early 1960s under a Parliamentary Act saying Libraries cant be run by Parish Council and was passed into NCC hands. Therefore NCC should (whatever the law say) be give the library back moralistically to the Irchester Parish Council as NCC no long want to run Make sure that the facilities are in a decent condition to make this Community Managed Library happen - give time for it to happen.

- Irchester Library was built in 1909 for the community. It is a unique historic building in the heart of the village and is a treasured and valued asset. It is a community hub in what is a historic and evolving village which over the next few year will see an increase in older people living here as well as a growth agenda for the village between now and 2031. As the community has completed a Neighbourhood Plan. The opportunity for it to become a Community Managed Library would be gratefully received in light of NCC proposal to close and dispose of the library. Whilst it is stated that Irchester Library is just over 2 miles away from Rushden Library - you have to walk through open countryside to get to this facility up and down steep hills. What would happen if a bus service ever ceased in the village?
A Neighbourhood Plan (www.irchesterparishnhp.com) has been prepared for the parish of Irchester that looks at the growth agenda for the community until 2031. It recognises the importance of community faculties and assets like the Library that play an important role and function to provide community cohesion and a sense of place and belonging. In fact NCC was consulted as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process and have subsequently endorsed it commitment of providing a library service as part of this process as they recognised its importance. The idea of a community managed library would be the best way forward with this venture as NCC obviously no longer wish to support a library service within the community of Irchester.

As a [member] that covers the Irchester Ward I have been somewhat shocked at the longwinded, lengthy and at times confusing process that the library service review and consultations have undertaken. I realise that NCC are trying to save money - but it is such a small amount - I dread to think how much this whole process has actually cost. I am sure that NCC are fully aware that the library was built for the Parish Council in 1909 and is unique in its establishment as a village library under the Carnegie Trust. It was run by the Parish Council until the 1964 Library Act when it was removed from their control as it was decided that Parish Councils could no longer run them and had to be run by a County Council. I still feel that the library should be given back to the Parish Council who establish the library in the first instance as NCC do not want to obviously run it. I would hope that NCC would consider this from a moralistic point of view. Irchester is a thriving community having a local school, doctors, shops, local business, community halls and many local groups. The Library is just one of those aspects as it provides so much for the community from the young to old. It is a hub for the community, providing a place for all. It is not just a place about books, but about learning and engagement, information and help. I know NCC are also aware of the growth agenda for the community through the Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Plan that has overall plans for the community until 2031 that fit into the Local Plan and the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy. A Library is important in a community in any of these policies and should be supported by any local authority going forward. As a Borough Councillor I have found Irchester Library a fantastic neutral space to engage with the community. I have held regular Ward Surgeries within the building where it has been a pleasure to talk to people from the community. Obviously the matter of the library has been raised at some of these surgeries and also on a personal basis and people wish a library to remain in some form in the community. I am fully supportive of a Community Managed Library as it will be a positive outcome for the community when NCC no longer wishes to run a library for the benefit of a community. I hope that the people of Irchester will come together to make this library a success.

I think a community managed library would be a good idea if we get to keep the library.

Surely a Community Managed Library would be better than NO Library.
- Give it back to the local community to run and give it time to make is a success.
- Fantastic Idea for the Community to run it
- The library plays an important place for me and how I use it to engage with others and for my young children to attend Rhymetime
- On behalf of my child who attends Rhymetime they love the library and would want to keep it for there future.
- I am reply on behalf of my young [child] who uses the service on a weekly basis. [child] loves the library and wants it to remain - if a Community Managed Library does this then it will eb a good thing.
- By being a Community Managed Library we will still have a library for the next generation.
- The library is a lifeline for me as it gives me somewhere to go and meet people. The staff are always lovely and I enjoy visiting. It is an important facility for the community and if it is community managed then this wonderful library will remain.
- I would be a good thing for the Community to run this library.
- To have a library in such a large village is great to have and should be kept for the future for the benefit of the community
- The library in Irchester is a great thing to have and should be community managed going forward. Give the community time to establish what could be a thriving venue for the future.
- I would be a good thing for the community to take control through a community managed library
- I do not think that Irchester Parish Council have the funds to successfully take on the task of running the library without sustained monetary support of the NCC. The residents already pay towards the cost of the library service and if the Parish Council set a precept to fund the library in the future it would mean that in effect the Irchester residents will be paying twice, where is the equality in that?
- Physical local access to public library is essential for school children and retired people who have a legacy of a library building given to the community for such a purpose. As the building was appropriated by NCC it is therefore its responsibility to honour the trust laced in it by the community. The number of users will have continued to drop since the removal of a librarian in charge and the arbitrary arrangement for opening hours.
- Irchester Library should be given back to the people of Irchester. It is wrong to expect the village to initially find £295,00 to pay for something that belonged to them in the first place. This will not be a one off payment as whoever takes on the library will have to find £30,00+ every year for the foreseeable future.
- It will be really sad to lose our library services, particularly for the vulnerable and elderly residents of the village, although I understand that finance is driving this decision.
To travel to Rushden Library now that the bus service has been reduced will obviously be much more inconvenient.

As a [...] member of society with limited access to transport I usey [aid] to [mode of travel] Wellingborough or Rushden Library. I would therefore be left without library services.

It will put extra strain on the parish council budget. Although I don’t use the library as it’s current opening hours do not suit my working hours it does provide a service for the growing number of pensioners in the village. If it opened at the weekend I would use it as I used to.

Libraries are valuable in helping people learn to read, and then continue reading. If you can read then you can learn anything.

Once a library is established it costs peanuts to run it. If you want to save money try reducing council executives’ income or how about stopping the huge flow of money into the Roman dig just across the A45 which is taking an obscene amount of money!

Because this amenity is important for the village as point of reference and meeting place & should be kept open

The County Council should keep the library

I have only moved into the area recently so have not had the opportunity to join the library but was planning to do so. I think this is a poor solution for a range of reasons, some of them are: I don't think the volunteer model is a sustainable one or that volunteers are able to offer the same level of service [nor should an unpaid volunteer be expected to]; Paid staff are losing their jobs and volunteers are being expected to pick up the slack - I don't agree with this; Poor management of local authority funding is affecting staff, and local residents, who were not responsible for this; If issues arise, or there are problems with unruly behaviour etc. volunteers should not have to deal with it and put themselves in harms way.

I believe it is a well used facility used by young & old who may have difficulty traveling to other libraries

Children need to read and to remove this amenity from a full time amenity will reduce literacy skills

To me this remains a second-best solution, only better than outright closure. My preference is for retention within the statutory provision with consideration to also offer additional services. Furthermore, I have concerns that this proposal is being taken forward at a time when it is difficult to assess its sustainability in the light of the reorganisation of services into unitary authorities. The library is also a community hub, which is fairly central in the village and could be further developed, particularly if opening hours, currently quite limited, were longer. Its disappearance would further diminish the already limited community facilities within the village.

I would not travel to visit another library because of the inconvenience - this includes transport problems, opening times and carrying a large quantity of books (I usually loan 8 - 10 books per visit) I will cease to be a user of the library service.
I feel that this is a poor solution because it would leave Irchester village without access to local library provision. The consultation states that Irchester library is close to two other libraries which are to remain under county council control (Wellingborough and Rushden). However, many people who use Irchester library do not have their own transport and so would have to pay to travel to either of these two libraries if they wish to access services and/or stock which any proposed community library would not have.

As a group we would prefer NCC to keep Irchester library under their management. If this is not possible then the option of community management would be better than losing the facility altogether.

Ideally I would like the library to remain as it was prior to all the upheaval started with Northamptonshire cc. By taking the action proposed it suggests that it is "The slippery slope and with it not being fully functional and with full opening hours, then people will use it less and less.

Where will it end. More people alive and contributing once’s and we get less amenities

From what I understand the library would become a community managed library. I regularly use the library with my [number] children and feel that having the library available in the village within walking distance is extremely important to village life. My children enjoy reading and personally the library in Wellingborough is not in a very nice area of Wellingborough and usually has some very undesirable people hanging about outside which does not feel very safe when my children are with me. As long as we still have the library available in the village I would welcome the proposal.

How can I answer that? You have purposed two different arguments, one being it stays open through the parish council and the other is that it closes?

Tried looking on internet for consultation and it didn't answer any questions I needed to see what was really going on. Not thought out properly.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 31 responses to this question

As above. The closure of the library will hit the most vulnerable of the community, young and old. The bus service to Rushden and Wellingborough has been reduced that is if you are able to access the buses easily with pushchairs and walking aids. So in effect creating a barrier to equal access of services. Surely it would be possible to formulate a structure whereby for example one member of staff could rotate between Irchester, Wollaston, Earls Barton with volunteers, with the opening hours being organised to do this over the week. If this was done under the NCC umbrella.
then the upkeep of the buildings running cost could be managed by the Parish Councils.

- As Above. Return the building free of charge to the Parish Council’s use and withdraw the proposed punitive sale.

- Irchester Library was built as LIBRARY and gifted to the village. If NCC don't want it as a library you should be giving it to the Parish Council to run the library has been used by [number] generation of my family going backwards in time and [number] generations of my family going forward in time. I would expect that NCC should be supporting both physically and financially help with passing the library over to the Parish Council.

- The library needs support from the library service to make this happen.

- The negative impact will be felt mostly by those who may not be in a position to complete this questionnaire i.e. elderly, vulnerable and our younger readers. Would there be any provision for outreach services from Wellingborough or Rushden to service those who are unable to visit these towns?

- Irchester is a large village with plans already made for expansion. There is very little infrastructure to support our expanding community now. The loss of the library can only be seen as a negative. We do not have a good bus service as you state and it would be very difficult for young mothers with toddlers and the elderly to travel to Wellingborough or Rushden so they would miss out on the groups and activities provided by our library causing more social isolation for these groups.

- People will use their own transport where possible thus increasing road traffic congestion.

- I would not have access to some learning material and business market research services only accessible through the library and impossible to access from home internet.

- I think the level of resources in the library would fall.

- Upkeep of building - and repairs - should remain an NCC responsibility. Funding/obtaining for new materials - ncc could organise book donation events in local communities.

- I would prefer Irchester library to remain under the remit of NCC to ensure it is run correctly and to prevent certain elements of the community trying to run it to suit their needs rather than the community.

- Of course closing libraries has a negative impact. Do we want a library where our children can learn the value of books or do we want a muddy money pit of a dig by the A45 which is of very questionable value

- The building could be kept as a library & be used for meetings, sell stationary, magazines, tea & cake so it becomes a place that local people can meet of all ages.

- Paid staff will lose their jobs. The local school will lose a valuable service. Could you offer a local library bus??

- See Above
• Some people can’t get out no realistic bus service
• Of course the closure of Irchester Library in any format would have a negative impact on the community. It is a treasured resource that in the future needs to remain to serve the community.
• The closure will have a negative impact on the community in regards to the fact that Irchester is a growing village and needs facilities like this to build community cohesion.
• It is very important that there is the library in Irchester. For people without transport it isn’t easy to get to Wellingborough or Rushden. Carnegie provided the building, it was the Parish Council’s responsibility to keep it going. It was a mistake to pass it on to the NCC. It is also a useful place where groups like the Irchester History Society and the Writers Circle, the Art Class can hold their meetings. Nearly every time I go now there are young children enjoying Rhymetime. If they are encouraged when they are young, they will want somewhere to come to study. I have also seen older teenagers using the computers for their school and other studies.
• It’s a community space it would be a shame to close it, it would increase pollution and congestion having to drive to the next closest library instead of walk to the local village library
• A negative impact could be caused by a community led service having a lack of volunteers to run the library efficiently.
• Will have a very negative impact on the village. Library offers children’s events which would be missed.
• I use the library mostly for office services (scanning, etc), which I would have to travel to Rushden or Wellingborough to access. To me this would be an inconvenience, but does have other impacts (use of car, time, etc).
• As a user of services provided by the library, we all have (encrypted) cards. Please explore the Brighton and Hove Structure for keeping open libraries, every day. All have centrally monitored CCTV (I am being presumptive that there is CCTV in Irchester Library but, if there is a lone worker, this is a legal requirement), and the addition of a Magna Lock and 4 digit PIN would allow access during core hours at minimal cost and staffing. The cleaning and shelf stacking can be done by volunteers.
• I do not think it appropriate to deny the current users this service. The cost saving of closure is negligible to NCC. I would prefer an increase in council tax payment either to the parish, borough or county council to keep the provision.
• How can it have an negative impact? If you are going to let a Community Group run it then let them do it - support them - give them time to get things into operation.
• No negative Impact.
• Any closure of any library will have a negative impact. NCC should be pro-actively working with the Irchester Parish Council and helping them in whatever way they can to make this happen
• A community managed library would have no negative impact - apart from an issue of potential funding for the facility and how this will work.
• A community managed library will have no negative impacts - you are giving it back to the people
• I think the impact will be that residents struggle to access a full suite of library services. One way to mitigate this impact is to allow those who have to use a community managed library some leeway when it comes to using the main library service in terms of fines etc, as they may not be able to get to another branch for one reason or another and may not have access to the Internet to renew items online or may not be able to get through on the telephone.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Irchester Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 23 responses to this question
• See previous question and answer
• You have received numerous proposals which have been by-passed
• I still can't understand why you can't leave it as it is. NCC was desperate to take it over in the 1960s to run and now they don't want to. Libraries as NCC have always stated are not just about BOOKS they are about communities. The loss of an amenity like this will damage any community. NCC have wasted money on other things like stupid questionnaires and surveys and staff time trying to sort all the mess out.
• Find some money to keep it open!
• no comment
• The council has made its decision, there is only one option left if we are to retain our library in any form.
• If your proposal goes ahead the building should be returned to the Parish council for the original cost of £1 NCC paid when it was legally bound to take it over. This would enable the Parish council a better chance of managing to establish and run a Community Managed Library.
• I can think of naught to add as reading what is already proposed everything is already plotted and planned.
• If the library does become community run, I think workshops such as art/painting drawing events either weekly or fortnightly could draw interest and perhaps a small income from "subs".
• Don't close it! Have a better range of opening times. Anyone that works full time Monday to Friday can't visit it. It's not available to all!
• Run by NCC trained volunteers with a council library employee i.e Wellingborough library manager having overall responsibility.
• Already mentioned previously
• Local library bus?
• It is all very well giving the option for a community managed library but this offer needs to be thought about very carefully by the local community - it could be a great asset for the village.
• Don't close it......!
• I would be willing to help with organising and sorting books. However, though I sometimes use the computer and printing and copying services, I am not very good at using them, and often need help and assistance from more qualified people. I used to use the Learning Centre in Rushden provided by Bedford College before that closed, for basic IT and finding websites but couldn't cope with sending and receiving emails. So the library would be useful for IT classes, if suitable instructors are available.
• The library system was hailed for being efficiently run so why are we closing them?
• If the library were to close could it be relocated to the village hall?
• In addition to my earlier comments, consideration could be given to sharing the library with other local authority service providers.
• Keep the service with an additional donation from the community.
• What other proposal is there - again NCC have messed about so much they have made lots of people despondent about the way forward - it has been confusing and not clear.
• Give some support, help or tool kits to provide project management, business management, income generation, community engagement and volunteer guidance.
• I would like the county council to consider offering a reduced fee to those customers using community managed libraries if they request an item of stock from a library which is staying part of the council. I would also like the county council to consider allowing customers to return items to any library (community led or not) as customers can now.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Irchester Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 19 responses to this question

• Irchester Library has always had close links with the school and local organisations. It is the hub of the village since the relocation of the Post Office, providing activities for children, rhyme-time, the annual reading scheme, young adult events, and the weekly events organised by the Friends - Scrabble, knit and natter, art and coffee and chat, as well as fund raising events. There is access to computers, health information, disabled badges, bus passes, services moved out to the libraries to cut costs elsewhere and give a better ease of access. Where would the residents of Irchester have to go for access if the library closed. Catch a bus?
• Work with the Parish Council and help them succeed in what they may be trying to do. Stop being so greedy with trying to get rid of the building. If the building was sold the money should come back to Irchester who have supported the library for the last 100+ years.
- Its an essential part of the village community life - it is a disgrace that you want to dispose of it.
- no comment
- Very disappointed about proposed closure and so very tired of campaigning and worrying so much so that I haven't been to the library for a few months. Children unable to access bookcases as all pushed up against walls so that 'stay and play' clique have space for their activities to the detriment of the primary school aged children.
- Only that this would be dreadful loss for the village especially with the new houses that are being proposed for building.
- We are greatly concerned that Irchester Library was a Carnegie Library gifted to the village and that it should remain a village asset.
- Give the parish council time to work things out.
- Give Irchester Parish Council and the community time to sort the community managed library out. Over the 16 months NCC has basically been relentless in trying to resolve the library situation out without really clearly thinking about outcomes and impact on the community.
- Personally, I am willing to pay a donation or subscription of £1 per every time I use the library. I am a senior citizen, [description], my only income is the state pension and also get pension credit, and mentioned to the assistant last week when talking about the library that I had been using the library for nearly [number] years, certainly more than [number] years. When I was younger we lived in the [name of road] near the library but moved up to [name of road] when I was about [age]. In those days I think I had read most of the kind of books in stock then. I preferred Westerns or Detective stories. My favourite book was the "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and during [period of time] I used to make up stories about a similar character helping [person description] to escape from [ name of place] and [name of place]. I also used to borrow an old 1890 edition of "The Punch" magazine to read about what was happening then. The library used to stock books like that which were unobtainable anywhere else. It was very helpful when studying history and other similar subjects.
- Give it back to the parish council to run
- Do not penalize people who live in villages
- Anything that will keep the library open in the Village has to be good. Libraries are so valuable to everyone and their impact for everyone should never be forgotten!
- Fantastic let the community run it - NCC frankly now have little interest in the facility - I hope going forward with a Unitary Council they will be more supportive.
- In Irchester we have a school, a doctors, shops, a pub, two social clubs, community halls, sports facilities and churches. It is a community and a library is part of that community. Please give the community a chance to make this library a even greater asset to the community.
• The [name of organisation] who [...] have actively used the library for talks, exhibitions, events, workshops, presentations to children and adults for the last 9 years. Over a year regular events of these nature have been undertaken for its membership or the wider community as a whole. Hopefully going forward the [name] can support the work of the Irchester Parish Council to enable it to become a successful Community Managed Library.

• The library provided a fantastic venue for the [name] to meet, engage and talk with the local community about [...] through presentations, workshops, consultation and exhibitions. Going forward a Community Managed Library will enable other groups to undertake this function of community engagement.

• Please give support to the Irchester Parish Council if they decide to take it over as a Community Managed Library. Any community library will need help, support and time to make things achievable. I would hope that NCC will support with business plans, engagement guidance, volunteer guidance and income generation ideas. I would also hope that a capital grant would be provided to make the building into a fit state of repair going forward before the library is fully taken over. I have concerns that whilst Irchester Library may lie within 5 miles of a statutory library - access to these libraries is of concern. If you go by foot you will be going through open countryside up and down hills, there is no guarantee that there will be public transport in the future and likewise there is no guarantee that these libraries will remain in their current location. Finally I would hope that access to resources from NCC and any future authority will be provided.

• The library is loved by everyone who uses it. It may at different times in people lives be an important place.
Irthlingborough Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Irthlingborough Library?

There were 34 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Irthlingborough library</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Irthlingborough Library: Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 31 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>74.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services — to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>32.3%</td>
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</table>

**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
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**Health Services** – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

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<tr>
<th>Services</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
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</table>

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

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<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
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</table>

**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
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</table>

**I do not currently use library services in Irthlingborough Library**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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**TOTAL**

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<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
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</table>

**About Irthlingborough Library and its proposed future**

No changes are proposed for Irthlingborough Library and it is proposed that Irthlingborough Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue. There are high needs for children and for a children’s centre in this area which would need to be considered if any changes take place to these proposals.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

There is £35,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will...
contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 29 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 12 responses to this question

- Having seen families and groups using the library services I believe the library is a valuable part of the community, particularly as there are few other facilities in the town.
- The staff are very approachable and helpful and otherwise non-intrusive.
- Relieved that Irthlingborough has been identified as a library to remain
- The majority of Irthlingborough community use this library for various important reasons. Closing this library will affect a vast amount of residence.
- This library is in constant use by all sectors of the community at all times during the day.
- Provide invaluable services to local community.
- So our craft (community) group can continue
- I’m very pleased the library is staying open and agree with the proposal
- Keeping the library open is essential for the community as it is the only place for people to experience community activities
- Craft group we attend can continue
- Regular staff at the library
- I think on the whole Irthlingborough library is quite well equipped although I think some help in expanding certain areas so it is used more - different facilities perhaps some clubs, interest groups etc.
- DON’T KNOW

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 0 responses to this question

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Irthlingborough Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There was 1 response to this question
- Expanding certain areas to attract various groups to use the library - evening classes or clubs perhaps - different interest groups etc.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Irthlingborough Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 5 responses to this question
- Good quality, well trained staff need to continue leading the children services groups. If, due to cut backs, good quality staff are not found, then people will stop attending the sessions.
- I have loved in the town for many years and it does lack amenities, my hereby have accessed the children’s activities, I regularly use the audio books, this library is vital for the people of Irthlingborough and am so happy it is staying
- My elderly parents use this library, they recently got their Bus Pass and I have used the e-books and sought Health information
- This library will continue to be beneficial to most of the residents as it is regard as the lifeline of the community.
- Its a great community library catering for all social groups
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

Kettering Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Kettering Library?

There were 17 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Graph showing attendance frequency]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>7 (41.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>1 (5.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>1 (5.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>3 (17.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>1 (5.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Kettering library</td>
<td>4 (23.5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Kettering Library:
Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 17 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>58.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
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### Learning Services
- to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

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<td>Learning Services</td>
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<td>29.4%</td>
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### Digital Services
- to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

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<td>35.3%</td>
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### Health Services
- to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

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<td>Health Services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
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### Information Services
- to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.

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### Culture Services
- to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

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### I do not currently use library services in Kettering Library

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### TOTAL

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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>17</td>
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</tbody>
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**About Kettering Library and its proposed future**

No changes are proposed for Kettering Library and it is proposed that Kettering Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue. All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

There is £20,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 15 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 4 responses to this question

- I love the library, the support I’ve found there since having my daughter is amazing. The staff make you feel welcome, they don’t mind if you want to sit reading an adult book whilst breastfeeding / have a sleeping child for five minutes peace or if you want to noisily read the gruffalo. They help you find new books and have a great selection (my daughter is 9 months old and has listened to over 200 already!!!) The groups are a lifeline, the support they give to parents is amazing. I love my local library! It’s home away from home, where we are known by name, met with a welcoming smile, and always make happy memories. It’s so much more than a room full of books! Thank you Kettering Library!
- I do not use the libraries and do not know of anyone who does.
• I work with vulnerable young people who are excluded from mainstream education, the Library is a safe environment to work in for them, they often have no where else. Staying open is the best option.
• My comment is in the context of the overall package of services currently offered by Kettering Library Service. The range and quality of the services is extremely poor and not helped by staff who are manifestly not qualified - and one [person] who is not only unqualified but has no intellectual curiosity or willingness to assist. Another [person] is very pleasant -but limited in what [they] can do. The proposal will do nothing for Kettering unless the stock is improved, the appalling IT is replaced and underpinned by a decent infrastructure of databases and services which are well designed. The catalogue is a poor joke. It is manifestly difficult to provide a so called Statutory Provided service if there is no professional leadership, poor resources and under qualified, trained staff.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There was 1 response to this question
  • An online provision that lends books via a mail and return service.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Kettering Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 5 responses to this question
  • it would a lot better to have a lot more Easy Read information in Day Services & Community for me & Disability & Disabled People & Carers & Person Assistants & PA Worker & PA Staff in Northamptonshire now.
  • Look up the word "library" in the Oxford English Dictionary. A building housing books, not a play area, not a computer room.
  • it would be good to have a lot more hours for me & Disability & Disabled People with a lot more Person Assistants & PA Worker & PA| Staff to be a lot more happy & Safe with out in the community and at home with a lot more better and a lot more Disability & Disabled Business & Employment & CV & Advocacy Group & One To One Support for us in Northamptonshire with your help & Support for us today now
  • Their so be a lot more easy read information for me & Disability & Disabled People & Carers & Person Assistant & PA Worker & PA Staff and a lot more hours for me & Disability & Disabled People to be a lot more happy & Safe with a lot more better good choice of rights & Social Life & Social Skills & One To One Support and out tin the community and at home with for us a long time go for us in Northamptonshire & The East Midlands & Other Town in the UK today now?
• Their so be a lot more easy read information for me & Disability & Disabled People & Carers & Person PA Worker & PA Staff in Northamptonshire Other Town in the UK for us today now?

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Kettering Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 4 responses to this question

• Disability & Disabled Rights & Social Life & Social Skills & One To One & Training Staff a lot more better for Disability & Disabled People & Carers & Person Assistants & PA Worker & PA Staff in Northamptonshire & The East Midlands & Other Town in the UK for us today now?

• Disability & Disabled Rights & Social Life & Social Skills with a lot more Easy Read information out in the community & Day Services for me & Disability & Disabled People in Northamptonshire with your help & Support from you for us today now?

• Their be a lot more easy read information for me & Disability & Disabled People & Carers & Person Assistant & PA Worker & PA Staff in Northamptonshire today now?

• Better training for Staff & Other Services & Bus Worker & Other People with a Disability & Disabled People in Northamptonshire & Other Town in the UK today now?
Kingsthorpe Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Kingsthorpe Library?

There were 86 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Kingsthorpe library</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Kingsthorpe Library:
Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 87 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>64</strong></td>
<td><strong>73.6%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
<td><strong>24.1%</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong> - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong> – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong> – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong> - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Kingsthorpe Library</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About Kingsthorpe Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Kingsthorpe Library will become a community managed service and relocate from the current premises.

Discussions have taken place with the Head teacher and Chair of Governors of Northgate School Arts Academy about the feasibility of relocating some library services to Bee Hive complex, about half a mile away from the current library location.

It is proposed that a facility will provide for lending and returning books along with some other community services. There is an established volunteer base at this location including pupils with learning disabilities. The complex is also an established meeting point for young families and their carers, with books for purchase, hireable space, a well-stocked charity shop and a large café area. There is also car parking on site. There is potential for extending the current building to provide additional library space.

Relocation to these premises could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.
It is proposed that Kingsthorpe Library will no longer form part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library falls in a deprived area, is densely populated with a high 0-10-year-old population. It has high numbers of active library users, and high aged 60 and over populations nearby. However, when reviewed against need as a potential gap in statutory provision, it is found to be within 2 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Northamptonshire Central.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (v) relevant answer

There were 83 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Response number  
Percentage (%)
Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 72 responses to this question

- NSAC is the only group interested in taking over the library so there is little alternative. It would be terrible if Kingsthorpe lost this service as it is a hub for some many different groups of people within the local community. Moving the library into The Bee Hive will enhance the facilities offered by the library and the bee Hive. It will also provide an opportunity for SEND young people to learn Library service skills to improve their life chances.

- Because The Bee Hive is already an active community hub for Kingsthorpe

- the community needs this for both young and old to keep the community together and active.

- I have been a frequent and regular visitor of The Bee Hive since it opened. Northgate School Arts College (Academy Trust) is vibrant and OfSted rated “Outstanding” for the past three OfSted inspections. The Bee Hive provides an excellent educational environment for the young people in the Academy’s Post 16 provision. The ethos is both inspirational and appropriate and provides a stimulating experience for the young people who attend the Post-16 provision. The community provisions already provided at The Bee Hive and managed by the Academy Trust is very popular, welcoming and well thought of, and, has a far wider customer base than it’s local community. I see the proposed addition of the Kingsthorpe Library facilities as an opportunity for further educational achievements and engagement to prepare the young people for adulthood, while at the same time providing a popular and well used service within the community.

- I think it would encourage more people to use the library and benefit the cafe at the Beehive. Hopefully the young people at the Beehive can assist in the library as well as the cafe and shop.

- It would continue the service to the local community whilst also providing valuable work experience and sense of purpose to the volunteers and young people at the Bee Hive.

- It retains a service that can be accessed locally;provides an additional learning facility and makes use of the current services provided at the bee hive.

- Beehive is an active, lively place where people of all ages and abilities meet. I regularly meet friends and ex work colleagues there. To have the library service there would be a bonus.

- I do think this option could work given the popularity of the BeeHive Centre. However there would have to be an adequate extension of the existing building in order to house the library facilities.

- I think anything that can keep a library service in the kingsthorpe area is a good idea. We are one of the few areas without a leisure centre and the library is a well supported community hub for this end of town which we need. I think it would need a larger area than would currently be available in the bee hive as unless it has room to offer a good reading choice and for social meetings I think support for it may
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

dwindle. However if there is possibility for the bee hive to extend that would be a positive move.

- The beehive is a great venue although not sure if it is big enough
- Good location and use of the beehive but premises needs to be extended to be able to incorporate all the library services. Is NCC giving Northgate the relevant funds to be able to do this.
- Terrible location away from the heart of Kingsthorpe. Almost impossible for older library users to continue using the library
- The current location is more preferable. It is also closer to other amenities.
- The current location is in the heart of the community, with ample parking and other small and larger businesses near by. Although the Beehive is a fantastic venture and serves the local community well, there would be concerns about the space for the Northgate / Beehive students to continue without this having an impact. There is not adequate parking onsite to deal with the demand and it is hard to park off site close by.
- The area of deprivation in Kingsthorpe is not in the area of the Beehive, it is around the St Davids area and removing Kingsthorpe library as a statutory provision and situating what's left of this service farther from the people that need it the most, those without the money to access the statutory services at Central library, does a huge disservice to the deprived and vulnerable children and adults in the area. It will impact on babies and very young children in the area accessing services and remove one of the few places that they can play safely and socialise, also where their safety with their parents and carers can be flagged if there are concerns. Shame on the conservative Council and government for putting people in this situation.
- While I feel strongly that a library in Kingsthorpe should be retained, I don't believe that this is the correct solution. My main objection is to the change in location. The current library is in the heart of Kingsthorpe. This is vital for parents with young children and the low paid. I also do not believe the library should be run by volunteers. A lot of people who use the library rely on the knowledge and expertise of professional and well trained staff.
- It would not be owned by a community it would be run by a business who could at any point decide to close the library without consultation. There is safe guarding issues surrounding both the people who visit the library and the students of the beehive. The library has issues with anti social behaviour would you want this is in the beehive. The funding for the library would be given to a business if it didn't work then the people of northampton would have an asset they can't access. It is not community run it is business owned. No community involvement. When could it actually be set up.
- The current Kingsthorpe site is central for busses and shops. Although personally the Bee Hive would suit me very well I am conscious that putting the Library further away from other facilities would increase traffic.
- The Beehive is not located in central Kingsthorpe and is a privately owned enterprise. This proposal would, effectively, privatise library services for the denizens of Kingsthorpe. While Northampton Central library is roughly two miles away, it can only be accessed via an ever-more-busy main thoroughfare. This 'solution' would put an even greater strain on the already over-stretched road network, particularly as more and more houses are being built in Kingsthorpe itself all the time at an alarming rate. Your own assessment of Kingsthorpe recognises the fact that it’s a deprived area, yet also has a high level of use among young families and pensioners in particular. With this in mind, and the fact that the town has to be one of the largest conurbations in and around Northampton, there’s surely a pressing need to keep a council-run library! Failing that, a community-run option should be somewhere more central, nearer the main high street. With the current library building set to be mothballed, the neighbouring Lloyds bank about to close and the decade-long closed White Horse pub opposite the Cock Inn in a sad state of disrepair, surely any uplift in and around the heart of the town should be prioritised. Frankly, I’m amazed that decision-makers cannot see this - it seems obvious to me.

- I understand that the Save Kingsthorpe Library group haven’t been approached about the future of the library. This is unacceptable. Their plans seem far better than the plans by the Beehive

- I understand that you have not spoken to the Save Kingsthorpe Library group about their plans for Kingsthorpe Library group. This is completely unacceptable as their plans seem far better than creating a book lending service as The Beehive

- It not the best place for library, would make traffic heavier as people would drive there, instead of popping in when shopping.

- Kingsthorpe library is central to Kingsthorpe, easily accessible for a large number of people. The Bee Hive is not as accessible. It does not offer the same space.

- The current location is well placed for all residents, whereas the Beehive is less so, particularly for the elderly & infirm

- It may be a good idea but the part where it says if it becomes no longer viable the service will shut down worries me. The site has moved around but the library had been a part of kingsthorpe for 30 or more years. I know that many of my friends with pre school children use the service all the time.

- Lack of space within centre and poor existing parking space

- It is densely populated and is in primarily deprived area. Children in this area already have low aspirations for themselves and their future. The library provides them with a safe space to invest time to better themselves. Kingsthorpe library should promoted to be part of the provision for babies and young children in the local area and promoted with the local schools in order to help raise young people expectations of themselves. Knowledge is power and young people need as many opportunities to gain that knowledge.

- I know people in the Acre Lane area who regularly use the library and travel by public transport. This would not be viable if moved to the Beehive.
I believe it should stay situated centrally in Kingsthorpe as moving it will stop a lot of people in Queens Park, Kingsthorpe Grove and the main part of Kingsthorpe being able to access it.

The area is much in need of services. This is a deprived area. Children at my school access the library regularly and this is much more likely to happen in a place of convenience to families.

The proposed venue is too far from the main shopping centre to get families walking in. Parking at proposed venue is too little.

By moving the library you will be moving to far from the 3 primary schools closest to it. Kingsthorpe grove, Kingsthorpe village and the catholic school. Transport to the bee hive would be needed and children and families would not walk the additional mileage which is why you have said there is a car park. Currently trips to the library can be incorporated with shopping trips. The bee hive is too far out of the local area. It is not walking distance for children or elderly people. It will require transport and add to congestion through Kingsthorpe.

The location of the library is very important and also opening hours and quality of staffing. However this solution is obviously better than total closure - hence marked 2 rather than 1.

At the moment kingsthorpe library is near the main shopping centre (waitrose) and where the main bus routes meet. Moving to the bee hive would mean moving away from the central access point in the community.

Poor location. Highly questionable whether opening hours would be adequate. Site already very crowded.

The Bee Hive building is not wat the heart of the community. The current building is.

the current library is within the main shopping area of kingsthorpe and within easy walking distance of several bus routes. it is located near several schools and has a large footfall of school children and families passing by. the bee hive is quite a distance from kingsthorpe shops and children and families are unlikely to walk to it or past it. The current library space is comfortable, purpose built and suitable for many different groups to use simultaneously. This library is a peaceful haven in which to come with my children to read and borrow books. ideally it would be open daily so people know they can borrow and return books every day and to not be disappointed when the doors are locked. Maybe the pupils at the bee hive can regularly volunteer in the existing library as they develop their work skills. lets not make it too hard for children from deprived background to access the library.

Limited facilities . Difficulty of access and although it is stated that there is onsite parking, this is always full. Not all buses stop nearby, present location is central for local community .

Kingsthorpe Library is a very important service for a lot of young children and families and also the elderly residents of Kingsthorpe. It is in a ideal location for the residents of the area. There is a large proportion of very poor families in the area and the library is a very important place for them to be able to access. These families
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

will need the services provided, parent and children sessions and access to books that they can borrow without having to spend money at the point of access. They can also get a lot of information there. If the library was to close it would be a devastating blow to old and young. If you live in Kingsthorpe the library is close and easy to access. The central library may only be 2 miles away from the town centre but for elderly and young families this could be the end of them being able to access a library. Some elderly people my parents included are no longer able to get into town due to their health and for others young families and old alike they will not have the money to take the bus or other transport to get to the town library. If you go in your car you have to pay in the car parks, on the bus you have to pay to get to town, for some young families or single parents they will have to make the decision to either feed their children or spend the money to get them to the town library. I also notice that there is a proposal to move it to the Bee Hive up on the Harborough Road. This is also a mistake as it will move it from a central location near the shops to an area that is not central to other residents of Kingsthorpe with a bus service that not everyone can access and so will not be able to go to the library. If you make the decision to close Kingsthorpe library or may I say move it from its current location to the Bee Hive that will be the worst mistake you will ever make. It will be a very poor solution.

- Not enough space for a full selection of books at the new proposed location nor space for the many activities which currently take place at the library. Plus it a long walk for those who those who currently use the library, are elderly and live nearby.
- Kingsthorpe library should be in the heart of Kingsthorpe and is perfect where it is. I don't believe a move to the bee hive will provide a long term solution. The footfall will not be so high and services to the local community will be compromised.
- Although it would mean a library of some sort will remain, thus is not the best solution. Very limited space at moment and don’t think would cope with increased in numbers both inside and car parking (often no spaces on Saturday due to swimming lessons and other visitors). And extension to the building to make a bigger space would likely reduce parking more. And despite a bus stop close by, a great cost for short journey from central Kingsthorpe.
- I like and use The Beehive and it is a great place. However, it is not a viable option for the library as it's too far away from the areas it currently serves. The deprived area around Kingsthorpe Grove School would no longer have easy access to a valuable free resource. The area of Links View is no longer served by buses but you can walk/scooter to Kingsthorpe centre. Walking up to the Beehive is too much further on inadequate paths. There are no appropriate crossings on the walk near the school. Children will no longer be able to walk to the library safely after school as it is not in an accessible centre. The school is also a commercial organisation and should the library not deliver a commercial benefit, it would be closed, the community would have no say and our assets would be lost. We would visit Kingsthorpe library more often as we used to if the opening hours were extended. My daughters are
only allowed to take one book at a time out of the school library every week and the local library allows us to squeeze a visit in after school to inspire them, with both reading and learning. If the library is further away, we won't have time to access it. The town centre one is too far in the timescale and it costs to park. Also the children's facilities in the central library are poor. When we've been, my children have hated the loud, impersonal nature of it and wanted to leave. It is not a suitable alternative for a friendly, accessible local library. By locating further out of Kingsthorpe Centre, you are encouraging only car drivers to use the library, excluding the people that are most reliant on the services it offers - the elderly, young and deprived. Currently all these people use Kingsthorpe Centre but they are highly unlikely to go a mile round trip extra to go to the Beehive. I find it quite amazing that as such a large local hub, with more housing being built nearby and with high deprivation levels in the area that there's even any justification for the library to be run as a volunteer community library. The only long-term option is to remain a statutory council-run library.

- Kingsthorpe is a large catchment area with increasing population due to continued expansion (for instance, the houses that are being placed at Buckton Fields by Daventry District Council to meet Northampton’s needs) Therefore, the library provision at Kingsthorpe should remain within the statutory provision and the Council decision to downgrade library services at Kingsthorpe is letting this community down (specifically children, and users that rely on additional library services)
- Because it needs to come under the umbrella of NCC, to guarantee it's service to all of the community.
- It’s a solution to keeping a library close to Kingsthorpe, but it wouldn't be central, so loses that benefit of convenience of locality. I understand the CIC involved thought to move the location to the school after hearing that homeless people use the library. If this is the case, this is not a valid reason to move from this location as you would still get more vulnerable and problematic users trying to access library services. I understand there are additional costs in improvement works on their existing facilities that will be required for this move, at considerable cost to the Council. so we would end up paying more to close this library and have a CIC take over, and if they wanted to, they could just close then with no comeback, or repayment of money. We'd have no library and save nothing.
- I am happy to extend the services provided there; for it to become a hub for the local community for other reasons as well resources. It seems a shame that local resources are paying the price, for problems created by other areas of the economy and governance. That forethought and innovation from previous generations is to be lost. The impact of these decisions will be visited on the children of the coming decades - a cost which it is impossible to put a figure on now but future generations will be able to cost this loss to their communities and families. Info tech is a shifting landscape still, the cost of the loss of this resource to the richness of these communities, their
resilience and ability to flourish are at least in part due to the resources found in their communities.

- The proposed location removes the library from the heart of Kingsthorpe.
- This question is difficult to answer without knowing the exact state of the facilities in the proposed venue, but does it have strong Wi-Fi and enough desks for people to work in peace? If not, it will be no replacement, and of course it is much further from many residents and much harder to access. The present location is right on the joining of two major roads and has good transport access. The new location has extremely poor transport access.
- Glad that there is a plan for keeping services open...but Beehive is not convenient for pedestrians in Kingsthorpe. This this would reduce footfall significantly and make the library very vulnerable to future cuts.
- The library is currently situated in the middle of Kingsthorpe Centre. This makes it very easy to access for everyone. Elderly people can combine trips to local services with a trip to the library.
- Taking Kingsthorpe Library out of NCC statutory library provision will greatly hurt the Kingsthorpe community, especially those that are from low income families. The impact on education (including adult education) and reading for enjoyment to those that want to visit will be irreparable. Reducing the services available and moving them away from this central hub will further damage the uptake of the service as it will, for most people, require an extra journey.
- I think it will be harder for the majority of people to get to the Bee Hive. The Beehive is a fantastic venue and me and my son visit regularly but it is often very busy and the car park is full on a regular basis. As you say Kingsthorpe library has a lot of users and I don't believe there would be enough space for everyone and the resources. If the library was situated in the Bee Hive it would not feel like a community library but run by the bee hive. I completely support the bee hive and all that it does but I don't think this would be a suitable solution.
- You can't get a bus up there, especially the older people who use the library. I am partially sighted and have built up a rapport at this library.
- Proposal states it is half a mile away from existing library, the snow sure has no other local amenities and will most likely deter people from attending as it not in the local area. Particularly those who rely on public transport snd/or have limited resources/mobility. The proposal does not confirm how much lending will be available- if the number of books/ resources are reduced you are further alienating regular visitors. The proposal does not state if current groups will continue eg rhymetime and who will run these sessions- this directly impacts on the opportunities available for under 5’s and new mothers.
- Current location better - buses converge nearby from several directions. Sad to lose what was a busy library. Isn't number of customers considered as well as nearness to town centre library? I used to visit 2-3 times a week when opening hours were longer & newspapers & new books available.
• I don't think a special needs school is the right kind of base for a library where all sorts of people will be coming and going, especially in connection with children's services.

• Although I acknowledge the benefits of moving the service to The Beehive I feel that the distance is a real issue for users particularly when it says there are a large number of 60+ residents, young children and a deprived area. Although in terms of actual distance it is not far, when walking from the current library to the Beehive it is a considerable distance if on foot, pushing a pushchair or if it is an elderly person. I feel that users will be reluctant to walk up the hill from central Kingsthorpe to the Beehive - If you haven't ever walked it, give it a try! I am a fit person who walks everyday - I don't drive - thinking nothing of walking an hour to somewhere. I would find it a chore to walk further on through Kingsthorpe, up the hill to The Beehive. I am aware it is a good choice, given the available volunteers from the School, offering pupils good experiences but am unsure this is the best location and feel there will be an even bigger dwindling if user numbers. If the new Methodist church was built and up and running this would be a far better venue and pupils from the school could come down to the library as they do to the Sweet shop on Kingsthorpe front.

• The Beehive is a lovely facility and well used. However, it would need a large expansion to allow the library services to be housed there. There would not be adequate space to run the children's sessions as it would impede on use of the cafe. There is also no space for book stock. If it starts to impact the running of the Beehive then they will abandon the library and we will end up with no library.

• I don't believe it us Half a Mike away from current location. Not everyone will be able/want to walk that distance.

• It's not on the bus route if you can afford a car you can park, but I'm glad the beehive is thriving. Kingsthorpe is effectively getting bigger. Though under Daventry council currently new housing being built includes social housing who will use nearby services especially when the councils become unified. Harborough road is one of the most polluted roads and bottlenecks in the town already however. The shopping centre is nearer the places low income people use. Pensioners too to collect bus passes etc. Library services support families and the homeless and jobless to access things that will be vital as the town grows larger. We need this service to support future costs. Now the university campus has moved away more than ever.

• It would only be a good solution for me if this library still had the universal children's services available at it. This would probably be a true statement for many based on the demographic you state for the current library.

• I think it's unacceptable that the council would consider this a non-statutory provision given the demographic background of Kingsthorpe and the users. The proposal to move the site to Northgate is slightly concerning as it will make the library more inaccessible than the current provision as it is further away from the dense core of Kingsthorpe and will be difficult for the main user group (children and elderly) and disabled people to access. Car parking is not an adequate means of accessibility testing, good public transport needs is a must and information has not...
been given to us on this for this consultation piece. However, the options on the complex could increase the range of provision of the library and increase the numbers using the service. There is a slight concern about how the extra services will be integrated and ran, given the council’s mishandling of staffing previously and how handing the service over could exacerbate this. If mishandled or not given adequate resources and management, I see concern that this would lead the library to close even though there is such a high community need and demand for it. 2 miles to the next library is unacceptable, inaccessible and will have a detrimental impact on the Kingsthorpe community, it’s levels of poverty and community engagement and learning.

- While the Bee Hive is a successful community complex and there are some benefits to locating the library there, the location is not ideal for the whole area. It seems that Kingsthorpe qualifies for NCC statutory cover based on most criteria except for the fact that it is within two miles of the Central library but this would seem borderline at best. A practical route from the existing library to the Central library, assuming one travels by car and parks in the Mayorhold or travels by bus to the bus station, then walks to the Central library, is 2.11 miles by my measurement on Google maps. From the Bee Hive to the Central library is 2.37 miles as the crow flies and further by car or bus. I believe that a key resource like the library should be at the centre of the community and Kingsthorpe should qualify for statutory provision.

- I believe it’s current location is more accessible then it’s proposed new location. It’s currently by a fair few bus stops and serves more if the poorer areas of Kingsthorpe whom are more likely to use the full benefits of the library.

- Whilst any option to keep the library open is good, the proposed venue does not have the space to accommodate all of the books and services which means vastly reduced services plus it will rely on community spirit. The present location is excellent and accessible to all it brings people into the area who are more likely to visit the local shops as well. I have an elderly (relative) who uses the library she can currently get to the library using the bus service but if it is moved to the Bee Hive she will stop going, she uses the opportunity to do some shopping too and has said she will stop going if it is moved.

- It would mean the provision of Library services would continue with in Kingsthorpe and there is a bus route and stop nearby.

- I am pleased there is an option to keep a library in Kingsthorpe, but I strongly feel the current library building is the right location. It works really well for the community and means that we can spend more time in the library (my daughter loves to play in the childrens area). If we had to go further up the road to the Beehive, I feel we would probably visit less often.

- First of all I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Headteacher and Chair of Governors at Northgate School for coming forward and proposing the idea of relocating Kingsthorpe library to The Beehive site. This would certainly mean that an extremely valuable and well used service would not disappear from Kingsthorpe.
altogether. It was difficult to score this question. I totally agree on all that The Beehive could offer in terms of their services and space. However, I marked it as a 3 mainly due to the location of The Beehive. The library is currently in the heart of Kingsthorpe, where it is very easily accessible via public transport, car and on foot. The current venue allows for easy direct access/usage as well as 'popping in' following shopping - and vice-versa - if one is using the library in Kingsthorpe, then there is also the opportunity for 'popping in' to local shops. If the library moves to The Beehive, library users would more likely be 'directly' using the library and less 'popping in'. As it is not easily accessible by public transport (at regular times) or on foot, then this would a) decrease the number of users visiting the new location and b) decreasing the number of visitors to Kingsthorpe shops and amenities. Despite saying the above, The Beehive would be a much better option than to close the Kingsthorpe library service altogether. If it was to close completely, library users would have to potentially use Duston or Central libraries. Although on the map these libraries are within 3 miles of Kingsthorpe, logistically getting to these venues from Kingsthorpe would be difficult and a lot more time consuming - unless one has a car. The statistics state that Kingsthorpe is a highly deprived area and accommodates a large population of elderly residents. These two factors pose accessibility problems for Duston and Central as getting to these venues is a long walk, or ii using the bus, Duston requires 2 buses each way. Lloyds bank is due to vacate the space above Kingsthorpe library soon. If the current venue of Kingsthorpe library stays open – whichever community service runs it could also utilise the bank space as part of the library service and/or community service. The space could be used for group/session rooms, activity area and perhaps a small cafe. This space could also be offered as a rental opportunity for community groups such as scouts, brownies etc or what would have been children centre services to use. This use would not only keep the library in the heart of Kingsthorpe - being accessible to all, but it would also provide a necessary venue offering valuable services to the community. Please look in to the Lloyds bank space option. But if The Beehive is the only venue option available to keep a library service going in Kingsthorpe - , please could you discuss the bus route options and frequency with Stagecoach bus Company – to make The Beehive more accessible.

- This venue is not so accessible for people without car - especially the over 60s and children
- This is an impossible question to answer. If this is the only solution then I suppose I have to say it is a good one because I want to keep the provision. But I would not say this a ‘good’ solution given that opening times will surely be linked to the times that the Beehive is open. Also the car parking there is limited and staff and students rightly need priority.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 57 responses to this question:

- Older library users are being socially isolated by this decision
- See above. The impact could be mitigated by sharing funding fairly rather than concentrating it in affluent areas such as Brackley and Wootton. Kingsthorpe needs a statutory service.
- I am worried that the number and selection of books and other printed materials (e.g., maps) will decrease.
- I feel the distance would be a negative and lead to a decline in footfall. Know there are car parking spaces etc but not everyone drives and its a long walk!! If there was some other place that could house the facility in the centre I feel this would help sustain use.
- The change of location will result in fewer visitors. An alternative location in the centre of Kingsthorpe would be a better solution.
- As stated above, the bee hive does not have enough space to allow childrens services to run or stock books and computers without impacting on the running of the bee hive.
- It's not central to the main facilities offered in Kingsthorpe.
- Less footfall
- As above. The Kingsthorpe community group were never offered the chance to put their proposal forward.
- As above, not fair that Kingsthorpe is reducing its facilities and Brixworth is gaining. Kingsthorpe has an increasing population and yet its going to a community run facility. To use Brixworth means a car journey on already congested roads. More pollution too. We use Kingsthorpe as part of our shopping trip. This will no longer be appropriate, Again why are you not supporting the busy areas and investing in Brixworth. Not a good use of Cill money. We in Kingsthorpe are already suffering, now you are rubbing it in.
- Loss of statutory library service - keep Kingsthorpe Library in it's current location and reassess when the unitaries have taken over
- Keep Kinsthorpne Library open in its current location as a statutory service
- More traffic. Keep library where it is.
- I think parking could become a problem. I visit the Beehive Centre on a regular basis and often find it difficult to park. There has to be a good allocation of parking for disabled people’s Mini Buses which does not always leave a good provision for customers of the Centre. As in extending the Centre to house the library, the car park facilites would need to be enhanced also.
- Fewer people will use it due to the location. There is nothing near to the Bee Hive that would attract people. It’s current Kingsthorpe location is ideal as it is near shops, banks, bus stops etc.

- It would be negative as people stop using services if they have to travel into town centre. Isolation and loneliness must be tackled as that effects health and social care budgets. No local newspaper now and no access to the library how will people without internet access find out about the services they need? Kingsthorpe is bigger and access to Harborough road is poor. A sponsored centre closer to the main council social housing areas means the most needy will still be served. More well to do residents have cars to get to the beehive. There are many more homeless in Kingsthorpe now. Many more retired low income pensioners. Over subscribed Doctors surgeries. The social care needs and costs will go up if people don't get help and information on their needs. Pollution is also bad in Kingsthorpe in general.

- Central location needs to be retained. The proximity to the Central library is irrelevant for those who are elderly or infirm. It would make more sense to close the central library & retain the outlying ones since these are much more convenient for residential centres.

- Find a different site if the current building costs too much. But don't end the services offered

- Due to lack of space, I cannot see how this building will be able to accommodate both the library and the services it currently offers. This may be remedied with additional space, but this should be agreed prior to any decisions being made

- Continued spiral of decline in society and aspirations of young people.

- A move to the beehive would exclude many people without own transport from using the library facilities, whereas the current facilities are on bus routes from Welford road, Harborough Road and Northampton town centre. If this Centre was no longer used, what would happen to it?

- Families are far less likely to access the library. For users of all ages it is far less convenient.

- The negative impact on this is to children and families. please take a look at the local schools reading data on the local authority look at the progress date for reading at each of the schools. Compare this to the national average. Is this what Northamptonshire county council want to be known for shutting libraries despite schools desperately trying to increase reading with our children. This is were so joined up thinking needs to happen, departments need to liaise with each other and recognise the knock effect these decisions have. Please look at the number of
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children who sign up every year to complete the summer reading challenge as one example of why we must keep the library in the local community.

- It would be negative if it will no longer provide the universal children's services.
- It will have a negative impact on the community and businesses in Kingsthorpe without this vital facility in an easy reach location. It is one of the few places where people can go to access services and is free. It also helps people feel part of the community and feel proud of where they live.
- Robust handover. This includes management practices, best practice from other community run libraries, same levels of integration of services and materials between community and NCC run libraries, well trained and enthusiastic staff. Great effort to increase accessibility to chosen venue, which is an integrated approach. Ie. New location is accessible from dense core of Kingsthorpe via public transport. Continue to adequately (at a minimum) provide for the most vulnerable in society.
- Change of location very detrimental - away from main area of Kingsthorpe. Not easy to walk to - no public lighting on paths.
- It would have a very negative impact on the local population, many of whom are on restricted incomes, have no transport of their own, have disabilities, as above.
- The negative impact would be that the library would be used less, leading to more isolation of elderly and disabled.
- The answer to this question is all in with my answer above. It would have a massive negative impact.
- Fewer people of all ages reading books. Many who use the library and join in with activities offered will be more isolated.
- Car parking around there is very poor already with the success of the Beehive so adding a library will add more users and this will affect local residents. The beehive will need to be extended and if they have to pay for this it will severely affect their finances.
- Kingsthorpe needs a library that can offer good quality services near to the shops, banks and post office. It needs to be a hub in the community not half way up Harborough Road at the bee hive.
- I think some users would not travel to the new location. (The Bee Hive is actually closer for me so I do not make the case based on personal convenience!)
- Very limited space at moment and don’t think would cope with increased in numbers both inside and car parking (often no spaces on Saturday due to swimming lessons and other visitors). And extension to the building to make a bigger space would likely reduce parking more. And despite a bus stop close by, a great cost for short journey from central Kingsthorpe.
- Please see question above.
- Lack of public transport - more buses lack of adequate safe walking routes for elderly/young - improve paths, lighting, cycle paths and road crossings. No reason to
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go up to the Beehive other than the library - library needs to remain in the local community hub, regardless who might run it. Access times - opening times need to also be at the weekend and after school to enable student access. The Beehive currently closes when the school closes. Mobility poor visitors are unlikely to make a journey to Kingsthorpe Centre and the Beehive so the library, it’s social lifeline will probably be the one that stops as it’s further away - review transport options/keep in current building. All of the above issues could be mitigated by retaining the library as a council funded statutory library.

- Opening times. I cannot suggest a solution as I do not have enough information.
- Negative impact is the location moving it away from the shopping centre will impact on shoppers plus the venue cannot accommodate all of the facilities and it only opens school times
- The library needs to be in the heart of the community so the maximum people can use the service.
- Disenfranchisement of local users - keep at current location. Access of services for more vulnerable users - keep at current location to keep separate from college.
- Potential safeguarding issues - keep at current location. Cost to Council, and therefore local taxpayers, for improvement works - keep at current location.
- Safeguarding issues within library for users - make sure paid staff are employed, not unpaid volunteers, ready to deal with difficult public. Potential increase/decrease of hours - if closure continues to be extended to weekends this will be problematic for many users and disenfranchise weekday workers.
- This service is an important local resource in a deprived area. Children can avail themselves of workspace, reading material, homework clubs and generally a safe area they can reach out to. I would not like for any of this not to be available to the children in the local community.
- The Library as it is situated at the moment is close to the shopping centre bus routes and is easy to access, there is limited parking at the beehive and it is a very busy centre. would there be enough room to provide all the services and is one group being favoured over another.
- The proposed location is too far from the centre of Kingsthorpe. It would be further away for many residents, e.g. Queen’s Park. Many people, myself included, visit the libabry as well as local shops. By moving them he library half a mile away, this worsens accessibility.
- Please see above - I feel the library needs to be in its current location. I think numbers using the library would drop as there is such a convenience to being able to pop to the shops, bank etc and go to the library without having to walk far.
- There is no possible way to mitigate the negative impact, other than by the totally unrealistic means of providing free bus shuttles from populated areas which would cost more than keeping the library open anyway. That is why the whole plan is unworkable.
• Reduced footfall - need to have an attractive offer of books/services to get people there Limited resources - need to make sure community run library is resourced and given time to develop... Don;t just axe it in the next round of cuts
• The Beehive is not near to local services. All groups would have to go specifically to this location For those without transport this is either a long walk or a bus journey. When taking my grand-daughter to rhymetime or to use the library this would involve 2 bus journeys into Kingsthorpe & out again as it is too far to walk. The library needs to remain within east access to Kingsthorpe centre
• This proposal would have a hugely negative impact on the community as outlined above. There is no way a team of volunteers will be as effective as a team of paid workers.
• As above. I think the library is in a very good position currently and is near several bus stops along with the shops on Kingsthorpe front. The bee hive is too far for a lot of people to walk to and the car park would not be big enough for any driving visitors. The bee hive is often busy already especially the café so I just don't feel there would be adequate space. I also think the bee hive would be able to make decisions rather than the community. I think other options should be considered such as using the current space or an alternative venue. I think working with the bee hive is not the issue.
• Postal service. Returns box at Kingsthorpe. Consideration of bus routes. Volunteers who would pick you up and take you to the library.
• If the library is to be relocated then it must offer the same level of services and resources so that residents are not discriminated. Some can afford a further bus journey or have a car to attend Duston or town but many others do not have this luxury and rely on local services being local and easy to access.
• The idea of the library moving to The Beehive is excellent in terms of ‘saving’ the service from closure altogether. There are some points to consider, as follows: 1. Although the potential relocation is only 1/2 a mile away, it does have an impact on accessibility for a large number of library users. It is no problem for car users. However, for people who use buses or walk, it’s a different story. Although there are bus stops near to The Beehive, bus routes do not offer a regular service (particularly the x7). Google maps shows routes 4 and G1 going to The Beehive from Kingsthorpe and G1, 77 and x7 for returning to Kingsthorpe. The nearest 4 service bus stop returning to Kingsthorpe is on Chalcombe Avenue. So bus services would have to be looked at and improved. 2. If the current Kingsthorpe library venue closes – together with Lloyds bank vacating the upstairs part of the building, then this leaves a whole building empty. Several buildings/shop units in the Northampton town centre are being empty for well over a year, thus creating a soulless environment. It would be extremely sad if the same situation spread into the lovely Kingsthorpe shopping area and community. 3. The current venue (in the heart of Kingsthorpe) allows for easy direct access/usage as well as ’popping in’ following shopping - and vice-versa - if one is using the library in Kingsthorpe, then there is also the opportunity for 'popping in'
to local shops. If the library moves to The Beehive, library users would more likely be 'directly' using the library and less 'popping in' – therefore decreasing the number of visitors to local shops. As The Beehive is currently not easily accessible by public transport (at regular times) or on foot, then this would a) decrease the number of users visiting the new location and b) decreasing the number of visitors to Kingsthorpe shops and amenities. 4. The above point raises another issue about 'effort'. If a venue/service is difficult to get to, then it is less likely to be used. Difficulty meaning amount of time it takes to walk to a venue, or planning a journey by bus. For example, it takes me 20 minutes to walk to Kingsthorpe from my house. If I plan to walk to The Beehive I have to add an extra 15 minutes on top. This is doable as an adult but if I have my young child with me it's not. Planning to go via bus would require a lot more planning and take a lot more time out of the day. Again, an increase in bus service availability and frequency would help to alleviate some of this – if staying in Kingsthorpe is no longer an option. 5. If car parking is an issue for the current location – could negotiations be made with local businesses for additional provision. Or, for example, how often are the toilets (adjacent to NAB) used? If not or rarely, could they be knocked down and car parking space made available for the library? 6. Utilising the space vacated by Lloyds bank as part of the library service and by community organisations/groups would keep the library service in the heart of Kingsthorpe – accessible by all.

- Older people & families with young children would find it more difficult to get to the Bee Hive or town centre. Northampton expanding outwards from Kingsthorpe & may need a bigger/better library rather than a reduction in service & possibly standard of service.
- A more central location near the shopping centre would be better
- A different venue should be found, maybe like the sort of premises that is often taken by a charity shop

It is proposed the library relocates to The Bee Hive, Harborough Rd, Northampton NN2 8LR http://thebeehive-business.org.uk

Q. Thinking about The Bee Hive (where it is proposed the Kingsthorpe Library will be relocated) please place the following in order of importance for the new venue. Please rank these in order of importance using a scale of 1 – 5, with 5 being the most important and 1 the least important. Please only tick (√) each column once

There were 74 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option per row.
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Least important

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Easy access and parking

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If ‘Other’ please specify:

- The bus route from Waitrose to The Bee Hive to be reinstated. When they rerouted the buses around the estate they moved both buses. Why not have one going around the estate and one running on the previous, more direct route? This would enable visitors to the library to have easier access as the original bus stops are closer to the proposed site.

- My computer wouldn’t accept ‘click’ thus allow me to score importance ‘4’ for regular events for under 5’s
• For some reason when I tried to click "easy parking" a red symbol comes up. Same with public computers, wouldn't allow me any other option. The Parking by the way at The Beehive is diabolical at the best of times.
• A qualified librarian should be there as volunteers can only do so much. It's the knowledge that makes the difference not just checking out a book. Advice centre once a week minimum for debt, jobs, health, social services, mental health everything human beings need.
• As I disagree totally with the idea I cannot comment with this aspect of the questionnaire
• Respondent ranked a comprehensive range of books, free public computers and easy access and parking as '5'
• I don’t agree with the relocation site.
• No point in addressing facilities as proposed venue completely unsuitable.
• Can’t tick 5 for ease of parking for some reason which is the one I want
• I very much dislike this very narrow service offering, and having to rank them. I would also like to see some of the other services prioritised. It is not enough that computers are available to the public - what's on them? What subscription services are signed up to?
• The Bee Hive is not centrally located to the community - the Bee Hive could be an additional space for the Kingsthorpe Library to reach the community it should not be instead of.
• This not a true picture as I was blocked from ticking 5 for Easy access and parking , and free public computers
• A play area -to give children space to play. It gives me time to look for books. It is also a good place for children to make friends and mix with other children
• Rigged question which is impossible to answer. Obviously, "easy access" is essential, as what is the point of proving a library which cannot be used, "parking" is of absolutely no importance.
• please score '5' for range of books, regular events for under 5's and free public computers. '4' for easy access and parking. (for some reason website won't let me select this score.

Q. If you feel there is anything that would prevent you from accessing Kingsthorpe Library if it moves to the The Bee Hive, then please tell us what these are and how they could be overcome.
There were 45 responses to this question
• The proposed location means I can no longer visit the library and would basically stop me reading
• Parking is extremely poor at the beehive. It is regularly double parked. Elderly, young and vulnerable people will struggle to access the beehive, especially those that need it, ie those in the deprived St Davids area of Kingsthorpe.

• The distance for some users from the present Library. It is easy to say its not far but if you are walking, pushing a buggy or are old its a long walk and would Im sure be a deterrent for some.

• Location

• There would need to be adequate space for pushchairs as lots of people walk to the library.

• People will not use it as they will feel they have to buy from the cafe. School holidays opening will be limited.

• Parking at the Bee Hive would be impossible unless there are massive changes. Not sure what these could be but no doubt you have a plan. Very hard, sometimes impossible, to park there now. Bus Route? Is there a nearby bus stop.

• Wouldn't want to support a non-statutory library. Keep the current library as is

• Wouldn't want to support a non-statutory library

• I could still use but prefer current place as people using it use nearby shops so they support each other.

• Parking difficulties

• Location. There is nothing else near it of any use. We use the library and other amenities in one visit. The Bee Hive is harder to access, especially when not using a car.

• Bus service on a loop with the shopping centre in both directions currently only one way as if people have all day to sit going around the obelisk Rise estate. An extra building there to expand the area. It will need better security. The road is so congested there at times a pollution monitor station should be there!

• The Beehive would be very convenient for me but as an out of. Enter location it would be seriously inconvenient for many. There is no capacity at the Beehive for additional parking & the current stock is already at capacity. In the current central location there is convenient parking at the shopping centre.

• The Beehive is quite a distance from Kingsthorpe front. As long as you drive that is fine but if you do not have transport the distance may put some people, particularly young mum's off walking there.

• If I ceased to drive and/or own a car I would be unable to use public transport from Acre Lane.

• Convenience. It is a distance from the other services.

• Transport!!!!! The reality would be that I wouldn't use the library at the bee hive for me and my children. The message we are giving children is so very mixed we encourage them to read at school and home and then we shut libraries despite reading levels in our children needing improvement.
- It is walking distance for me personally but the car park is often full already without a library present. I know kingsthorpe library currently has no parking but there is parking available nearby whereas the overflow parking would be in residential areas at the bee hive.
- It is convenient for family to go to the library whilst other shopping activities take place and then possibly an ice cream treat at Gallones. The Bee Hive would mean getting in the car and less likely to happen.
- Bus routes. I am currently [redacted] pregnant and [redacted] and without being able to drive, once my baby is here I won’t be able to access the service. The bus route changes have made everything really confusing so I have no idea how I can access it.
- The present library’s location is ideal and well-known. To move and reduce the services/size of the facility would be disastrous. Impossible to walk easily/safely to proposed new site. Car park there is always crowded and busy.
- Inconvenience
- distance from kingsthorpe shops for those without access to a car
- Impossible to overcome the many difficulties.
- There is hardly any parking at the Bee Hive for regular users of the Bee Hive let alone people who will have to start driving to the Library if it is there, a lot of families, single parents and elderly people who do not have transport will find it hard to get there as well as people who live on the opposite side of Kingsthorpe eg Welford Road, North Western avenue area as it is quite a way from there and there is no direct bus service that drops you near there. They cannot be overcome if it moves there you will deprive a lot of people from a library service they have used for years to not being able to use it through no fault of their own.
- Further away from home, currently a 10 minute walk but this would increase to a 40 minute walk.
- How do you get from Links View to the Beehive without a car? I would not be able to go after school due to the time taken to get there (from Kingsley Primary). Our visits to the library would likely cease unless they opened on a Saturday. We have already had to cut our visits due to the very reduced hours.
- I use the Bee Hive at least once a week and Parking is currently a huge problem, I believe residents sometimes park there for the Pines surgery and chemist because of the lack of facilities for patients. This will not change and it will impact on those people wanting to use the library the car park is just not big enough for any extra traffic.
- If the opening hours were not on weekends.
- It is not within walking distance for more centrally based library users from the local deprived areas.
- Not at the moment
- The library would no longer be in the heart of Kingsthorpe.
- We have a car, but it is less convenient and would take more time if we needed to go to the shops/bank too as we would need to walk up the road to the Beehive or drive.
- I don’t want it be close my home
- It is much further away. Pure and simple. Obviously, it will be closer for some, but far fewer as Kingsthorpe is accessible by everyone who lives on the Barrack Road/Kingsthorpe Road and the Welford Road.
- often pop in to current library when in Kingsthorpe shopping or in lunch break.... would not be able to do this in Beehive..
- I have already stated earlier . This would involve 2 buses. as well as inconvenient this is excluding those on lower incomes
- It would require an independent trip and cost money to move to lesser premises.
- Potentially transport. I would be looking at walking if it moved as I think parking would be a massive issue. My little boy wouldn’t be able to walk that far and back though and I wouldn't want to loan books and carry them all that way. If he sat in a pushchair it wouldn't be a problem until he was older.
- Public transport.
- Access, having to walk a further half a mile away from local shops and amenities
- 1. The distance of The Beehive from my home would prevent me from using the library both for myself and if I came with my child. It is just a bit too far. Would take me 35 minutes to walk each way. I cannot drive due to disabilities, so am reliant on buses or walking. an increase in regular bus services to The Beehive would help.
- 2. Opening hours - currently I cannot access the library in Kingsthorpe at all with my son (school age). However, if The Beehive offered opening times at the weekend (particularly on Saturday = more possible buses), then this would help to alleviate this.
- I could get here but it would probably mean a special car journey, rather than a walk & return by bus after using shops near to current library.
- It would be a long way to walk (20 minutes for me)

Q. Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposed relocation of Kingsthorpe Library, including if you feel there is an alternative venue that should be considered and why:
There were 42 responses to this question
- I wish it could stay where it is
- Looking at the Beehive / Northgate running the library from its current location
- A location closer to St Davids should be considered to allow those living in the deprived area better accessed. This service should also remain a statutory service.
- It is vital to maintain an accessible and diverse source to promote and develop reading for the very young in a community with above average number of young people.
• I would suggest the Methodist Church (opposite current Library) but am aware it is due for redevelopment, but this may be somewhere to look at. Presumably the Beehive is a good option for the council as it is already up and running and receives funding as a school from NCC already so the cost implications are minimal.
• Have the churches in Kingsthorpe been approached? Could one or more of these provide a service (excuse the pun!)?
• The Beehive would require expansion to allow for the library to be housed there.
• Plenty of shops in Kingsthorpe that would mean it would remain in Kingsthorpe
• Keep it where it is. And make it an NCC facility. Ridiculous to have such a central Library run on a volunteer basis. Swap this with Brixworth please.
• Yes keep Kingsthorpe Library in Kingsthorpe Library
• I do believe this is the best option to ensure that library services continue for the people of Kingsthorpe.
• A bad idea that will surely mean the end of a library for Kingsthorpe.
• There are many empty locations the old HSBC or midland bank could be rented it's been empty for years. The present building was purpose built though and is central and is well known. I feel people use the service as part of their daily routine the beehive is just too far to' pop in.' So it will be used less and less as a library. It should have community use still the beehive is valuable in additional services not instead of.
• Whilst not having a specific venue, it is obvious that a central (to Kingsthorpe) location is critical. The proposed relocation fails on this count & will only serve to increase congestion in an area of town where roads are already over capacity.
• Why does the library have to move from its current, well used, location?
• The current library is in the correct location. The reality is this is being considered for closure to save money I would look at were other savings could be made. There has been so much miss management from the county council that should be looked at first. Look at how much money has been wasted with the football stadium! What I would be looking into would be how to keep this as a hub for the community how to develop closer links with the schools and LEA to promote reading and working together to improve reading levels. I would look to sponsorship deals with local shops and supermarkets ie Waitrose would they consider being able to advertise in the library for a contribution. This could be done with all the local libraries. It is called thinking outside the box.
• I can't emphasise how important local children's services are too me. It's really important for making local connections as a first time mum.
• The 'proposed' relocation should not take place
• The current premises could be retained , and possibly run with a Beehive and Community partnership
• do the owners of the building the library is in have a future alternative use for the library? if not could they reduce the rent. once the library is closed it is unlikely to be opened again
• The present site is ideal.
• The proposed re location of the library to the Bee Hive is a bad idea. A lot of people will no longer be able to access the library the same way they will not be able to get to the town library.
• The nearest library is a bus ride away.....too far for most people who regularly use Kingsthorpe branch.
• The King David or the White Horse pub have become eyesores recently around the area and could these be used as libraries in stead and part converted to include a cafe/shop, residential property
• Can’t it stay where it is?
• More work should be done on option of staying in current location, especially as Lloyd’s bank closing and I’m sure the landlord doesn’t want two empty properties. I believe the council still has a long rent agreement anyway. This will provide the services closest to people who need to walk there, and wider users can park at shops. Some weekend hours again will attract many that are suffering. And despite another library within 2 miles, I doubt they will cope with increased number for under 5 activities.
• Current location is good, being in the centre of Kingsthorpe. Could possibly look at changing the use of The White Horse which has laid vacant for a while, there is parking behind and near to bus stops on a variety of routes. This is also close to other amenities.
• The current location is perfect for access for all and also encourages you to pop in ad-hoc (when open). Clearly this wouldn't happen with a special journey up to the Beehive.
• Keep the library where it is
• Having a library at the heart of the village is vital for the other facilities around. Please keep in the current location, or you might as well declare the town dead. People will just go to Waitrose or Asda and go home.
• I do not think that the value of the building and the land that it is sited on is worth more than the impact of the loss of the library. The 'fruit' of the service is not accounted for anywhere in terms of the mental wellbeing it provides; opportunity for self-help, control over one's own destiny when family life around you seems to be out of your control, an oasis when times are difficult and that is before you start choosing a book! Once replaced by homes, space in the 'right place' is lost, the library is central to this community.
• Leave it were it is
• Please, please see if there is a way to keep the library in it's current location
• It is not nice place
• It needs to be kept where it is at all costs, even if it means closing Duston which has far poorer facilities and is on a much poorer bus route. The HaemorrLloyds bank next
door is closing at the end of this week, so something could be done with the two buildings to create a combined commercial/library centre.

- Need to make sure opening hours are maintained and work for library users... At the moment, I have seen lots of people trying the door and finding it is shut on that day
- Any site within Kingsthorpe centre - close to current location would be acceptable
- I can't think of a big enough venue other than the space that is already being used.
- Leave it alone, it's fine where it is.
- Why does it need to be relocated if the plan is continue services....?
- Lloyds bank is due to vacate the space above Kingsthorpe library soon. If the current venue of Kingsthorpe library stays open – whichever community service runs it could also utilise the bank space as part of the library service and/or community service. The space could be used for group/session rooms, activity area and perhaps a small cafe. This space could also be offered as a rental opportunity for community groups such as scouts, brownies etc or what would have been children centre services to use. This use would not only keep the library in the heart of Kingsthorpe - being accessible to all, but it would also provide a necessary venue offering valuable services to the community.
- More difficult to combine library visit with shopping. Would it be worth driving or walking out to the Bee Hive & then driving/parking or walking back to the shopping centre & getting another bus home?

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Kingsthorpe Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 25 responses to this question

- Keep it a statutory accessible service, especially to those that need it. Keep it in the locality of the current premises. The councils (and countrys) mismanagement resulted in the losses that Northamptonshire is suffering, the residents, particularly those that are vulnerable or already deprived should not be made to suffer because of their greed and ineptitude.
- Shame the current library will be empty as will Lloyds bank next door from next year which means empty spaces in Kingsthorpe centre - but hey, town is full of them and who really cares s long as money is being 'saved' !
- Somewhere closer to the centre
- Kingsthorpe community group have been trying to speak to council about the suggestions but ignored
- Keep Kingsthorpe Library as is and reassess when the unitaries take over (as was promised my Philip Hollobone MP
- The Beehive Centre itself is only open during school hours. If the library were to be housed within the Centre this would not be convenient for working people. There
would need to be a way of the library facility being open for at least 2 evenings a week for working people,

- When Lloyds bank closes the whole building could be a learning space with free wifi and a computer cafe at the street level, community classes encouraging health and excercise people can pay for some things like printing off things or looking up family history etc or having talks/small meetings. Exempt people on jobseekers or homeless or on benefits use the wifi etc for free. They each have a library card saying what they may use. Run by a librarian type manager for the whole community.
- What if there were volunteer librarians?
- I really do think that we need to start to lead the way. There are lots of challenges for councils to meet but we have to be creative. Reading taps into the creative arts and also is factual. It teaches us so much. Once you shut the libraries we will never get them back. So this is the challenge How do we keep the libraries make them shining stars in the communities. Could we have them sponsored could we make them depots for parcel deliveries for people. Could we work with schools better. My children are in cubs and have got there reading badges the do the reading challenge every summer. It could be a place local councillors hold surgery's in the community? it could be were the Northamptonshire county council use to get stake holder feed back instead of the guild hall.
- None
- Keep it where it is!
- I would suggest that a partnership between the Beehive and the community would be a possible solution, favourable to both parties.
- please can we leave the library where it is
- The library should remain where it is.
- As mentioned previously I think the existing site (or another central location) should be maintained with statutory provision.
- More work should be done on option of staying in current location, especially as Lloyd’s bank closing and I’m sure the landlord doesn’t want two empty properties. I believe the council still has a long rent agreement anyway. This will provide the services closest to people who need to walk there, and wider users can park at shops. Some weekend hours again will attract many that are suffering. And despite another library within 2 miles, I doubt they will cope with increased number for under 5 activities.
- There is no real justification to a) making it a community library and b) moving location when you review the information on indices of multiple deprivation in the area. It really requires a statutory provision to remain, particularly as Childrens Centre services have been cut and relocated. This is an utter waste of money and it will cost more to service the fallout from the inability of people to access vital services in the Beehive location.
- If there is additional money available for a CIC to extend their current business premises (after which they might close the service and keep the money), then you
really should consider keeping the status quo as it will save money in the end. Please consult with other groups to see if this could be community managed, but stay in statutory offering.

- Kingsthorpe library has been closed and relocated once already - is what we are saying here that the value of the land is worth more than the value placed upon the people living in the area? I do not think that the value of the building and the land that it is sited on is worth more than the impact of the loss of the library. The 'fruit' of the service is not accounted for anywhere in terms of the mental wellbeing it provides; opportunity for self-help, control over one's own destiny when family life around you seems to be out of your control, an oasis when times are difficult and that is before you start choosing a book! Once replaced by homes or businesses, space in the 'right place' is lost, the library is central to this community.

- sadly I can not.

- I will be glad when it closes for good

- As above, consult with HaemorrLloys about the use of the two buildings. Have a smaller, but still usable, library, and provide commercial space

- One unitary authority would make much more sense. The cost of one is too much. two is ludicrous. Falling education standards The importance of health and the impact of loneliness all have a cost. Low income families disadvantaged by lack of access to IT and books and reference material. Our wonderful library service throughout Northamptonshire do amazing things to help with this. Use the savings created by only having one unitary to keep libraries centrally run to a consistent standard

- From what I understand there are members and councillors from the local area who would like to keep the library in its current location and are looking to have a community run library, I would like to hear their plans.

- I think managers should really consider the immediate and long term impact on reducing access for vulnerable people and reducing the opportunities for children. Libraries are so much more than books they are the community hub and provide irreplaceable wellbeing support.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Kingsthorpe Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 15 responses to this question

- The staff at the current library should be better valued. It's offensive to suggest that their role can be so easily filled on a voluntary basis.

- This consultation is again flawed as the only proposals that are being considered are the ones that came out of a consultation that was over turned at high court

- There is likely to be increased usage of the library should the second phase of Buckton Fields go ahead (I pray it does not!)
• Local jobs advertised there, events, changes, proposed building sites. Get local people more involved if they walk passed it all the time and see. It must be promoting itself not just hidden up some back way. It's a vital part of Kingsthorpe life not a spare cog. It hasn't been given the chance as it has been restricted. Foot traffic is vital, then the beneficial effects of knowledge and community can radiate out from it.
• The truth is you either want to fight to keep them or you want to sell them off. The reality is this Northamptonshire county council have been in the news for all the wrong reasons in the last couple of years. This is an opportunity to say No we do want to keep libraries and we will find a way. Once you loose these great intuitions you never get them back fact.
• None
• It is hard to avoid the impression that this 'consultation' process is bogus and that a further decline in public services will result.
• The relocation will mean even fewer will access the service leading to a vital community resource being lost in a critically deprived area.
• My main concerns are reliability and permanence of access and opening times. It is a business, but I think I would be more reassured if their were some community outreach from them to make sure involved parties had a say in the services and how they are run and accessed.
• This wouldn’t have happened if the Conservatives hadn’t messed things up.
• Arguing that the "Central Library" is only two miles away is a hollow argument. That "library" is already overcrowded, has atrocious facilities, and is completely unusable. That is the one which should be closed and relocated to a modern building where it might stand a chance.
• Giving up on a county library service - a statutory provision is a terrible thing to do for future generations
• I just hope that managers will consider the health and mental wellbeing of the people of kingsthorpe and consider the negative impact of this proposal. It is sad that at the end of the day hard working residents are being punished for senior managers making bad financial decisions. Perhaps consider a cap on senior managers salaries to help fund vital services.... sadly I doubt this will be acknowledged or considered!
• I realise the loss of the current library may be inevitable but shall be sad to see it go. I’ve used it a lot since I retired & have always found staff pleasant & helpful.
• Who would manage and staff the library? How would they be paid?
Long Buckby Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Long Buckby Library?

There were 270 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar chart showing frequency of library visits]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>28 (10.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>79 (29.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>53 (19.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>54 (20.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>42 (15.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Long Buckby library</td>
<td>14 (5.2%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Long Buckby Library:

Please tick (V) all that apply

There were 273 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>76.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> — to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong> - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong> – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong> – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong> - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Long Buckby library</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>273</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About Long Buckby Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Long Buckby Library becomes a Community Managed Library in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with the Library Supporters Group.

It is proposed that Long Buckby Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Daventry.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

There is potentially £39,900 Section 106 money available to invest.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.
Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 261 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 172 responses to this question

- With the expansion of the village/small town we need a library.
- No longer a bus service to Daventry.
- We need a library to create opportunity’s for the nursery and children to have somewhere to use the facilities, also to help people research jobs available, medical terms and also applying for school places when acquired. Also, the children services such as craft and rhyme time have helped my children develop a lot.
- My children have learning difficulties and they need the library to learn outside school hours.
- We want a community library.
- Our local library is part of our community and situated in the centre of the village plus an important part in peoples lives more for the both young and old. That must be kept as such.
• The library is a vital part of the village. It provides help and support to all age groups. The elderly especially benefit from the social opportunities. There is no longer public transport to Daventry so those without cars and the many who do not drive any longer would be unable to access the library provision offered in Daventry. The library has close links with its feeder villages and brings the Summer Reading Challenge to a wide area.

• We need a library in Long Buckby as a meeting place as well as for book loans. We have a strong committee willing to take on the management as well as a supporters group and a good team of volunteers.

• I think that, for the money concerned, the library represents excellent value for money and is a great asset to the village and community. I wholeheartedly support the continuation of the library, but would like to see some county money invested in order to ensure that the library remains viable for the longer term future.

• Relieved that there will still be a library service but very disappointed that it will not be classed as a statutory service. I understand that the reason is that it is less than 5 miles (but only just) to the nearest remaining statutory library. Long Buckby has had a significant cut to the bus service making it impossible to travel to Daventry library by public transport in social hours. Our nearest library which could be accessed by public transport is Duston and that is 8.5 miles away. According to the equality impact assessment, the majority of users of Long Buckby Library travel there on foot.

• Long Buckby library is a vital part of the community for all age groups and needs to remain open. It provides learning opportunities for children and social activities for all ages as well as being a place to read and borrow books. If the proposed solution enables the library to remain open then it has to be a good solution.

• While I believe that the library provision should stay with the responsible local government body, if the alternatives are no library or a community managed library, then the latter is my favoured option.

• We need to keep the Library facility open as although there is a library in Daventry the bus times from Long Buckby are very poor. Therefore those without cars will find it difficult to access the many facilities that our library offers. Many families use the facilities as do the elderly for a variety of activities, books and computers plus other educational and compassionate meetings. I feel part of my council tax should go to continuing to support a library in Long Buckby.

• It gives us the best chance of retaining a library service. Community volunteers will require support from the community and the good will and support of the Parish Council.

• It would be of great benefit to our community for the library to remain in it’s current location, Community Managed and staffed by volunteers. Complete closure would have been unthinkable and a sad loss to the village. This proposal is a good compromise.

• This would be a reasonable solution if the Parish Council or some other body can provide or fund the premises. It will be enough of a challenge for the community.
group to finance operating costs and paying rental or purchase costs on top would be prohibitive. The community does have the technical know-how to manage and staff the library.

- I feel it is vital for the local community to keep the library not only for the obvious services it provides but for it helping to combat loneliness, being a venue where social services can meet with people instead of a home visit when two social workers instead of one would be necessary. Also as our bus service to Daventry has been drastically cut visiting Daventry library is not an easy option for people without private transport.

- I would like Long Buckby library to be a learning and resources hub for Long Buckby and the surrounding villages. To help and educate all people. To provide a meeting place including for the elderly, who may speak to no other person for days on end. To be a meeting place for mothers with young children, who may be isolated and may not otherwise be able to afford to buy books for their children. To provide magazines and newspapers to be read by those who can't afford to buy these. To be a place where children can do their homework - school children as well as those at college or university, especially where there is not sufficient quiet space in their own homes. To be a place where books can be accessed free of charge by anyone of any age, ethnicity or social background. It will be a disgrace if this library is allowed to close.

- I believe that there would be a lot of community support for the library and it would remain as an important hub for the village with essential services for the lonely, elderly and disadvantaged as well as a vital resource for pre-school children and a useful resource for school age children and young people.

- Best solution would be continuation of NCC funding; community management is next best solution.

- This Library is at the heart of the village not just physically but as as a hub for social events and information provision. It is a place where the community gets together in so many different ways and for so many different age groups.

- I think it’s sad that you state "A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Daventry." just weeks after the off peak bus between Long Buckby and Daventry was removed. I'm not sure whether or not the community can afford to run the library but if it can, then that could work well.

- Ideally Long Buckby library would remain under the umbrella of NCC, but as this is not an option and to ensure that the library can remain as a community hub this proposal therefore is a good idea

- The library offers a service to the village and surrounding areas which will be impossible to replace

- Libraries will survive with the assistance of the public

- There are a large number of groups who rely on the library space and are using regularly
- I feel that the loss of the library would have negative impact on the community so therefore if this proposal is successful it would continue to enhance village life.
- Skills development opportunities for those managing the library and services can be tailored to local needs by people in our community. The library would continue to provide a vital hub for all but in particular an ageing population already it by a reduced bus service and therefore more reliant on the library for services, information, advice and companionship.
- More than enough people to manage it locally and make sure we keep this vital hub for use by all in the local community. Encourages integration and pride in the village and gives the young, elderly and infirm somewhere to get advice and support.
- Local library is an important part of our growing community
- The library is the hub of our community. It brings multiple benefits to young and old alike. A fabulous safe environment for all, enhancing learning across many fields. We live in an expanding village, almost a small town, why would you choose to close something so vital to our welfare and lifestyles?
- I don’t think closing libraries is ever a good solution, but to keep it open in community guardianship is better than it being completely closed
- We need a library. Village is growing.
- Such an important part of the community. Increasing cuts to bus services mean accessing other libraries, even if within 5 miles, difficult for many residents, especially the elderly.
- Long Buckby library is the hub of our village. Not only is it a book lending facility for all, especially for the elderly and anyone who cannot get to Daventry, it also provides a space for information services for people who are not online. We have many elderly folk who don’t have a computer and they are always forgotten about. The library is also used for many organisations who use it as a meeting place and also provides a lovely, friendly space for all sorts of entertainment enjoyed by all ages. Children use it during the holidays for various activities and it is a friendly space for people, especially elderly and often lonely folk who can drop in and have a coffee. The library supporters group have fought long and hard to keep this essential facility going in our village and we have the volunteers who are very happy to keep it going.
- This is a valuable necessity to Long Buckby and surrounding villages, Especially as the bus services are now being reduced to Daventry, where you suggest people should use as a library instead
- The library is popular with many people and supports children's groups and activities for the elderly.
- Keeping the library open in some capacity is important and if community operation is the only viable options, then fine. The main concern would be the long term sustainability and resilience of any such arrangement.
- I used to use the library a lot more when my children were young, I think this enables the library to remain open for the community to use.
• We would like to see the library in Long Buckby to stay open. If this is the only way to do this them we would support the voluntary group. The main bus service to Daventry has not been lost from the village so although Daventry library is less than 5 miles away it would be hard to get to. It is also more environmentally friendly to walk to our local service. The library also contributes in a huge way to the life of the village and to have such a large village without this provision would be wrong.

• Having a community library would continue to be a hub of services for children and people of all ages., where they can continue to get information and interact with fellow villagers: especially child based and activity groups, which are lifelines.

• The bus service from Long Buckby to Daventry has been seriously reduced so access to the library in Daventry is difficult.

• On the basis that NCC can no longer fund library services to the extent it used to, LB library performs a valuable and much used service to the community and this option potentially preserves those.

• Need to have a Library service in Long Buckby. If there is a workable solution it should be explored

• The best solution would be for the library to maintained as at present since it is provided. If there is a risk of it not being provided the proposed solution aims to achieve more active engagement with local people (the "big society").

• Long Buckby Library is a important social hub for the people of the Village it is used by the Young i.e. Beavers Cubs etc. they have events for toddlers as well as Film shows and Sewing /Knitting meetings, it is also imports for our elderly residents for the companionship a Library brings as well as the excellent range of books

• Daventry is not accessible to most people in the village or surrounding villages who use this library. Unfortunately just because it is used by the minority, and most vulnerable the local councillor and population seem happy to let it go, not realising they will one day be the ones who need it most. Any solution that keeps it going is a good solution. If you don't see the need for libraries then you've clearly not spent enough of you life around books and learning.

• If I understood it correctly, that it would allow the village to continue to have a library for the growing community without arranging transport to another library

• I don't believe that we have a choice if we wish to continue to have a library in the village. In my mind it is vital that the library is preserved particularly for the use of children and the elderly.

• Long Buckby library is a keystone of the community. Those who would feel its loss so sharply are extremely eager to take up the responsibility themselves, rather than see so many lose their community hub.

• This question is so poorly worded, that I'm not sure what it is asking. I would like to say that keeping Long Buckby Library open and viable is very important. The fact that Daventry Library is only 5 miles away is irrelevant -- it might as well be 50 miles.
- Would prefer community managed than no library at all. Many people do not have a car and travel is not viable to a library without one. Train station is not step free, for example, and I can only get to places accessible by foot / step free due to 2 hound children.
- The library is an integral part of the Long Buckby community. It offers local families a place to meet and enjoy activities such as rhyme time and craft activities during the holidays. These are free of charge and there are not many places where a parent can take children of various ages and enjoy free activities to entertain the different age groups.
- Because it is the hub of the village and important to the children and their future.
- "It is proposed that Long Buckby Library becomes a Community Managed Library in the current location."
The best thing that can happen is for the library to be purchased by the local parish council [redacted comment], and for it to be run by volunteers. People use the library and the village is growing in size and population. Places still need services, irrespective of being within 5 miles of Daventry. You are expecting people to be able to go to Daventry - despite the fact that buses are being cut, it might not be convenient to do so, you might be elderly and rely on the service etc etc. There are more reasons for you to keep it open than not.
- Travelling to Daventry after school isn't practical and it would be useful to be able to take my children to the library after school. The current reduced hours are too limited and it would be good to have a library open at times to suit a broader range of residents.
- The library provides an important resource for the residents Long Buckby and surrounding linked villages. It is essential that it is maintained.
- The library is essential to the village and is a lifeline for those who are socially isolated. Furthermore, the library provides something for everybody whether they visit weekly, monthly or irregularly it is there when they need it and this makes it so important to the community.
- If the library becoming community run means that we do not lose it, then I am in favour of the proposal. I am in favour of keeping the library running either managed by the community, or the NCC. I am against its closure.
- It's a good place for everybody to meet young and old. There is such a good will in the library and has such a wonderful community spirit. I feel that we need this in such hard times.
- It’s important in the community and the community is ideal to run it understanding local needs and can respond to them.
- When I retire and there is no bus service I want to be able to access library services. This whole issue is being viewed based on availability and usage now. I work now. I work long hours and have very little free time. But when (if I ever can afford to) I retire I look forward to regular use. Walking to and from the library for exercise, connecting with my community. Having to travel to Daventry is ridiculous. And if, by then, bus services have been cut back even more will not even be able to do that.
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Studies show children who have access to books fair far better in learning, but as a mum bounding a child in the car to drive to Daventry would add a layer of cost I couldn’t have afforded. Walking is free and healthy! It is imperative we keep our library facilities. Expand on them.

- This village needs to retain its library as a facility for those who cannot access the one in Daventry. The idea of it being a hub for various other activities in the heart of the village is sound too - Long Buckby needs such a meeting place for all ages and interests.
- The Village Library supports group is willing to continue operating the library as a village hub. It provides many services far beyond book lending that affect all ages of the local community. As a parent with young children, we frequently use the services to assist with school work and during holidays. My elderly mother relies on the library for social interaction and reading the local papers/news. It is a central part of the community and anything that can be done to protect this resource should be done at all costs.
- The Long Buckby Library is a community asset, used regularly by individuals and groups. Should the library not survive then this valuable meeting place for use and events will be lost to the community hub. None of us want to lose our library for any reason, so if it can be retained as a community managed library it can only be a good thing for the Long Buckby community, and I commend this proposal.
- We need a library.
- I feel that our library provides an essential part of the community life of the village and as such provides an extremely valuable service to all villagers. We have just had two large housing estates built here, and our bus services simultaneously seriously reduced. Families with children at school need to be able to access library provision in the village.
- First, the best solution would be for NCC to continue running the library. However, second, given that this is not an option, having a community library is the best thing to do. It does though depend on the Parish Council in Long Buckby (and any others where the communities use the Library) purchasing the building. Third, we need to maintain a library in Long Buckby, albeit run by the community, because Long Buckby is a large village and expanding all the time. We to support this growing population with all the services provided by a library, and to be able to extend the services with new activities. The library is already a hub in the village and has the potential to create new facilities and to bring the community together in range of ways. Finally, although it's stated that Daventry is only 5 miles away, and that there is a bus service, the service has been reduced and it is therefore more challenging for all those without vehicles or unable to drive to access the library there.
- As the library supporters’ group is strong and the alternative is for there to be no library in Long Buckby I consider this an excellent option.
- I am not in support of NCC withdrawing their support for Long Buckby library as their reduction in bus service means there is no transport available to Daventry the next
nearest library. However, as a community managed library it would lessen the social impact of losing a library. Due to opening hours I have been unable to visit the library but have been a frequent user of their services before the changes.

- I want the library to remain open as I bring my [family member] for valuable stimulation - meeting other people at a games afternoon.
- Although I do not regularly use the above mentioned library, I feel most strongly that this is a valuable asset to the community it serves and a great many people would suffer by its removal.
- At least L B would retain it’s library
- Community spirit is strong and should be encouraged to maintain this facility. Links to Daventry are poor using public transport.
- Long Buckby is a self contained large village with many amenities. The library is a hub of community life and culture.
- My children use the library
- Long Buckby library needs to stay open, as it is a community asset and is used by a lot of the village, not just for the loan of books, but also for group meetings etc.
- It would keep the services the library provides open for all the community, from its books service, children’s services and social community services. There is much support for keeping the library open and the community are keen to run the library. The library is a community social hub within the village and it is important we retain it.
- The alternative is for the library to close!
- If the council refuses to continue to fund the library there appears to be little other choice for such a critical local service. The library provides a hub for the village offering support for young mums and older people alike. At a time when public and community services are being cut, the library offers a wide variety of much needed services to our village. These will become ever more important with the cutting of local bus services to Daventry.
- It is so important that we keep a library service going in a village the size of Long Buckby. As well as the obvious services, it is also used for a number of other things, and if this is the only way to enable it to keep going, then it is a good solution.
- This model would make best use of the enthusiasm of the local community for the library service in Long Buckby. I believe the community even contributed to the cost of building the library.
- The Long Buckby Library is an important 'centre of information' for the village and has always been well supported. We do not want to lose this facility and if we have to run it as a voluntary service then this would be better than the alternative. We do feel that the NCC should fully support the Library now and in the future, both financially and with support.
- This looks to be the only option available and as it is important to retain access to a library in Long Buckby I support it. I am pleased to see there will still be a Library
Management System and stock rotation in community run libraries - this is really important. I also hope there will be regular contact between the statutory and non-statutory libraries to discuss issues, updating of stock etc and provide training opportunities for volunteers.

- Because it is important for all generations to have a library within walking distance. Furthermore the town of Long Buckby is growing at an alarming rate - with new housing at both ends of the town. These new residential families will no doubt want to use the local library......................... for ALL of the services it can offer.

- If the Council isn’t prepared to support our library and the community are, then this is a better solution than having to go to Daventry. Members of my family regularly use the library and several friends. The children are encouraged through the various groups available in the Library.

- It is vital the village retains a library; the County Council have created this almighty financial mess and it’s a shame the village is therefore required to suffer the consequences of the mis-management, however if there is to be a solution this is about as good as could be expected.

- Because I love reading and like the atmosphere. I have a disabled [family member] and find it a break to go to library and have a cup of tea

- The community needs a library in Long Buckby. Daventry is not easily accessible to some residents and especially those in nearby villages like us, who are nine miles from any other library.

- I strongly feel that all community services should be maintained to ensure social cohesion. The library is a place where everyone can gather not just to access books but to feel part of a community. It will be a challenge to keep LB library but its vital.

- Ideally I would like the library service to remain as it was when it was open every day with a library manager who was paid.

- The library is an important focus in the village which has limited other public spaces. It has become an important venue for people to meet up for a very wide range of reasons. I use it regularly for both more traditional needs (eg borrowing books) as well as attending meetings there. It is an essential public space for all sorts of meetings. The access to a wide range of children's books has been invaluable as resource bringing up my children - we always enjoy a wide range of books that we would not have been able to otherwise, as well as very varied story time opportunities. The library has greatly enriched my children’s lives. Having it here within the village gives us easy and frequent access to these things. Travelling to Daventry makes much of the above impossible.

- As the local population grows it is even more important that the community has the support of a proper library. Once gone it could never be replaced.

- The proposed scheme would retain an important community facility.

- Though not ideal, it will, at least, offer library services for a large rural area.
The library is used by members of the public from Long Buckby's surrounding area for whom travel to Northampton or Daventry is not practical. The library is also a focus for community activities eg community cinema.

There is a strong community in the area and they would support the active development of the provision. It would need some infrastructure support initially but I could imagine it would thrive.

I like the atmosphere at Long Buckby Library. I have limited time and Long Buckby is ten minutes away where as Daventry is a lot further.

It seems to be the only solution that would keep the much needed library in Long Buckby. Although I may not personally use all the facilities, I do know that it is a gathering place, a stop for a cuppa, a place to get out of the house. The staff are friendly, part of the community! My [family member] always checks out the books on sale, also contributing to the meagre coffers, by buying or donating books. [Family member] would not be able to get to Daventry on [their] own, so it is a good place to go when [they] feels like getting out [their] [mobility aid]. Film nights are a popular event. Please allow it to stay open.

Long Buckby Library provides a central hub to a whole host of services. Whilst in the main I only use the library to borrow books and also work as a volunteer, I am aware that it provides many other important services to all ages living in the village. It is also valuable as a social meeting place, exhibitions, performances and as a meeting room.

Given the option of no local library and a community run library then it is sensible to choose the community run library. If it fails through lack of usage/support then there really was no need for a library in today's environment. HOWEVER, I believe the library is a very valuable service to a number of villagers particularly the elderly and struggling families with children. To say there is an alternative library in Daventry is not realistically a suitable alternative. They will not be able to get there when they need to. Removing all local library provision would reduce the quality of life for the elderly and the young; neither group deserving to suffer because of the financial mismanagement of senior NCC officials.

This library needs to be open, hundreds of houses being built which means more children in the village. Our nearest ACCESSIBLE library is Rugby or Northampton. A feasible bus service to Daventry has been withdrawn.

It is a valuable community asset.

I would like the library to remain open.

For library to remain open.

Best solution if the only alternative is closure. In my opinion, a library at Daventry will not fulfill the community needs of the people living in and around Long Buckby.

We cannot afford to loose the opportunity to educate ourselves and /or enjoy the wonderful past time of reading.
I believe it is crucial to support all local library resources. Although I am not using this library myself at this time, I have done in the past (especially when our children were of school age) and I know that it is an important resource for local people, especially living in Long Buckby. Moreover, at a time when learning resources are under such threat, I believe that it is crucial that these services are preserved and developed. It is not good enough that there is a library service in Daventry - for many people this is not easy to get to.

I am now retired and our children are living elsewhere. However, when they were small and at school, I found the library at Long Buckby to be a very valuable resource. The children loved to go there. At this time when so many children and family, as well as educational resources are under threat of being withdrawn, I believe it is crucial that we do whatever we can to preserve them. The Long Buckby library is irreplaceable for local people.

It would be wrong of NCC to remove L B Library provision in favour of Daventry as the bus service has been taken away. So L B needs its Library!

Whilst Long Buckby is within a 5 mile radius of a statutory library (Daventry) this is marginal as by road it is further than 5 miles. With the withdrawal of the regular bus service to and from Daventry the access to that library is not possible without own transport or use of taxis.

I believe this is a poor decision as Long Buckby Library is important to the community which is growing every year, and I believe that it should be run by the council. The sum of money to be given to help support the community library is very small, I am concerned that it will not be able to sustain itself in the long term without the ongoing support of the council.

If this library is forced to close, the nearest Library may be DAVENTRY, but how does a mother with children access it from our much reduced bus service?

The community does not have the resources, skills and funding capabilities to manage this library and its wide range of services.

There is a high level of library usage in the area around Long Buckby and no library provision to the north. Although it falls within 5 miles of Daventry library it is at the limit of this boundary. It currently has a relatively low cost per visit and provides an important set of services for the expanding population of Long Buckby and a surrounding area which has no realistic alternative provision. I believe that there is a strong case for retaining it as a statutory service.

This is a library for the village and surrounding villages. Long Bucky is a growing community with new developments that bring new people into the village. It is also a retail/leisure community which people use for day to day needs. There is a thriving coop, bakery, food outlets a gym,... This is certainly a village where people use local services and value the opportunity to leave their car at home and walk to amenities. The statutory provision in Daventry is too far for anyone to access without a car. It may be the nearest town but is not a popular destination for residents of Long Bucky. Section 106 funding is dependent on agreement with a developer which already
suggests that the balance of interests will be weighted against local residents needs and inevitably influenced by profitability motives. Long Bucky serves a wider set of villages acting as a hub for their residents too so will impact a much wider population.

- A community library is better than no library and there is no shortage of volunteers to work there. However, the assumption that residents of Long Buckby are able to easily use facilities in Daventry is flawed. Our bus service between Long Buckby and Daventry (D4) has been axed down to a couple of busses at peak commuter times in the morning and evening only; residents who are unable to drive must use a taxi to access services in Daventry during the day. Villages are becoming increasingly isolated with health services, banks, post offices and now libraries being centralised, whilst public transport (essential for the elderly and most vulnerable members of our community to access these services) is being removed. If the council is not prepared to fund public transport it must provide statutory essential services within the community, even if these are manned by volunteers.

- The use of the 5-mile criteria affects library service in Long Buckby very negatively. One of the considerations was adequate public transport to the nearest maintained NCC library (in this case Daventry). Bus services are currently being cut between Long Buckby and Daventry, with buses operating only in relation to travel for early morning and late afternoon workers and schoolchildren. There are many people, women particularly, in Long Buckby who do not have access to a car on weekdays. Although the volunteers are starting to do good work, I am not confident that the volunteer option will be strong enough to sustain the Long Buckby library. In this circumstance NCC has the right to close the library. That would take out the main hub for multiple community use in Long Buckby.

- Five miles but only accessible if you have a car - how do you access the library service if you don't drive? My daughters use the library after the school bus drops them off, they could not access Daventry. There is no regular public transport service to Daventry from Long Buckby.

- Both myself and my husband and [number] children use the library to access different resources. Which would be lost if this proposal to community run facility is passed. It's a nightmare to get [number] children under 5 on the bus, which are not suitable for pushchairs at times. I cannot afford a taxi nor do I own my own car.

- This library is much more than a book lending facility. Too many people will be alienated if this proposal to community run facility is passed.

- Long Buckby Library is the centre of the Village. Much more happens there than just books. Groups meet there on a regular basis. There is nowhere else, only the Community Centre which is very expensive to hire.

- Not everyone has the option to visit a Library that is 5 miles away from their village. The library is the hub of the village and provides information, help and often somewhere to meet other villagers.
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- Not everyone is able to reach Daventry library. As a pensioner I would find it difficult to do so. Reading is a very important part of my life and so this would have a detrimental effect on my life. The same applies to a large number of more vulnerable members of the community.
- Needs to be funded by NCC
- We visit library on the way home from school because it is close and convenient. Closing it will mean that we need to spend extra money on travelling to Daventry assuming we can afford the time and £.
- Libraries are an important service within the community. It is sad that because the county council were incompetent in the management of their budget that the whole community now has to suffer the consequences of their action.
- Not everyone is able to travel to Daventry. There is a lack of local regular public transport. Public transport is expensive and unreliable. Not everyone has means to a car ownership or use of a car. Some people are unable to drive for health reasons.
- It would be better for these services to be controlled by the council and invested in for the future. They are facilities that build up the community and bring people together. They support and guide all people in society particularly the old young and vulnerable. They should be invested in to serve the community more widely bringing people together to build up relationships and our society. One he library is run by the community it is put under pressure individually and is there fore weaker. It is short sighted to loose control of such valuable assets in our community.
- I feel that not allowing the library to become community managed, will prevent a lot of people in Long Buckby from accessing any library facilities. Not everyone has regular access to transportation & will be unable to use other libraries in the surrounding areas. Especially the elderly who use the library as a way of socialising & stay active, with out this service they could be come house bound. The library is important in educating young children, not to mention getting them out of the house so they can have fun with their friends. Or they will grow up dependent on computer games, electronics & having no human interaction.
- Long Buckby library offers so much more than just books. It inspires children to read through programs they do and the staff that work there are incredible role models and so helpful. It offers many groups for parents to take their children along to and meet other parents and the children get to socialise and learn. How will parents from Long Buckby get to Daventry to take part in there groups how would Daventry cope if every person that goes to the library groups in Buckby turn up in Daventry? What about parents that don’t drive and can’t afford the bus fare they now can’t attend. It is isolating people! It is not good enough saying there is a library in Daventry. Long Buckby is becoming a town itself with the amount of new houses being built the council should be giving more facilities not taking them away.
- Many people myself included wouldn’t travel to Daventry to use the library. It is part of our community
• It is a vital resource for a community, with a physical identity, not an online service. It provides mental well being to have a focus point in the community, for a full range of ages. Closure of such a resource to cut costs is short term solution, and will result in long term damage to communities and individuals at a far greater cost, both in terms of social interaction, mental well being and the obvious academic reasons.

• Concerns about lack of support from the parish council, no involvement from them in this unlike Moulton or Woodford Halse. Who would own the building and be responsible for the maintenance of it? The lack of maintenance is already clearly visible with broken wall and peeling paint.

• Public transport to Daventry is currently withdrawn so using Daventry library as an alternative is not viable for many users in Long Buckby.

• The village is an ever growing village and the library is a centre for everyone, young, old, lonely people and is a necessity for our village!

• I appreciate that Daventry is only 5 miles away. However, unless you have a car it’s not easily accessible. Bus services have also been affected by the council cuts leaving it difficult for people in the village to get to and from Daventry. As a mum to young kids, it’s a massive help to only have to walk down the road to attend the many activities at the library. Not only is it great for the kids, but as a mum it helps massively in feeling less isolated and meeting other parents in the village. I would not travel to Daventry to access these activities. If it does move to a community based library the proposed section 106 money is nowhere near enough to get it off the ground. Where will the remainder of the funds come from? Will the council allow use of the library software etc?

• I am presuming that the provision mentioned within 5 miles is the Daventry library. As the bus service has now been drastically reduced from Long Buckby to Daventry this 'needs assessment' requires re-defining. Who wants/can go into Daventry on a bus at the beginning of the day and stay there until a bus returns mid afternoon (this service is for working people not all residents and greatly impacts on anyone wanting to use library facilities)

• There maybe another library within a 5 mile distance but the bus service between Long Buckby and Daventry has been severely reduced. The library is the heart of the village especially needed by lonely people just to go and read the newspaper have a coffee and meet with other like themselves.

• Communal tax should fund community services including libraries not pensions etc

• It is all very well to be within 5 miles of Daventry, but the buses no longer run during the day, so many people can't get there.

• I have concerns that the village might not be able to financially support the library.

• It has been written that there is a library approximately 5 miles away which could be utilised instead. The bus service has recently been cut and you would be forced to spend all day in Daventry as there are at the moment no buses back to Long Buckby in the middle of the day. If you do not have your own transport it is irrelevant that the library is only 5 miles away! This library is a thriving hub and a place where both
elderly and young people with children meet on a regular basis. Daventry would not have that ‘community’ feel to it.

- **Community usage**

  - Having a local library in Long Buckby provides a focus for community activities and a building where residents can go without having to have an appointment or join a class (as they would do at the community centre). The reduction in local bus services means that people without access to private transport will find it difficult/impossible to travel to Daventry during most of the daytime and so that social outlet will be curtailed for many people. The library can provide a valuable social service as a meeting point and if we can continue to run it as a library then it will encourage people to take up/continue the habits of reading and learning.

  - Long Buckby library has a great community feel to it and is used by a great cross section of society. I personally have used this library for many years and take my children there regularly. Although we have Daventry and Rugby close by (living in crick), I do not feel they offer personal a service to me and my family as Long Buckby, which is also easier to get to. With so many other services ceasing to operate in a rural setting, it is sad that the local government feel it necessary to take away yet another service from the rural community. The villages have suffered greatly in recent years and I think it would be a travesty if yet another local community amenity is closed.

  - Groups using the library and the wider community the size of Long Buckby cannot to be expected to travel to a location outside the village when there is clearly a need for the services which it provides INSIDE the community.

  - We need a library, it is the Hub of our village for many people.

  - I live in Ravensthorpe which is about 3 miles from the library and about 7+ miles from Daventry. Reduction in the level of service provided at Long Buckby could not readily be provided for residents of Ravensthorpe at Daventry which is too far away, and would fail to provide the community aspect that is so important for rural living.

  - The library is a central service for the community serving a large and growing population. It is used especially by older residents and with the withdrawal of public transport to Daventry it will be needed even more in the future.

  - do not have means to get to Daventry library

  - The village has a growing population that needs the library facility to be available for use by the villagers.. The library is situated centrally within the village and is a focal point for all to use. To remove this facility from NCC responsibility is not a good proposal in my view, as it is then left entirely to volunteers to run the Library.

  - The nearest NCC library, Daventry is not accessible to me by public transport, whereas Long Buckby is.

  - given the option of NO library or a COMMUNITY library, a community library is preferential, however in the long term I envisage any community library typically "renting" the building from a private landlord will inevitably be priced out of the
building and will close, whilst the developer/landlord will then profit from the site of building to the detriment of the local community.

- We have recently lost the bus service to Daventry, this means the elderly cannot get to town and visit the Daventry library while there, which means if the Long Buckby library were to close then where would they go or anyone else for that matter.

- The bus service to Daventry has been discontinued and therefore Long Buckby residents do not have easy access to a library within 5 miles.'

- Whilst I want the library to remain open I find it unacceptable that you want people to travel 5 miles to a council run library when the bus service is at risk of being cut to the town that library is housed in. A lot of elderly people use our library and it’s their only outlet for seeing people. I think you can only include the 5 mile decision when people can get there by public transport.

- Not ideal but better than closure.

- It is hard to assess how good a solution the proposals are at this stage. I would obviously, prefer Long Buckby library to remain under NCC ownership and management as it has worked very well for the whole of the time I have lived in the village and I’ve counted myself very fortunate to have such a wonderful facility so close to home. But rather than close the library, as was proposed at one stage, keeping it open as a community run facility makes good sense, but will involve a lot of volunteers and hard work to ensure it’s success in the future.

- It should continue to be run via Northants CC because Long Buckby is now being isolated regarding transport to other towns.

- It should remain funded by NCC, however if this is not possible it should be community managed, while helped/funded by NCC.

- Long Buckby library is a vital educational, cultural and social hub in the area. Not to fund it because of the five-mile rule (i.e. five miles from Daventry) is ludicrous, given how the village has grown by over 25% in the last two years. The Borough Council (or its replacement) should fund the library so that it can continue to provide a first-class service. The voluntary group planning to establish a community library and hub is admirable, but it involves a huge financial and skills investment - and huge risk. If this latter is the only option, then there needs to be more transparency about the support that could be provided.

- The Long Buckby library should be fully supported by NCC. There is no bus service to Daventry to access the library there. There is a lot of use of the library by children. The

- Not good solution for people with no transport as the bus service from Long Buckby to Daventry has been severely reduced resulting in difficulty in using the library at Daventry.

- A county council is required to run a library service. The village is 5 miles from Daventry and the library there will be remaining open (albeit in a new smaller location), but the bus service from Long Buckby to Daventry has just been cut, so getting into and back from Daventry library is difficult for the elderly or non car.
drivers. To keep a library service available to all, we need to keep the service going within the village. If the Buckby library remains open but run by volunteers, it will be difficult to keep the level of commitment to open the library for the number of hours we enjoy at present.

- obviously a good solution would be that Long Buckby Library stays under N.C.C. control and funding for staff etc. However if the only option is to run it on a community basis with volunteers with the proposed grant, which I think is only for 5 years before a review, then that is better than the library closing altogether. The villages around here have very poor or no existing bus service, so there is quite a long walk or cycle involved or a lift has to be organised. Therefore the nearer a public library the better.

- Local libraries should be local

- I would prefer that LB Library remain as part of NCC statutory provision as, although Daventry Library is only 5 miles away, cuts to local bus services mean that it may as well be 50 miles away. However, given that it seems inevitable, the community managed option is acceptable, but I feel that funding will be an on-going problem.

- I do not understand what the proposal is.

- I would prefer the library to remain part of NCC statutory provision but if this is the only way to maintain the service then obviously this is what must happen.

- NCC should maintain the library because transport to Daventry is sparse.

- Is the money to invest in community controlled library? Is this asking about using the library in this form. This is an unclear question. If we can’t have a county controlled library than this is the best option

- It’s such a useful resource in the village I don’t understand if it will still be available under this proposed solution

- I do not understand the wording of the above. I am opposed to Long Buckby Library closing. I currently manage to get there once a month under its current opening hours, previously I would take my children every week. I want Long Buckby library to remain open under whatever means necessary.

- It’s not clear if the £39900 Would still be invested if it becomes a community library or not

- I’m not sure

- ?

- All I want to say is that Long Buckby library is wonderful. It is well stocked and does all sorts of things for the locals. Without it we would loose so much. For anyone new to the village the library is the best place to meet new friends etc. We have walks from there with different levels so anyone can come to the one that suits them best. The films they put on are always packed and every ticket is sold. Yes there is a library in Daventry but many of the users are older people who do not have cars and find bus travel hard work. they rely on the library. The main thing is that is stays open.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 76 responses to this question

- A place to meet and communicate with others in a warm environment with a hot drink and company.
- As 7.
- It denies the ordinary man in the street access to a statutory provision
- The negative impact on the community would be big and hits more than people who just want to borrow a book. A range of people use the services the library offers, some of whom have limited access to transport, are elderly or suffer from mental health issues and who use the library as a place to access IT, get help with forms, or simply just want a welcoming, calm place to go. I think that rather than washing their hands of their duties to the public in the provision of library services, the council should help to manage community-run libraries (if that is the only option open to keep some libraries open) in the long-term. This could be done by appointing an officer to help run business, legal or financial related matters involved in running a library. As running a library is more than sitting on a front desk, signing out a book, or holding a rhyme-time session.
- Keep the library open.
- See above.
- Central govern ent funding. The "5 mile rule" should not be applied as there is no public transport available to ferry library customers to Daventry
- Already covered in the previous box
- Ensure that a bus service between long Buckby and Daventry is reinstated so local residents can access both libraries
- See above
- I think that some county money should be invested in maintaining the library service over the longer term.
- Relying on a small community for volunteers could mean limited opening times which may reduce use. Suggestion: value the community/ societal benefit of the library to the community. Pay staff to manage and PROMOTE the library services. Initial proposed funding for community managed library is small and short term. Ensure there is adequate funding to give enough time to build a viable service. Removing investment in the community will further cause resentment of NCC and damage relations. Putting at risk one of the core services from the community will hit community spirit. If library is unsustainable and closes, will cause increased need for car use to access statutory provision at Daventry. Increasing traffic, pollution, reducing physical activity, reducing access to lib services for people without transport.
Please see above. Should the Volunteer Library Group fail to fund the ongoing costs of running and maintaining the building, the library and all that it offers our community will be lost forever. Not necessarily the fault of the group as it will be hard to win grant funding when so many other libraries are in the same boat. Our village is growing in size with significant new build yet the services offered are shrinking and disappearing - bank, post office, newsagents, bus service to Daventry - all opportunities for social interaction for the elderly and vulnerable. The Library is the only socially inclusive space we have and now it is more important than ever. The nearest library - Daventry- is shortly to relocate to significantly smaller premises. If the families that currently use the under 5's services were to travel to the new Daventry library it is doubtful that there would be space to accommodate them.

Would be difficult to fund the purchase of the library building, plus running costs, even with volunteers.

Potential for reduced opening hours and facilities due to dependency on non-employees. This could be through lack of commitment on behalf of some volunteers, or through lack of access to information due to data protection concerns, etc. This could be mitigated by good training of volunteers, and a strong volunteer recruitment campaign by the council.

My main concern is that whilst initially there will be the enthusiasm to run the library as a community hub, it may be difficult to maintain the level of commitment and enthusiasm as time goes on. Most of the volunteer groups within the area have great difficulty in attracting people with the time to carry out helping on a regular and sustained basis. There are also the considerable financial costs that again may be difficult to fund in future years.

It will remain a high-risk option as there are no guarantees that either premises will be provided or the operating costs can be met. Public funds paid for the original library building so it is pretty offensive that the community is being asked essentially to pay for it a second time.

See above about the negative impact and possibilities. NCC should accept responsibility for keeping a library in Long Buckby in the long term.

The library is the heart of the village, removing it would leave a hole, not just in Long Buckby but also the surrounding villages of East Haddon, West Haddon, Guilsborough and Ravensthorpe. We no longer have a post office - this will be a further blow to village life making it harder for those who are not mobile to support their lifestyles. The only way to mitigate this is to keep the library open (more often!!) and support it with council funding.

I feel it is the council's position to provide these resources. Not the community.

As above - many young people without easily accessible facilities - the village is growing and therefore there are more people requiring these services. It is a focal part of the village and this, although could be used potentially for something else, it would be a shame to see the space used for housing or similar!

ditto above.
The negative aspect is that it will not be there to provide a service and therefore create a void for the village.

As above the closure of the library would have a negative impact on the village. A means of continuing to run the library is needed perhaps with the continuing support of volunteers. Perhaps the finance could be used that would be used by building a cinema in Daventry - a project that is likely to be a continuing drain on the county’s finances. Is the council not aware that current cinemas are struggling to survive?

Mothers would lose a place to take younger children for learning play. The elderly would lose a place of refuge and to go to meet others for a chat.

Long Buckby is a growing village, and this facility would have a negative impact. Young people need access to books, old people do not like using the internet, keep it open.

It is an important part of the local community and many families in surrounding villages rely on it, e.g. Those in West Haddon, East Haddon, Guilsborough, Hollowell, Crick. I know some children who will no longer be able to access library books if LB library closes; their parents will not feel visiting Daventry to be worth it since they don't go there anyway.

If the Parish Council votes against buying the building then some other solution must be found.

It's only a good solution if it can remain open 3 times a week.

I think the negative side is that - presumably - once the S106 funding is used up, NCC will essentially wash it's hands of any responsibility and leave an important community and educational assets vulnerable once again. Adequate and consistent funding would be the obvious solution.

The library is a community hub, a place for the community to meet and access information and resources. It has many uses rather than the traditional view of book loans.

One of the reasons for reducing this service in Long Buckby was because there was a library within 5 miles, however the Bus service has now reduced to a minimal service due to the County Council mismanagement of their funds over the last 10 years - which now means its inaccessible for most people - so it will be a double whammy - no library and no access to the "nearest" library.

The library will be in danger of closure in the future if it does not have the power of the council behind it. The council should still retain control because you can bet in the future it will be looking for community hubs to support fragmenting communities. The council should still invest money and retain some responsibility for the library to safe guard it for the future.

Keeping the library open even it is open less days like it currently is. Vulnerable groups of people such as new parents, old people and disabled people use the services and groups the library provides. KEEP IT OPEN!!!
- Long Buckby library was a lifeline when I was on maternity leave with my son and allowed us to interact with other parents with children of similar age - suffering from [condition] I believe I would have been in a worse position if I could not access these services.
- I am concerned that the village receives adequate support from the council to manage this change and that they have the funds and capabilities to continue.
- I think some folk on the parish council would have a grumble. I would mitigate this by no longer voting for them.
- The negative to closing the library is simply; you slowly start to destroy Long Buckby as a community. (Although with the buses fiasco, this has already started)
- Although the library is not always busy, it is essential for the community it remains open as it is a hub for many groups, as a parent with pre school children these have been used and I pleased these have helped with getting by children into stories and paper books.
- As above. The negative impact could be mitigated by not closing the library, and looking at whole life costs to a community rather than short term cost cutting measures.
- Group of volunteers would be left to manage a large building in need of work, without support of parish council who can raise the money to help upkeep it. Solution, parish responsibility not just community group. Or group able to make decisions about future of the building, for instance sell for building and relocate to the community centre for instance
- It just wouldn’t have a negative impact at all.
- Long Buckby is a growing village. Residents, young, old and in between deserve equality of access to cultural and community opportunities. Savings can be made elsewhere that would not impact so much on quality of life.
- The village is an ever growing village and the library is a centre for everyone, young, old, lonely people and is a necessity for our village! It also offers a lifeline for people!
- I have explained this a little in my previous answer. The village library is more than about books. So many groups use the facility and it helps to foster a community spirit. It is centrally located and very easily accessible. Forcing residents out of the village to another town is not going to work at all. I think the council needs to up it’s support of the community and funding options available.
- I would much rather the cuts to this service were not made and, instead, the council sought other ways. But as they are going ahead regardless their shortsightedness needs to be redressed. One it is gone we will never get it back!
- As long as the Library is able to stay open as a central community hub, I dont think there are many negative aspects. Shortened opening hours may be an issue but we already have these in place now, so I cant see the situation being made any worse by this proposal.
• The ability of the library to provide a full service and information would be reduced by the use of volunteers. There should be additional use of the library as a local services information hub e.g. citizens advice, housing, benefits support.
• If you abdicate your responsibility in favour of volunteers the result is unlikely to be sustainable beyond the first few years.
• Less opening hours are a definite possibility as enthusiasm for volunteering dwindles over time. Also volunteers do not have the commitment to turn up on a regular basis as many are retired with lots of outside interests, caring commitments and holidays to keep them busy.
• I wonder how volunteers will provide such a comprehensive and varied service. How are new stocks to be made available or equipment to be updated? What professional support and training might volunteers have?
• Long Buckby Library might well be within 5 miles of a library that is staying under NCC control but we now don’t have good public transport links as the buses have been cut so if Long Buckby was to close villagers would not be able to access another library unless they had their own transport.
• Well it would obviously be better for NCC funding to continue!
• Withdrawing NCC support and funding will have a negative financial impact on the library but as an alternative to closing the library the proposal is a suitable alternative to which will help NCC deliver their statutory obligations.
• See above. Opening the library on a partially voluntary basis would be acceptable. We should not have to lose this valuable asset just to help out the debts of the county council. With proper help and assistance this library would thrive. However I reiterate using the Daventry library as a major reason for closure is not acceptable for non drivers.
• If we can continue to have a local library then there is more chance that children can be introduced into the reading/learning habit, something which will potentially stay with them throughout their lives. Whilst social media is very popular and easily accessible it is important for young (and older) minds to get a more rounded view by having access to other sources of information, such as may be found in libraries. Not everyone can afford a computer or indeed wants to get their information over the internet.
• I moved to Long Buckby [number] years ago & have settled in well. I have found the library a very important place to meet other residents as well as being an invaluable source of information & reading material. I am disabled & unable to drive a car therefore a bus is the only feasible way to get to Daventry. However NCC have, in their wisdom, recently cut the Long Buckby to Daventry bus service to such an extent that I would have to catch the 9-30am (latest am service) & return at 15-50pm (earliest pm service. We are constantly encouraged to use our libraries & public transport & yet NCC appear to take an opposite position.
• I feel most strongly that the impact of the removal of Long Buckby library would be a negative one.
• 5 miles is a long way if you don’t drive and have to rely on a bus service
• Loss of library service in our community which is within walking distance for residents of this large village, will penalise those without cars who cannot get to Daventry.
• Lots of local parents and elderly would have to travel slightly further to use another service and would lose such a personal service that Long Buckby library brings. Also, as Long Buckby is a large village, not all of the elderly have the means to travel to the other library locations and would therefore lose a much loved community amenity and resource.
• Many groups who use the library - from the very young toddler and baby groups who meet there for reading sessions - to the elderly groups like 'Knit and Natter' would not have a viable central location to meet. Other events currently held at the library like film nights, concerts - even Parish Council meetings - would have to find another venue not in the centre of the village - and probably at a cost.
• Groups will have no suitable place to meet.
• X
• It is important to still provide support to Long Buckby Library when it is community run. It is also important not to suddenly close the service, but to gradually move it over. This will ensure that vulnerable groups such as disabled people are still supported
• Young people unable to access a local library would rely more on electronic entertainment and the love for books would be lost.
• See above
• This proposal has not been advertised widely outside Long Buckby, similarly this consultation.
• ?
• We are 5 miles from Daventry but have virtually no bus service to Daventry to access their library
• How much would the volunteers be supported by those who completely understand the full running and maintaining of a library service? The support would need to be adequate.
• negative impact
• I think a library needs professional input, a proper learning resource needs librarians other professional, trained staff. It is also necessary to have qualified staff to perform functions that need access to Northamptonshire computer services for things such as bus passes etc. I am concerned that over time it would become more difficult to run on a volunteer basis, and the quality of the provision would wane without sufficient professional input.
• The proposed option will only operate through the efforts of the village volunteers, which is a good thing but puts the onus on them to maintain this facility that should be provided by NCC. Impacts are a loss to the villagers, including young children who
need to be able to access such a facility for learning or attending social occasions. Could there not be a shared commitment between NCC and the village volunteers,

- Long Buckby library provides space for meetings etc. Travelling to Daventry for these services is not practicable for many people (mothers with small children, the elderly).
- given the option of NO library or a COMMUNITY library, a community library is preferential, however in the long term I envisage any community library typically "renting" the building from a private landlord will inevitably be priced out of the building and will close, whilst the developer/landlord will then profit from the site of building to the detriment of the local community. To mitigate this in the event of a community library option, ownership of the building and all associated costs should remain with the council, even if the operation and responsibility of the library is with the community library group.
- There would be no negative impact.
- No negative impact whatsoever.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Long Buckby Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 61 responses to this question

- In light of the Council Tax going up by 5% surely we should have some money towards the running of the library.
- Take back the running of Long Buckby Library into NCC statutory provision
- Stop spending money on consultants and support local services.
- I think the solution offered is the best in the circumstances but it will only work if some consideration is given to the financing of the scheme. For example who will pay for the use of the building?
- Remains a fully managed and funded Northants CC library
- I believe that the Long Buckby library should continue to be provided as a statutory service.
- Some funding available from the county would be helpful to maintain the longer term viability.
- Before such drastic action that puts so much provision at risk, work with libraries to ensure library services are focused on providing excellent customer service, efficient use of resources and are promoted to show what they offer and how they can benefit target groups. It's not enough to assume everyone who wants to use a library will come. Many people don't realise the services they offer or haven't been encouraged to use them. Reach people where they are, often online and social media, promote, encourage, welcome.
- Inclusion in the statutory service.
- Would help if NCC would fund the purchase of the library building.
• Ensure that the building is available to the village as an amenity for the people in the longer term, and does not become available as 'development land'.

• I am sure that sufficient volunteers can be found to man the library at no cost, but the Council should ensure that sufficient funds are available to maintain the facility (ie heating, lighting, maintenance etc) without additional charge to residents.

• Treat Long Buckby Library as a major service to the village.

• Bearing in mind that the library building was built with public funds, NCC should consider handing the building over to the local community for community use in perpetuity.

• I would like to still see some support from trained library staff as well as volunteers.

• Maintaining the Library as a NCC Library would be ideal but as this is not likely to happen this is the next best option.

• Am I employed at the council? Is it my job to do this?

• The obvious solution is for the villagers to man the library themselves by whichever means they can.

• Solutions as in previous statement

• Part time opening

• Let long buckby residents run the library

• Keep it open, do not close it. Keep it under NCC

• It should be funded by the council.

• If at the end of the day if the County Council no longer wants the responsibility due to their incompetence I hope our village Parish Council will consider supporting the voluntary process. I will be encouraging them to do so.

• Keep it open. I appreciate fund are stretched or non-existent due to long term incompetence and mismanagement by NCC but losing libraries is a huge blow to the educational resources offered to children especially.

• The public pay taxes, they should be entitled to have a say in what their taxes are spent on, they do not always agree with the council spend.

• Carry out your statutory duty and preserve the local libraries

• The issue has arisen re travelling to Daventry. The bus service has been restricted. The library has become more important to save. Does the library therefore not constitute a necessity rather than a voluntary option alone?

• Keep it open!

• Do not remove it from the list of statutory provisioned libraries. Yes, there is another library within 5 miles of Long Buckby, but the public transport from LB to Daventry is threatened with cessation regularly, and many cannot or could not get there. In addition to this, many people from other villages come to use long Buckby library, and the Daventry library is far more than 5 miles from them!

• If this is actually going to happen, you should issue a vote of no confidence in the Parish Council and allow for new elections and re-elections to take place for all positions, with three nominees being selected to coordinate the running of the
library (with one of those positions being the vice chairman) This is a big decision and it will require the full support of the Parish Council, [redacted comment].

- Keep the library open.
- I don’t think there is an alternative.
- Long Buckby library should continue as part of NCC.
- Don’t make these cuts. Lobby government to reverse austerity. Spend money more wisely. Punish those who mismanaged the accounts (if I committed fraud money would be taken from me)
- None - I think the current proposal is a good workable solution.
- The alternative solution, of retaining the Library under County Council control does not appear to be a viable way of keeping the library open, therefore community management will be the best option.
- Unify village schools on junior site. Move library to infants school with land used for additional parking and sell current library building for development to endow continuing l.a. Operation.
- Open a franchised coffee shop within the library to bring in finance and people. Make the library hub one of the places to receive deliveries for large organisations such as Amazon etc. to earn more income.
- I am at a loss to understand how we can have arrived at such a position. What is our council tax spent on? I have no ideas but am dismayed at the decision that libraries are expendable, especially one do well used by the village.
- As above, a better solution would be the continuation of NCC funding. However since that is highly unlikely, a community-run library is the best way forward.
- I would like to see NCC recover from their mismanagement of finances and take back the libraries when they are able.
- See below
- It looks likely that the parish council will offer to lease the building from NCC, and in turn allow a charitable group to have day to day management of the library. I do wonder how the running costs will be raised and whether there is a long term future for our library.
- Obviously that the library continues as before, under the N.C.C.
- It would be great if Northamptonshire could let the parish council purchase the library building at a reduced or nominal rate in recognition of the amazing work and effect the library has on the Long Buckby community.
- Running it ourselves as a community resource and meeting point is preferable to complete closure.
- I believe the Section 106 money should be invested into keeping this library open and the community library consortium allowed the opportunity to manage it on behalf of the people of Long Buckby and wider community. Too often, the S106 money is not utilised effectively or for the correct benefit of the people it is aimed at. Long Buckby has had significant S106 money in recent years due to various development and
housing expansion. As this money is earmarked for this purpose, then irrespective of NCC's current financial problems, this money should be used for this purpose, to allow a much loved and used facility to remain open.

- Allow local group to purchase/rent/operate the library as a community hub. Allow Parish Council to invest in the community.
- Allow the Community to buy or rent the building and run it themselves.
- We would like to hope that when the NCC become financially stable they will help the LB Library with financial help and support. We do not feel that NCC should just 'wash their hands' of the library.
- I don't think there is an alternative, as the NCC is cash strapped and has decided to only retain statutory libraries.
- NONE - do not close this library
- Very difficult in the present financial position in Northants but a better deal from central government
- 1 - LB Parish Council to rent or let library building 2 - Or purchase building and let community run it 3 - Let community buy it (building) as a co-operative concern and run it ourselves
- Long-term support for the volunteers and some long-term funding to help maintain the library building.
- IF the buses were reliable it would be fine - but they are not.
- Keep the library properly run by the NCC and professional staff. Raise more taxes to pay for this very important cultural, community provision.
- Consider maintaining the service as it is at the moment. The solution on offer devalues the service. Given that Long Buckby is rapidly expanding with new housing then there is going to be even more need to maintain the library especially as there are going to be more families with children moving into the area. The proposals seem to be a very short term solution.
- Meeting place for DDC representatives for information sharing
- I have no alternative suggestion.
- There is no alternative to a local library and its related resources.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Long Buckby Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 49 responses to this question

- This would allow other villages to N, E & W of Long Buckby to be served by a statutory library
- The library is at the heart of the community and provides an incredibly valuable learning resource. The availability of books is especially valuable to vulnerable members of the community such as children and elderly people. The reading
schemes and books help to encourage children to engage with learning which will improve their life chances

- Don't take away such an important service for short term financial reasons. It MUCH more important than that. And once it's gone, it'll be very expensive to recover.
- The Long Buckby library is an important integral part of the local community. As well as library services, it provides community support to the elderly, young parents, and other vulnerable groups.
- The question which asked "How do we use the library" missed out one very important function. A number of groups use it as a meeting facility; for example organised "Health Walks" (supported by Daventry District Council) originate from the library and return there for coffee after the walk. There are a number of other groups that also use the library as a community hub.
- The NCC and subsequently the Unitary Authority, but most of all the National Government should not wash their hands of responsibility for our libraries which contribute so much to supporting the community and maintain the quality of life of families, single people and vulnerable people.
- If the library isn't to remain as part of the NCC statutory library provision then the community running it would be the best option. Just because it is within 5 miles of another library is irrelevant. My [family member], who has [condition] and uses this library, cannot drive and is therefore unable to easily get to Daventry (despite it not being far), especially now that the D4 bus service from Long Buckby to Daventry has been removed. I doubt very much [they] would spend possibly up to an hour travelling to Daventry using the bus service via Northampton (and at some point she will be unable to anyway), or paying around £15 each way for a taxi. I'm sure there are many others in Long Buckby in a similar situation. NCC seem to forget that not everyone can just drive to the next town if a facility is cut, or has people who can drive them.
- It is a shame that the commitment shown by library volunteers and hub group has not been matched by that of the Parish and District Councils despite numerous efforts to engage them. They have been utterly supine - in marked contrast with local government other parts of the county where libraries have been threatened with closure.
- We need the Parish Council to purchase the building for community use.
- I think the parish council should buy the current building to support the library.
- Although I no longer use the library myself, I used to take my children there for books when they were small. My [age] year old mother-in-law spent many hours a week there until recently when she has not been well enough to visit.
- With our bus service being discontinued, it will be difficult if not impossible for some residents to get to Daventry Library.
- Basically, that closing libraries is rubbish. I get it, if the facility is unused but Long Buckby library is well attended and staffed with really excellent people. As a local
parent, I will miss them, and it, greatly and feel very sad for children who won’t get to use this marvellous facility.

- Allow this space to be used by community groups
- The parish council should be encouraged to take a role in trying to save our library rather then their currant stance of not getting involved!
- Libraries are not a part of nostalgia, they serve a purpose.
- They are more vital in small villages, towns and cities have plenty of public spaces where people can attend, villages are restricted with buildings that are accessible to the whole of a community, a safe place where people can meet and socialise, and learn, and get access to information. Not everyone can afford use of a computer, and most of the public services are managed online. The elderly are not IT literate and can therefore be deprived to access these services due their lack of computer skills.
- Long Buckbys library means a lot to the community. My kids went to rythme timeeet when tiny. Now still going there for reading books borrowing or cds to borrow or buy present s.
- Book supply- needs to be supported ( paid for) by the Council. The council tax will probably be raised above normal levels which the local population do not deserve and some investment should be made to local services - not just adult social care.
- Keep it OPEN
- As the bus services have been drastically cut to Daventry I do wonder if the Daventry library is really a viable option for the service users of Long Buckby library? The village is growing rapidly and it cannot be assumed that everyone can reach Daventry library that needs to. The most vulnerable members of our village should have a right to accessible library services and Daventry library is not the solution.
- The closure of Long Buckby library would be an absolute travesty.
- I think the dedication of the Long Buckby Library group and volunteers speaks for itself. We are a very lucky village to have such selfless and dedicated people willing to keep these services running for the good of the village.
- No
- Communities depend on these buildings and services. Taking them rips the heart from villages/districts and is utterly shortsighted.
- Long Buckby library has always been a valued learning hub in our community for young and old alike. Although other towns around us have libraries which stay open and are funded still, there are many people who cannot travel to these but who are able to reach one within our immediate area. To many the library offers an incredibly valued service which should continue to run.
- None
- We have seen the erosion of community assets even though Long Buckby is a growing and thriving village. The post office has closed, but will now re-open and will be welcomed by the village community. We do not want the Library to close; it is a
vital community meeting place, events venue, and source of information and community support.

- Only that if the library becomes a community asset I would volunteer my help if required.
- Long Buckby is a growing village and a library is a crucial part of the healthy functioning of village life for all. The current provision for all segments of society, young and old, is very good.
- If you do not have a car and live in Long Buckby you cannot get to the library in Daventry on public transport unless you are willing to spend all day waiting for a return bus. The bus fares are very expensive and so library visits become impossible to the elderly, those with young children and people on low incomes. If a community managed library is the only alternative then I support this.
- Please reconsider complete closure or failing that ensure that bus service is fit for purpose and ensure that all help is given to keep library open in some format. So many clubs and meeting will have nowhere to go.
- The proposal is the only possibility to save the library which is also a community hub. It is a friendly well run space used by many types of people for other services besides books. It is valued by young mothers, the elderly, families, mental health workers and anyone needing to see a friendly face. We are an expanding village and many new residents use the library and its groups to make friends. It makes a huge contribution to the mental and physical health of the visit and to minimising loneliness in a rural location. This will be even more important now there is only a peak time bus service to the other next nearest library. Our library supporters group has a huge swell of support in the village and we need all local councils to assist in providing a building in which our library could be run.
- Long Buckby library is part of the village community.
- With the expansion of housing in Long Buckby progressing apace, it would be very bad planning to close a service such as a library. Yes the Community Centre can be used for events and groups - but there is a cost and many are not central. Other venues offer free space but they involve licensed premises (football and rugby club). Church halls may be options but these are not always suitable. Additionally one must point out that just because books are decreasing in readership, libraries perform a much wider function in society today, bringing different groups (and individuals) with the community together.
- The library is an essential part of the community. It is in a good location and is used as an essential hub.
- We would prefer the NCC to fully continue providing the Library service to the village now and in the future. Why should residents who live in the countryside be penalised through the mismanagement of the NCC and not provide the services that the towns and cities have? We are being treated as second-class citizens.
- I think it is really important to give this library proposal the opportunity to work.
• I have found access to making my views known difficult. The link does not open on my computer. There would be far more people willing to support a Community Library if there was more information and it was easier to give support.
• A library is the hub of a small community giving access to lots of thing some do not have access to.
• Long Buckby also serves a wider community living within a radius of the Long Buckby. Long Buckby is a favourite providing so many different and varied activities for young and old.
• A most essential user friendly facility which should be retained and provided for by both local and central government
• Given the circumstances that exist the proposal seems sensible but ideally I would have preferred the original setup as it worked well and was highly regarded locally.
• We really, really need to continue to have a vibrant library in Long Buckby
• The proposed level of “rent” paid to NCC should be reviewed as the property is already “owned” by the residents as a community facility - it is not not “owned” by NCC!
• Drop off point for parcel delivery services
• There are no buses to Daventry now. This would be difficult for people to get to Daventry. The library is used by many people
• please keep this service in its new form
• I know it has been and is a valuable service for local people and for the quality of life in a developing village. It would be terrible if it was to disappear now.
• I have no other comments. It is crucial that it is a resource that is saved if at all possible. I think the current alternative plan should be supported in every way.
**Middleton Cheney Library**

**Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Middleton Cheney Library?**

There were 47 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency of Attendance</th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>40.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Middleton Cheney library</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Middleton Cheney Library:** Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 47 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>85.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

**Universal Children’s Services** – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.

| | 10 | 21.3% |

**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

| | 2 | 4.3% |

**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

| | 6 | 12.8% |

**Health Services** – to access information and advice on health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

| | 7 | 14.9% |

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

| | 11 | 23.4% |

**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

| | 16 | 34.0% |

I do not currently use library services in Middleton Cheney Library

| | 4 | 8.5% |

TOTAL

| | 47 | |

**About Middleton Cheney Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Middleton Cheney Library will be run by a community group in the current location but will remain part of the countywide statutory provision.

Discussions have taken place with The Supporters of Middleton Cheney Library. This group is well established, runs many activities in the library and is currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

It is proposed that this group takes over the running of the library, with the financial support of the Parish Council. Services will support community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services currently provided in Middleton Cheney Library will continue to be delivered.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

This could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. Accessibility is an issue for Middleton Cheney, being outside of the 5-mile radius from alternative proposed statutory provision.

As Middleton Cheney Library would remain part of the statutory provision, should it become unviable as a community-run library, NCC would seek to find alternative provision to ensure it continued to provide a statutory service.

There is £44,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 45 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 28 responses to this question:

- Access is a serious issue for Middleton Cheney, as our nearest town, Banbury, is in Oxon, who are centralising all services in Oxford.
- I always enjoy a visit to Middleton Cheney Library. It is bright, clean, cheerful and the books are well laid out and easy to find. It is always full of children of all ages. The staff are always smiling and helpful. I enjoy reading the newspaper for a few moments in its friendly atmosphere. It has a very welcoming ambience and lots of activities on offer.
- It is not the perfect solution. This would be to continue with NCC staffing the library but the current volunteers are doing a great job but cannot at present offer the full range of services. This would be a good solution if all services could be offered.
- It is brilliant that the village are able to run the library service as it’s a vital amenity in the village, however I’m angry at the council cutting library provision across the board. They seem to be incompetent in basic budgeting and running services.
- If it enables the library to continue the services it already provides and enables further growth to the range of services, it has to be a good thing. If the opening times are extended I (and many working people) will be able to access the services too.
- This is an opportunity to keep the library open however I feel that it’s sad that we depend so heavily on volunteers.
- I would like to preserve a service and this seems viable as long as the library received some financial support with the upkeep of the building.
- Much better than closure as library well used by self and friends. Volunteers would need adequate support.
- The library support group already established is a great community resource and with proper support should make a good custodian of the service.
- The solution means we keep the library open offering a range of services.
- The only down side would be ensuring a full library service provided not just manned opening.
- So that the library remains accessible to the community.
- At least if our library is run by the parish council n local group we might have a better chance of keeping it going.
- Details in proposal not accurate, e.g. Parish council not agreed to finance - although it would be extremely positive for the library and village if parish council were able to
purchase the site, as it sits with the primary school and preschool and might allow for a more joined up community programme.

- It keeps the Library open and available for various community activities
- Ideally the library would continue to be staffed and funded but as an alternative this system is an acceptable alternative due, largely, to the pool of willing volunteers
- It is obviously better to have some library provision than none but libraries do need professional staff. There is no guarantee that sufficient funding will be available to a community group. I assume NCC will be gifting the building to the community but there is no confirmation of this
- It is impossible to properly comment on this proposal as most of the information you have given is inaccurate. For example, I understand that MC parish council have not offered to fund the library. I understand that the Supporter’s Group have received very little information from NCC and therefore it is impossible for them to say whether they could attempt to take on the library. It is good that you have learnt the error of your previous decisions and now consider that the provision of a library service in Middleton is a statutory requirement but this being the case what possible reason would volunteers have to take on the library (they could still volunteer to improve on the limited statutory service of course)?
- Residents of Middleton Cheney and in other villages in the surrounding area will only be able to access the facilities if volunteers are available to run the library, I feel this by default losing an amenity on which so many rely.
- Currently there is no indication on the cost of the library to the village. Without knowing how much the village has to pay toward the running costs it is very difficult to make an informed decision. Yes we are pleased the library is not to close, but it is incorrect to state the Parish council have stated they will financially support it. They said they would buy the building if they had too, they are not in a position to meet annual running costs. The building is in great disrepair. Where does the village stand if there are large maintenance costs? The building needs to be replace and I would personally prefer to see the 106 money go towards a new building, with reduced running costs rather than to throw good money after bad.
- Obviously I would prefer the Library has stayed as before. However if it is going to stay in the same building I am keen to see it stay open as a community resource. I would also like to see the Library open at weekends. I have personally volunteered to assist with this.
- Significantly less money than previous running costs so reliant on good will of community. Therefore need to allow significant levels of autonomy
- The current mix of NCC staff one day and the rest volunteer led is working well. It allows is the service support needed for book rotation, bus passes, book requests and for the health visitor to attend.
- It is good that this library will remain part of the statutory provision. However, as it is considered part of the statutory provision it should be run and fully funded by the council, not relying on volunteers.
- Whilst it would be better for Northamptonshire to run its own statutory services, the current proposal is probably the best we can hope for. However the library will need some continuing support from NCC and the ownership of the building needs to be secured. The Parish Council have NOT yet guaranteed financial support.

- Depends entirely on the financial relationship between the community group and NCC. The solution would be (5) if the library building were leased on a peppercorn fee and the community attempted to raise ongoing revenue costs. The solution would be (1) if the community not only provided full staffing, but also all repairs and serviced a loan to purchase the building/site. Any process must be mutually supportive and gradual - hence unitary transfer will have to be embraced/overcome as part of the process.

- There is no clear outline of services as nobody on the Council seems to have any clear ideas about the Library

- It is not clear how NCC propose to fulfil its statutory responsibility if a community group takes over day - day running of library & maintenance of buildings.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 15 responses to this question

- Loss of professional library service. NCC could postpone changes to the library service until Unitaries take over. Any cost (if there is one) to do this would be negligible

- See above : 1. In keeping the library as a positive cultural hub at the centre of the community the option is POSITIVE and in line with very recent Government advice on High Streets etc. 2. The NEGATIVE impact of the proposal would be if there were not a carefully phased process of transfer of responsibilities, and especially of financial liabilities borne by the community. Parish Council support MAY be available if supported by a community poll, but is for capital purchase rather than revenue. Likewise Section 106 monies are normally for capital works rather than the repairs that are most likely in this case. 3. A sequence over a years poor decisions and communication have had a NEGATIVE impact on the community and must be avoided in future.

- Please see above.

- No negative impact if all services could be offered.

- Main concern is if the council are not going to fund building maintenance. If the building becomes unusable we loose the library anyway. This is not a long term solution.

- If the supporters group could not raise sufficient funds required for the upkeep of the building, the venture would fail. There would need to be a realistic estimate of financial contribution.
• If community run, there is a danger of failure without financial support for upkeep of building and other expenses.

• Whilst I recognise the financial issue, the continuing support at a political level from the district council and whatever unitary authority replaces it is essential for the survival and development of library services. This is not an excuse for the county to wash its hands of the problem and leave it all to the Parish Council, the statutory responsibility is with the county and remains with them.

• I think the library will need a stronger lead than the supporters group volunteering a paid library assistant to work in the library and maintain paperwork etc also how will new books be acquired?

• I personally do not use the library. But I remember as a child loving going here to borrow books. It’s right next to the school and provides a lot for the pupils of it. It also is a good thing for the elderly. And not long has just had a rebuild and updated. I think it will be a bit of a loss for the community.

• The negative impact could be mitigated by getting the local community involved. I would like to see the Library become a focal hub of the community.

• The potential that volunteers would be able to sustain a statutory service.

• See above. NCC will continue to own building - but responsibility for maintenance would transfer to community group? Can a community group realistically fund maintenance, repair of building each year?

• Sort out building ownership and maintenance. The best use of volunteers, who save NCC loads of money is in manning the library - not sorting out and running a building, fund raising etc.

• Increasing responsibilities could deter volunteers. Later on funding could be withdrawn or reduced.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Middleton Cheney Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 12 responses to this question

• Alternative solutions should be judged at a countywide level not at individual library level

• 1. Accept the very wide and assessed experiences of other UK libraries and recognise that transition to community management requires very clear communication, a phased process and time for communities to insert their library revenue cost requirements into local budgets. Discard the idea that a quick sale will solve any problems and will either be unacceptable to the community, or a massive burden. Do not minimise the disgust expressed in the community re NCC’s recent performance, and the unwelcome likely association with Northampton in a unitary authority. 2. Build on local supporters and volunteers and encourage the development of 'ownership' which will carry with it a growing awareness of responsibilities, especially
financial. Finding a source of finance for remedial repairs etc. would be a positive starting point.

- Increased opening hours.
- The council should put more money in to help as they caused the problems in the first place.
- If the Council can’t commit to maintaining the building long term or rebuilding it, then they agree a sale to the Parish. Then the Parish can try and raise funds for a new energy efficient multipurpose building (e.g. we can put wrap around care in there and more evenings groups). The NCC provide all the equipment to run the library and the volunteers run it.
- A new building with accommodation above would secure the Library/Community services and provide income by selling or letting accommodation.
- As part of statutory provision, library should have a paid visiting librarian at least one session per week.
- See previous comment. Could also link to secondary school for their sixth form work in community's volunteering initiative.
- Keep as a statutory service but increase opening hours and book stock to make more use of the building
- Increase council tax and continue to fund the library.
- Could Parish Council consider purchase of building from NCC & therefore act as responsible landlord to community group.
- NCC manage and maintain the building and physical assets. The supports group run the library with regular input from paid staff to mop up the problems that arise.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Middleton Cheney Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 11 responses to this question

- The reference to Parish Council support in the statement is unclear and may lead to some inappropriate comment. There is no reference to capital or revenue accounting although these matters are, and will be, central to community management. The consultation focuses on the potential community presentation of a service, but is at best unclear, or at worst ignores, the financial issues involved.
- I currently [redacted] activities at this library- a [activity] and an [activity]. I am looking to help set up a [redacted] we have enough interest) [redacted]. I am just a bit concerned that the future of the library is still a nbit nebulous. In order to develop my projects I need to apply for funding and this requires a certain degree of stability
- The volunteers have been brilliant and the people oraganising it need recognising for there input and help.
- The library has huge potential and it’s location next to the Preschool and Primary school is perfect when engaging with the children of the village. The building is
Currently under used and we need to think of ways to bring in revenue to support the library function of the building.

- The library site is do well placed (next to school, pre-school, central between Upper and lower Middleton etc) that the site should be preserved at all costs.
- It is vital to keep this site as a resource for the village in view of its central position in the village and proximity to school, pre-school, shops, pharmacy. This is a popular, fast growing village with immediate access to the motorway and serving other very popular nearby villages for many kinds of social activities.
- The library is a hub for the community, the only contact some vulnerable members of the community get in their day, it is essential this provision remains open.
- Middleton Cheney library is an important community resource and should be kept in some form with support from the council.
- NCC maintain statutory provision, including cost of maintenance of library, community group of volunteers run library, with access to advice/support from NCC staff.
- NCC needs to understand the Parish Council's position which is not as stated in the document.
- The fabric of the building and internal decoration needs attention. Local tradespeople may be able to offer their services free or at a reduced charge?
Moulton Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Moulton Library?

There were 30 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Moulton library</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Moulton Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 29 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>82.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services — to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Services</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Health Services** – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Services</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
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</table>

**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**I do not currently use library services in Moulton Library**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
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**TOTAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
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**About Moulton Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Moulton Library will become a Community Managed Library service in the current library location in the Parish Council owned Community Centre.

Discussions have taken place with Moulton Parish Council and The Friends of Moulton Library. The Friends group is well established and provides many activities in the current library. Volunteers recruited by the Friends and the Parish Council are currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

It is proposed that these groups work together to take over the running of the library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. The newly designed space enables the library to operate under the oversight of the on-site café staff, enabling longer opening hours and accessibility.

It is proposed that Moulton Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Weston Favell.
As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (v) relevant answer

There were 26 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 22 responses to this question

- A library provision is better than none.
- I have confidence that the Friends of Moulton Library and the Parish Council are supporting the library facilities and will continue to do so in the future.
- Under the current circumstances this is a good idea as it will ensure that the library will remain open.
Moulton Library is a vital part of Moulton’s community infrastructure provision and provides a focus for the existing residents of Moulton and the surrounding areas. It was built to support the growth of Northampton North i.e. the building of 3,500 houses adjacent to the library site. Moulton Library is a self serve library and is open as a minimum from 9am -5pm, 7 days per week. It is well established and runs well with help from the Forget me not cafe and Moulton Parish Council who are committed to keeping the library open.

It’s a good solution, in the absence of Council support. But it’s an absolute disgrace that the Council has withdrawn its support - short sighted to say the least. Hopefully, if it’s kept going, a new, better Council will take it back into the fold.

It will enable the library to stay open and all the money spent on a new community centre not go to waste.

Because it would be awful to loose the library. It is an important part of the community providing many services and is a place accessible to all.

Moulton at least stays open and is still connected to the main library service.

Good, as long as MPC has ongoing funds for this to be a long-term solution.

I think there should be proper trained staff.

A library at the hub of the community offering so many different services cannot be run on volunteers alone.

A disgrace that this very new Library with poor facilities and hardly ever open needs reviewing so early. This should have been done when it was located in the old part of Moulton.

The Community Group would not have sufficient resources / funding to manage the day to day maintenance requirements for the building. The Community group would not have the technical expertise to undertake major repair or maintenance works. Should the Community Group cease to exist the Library would close to the detriment of the village and its residents. The Community Group does not have the knowledge and experience to manage a library service. Weston Favell Library is not a suitable alternative for village residents as the elderly and infirm will have restrictions on their ability to get to Weston Favell.

There is a lot of willing volunteers in Moulton at the moment who would be happy to help. However, what happens in 2 years? When volunteering slows down naturally, or when the general upkeep of the building and contents i.e. new books etc. Needs renewing? I am very worried that Moulton library will be abandoned but if under NCC provision the library would continue to operate indefinitely.

If the library is reliant on volunteers, would they have the skills to keep the library updated with members and books. Would they be able to add new members and books. Where would money for new books come from?

Although it is great Moulton Library will stay open run by volunteers I still strongly believe this should be a community service funded by the County Council. Plus it is madness to put so much funding into a new Library/Community building and then...
remove some of the funding. Thank goodness for the volunteers. Reading is so important for all ages but especially so for young children as it is the key to all education.

- In an Ageing population there is a very great need for the social aspect of meeting other human beings, for the need to take books home to pass the very lonely time. There also is a need to be able to get to the library which if the Weston Favell library was the nearest, those of us who find it difficult to travel and/or walk or do not have Kindles, would be cut off from yet another activity which contributes to our mental well being. We also quite like a quiet library with out small children rushing around shouting.

- I am grateful that the friends of Moulton library are happy to take it over but not happy if it becomes unviable you will just let it go. It's a public right and therefore shouldn’t be allowed to close.

- Moulton library is a vital service to the community. With a decreasing bus service, including the cutting of the bus to Weston Favell, our library needs links to all the services an NCC library service provides.

- It’s important to me that the library remains part of the NCC library provision - I have worked and volunteered in libraries and know just how many vital services they provide beyond the books. Being a librarian is a skilled job and a library needs more than volunteers. Weston Favell library is not necessarily an alternative for a lot of people - especially since the bus services have been cut - as they may not be able to get there.

- The consultation information does not make clear how the "solution" compares with what has been available at Moulton Library in the past. In particular, it does not explain whether access to the internet and the various internet sites available at County Council libraries will continue. This is the main reason I visit libraries. There is also no information explaining the implications of the fact that the County Council will soon cease to exist. The drastic shrinkage in library provision will have a major long term impact that will be inherited by the new Unitary Authorities.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 17 responses to this question

- What happens if we can't get enough volunteers?

- As long as the library gets some funding to improve stock and the library can access the books from other NCC libraries then all issues could be overcome.

- This library was moved to its current premises very recently and it is a vital feature of the new Community Centre which was provided at great public expense, including by increasing the Parish Council precept. Having supported this move, the County Council has allowed no time for Moulton Library to develop in its new premises before cutting the staff and threatening closure. When Moulton is increasing its
population dramatically it needs to strengthen, not reduce, its public amenities. Otherwise people will become more socially isolated, children will be less well educated and traffic will increase.

- Volunteers would not initially have the knowledge that the regular paid library staff have, ie information on accessing benefits etc, so this may well impact of the level of service it provides.
- Parish Council, Friends and volunteers do an excellent job within the library and deserve support from NCC. Financial implications of this would be minimal.
- Put some sliding or folding doors to keep the smell of food away from the library section
- moulton Library must remain open
- Not as many services on offer and it won’t feel as much part of the community.
- It proves the Council are not capable of running the library facilities in Northamptonshire They have not moved with the times and are stuck in the past.

Based on my comments above the Council would need to:
- guarantee funding for day to day running costs
- take responsibility for any major structural works
- provide advice & guidance on delivering a library service
- guarantee take over of the library should the community group cease
- offer support in developing funding opportunities

- If you don’t help with the cost and it gets too expensive to run it’s going to close anyway. I pay more in council tax for the loan of the building so don’t really see what extra burden the library really has for NCC
- I cannot articulate how important this library is to Moulton. It has only been in its new location for a short time but is already the main community hub in Moulton. My children use the library 2-3 a week. My daughter is [age] and my son has [condition] who’s obsession is books! They love the quiet space and we all benefit greatly. It would be so damaging to my family alone if we did not have this library let alone to the rest of our community.
- See above. A solution would be to man it largely with volunteers but overseen by a librarian -even if this was mainly remotely- so that the community can still access NCC services.
- I think there would be a negative impact on the village, which has a rapidly increasing population using the library! The library is at the centre of a really vital community hub, bringing the village together. The lack of NCC provision would mean the library couldn’t provide the same level of service, such as links with other libraries in the county and things like Rhymetime for families and young children.
- As above
- I think it is negative as thee will not be one person overall in charge. who will be the main person responsible for the running of the library.
- Would books be bought & restocked regularly will there still be IT system available for renewals & loans? What if this system goes down or needs upgrades - who will
pay for this? Is it possible to carry out inter-library loans if Moulton is no longer part of NCC controlled libraries?

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Moulton Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 14 responses to this question

- Fund through the County Council as before.
- If and when NCC gets back on its feet I would like NCC to take the library back over and employ a full or part time librarian.
- Obtain Section 106 funding from the developers responsible for expanding the local population and use it to help keep the library as part of "statutory provision".
- It should be considered as part of the NCC statutory library provision due to the housing growth on Northampton North. Moulton Library should be offered more services i.e. Childrens Centre and any other appropriate NCC service available.
- This is your job .................employ some people that are capable Why should I offer solutions to this poor service whilst people are employed through my TAX As they have no found solutions get rid of existing management and bring in new
- Keep it Council funded and supported. Simple as that.
- The County council should continue to maintain responsibility and liability for the library and work with the Community Group and Parish Council on the provision of the Service. Day to day operations need to be handed over as and when the Community Group / Parish Council have the knowledge and experience to provide the Service. County Council should provide the budget required for the Service Delivery and Maintenance with the aspirations to reduce funding as and when the Library Service has proven experience of income generation. Failure to support the Community Group will leave the County Council with full responsibility and accountability for the public's health & safety whilst on the site of the Library.
- Continue to run the library from the council, libraries are a vital community aspect and by closing them you are potentially harming vulnerable members of communities.
- Get rid of the Tory council who do not care about the end users of the libraries they are proposing to close and think about the human cost rather than the penny pinching that is going on. A few measly pounds a year saved not paying a part time librarian isn’t going to touch the sides in the money pit the NCC has created
- Taking in to consideration the financial situation of NCC at present, a temporary collusion between NCC and community volunteers would be the ideal at present. Once the council has a new team who manage the finances correctly, it can go back to full NCC provision.
- See previous comments.
- It would be great if the library could remain part of the county council provision in some way, perhaps with a librarian from another nearby library/central library having
overall management even though the day-to-day running would be volunteers. So many people in the village have fought to keep the library open, and deserve a high-quality library service.

- A regular visit from NCC Librarian to ensure systems are up to date.
- Moulton to have links with other local libraries to still share books/resources.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Moulton Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 4 responses to this question

- Could there be a clause which says that when funding is received within the county that a priority would be employing a librarian.
- Local villages should be consulted on the actual costs for running a library service and given the opportunity to fund the service through the council tax process. In Moulton, if all households and businesses paid £1 a week (52 weeks) times 10,000 homes / businesses = £520,000. I do not know the running costs for the library but £520k must cover the majority of the costs.
- I want my council tax that went to the library to go to the parish so they can afford to keep on the service
- Volunteers cannot be relies upon completely to run and organise this library. They can help to fill the gaps but all our libraries need to be given full NCC backing. It is so sad to think my children and the vulnerable people of our communities are paying such a high price for the poor management of others.
Northamptonshire Central Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Northamptonshire Central Library?

There were 39 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar chart showing the frequency of library attendance]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Northampton Central Library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Northamptonshire Central Library: Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 38 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or ebooks, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>86.8%</td>
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Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

### Universal Children’s Services
- to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.

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<td>4</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
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### Learning Services
- to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

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<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
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### Digital Services
- to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

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<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
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### Health Services
- to access information and advice on health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
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</table>

### Information Services
- to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.

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<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
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### Culture Services
- to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

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<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
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### I do not currently use library services in Northamptonshire Central Library

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<td>2</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
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**TOTAL**

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<td>38</td>
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### About Northamptonshire Central Library and its proposed future

No changes are proposed for Northamptonshire Central Library and it is proposed that Northamptonshire Central Library is kept by NCC in its current location.

It is proposed that Northamptonshire Central Library remains under NCC statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue. All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

NCC will look to develop the infrastructure and services offered by this library.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment...
assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 34 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 17 responses to this question

- Because it is right for library users and the county service. It is the flagship of a thinning fleet though.
- It is central and staff do an excellent job in helping with inquiries.
- Like most users I want to see the services continue in the present location.
- For the reasons you said, it’s the main library. A lot of people use it and there’s a great need for all the services it provides. Everybody there does a great job. Much needed.
- Because the town needs this, it a place for safety amongst other reasons
- They are basic services and some areas need improvement. 1st floor hardly gets heated during the winter and cold days. Something needs to be done. Establish another toilet downstairs.
- The major county library and resource must be retained.
- A well resourced and professionally maintained library is essential to the cultural life of Northampton.
- Keeping it open is fine - but the stock of books (especially reference books) is pathetic.
- Glad it is safe for the time being
- Good central location, on many bus routes. Quiet space upstairs to read or work is useful. Has good (for the moment at least) local history collection & facilities for family history research. Wider choice of books than other libraries.
- Glad that the library is safe!
- keep all of them under NCC control
- I have grave concerns over the Local Studies services. Following the redundancy of the Librarian in charge, I find that there is a considerable decline in the level of the service offered. This could be and has been a valuable source of information for local historians (and indeed at a national level). Critically, new material is not being purchased. I formerly worked in Northamptonshire Libraries, and we built up an unrivalled collection of local books, periodicals and other material for over 100 years. I personally have donated a substantial amount of books, postcards and periodical articles. I no longer do so, as I can obtain no assurances that they will remain there, or indeed will actually be placed on the shelves.
- It is good that this Library is being kept open and run by NCC as long as it is still run as a library offering all the loan material, services and events it used to and does not become a “shop” as it appears to be turning into.
- Because I don’t trust the council to do anything properly anymore.
- If the library is still in this situation, then I do not know for how long it will be like this.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 9 responses to this question
- The local studies services need a qualified librarian or historian to make the most of the materials already collected, and there needs to be a policy and funding to ensure that this material is added to by newly published items
- Nothing negative envisaged.
- N/A
- no-one will have responsibility for the on going community run ones
- N/A
- Replenish the stock!
- Have no idea at all.
- Very anxious that this survey has only allowed me to comment on 1 library. I am happy that central library is safe, but worried about many other branch libraries.
• The library service is so much more than being somewhere to borrow books. Staff are incredibly helpful, knowledgeable and seriously underpaid

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Northamptonshire Central Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 7 responses to this question

• There should be an option to do printing without having to pay to open the document at a computer. For example self service machines where you can open your document from and print. The current issue is that where you may just want to click print and not edit anything, you have to pay £1 for a 20min duration just so you can print anything.
• Decentralise some of the services taking place in the library. The cost for using computer for 20 mins is much then most times the computers are underutilised
• NCC need to stop wasting/losing money and spend money on Libraries. They are vital to communities from birth to old age and it is so short sighted to de-value them and turn them into bland revenue obsessed places that no one wants to use.
• It works so leave it alone
• Not known-other than to restore provision of new stock, journals and other material relevant to local history archive.
• Yes, stop giving away FREE electricity! Stoopid!
• Keep the libraries open and make an effort to give residents a reason to visit what is currently a depressing town centre

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Northamptonshire Central Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 7 responses to this question

• it is essential that the toilet facilities are improved at this library, there needs to be accessible toilets and changing facilities on the ground floor.
• Longer opening times. More range of books/ update of book ranges.
• Staff are good and adequately trained but sometimes they have too many services to attend to apart from readers. Too much workload.
• To ensure professional management of the central library.
• Hope that "developing .... the services offered" will include re-instating newspapers & new book-buying as these must have brought in customers.
• I love my library but whoever deemed it sensible to let everyone just come down and plug in their phones/laptops recharging needs head examining
• As above
Oundle Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Oundle Library?

There were 35 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency of Attendance</th>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Oundle library</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
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Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Oundle Library: Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 35 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>77.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
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**Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report**

**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

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<td>3</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
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**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
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**Health Services** – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

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<td>2</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
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**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.

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**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

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<td>13</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
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I do not currently use library services in Oundle Library

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**About Oundle Library and its proposed future**

No changes are proposed for Oundle Library and it is proposed that Oundle Library is kept by NCC in the current location and remains under NCC statutory provision.

A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, with higher than average populations of under 5s, those aged 60 and over and higher social isolation. The library houses a designated children centre. This library is also situated the furthest from any statutory provision, falling outside the 5-mile radius of proposed statutory provision. The nearest statutory library to Oundle would be Corby, 12.2 miles away.

It is recommended that to ensure accessibility in East Northants, Oundle Library is retained as part of the statutory service.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.
A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 33 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

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<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>84.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<td>5</td>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 16 responses to this question

- Villages need resources to minimise isolation. Many villagers do not have the internet
- Need to keep a working library that has access to new books etc. We also need the information service and access to statutory services
- I would affirm the reasons already given for keeping Oundle library with the NCC. The town is growing rapidly and the library provides a centre for facilities and activities for all ages which a community run library would find difficult to match. I cannot give a 5 for the solution on offer as the NCC does not provide newspapers, magazines and books at the moment nor does it say that it will in the future.
- I am pleased that Oundle Library is continuing as it is a much used and vital part of the community.
As it's the only library available within a few miles of my home and does not require the use of a car to get to it then to retain the library is vital.

Oundle Library is a vital part of the Oundle community and the village communities surrounding it. All credit to the staff who managed to transform and adapt it to new uses over the last few years. A major achievement - very well done!

Keeps library facilities available for older people and children

Oundle library is the most northerly library in the county serving a large rural area. Retaining it means the community services it provides for a wide range of people will continue. Losing it would deprive this large area of these services and make it almost impossible for village residents to access them elsewhere.

Oundle library is fab, it's been a lifeline to me whilst on maternity leave and somewhere I will continue to use when I am back at work. I don't own a car so would find it difficult to get to Corby library so please keep it open!

I do think that the library service should be available to everybody and that means local to home. Also access to the wider services as required.

Oundle is a growing community and also provides a service to the surrounding villages. The area needs a library.

Oundle library is necessary to the people of our continually growing town.

All the reasons given above, this library should stay open.

I believe that the need for libraries no longer exist and in a period of financial hardship can be closed and money used for other more pressing priorities.

As the next nearest library would be more than 12 miles away it is essential that it is retained. As East Northamptonshire has just announced a link with Lakeside Healthcare and local voluntary organisations such as Volunteer Action to improve access to the appropriate service and to get a more holistic, joined up service for individuals it would be bizarre to remove one part of the whole. Especially now health, library, council and community services form three sides of the geographic square they are located in.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 4 responses to this question

- Rates will continue to increase and the council will struggle to meet financial targets.
- It is wonderful that the library is safe but it has to remain a pleasant place to visit for all ages. Some soundproofing of the children’s area would help.
- The negative aspect is that the library is bound to library rules on what can and cannot be done. Leeway to be inventive could be an advantage to the local community in that it would be tailored to local needs.
• Why would keeping the library open when it is so frequently used have a negative impact?

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Oundle Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 3 responses to this question
• Oundle Theatre and events group currently has an office in the market square which must cost money in rent etc. May be this office where you can buy tickets etc. should be at the library as this would increase footfall into the library.
• Close the library and provide mobile service.
• Make the unused Sure Start space available to the library which is in need of more space to expand what it offers eg wider variety of books held, more ICT stations, quiet research space.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Oundle Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 5 responses to this question
• I am only suggesting closure because I believe there are more important priorities for the council to spend our money on. Rates are a major financial burden on many people.
• The NCC has stopped providing newspapers, magazines and new books. This has been a loss to many local residents and the library. Does the new NCC arrangement reinstate these essential provisions?
• Need to make them more relevant for the wider community
• The Sure Start centre is very underused. If made available to the library it would be a much more viable and productive space. The provision of new books to the pre NCC collapse level will keep the library vibrant. Reinstatement of newspapers, magazines and periodicals would increase footfall.
• Keep Oundle library open.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

Raunds Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Raunds Library?

There were 79 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Raunds library</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
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Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Raunds Library: Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 80 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
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</table>
**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

| Learning Services | 21 | 26.3% |

**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

| Digital Services | 15 | 18.8% |

**Health Services** – to access information and advice on health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

| Health Services | 9 | 11.3% |

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

| Information Services | 18 | 22.5% |

**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

| Culture Services | 19 | 23.8% |

**I do not currently use library services in Raunds library**

| 6 | 7.5% |

**TOTAL**

| 80 |

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**About Raunds Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Raunds Library will become a Community Managed Library service in the current location.

We are in discussions with Raunds Town Council and the Raunds Community Library Trust about the feasibility of this proposal. The Trust are currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

It is proposed that these groups work together to take over the running of the library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion, including Universal Children’s services.

It is proposed that Raunds Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Rushden.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.
There is £75,000 Section 106 money available to be invested in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 67 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

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<th>Poor solution</th>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 49 responses to this question
• It is to the communities benefit.
- The library space is used for a lot of community activities which currently are not part of the review but should be taken in to account since currently the library is the only premises capable of offering them. It should also be noted that not opening on a Saturday limits those who wish to support the service but work during the week.
- Anything that keeps such a vital service open is important. I use it less now but when my children were under 5 it was an essential part of our week.
- NCC is a failed council our local councilors are of poor quality, who I would never vote for again. So the local group which has started to run this, are local people who are dedicated to providing the service required by the town, also they will expand to suit local needs.
- It is a better solution than no library in Raunds at all. It ensures that vulnerable residents still have access to necessary facilities without having to travel. Even Rushden (which is stated as the closest NCC provision) is inaccessible if you have no money to pay for public transport.
- Because it will ensure that there will still be a library in Raunds for the benefit of the population.
- This solution would be better than having no library facilities at all.
- Raunds Community needs it badly to help maintain the community spirit of Raunds as does the Church! Invaluable to local people and serves the young and aged alike “GOOD TOWN ASSET”.
- It seems that the County Council does not have sufficient funds to maintain a library service in all places. Raunds is a growing town with a mixture of young families and older people - both groups make use of library services and depend on such services. Not to have a library in Raunds would significantly and seriously disadvantage these groups. There is a strong community group, with a team of volunteers, that is ready to take over the day to day running of the library.
- This is the only viable option we are being offered.
- I believe that maintaining a library in Raunds is fundamental to the well being of the town and it's residents.
- At least it has a chance of staying open, in NCC care I can’t see that happening. I do find the reduced very restrictive and so our use of the library has already diminished (working parent with child), really need saturdays to be reinstated.
- Ideally the library would continue to be supported but financially, if this is not viable, a community managed resource is necessary.
- The staff and volunteers at Raunds library do a fantastic job. They are all very welcoming and know what they are doing.
- I think that at least Raunds would retain its library for the community.
- It is a better solution than the library being closed! However I still feel that closing libraries is not a good idea both from an educational and social viewpoint.
- On the basis that anything that keeps the library open is a good thing, we do want to see it closed.
• I feel it is a better solution than the Library being closed. However I still feel that a Library service is essential for the Life of this community. Quoting Thrapston as within 5 miles does not take into account the lack of frequent Public Transport from Raunds to Thrapston.
• the library is well used and would hate to see it go
• It will maintain a basic but vital service to an ever-growing community. The Universal Children's services are invaluable for parents with young children and are the ideal way to instill in children a life-long love and appreciation of books and reading. Raunds needs its own library and travelling to Thrapston instead is not a very welcome option at all.
• Community can decide how to run their library.
• I believe the library is an essential part of the town of Raunds. It is not just a lending library but offers important social roles. It needs to be retained. Even better if it becomes unviable it is taken back under NNC control
• I believe the library is an essential part of the town of Raunds. It offers valuable social roles as well as a lending library. If it becomes unviable it should be taken back under NNC control
• Just as long as our library stays open
• I believe that Raunds library is an essential part of Raunds life. Not only for books but for all that the library offers in terms of the social aspect of Raunds. There is no other place like it. If there is no library, there will be an impact on the life of Raunds residents.
• We need to keep the library open for young and old
• ONLY WITHIN 5 MILES, ELDERLY AND MOTHERS WITH BABIES THAT IS A LONG WAY! PARKING AT RUSHDEN POOR – ZERO
• The risk of no library in Raunds is high and public services to next nearest library are poor. Should it close the elderly and school children will have no reasonable access to library services. It would be more sensible to wait until the two new unitary councils are in place so decisions on the service could be made on a permanent basis.
• Many people who use this library do not have transport and would not be able to go to Rushden library. It is a meeting place for people of all ages and many groups use the library. It is a small town asset that should be kept at all costs.
• Raunds has an increasing population and should have a library supported by the council but this could be done relatively inexpensively with volunteer staff. Irthlingborough is being saved but this is very close to Wellingborough. Why is Raunds being sacrificed as perhaps it is only 5 miles from Rushden as the crow flies but Irthlingborough is only 1 mile from Wellingborough
• I think prolonging the inevitable and eventual closure.
• I don’t think you understand the importance of libraries in rural areas, you often measure success in terms of book borrowing etc but it’s so much more than that. I used to work in libraries and saw first hand that public libraries are crucial for
vulnerable people, the customers were often elderly people with no family or friends - their library visit would sometimes be the only human contact these people had all week. Struggling new mothers, older people who had lost their jobs and were struggling to come to terms with technological changes required to find new employment...the list of vulnerable people who found respite and advice within their local library goes on and on. In these smaller towns and villages there is no where else for these people to go - there are no comparable services and a lot of people don’t drive or can’t afford the bus or taxi fare into a bigger town, or they’re not physically capable of making the journey. If these small rural libraries close you are abandoning your most vulnerable residents.

- Provision of new reading stock? Ability to order a special book from another library. Help and advice from experienced trained librarians.
- No provision seems to be in place for the library to you scheme for Raunds and surrounding villages
- Raunds library is a valuable community asset
- Very disappointed that Raunds will no longer form part of the County Council Provision. Raunds is expanding rapidly & will soon (if not already!) be larger than Thrapston & Irthlingborough. New people to area need access to a proper library with professional librarians who have working knowledge of what’s going on in county - not volunteers.
- To keep Raunds library is essential to a growing population in this market town.
- Taking the library out of Statutory library provision means that there is no reason for NCC to support the voluntary run service. Stating Thrapston as the nearest centre is not appropriate given the poor transport links.
- The NCC is not carrying out its responsibilities, and is making volunteers out of the voters. Get your finances in order.
- I should feel there would be a more secure provision if it were funded by the local authority.
- It is a good solution if the alternative is that the library would close. The best solution of course would be for it to continue as part of NCC.
- It’s better than nothing. Closing the library would have a detrimental effect on the local community and the numerous groups that benefit from the wide variety of services that the library offers.
- If the community groups take over but NCC still provide blue badge assistance and universal services that would be ideal, my worry is that this will initially happen, then NCC will withdraw completely.
- because to be successful it would depend solely on volunteers with lack of relevant specialist knowledge & support from the library service
- This solution isn’t great since "if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease" but it is better than just closing Raunds library. Although I only use the book lending service and occasionally the information services, I notice that the
council expects the community to take over the running of a number of other services "including Universal Children’s services". This means, I presume, that these services would also cease if the arrangement became unviable. Raunds may be situated within 5 miles from Rushden but it isn’t a satellite or a suburb of Rushden. It has a life of its own. Closing the great community and information hub which the library represents and removing essential services from Raunds would damage the town's specific community life.

• Reading that my library would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision and that, if this arrangement becomes unviable, THE SERVICE WOULD CEASE is very disturbing the chosen model for Thrapston Library would be much more acceptable.

• It is a lovely library and community hub. By closing the library the people who would suffer most are those who depend on local services especially young parents who attend the rhymetimes and borrow books for their children and older people who are less mobile. I feel very strongly that we should keep the library open and if the council refuse to do this then volunteers should run it.

• Well if this is the only option then at least it means the library will stay open then this is better than no library at all

• Didn’t really understand what solution I would have been agreeing to - I just know that I need Raunds Library to stay open. I read a lot and rely on Raunds library for my books. I cannot easily travel to a library out of town to borrow books.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 17 responses to this question

• The current operation using volunteer support is already restrictive as it is open only three days a week which makes access difficult for many people.

• Raunds needs a place where groups of people can come together. This library facilitates that need. It has a fantastic area for children to learn and to realise the enjoyment of escapism books provide and to fire their imaginations.

• The fact that a 'statutory library' is within 5 miles distance does not mean that all services would be accessible to all users. Public transport links are not good enough to ensure all user groups can continue to use the services. The large amount of travel time required to reach the statutory library would not make it an 'efficient' service.

• The police should and must investigate NCC and find where the money has gone, this is miss-management on a criminal scale, of OUR money.

• See above

• As long as the volunteers are properly trained and are able to continue to provide the level of service, quality training is the key to ensure this does not have a negative impact
• Yes it will have a very negative impact as Raunds already sees itself as the overlooked of East Nothants
• reduction in services especially to elderly & isolated. negative impact on supporting customers with bus passes & blue badge applications due to lack of expertise. this could only be mitigated if NCC library official was available to come to Raunds library at least once a week to support applicants.
• The negative aspect of it is the potential for future closure due to being outside the statutory service. The library service must ensure it gives significant support in the early stages to ensure the community group has a real chance of succeeding.
• How will villages outside Raunds be affected if Raunds town council fund the library
• Using the chosen model for Thrapston Library would be much more acceptable.
• If current services are not maintained, this would be negative. NCC support to services would mitigate
• Losing the library would be bad for community bonding
• See above! Volunteers may be keen at first but inevitably it will fall to a few committed volunteers who will probably struggle to keep library running. I hope that Raunds will be taken back under CC control as soon as finances permit. Libraries are important to all communities & Raunds Library has always been a lynchpin within our community - used by not only residents of Raunds, but also Stanwick, Ringstead, Woodford, Hargrave & even Higham Ferrers. Thank you
• Voluntary expectations are so difficult. A library service cannot be run on unqualified but keen volunteers. The loss of the library to Raunds will be catastrophic!
• Reduced service and access. More structured support should be put in place for all community libraries, utilising a hub/spoke model. Raunds should remain within Statutory provision to give it security and to ensure equity of support.
• n/a

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Raunds Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 17 responses to this question
• I would like to see continued full funding and support from the council.
• KEEP IT OPEN WITH STAFF!!!
• Any changes should be left for the new unitary council in 2020.
• Allow the community to regularly donate. I would happily give £10 a month. Standing order to help. I cannot volunteer due to work/young children as I'm sure many people of my age will struggle with to so please let us help in other ways.
• There is no alternative...NCC should be not involved in anyway in the running of or provide and services to or taking information from. Raunds Library must stand alone with the Town Council.
• A promise, in writing Ofcourse, from NCC that they won’t back out of supporting the community group.
• The Library is well used by all different age groups. It will not be good for the community if it were to close. People do not want to go to Rushden.
• Just let Raunds be volunteers only but retain the backing from NCC
• to keep Raunds library open run mainly by volunteers but with open free access to library services such as books rotation and access to ncc databases.
• I would hope that NCC will provide as much support as is possible. We will certainly be negotiating with them to leave books with us, to rotate books with other libraries across the county, allow us to retain the self-service terminals, to have access to national databases and reference sources etc.
• It would be better for the community to keep the library as a statutory library. I cannot understand why
• Explore the possibility of allowing the community/council to wholly purchase the library and to run it as an independent entity.
• It would be better for the community to keep the Library as a statutory library.
• As before. Also provision in central libraries could be reduced/ look at increasing community support in these settings to ensure staff input can be countywide and not urban centric.
• I hope NNC will continue to provide as much support as possible to retain the library operating as it is now
• I hope NNC will provide as much support as possible to retain Raunds Library operating as it is now
• No matter what happens at Raunds, I continue to be a Northamptonshire rate payer and I would sincerely hope that NCC will continue to give me and my local library as much support as possible whilst the library is run by volunteers of the community.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Raunds Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 12 responses to this question
• The library also houses a number of community activities not currently included in considerations - while not directly linked to library activities the building provides a safe and welcoming environment and location.
• Get rid of NCC. The price for the building must be the market value, not an inflated figure produced by NCC. Move to another sit if required.
• The Library needs to stay open.
• Don’t let Raunds be overlooked again
• You have a Mah Jong Session once a fortnight, why not try a Chess Session on another day, slightly longer, to facilitate the more time consuming game, with a possible Tutor, but not me lol
• The "clock" has been running for so long ... NCC should get on with the process of selling the building and handing over day to day control to the community group as soon as possible.

• Raunds has pockets of deprivation demonstrated by the need for a food bank. Bus services are available but rare to Thrapston. Services such as rhyme time, knit and natter and advice clinics are valued by the local community in addition to the core activity of access to books and learning. It is important for the health of the local community that library services are continued in whatever way is viable.

• I cannot understand why, when so many houses are being built in the area, the idea of closing a service which helps education for young and old: provides computer help for the elderly: gives very young children and mothers help and companionship: provides activities for many people, including lonely ones, should be closed!

• I don’t understand why NCC is pushing ahead with this when it will cease to exist under government proposals, as they have shown themselves to be incapable of managing the county effectively for many years.

• Models proposed give a poorer service to rural areas. Greater support should be given to community libraries in establishing their models and on an ongoing basis.

• As a family we have used the library frequently in the past and our children have greatly benefited in the past. It’s a vital service that once lost can not easily be replaced.

• I am an elderly member and a lot of this discussion goes over my head. I only know that I and my family use and love this library. I have [condition] and cannot read for any length of time so rely on your audio books for companionship around my home. I also have a friend who because of [condition] cannot see to read and we both enjoy the audios and the helpful people we find here. I have bought all of my great grandchildren here to the toddler groups as they reached the right age.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

Roade Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Roade Library?

There were 25 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar chart showing the frequency of visits to Roade Library]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Roade library</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Roade Library: Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 25 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Services</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I do not currently use library services in Roade Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I do not use</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About Roade library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Roade Library will become a Community Managed Library service in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with Roade Parish Council and the Roade Junction Community Group. This Group has been formed out of the Friends of Roade Library and is currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

It is proposed that these two groups work together to take over the running of the library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. Children Centre provision would continue.

This could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.

It is proposed that Roade Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Towcester.
As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

There is £96,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 24 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Poor solution</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Poor solution</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Poor solution</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Good solution</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Good solution</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 19 responses to this question

- It will be focused towards the community and surrounding area and will evolve with the community. Better to save a service than lose one through the county council
- I think we either take this solution, or the library closes. It's the best offer we are going to get.
- As the community would own and run the building, it give opportunities to deliver other services in addition to library services.
- Your text above is not very clear as to what you want to do, I think you should clarify so that people could have a better understanding of what the final proposal is
- Although I believe that the decision to categorise Roade Library outside the statutory provision is wrong (and some information in the consultation is incorrect, Roade Library is 6.5miles from Towester Library by the shortest route, not Less than 5 miles and also Roade supports the villages of Hartwell, Ashton, Stoke Bruerne and Blisworth, not just Hartwell as stated); However I think the offer to the community group of equipment, books and support is good and provides a basis for them to succeed. It seems the only viable solution for the good of the village especially older and less able people, people without their own transport and those with young children.
- Roade is a strong community with many retired professionals and people who are passionate about both community issues and learning. It has both the people capacity and financial capacity to manage this library. It may need access to new books and the infrastructure of a library with computers systems etc. I am not clear how the children centre would continue as the information was minimal and I understand this is a specialist service. There is already a momentum in the community to run the library.
- The village very much needs this facility activities for retired and children's services. It is also vital for those who have no other way to use the internet.
- It is a very important part of the local area I volunteer and see many of my [area] using it for its services. Library, renewal bus services blue badge applications and General advice from staff. Also many older users meet and greet out of there houses for social reasons. Loneliness is a big problem in rural areas.
- Wonderful amenity to have access to in a small village, aside from the educational advantages for adults and children.
- I believe that Roade library may be further than 5.3 miles away from Hunsbury library, and reaching it by bus is not easy. Having a library within easy reach of surrounding villages, is a lifeline to elderly users, who also access clubs in the library. Likewise parents using children’s services and books. As a user of this library and a volunteer for Rhymetime I am well aware of its value to the community of Roade and beyond. If NCC cannot continue to run the library it is vital that another organisation endeavours to maintain the service and expands the facility, with support of NCC.
The building is very central and can become a hub for offering many other uses for citizens.

- I have used the library services in Roade for over 40 years along with my children & now my grandchildren. As a Pensioner with some mobility problems I am unable to attend any other library so strongly support the above proposal.
- It is a good solution provided that the Roade Junction Community Group receives the support expected from NCC (and its successor) and Roade and other nearby Parish Councils.
- Because you are abrogating responsibility for wider library provision. This approach leaves you with neither accountability or responsibility and pushing everything to voluntary groups and small local councils.
- In the long run the service will become untenable and stop.
- In principal this could work, but there needs to be concrete assurances as to the long-term management and ownership of the building.
- The local village people can not get to Haddon on public transport so are being deprived of an important cultural, educational and social facility.
- The proposed solution would mean that some form of Library provision will continue for Roade. This would be important for the community for many reasons apart from borrowing books. The downside is that the new system may not have the means/ability to provide the current level of service.
- Wondering how it will work out with library stock. Will we be able to return books to other libraries? Will there be fresh stock coming in. I have read my way round Roade, East Hunsbury and Towcester and almost NH Central.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 7 responses to this question

- Because you are abrogating responsibility for wider library provision. This approach leaves you with neither accountability or responsibility and pushing everything to voluntary groups and small local councils. What purchasing power will this small library have; how will the current loans, returns and reservations system work? Why have you not calculated the wider social and council benefits and role of libraries into the financial calculation? Poor management is forcing library users to select from poor quality options.
- Roade Parish Council has stated it’s intention to purchase the library building and allow the Community Group to use it for the provision of a library service. However if the council were not able to agree funding there is no fall back position as the rent offered by NCC is not sustainable from fundraising by the community group. If however NCC were to reconsider the rental amount and base it on its use as a library
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

and not a commercial property it should reduce to a level that the community could fund.

- If volunteers are going to be given access to library systems it will need to be made extremely clear how this differs from staff access if the council wishes to avoid potential liability for a constructive dismissal action in respect of the recent enforced redundancy of the managers of all the small libraries.
- Supply of books needs to be maintained or budget given to purchase a supplier
- Village of Roade expanding with big new housing estate bringing in more young families and losing a vital facility
- Considerable consultation and co-operation covering all the library services currently administered by NCC would have to take place prior to any changes.
- See above. Can't comment as I don't know what is planned.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Roade Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 9 responses to this question

- Ensure any repair work needed is either completed before sale to Roade Parish Council or is knocked off the market value of the premises concerned, otherwise you are putting community groups in a negative equity before they can even start, bearing in mind the county council are legally responsible for provision of libraries
- Find the funds centrally and don't hide behind what is your responsibility
- Any S106 AND New Homes Bonus should be available to purchase the library and not held back as not allowed for this purpose. Also, any money a Parish Council holds for recreational purposes should legally be permitted to be used for the purpose. This is because a library could be considered recreational, especially as additional uses have been identified.
- The proposal by the RPC and the library group to, purchase and run the library is the best way forward for the village and other nearby villages.
- If Roade Parish Council were not able to agree funding there is no fall back position as the rent offered by NCC is not sustainable from fundraising by the community group. If however NCC were to reconsider the rental amount and base it on its use as a library and not a commercial property it should reduce to a level that the community could fund.
- Passing the property into trust
- It needs fixed opening hours, maybe three times a week with trained permanent library staff supported by volunteers
- To be able to hire out the space for a reasonable rate.
- Keep it as part of a council library
Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Roade Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 7 responses to this question

- I want to dispute the statement that "A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Towcester". It is more than 6 miles away - unless of course you walk in a straight line across the fields.
- As Roade Parish council is currently looking at funding to buy the building and so far the use of S106 (CIL) monies has been ruled out by NCC, it would be helpful for them to have more time to explore other funding sources for the purchase of the library building.
- The length of time this whole process has taken - in effect going through two iterations, is very poor, and cannot but help have a negative impact on both footfall and general public perceptions of the library service. It is hard to escape the conclusion that the current proposal is on the table solely because of the result of the Judicial Review, and on past record, I have little confidence that the Council's heart is in this, or will honour it's commitments in the long term.
- Digital book service is key way forward. I use this regular and its great. Please continue to research new high tech ways of delivering the library service and particularly for those who don't normally access books.
- There is a great willingness to go ahead with this proposal. Friends and volunteers alike are very keen to make a success of the project.
- This proposal would appear to be the only obvious solution to keep the library open, the alternative would be devastating and detrimental to many elderly residents.
- The Friends group is committed to running the library. Many volunteers have come forward, and the benefits of volunteering are numerous.
Rothwell Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Rothwell Library?

There were 69 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Rothwell library</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Rothwell Library:

Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 69 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>84.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Service</strong></th>
<th><strong>Reasons for Use</strong></th>
<th><strong>Responses</strong></th>
<th><strong>Percent</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong></td>
<td>- to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong></td>
<td>- to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong></td>
<td>- to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong></td>
<td>- to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong></td>
<td>- to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I do not currently use library services in Rothwell Library</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About Rothwell Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that Rothwell Library will become a Community Managed Library service.

Discussions have taken place with The Friends of Rothwell Library and the Multi Academy Trust about the feasibility of this proposal. The Friends are currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

It is proposed that these groups will work together to take over the running of the library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services, such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services currently provided in Rothwell Library will continue to be delivered.

It is proposed that Rothwell Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. It is recognised that Rothwell Library has high usage of children’s centre services, a high number of active library users and higher populations for 0-10 year olds and 60 plus populations nearby. However, a needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Kettering.
As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

There is also £19,000 Section 106 money secured from development in the area which may be available to invest upon receipt by the Council.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage (%)</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Response number

Percentage (%)
Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 46 responses to this question

- I think it’s not a library service they are really fighting for but a community centre. I honestly think if you take away the library but left the rest very few people would miss the books etc.
- Rothwell needs a library and incorporated services, the team of volunteers and the MAT have worked incredibly hard to ensure that local community has been able to access services including ensuring our elderly residents can still come in to read the papers and spend quality time communicating and socialising with others. This solution will support that but sadly there is inherent risk in the lack of support from the town and borough councils and lack of statutory provision. The local community are all supportive of the library friends and will make the best of what is an ok but limiting solution from NCC
- With the constantly increasing number of houses in the town the library is a huge help with not only books, but children’s services, a community place for elderly people to go for company as well as books, and a hub of vital information about the town. It is a focal point for children to learn and understand that they are part of a wonderful community.
- It would appear to be the best option, in the present circumstances, although we have still not been informed whether we will retain use of the existing building.
- To lose the library at Rothwell would be absolutely devastating, we must do the necessary to keep the service
- This library is a community service rather than a library.
- My view is that a local library service is essential for the goodwill and education of the local community. If this cannot be provided by the County Council then I am sure volunteer Local Community should be available but with certain controls and financial support.
- It is not the best solution but we are grateful for anything
- This plan does not allow for continued employment of the libraries, who at present is the kingpin of all services and groups using the library.
- A good option in order to keep the Library open but it should really be a Statutory Library as the public transport to others is inadequate. Also, a lot of users go to the Library by foot. The Town has a higher use of the library facilities and is in an area of more under 10 and more over 60 age groups than average. More houses are due to be built (700) so demand will be higher. Reading ability in youngsters and adults, as well as trying to wean youngsters "off technology/social media" is always in the news and in the Council’s remit/website so I do not understand the need to declare this Library as non statutory. (Charities are being set up to support adult illiteracy which is an indictment on not only some education routes but also the services that support ie libraries or indeed the lack of libraries).
• A good option to keep the Library functioning but the Library should be statutory. Both younger and adult illiteracy is often in the news along with the recent recommendation to limit use of "technology/social media". The Library's primary function should be firmly in place and council funded to support those who need it most. We are in an area of more under 10's and over 60's than average and have a high use of the Library facility. 700 more house are due to be built. Many of the users travel by foot and there is an inadequate bus service to visit other libraries.

• Most of our users arrive on foot. There is no longer an adequate bus service to the nearest statutory library, 700 more houses are planned for our small town. Our library building has been valued at an extremely high price for buying or rent which is beyond affordable for our 8000 residents. We should be statutory, and have a part time paid member of staff, with a much reduced rental to continue our services to our wonderful community.

• 5 miles to nearest properly supported library! Not everyone has transport or money for transport and bus services in Rothwell now also heavily reduced with many people having to walk long distances to get to the bus, who then would not be able to also deal with the additional getting about in Kettering on top that f getting to the bus - a very poor decision particularly in conjunction with the withdrawal of other services st the same time

• I think it should remain under the jurisdiction of NCC, as the larger libraries are. Obviously if this is not possible then to have it community run would be better than losing it altogether. No community group can provide the quality of service that professional librarians can and it’s unfair and unrealistic to expect this.

• Having worked professionally in libraries for most of my working life, including carrying out consultations like this one, I know first-hand that many volunteer managed libraries fail, despite the good intentions of those volunteers. Services are diminished to the very basics and usage drops off. This change is entirely driven by central government funding cuts and the incompetence of the county council.

• The library should remain part of NCC. There is a massive emphasis on encouraging children to read. Kettering library is less accessible due to the removal of some buses from rothwell. The library is a huge part of our community

• Rothwell library provides an invaluable service to 10,000 people in the town and outlying villages. It is an absolute disgrace it has not been offered the 'statutory protection' proposed for smaller centres in Oundle and Brixworth. Lets be under no illusion, NCC has clearly succumbed to 'he who shouts loudest'. The media attention generated by a solitary Desborough resident has had a disproportionate influence compared to 1000+ petition signatures and comments in Rothwell. It is crystal clear Rothwell has not received parity of treatment with its neighbour and significant moves to expose this travesty are planned if it goes ahead.

• It is a well used library for children's activities and the main provider of such services in the town
• If there are not enough volunteers or those who come forward as volunteers find they can't cope then the library won't continue. What would happen if the academy trust has no long-term future?

• Because this is so short-sighted, by the NCC, it's painful. This is a community hub in Rothwell, the services it provides are much needed and to take them away, as you're planning to do, just means that vulnerable people - OAPS, unemployed, children - will be more so. You, along with Rothwell Town Council, should be ashamed of yourselves.

• We have already lost our valued, qualified librarian who was such an asset to our library. If the above plan goes ahead we will then also lose our amazing library assistant who is very knowledgeable about the community, very friendly and very helpful.

• In my opinion NCC must provide adequate help to the Friends Group in order to keep the library open. It would be disastrous for the local community if the library need to be closed.

• Books educate, libraries enable all walks of life to be able to access this. Without education, we become 'morons'. To even begin to contemplate shutting libraries in a so called 'civilised' society, is abhorrent. The Government should be 'pressurised' in to realising this. They have untold sums of money when it comes to warfare. They should get their priorities right for once and sustain ALL LIBRARIES, including of course, Rothwell. STAND UP AND BE COUNTED.

• The library should be part of a statutory provision. If the library is closed then many users will not be able to travel five miles. I am also uneasy about academy trusts being involved, especially as they were set up to reduce the influence of local authorities. Did it really need an assessment to work out where Kettering is?

• The above statement states Rothwell library is within 5 miles of Kettering Library, it is not, it is more than 5 miles. A lot of users of the library are low income and are unable to afford bus fares to neighbouring towns. There is nowhere else to access county council and borough council services without travelling, and for a growing town with hundreds of new houses to be built it is a backward step.

• Although not part of statutory provision the high use by under 5s and the high cost of public transport to Kettering makes it a poor option. At present the volunteers are plentiful but as the workforce has to work longer the number of volunteers will decline.

• A poor solution because the community should not have to suffer due to the ineptitude and mismanagement of the county council.

• Lack of support from a paid member of staff will make the job of volunteers far more difficult and complicated Non statutory status puts an enormous strain on a community of 8000 people which you have identified as having more over 60s, and under 10s, a high level of social deprivation, and a far higher level.

• I am [age] years old and suffer from [disability] badly. The library I can visit [number] times a week [days of the week] as I do a lot of reading. I take an average [number]
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation

Analysis Report

books out each time as this is my entertainment. I only watch TV occasionally and usually Freeview

- I believe that the library is an important part of community life. Insisting that people travel to Kettering isolates and alienates low income families, those with poor mobility etc and leaves them without vital services locally
- If Rothwell is within 5 miles of Kettering Library it is a long way to go if you don't drive and have to carry books when buses in your area are once a hour and walking to and from library services
- Rothwell Library has high usage of children’s centre services, a high number of active library users and higher populations for 0-10-year olds and 60 plus populations nearby. We are in the bottom 30% for social deprivation. More than 60% of users attend on foot unlike other libraries (possibly because they fit into the groups above)

The bus service has been severely truncated and no longer serves either end of the town, thus making the Kettering library extremely difficult to access (especially as you are probably on foot) the supporting documents seem to be unaware of the changes to public transport The statutory/non statutory judgement was made DURING this consultation. While the inclusion of Desborough as "Statutory" as they are over 5 miles from the nearest library is no doubt correct, the proximity of Rothwell to Desborough does not make it easy for those on foot to access such services as a community run library may care to offer, especially when the needs of our population as defined above, are taken into consideration. The costs of renting/buying our library (which has had the highest value of £460,000.00 put on it) is expected to be met by a population of 8000 people in an area of high social deprivation, who already pay a precept. To continue a library service we should also be required to pay for services and maintenance. Our small population are being asked to find sufficient volunteers to provide a library service with no paid staff.

The library also supports children's services and many other groups and social welfare projects, including "mind melodies" for those with dementia and their carers.

The library is used by the local schools, including their SEND provision, as part of the curriculum. To take nursery, and infant pupils on public transport to another library would cause prohibitive difficulties.

- This library has been acknowledged by NCC to be in a town which has significant areas of deprivation. The other towns in this list are: Northampton, Corby, Rushden, Daventry, Kettering and Wellingborough. All of these will be retaining a staffed, council-run statutory library. This puts Rothwell in a position of inequality. Due to the problems facing many people in the town there is likely to be more of a demand for help in applying for benefits (Universal Credit etc) and jobs. This will provide a significant challenge to volunteers since even paid staff in other areas of the country are finding the current situation quite difficult and stressful. Far more volunteers will be needed than are likely to be available in Rothwell. People here are having to work until later in life, are often caring for elderly parents and are looking after grandchildren too. The Heritage Centre and the 'Well and Bridge' (Salvation Army)
are constantly asking for volunteers and big demands are so often put on just a few people. I fear that this will be the case with the library where realistically, the expectations placed on the shoulders of volunteers will be very high if the service is to continue as it is now. They will also be having to facilitate the much-needed children's centre. I really admire the enthusiasm and dedication of the Friends group but if they take on the full running of the library it is likely to spoil the enjoyment they have of organising events, - craft fairs, coffee mornings etc. I was told by the current co-ordinator that the rota would be handed over to the multi-academy which will be running the library and supplying volunteers. The only concern I have is that if this is Isebrook College, would running a library be too big an ask? It is a special school and has pupils with all sorts of learning difficulties including autism and behavioural problems. I have been involved with a special needs group myself and it is wonderful when work experience can be offered but is it right to expect the school to run a fully functioning library? I don't mean this to sound too negative and I think it is incredibly important for this particular library to remain open to serve the community so if this can only be achieved through the funds of the multi-academy trust then it will all have to be worked through.

- Rothwell library is well used and valued in the community. We have higher than average children and seniors that make excellent use of the library. many travel to the library by foot. With recent bus service cuts to our area, these people will be deprived of the library if it closes, as using the options in other towns is impossible due to the cuts to public transport. With planned house building of 700 houses, the facility is even more important to the town. The library building has been valued extremely high for buying or rent. Making it beyond affordable for the residents to run and maintain. Therefore it should be statutory with a part time member of paid staff, with a much reduced rental to continue our much valued services to the community of Rothwell.

- Because so many people without transport of their own and having no option but to use a poor public service would have no access to the wonderful services provided.

- I understand that new libraries are to be built within a five mile range of existing ones, this is ridiculous when we need a library in our town (Rothwell), if we can't manage to keep our library going we loose it, so the idea of it becoming a community one is very poor...there is tons of money available for these important issues but it is spent on other matters which do not help the communities at all. Our local and county councils should be working at the government to make sure we get what we pay through the nose for.

- Although I currently do not use the library regularly when my children were younger we used it all the time. I was expecting it to be available to use as I got older. The library is more than a library with all the services it provides. 5 miles to a library is too far and to costly so it will effect the most vulnerable ages young and old.

- The needs assessment does not take into consideration that the bus service to Kettering no longer serves the outer areas of our town, and no longer stops outside
Kettering library. There are 700 houses to be built on Rothwell North. This will increase our population by a considerable number, the majority of whom are likely to be those with young children. The high usage of children's centre services, high number of active library users, and higher populations for 0-10 year olds and over 60+ populations nearby also show a much higher than average number of visits made by people on foot. Coupled with the previous information given that Rothwell is in the lowest 30% demonstrating social deprivation this would suggest that Kettering library is not easily accessible. There is no other suitable venue for the library service, or the childrens' services, or the many clubs and activities including our mind melodies for those suffering dementia and their carers, in the town. Our population of 8000 are being asked to find not only volunteers to keep the library open without any paid staff, maintenance and ongoing costs for the building, but also a very large sum of money for rent/lease for our own library. Non statutory status means that if we fail to do this, the library, and all the associated services, including childrens services will according to your wording "cease"

- The provision of a library without full time staff puts the opening hours in jeopardy.
- While I applaud the huge efforts of the friends group at this library I feel there would be a huge loss to the town if this proposal goes ahead. Every small town NEEDS a library. Rothwell is expanding and it is a fundamental need that the children in this town have access to a properly staffed library. Also, our library is our towns heartbeat. Regular use from people of all ages and backgrounds mean that this hub provides a friendly, lively atmosphere at all times. The range of uses that the library provides here is immense. From under 5s services, homework assistance, employment support and access to computers to council office access, adult social groups, police surgeries and of course access to reading and research materials. All local nursery groups and schools have access too. The list is endless. Please keep our library in place and fully staffed.

- It is a solution to keep services going but worry is that it could collapse if support is stopped. Libraries have evolved to become community hubs as well as purely book lending facilities and in today's world that is becoming very important to people. They can make a great difference to mental health and well being of many people in the town which in turn can save a council money in the long run. A library nurtures the love of book reading in children and gives people the chance to try many different authors. The big worry about Rothwell's library is the fact that it is on prime building land and would be seen by those who would benefit as a cash cow! Again along with the 800 houses due to be built in Rothwell we would see a decrease in facilities but an increase in residents. We really do need to keep the library going and not give in to short-sighted councils.

- No matter what the town needs this library
- I would the library to stay OPEN. I still need help to choose books
- I obviously want to see Rothwell library remain open and recognise the role volunteers have to play in this situation, but I am concerned about the library no
longer forming part of the statutory service and the security this could provide. I also believe that managing volunteers requires a lot of behind the scenes work and in order to be effective in running the library it really warrants paid staff to facilitate this. In addition the children’s centre services are of incredible value to the community, and to have the library building fall outside the statutory service could put these services at risk of being forgotten by the service providers in the long term, or cease to exist at all in the event of a community library failure. As laid out in the consultation information, these services have a high level of users and Rothwell has been recognised as being in an area of deprivation. If these services (amongst many others housed within the library) were to be affected it would have an impact financially and logistically on people having to travel into Kettering to access them, I think you find many people would be reliant on expensive public transport.

- The possible withdrawal of provision if the arrangement become 'unviable' is not acceptable. Just because a library is within 5 miles of another library does not make it accessible to users. - The bus services have been cut drastically making access to Kettering for Rothwell residents difficult. - expecting school kids to have to go to Kettering after school to access resources is not fair on their time nor is it necessarily a safe option for them to have to travel into Kettering in the evenings then travel back - a large number of those using the library are with young children which makes use of public transport difficult - we have free parking in Rothwell for people to use making the library access totally free where as they would have to pay to park in Kettering

- It is essential that Rothwell Library remains open, especially for the under 10s and the over 60s and it does require some financial support from the Borough and County Councils, although volunteers are able to provide a lot of time to help run the Library.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 33 responses to this question

- The noted demographics of the library being OAP and children shows local provision is required as these demographics often are not able to travel 5 miles.
- See above. Decent bus service would help. Free transport for those on low income and /or benefits (you can also be below poverty line whilst working). It is yet another decision for the havevs against the have nots
- A rota of volunteers cannot provide the level of expertise of professionals. if we could keep our only librarian then that would go some way to providing the continuity required.
Without Statutory support there is risk of the ineffective Rothwell Town Council failing to support in future, but the volunteers are stronger than the councils involved in making such poor decisions.

They can’t.

Without early access to a fully staffed and supported library our young people will be at a disadvantage throughout school and their early life. It’s also important for social interaction and communication skills.

I fear it would not be sustainable and when there is no money or volunteers it won’t be NCC problem.

Rothwell library is a vital part of the community serving babies, young children, senior citizens, jobseekers, mothers, students and those with disabilities. It is one of the best uses of tax payers money that is made available without discrimination. As one of the unifying institutions in our town it brings together and serves our diverse community. It is "the" hub for information and education. ***ALL THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED IF YOU COMPLETELY WITHDRAW FUNDING***

Under 1’s play and learn session-weekly. Friday 1.30-2.30; Under 5’s play and learn session-weekly. Wednesday 10.30-11.30. Under 5’s rhyme time session-weekly. Monday 2.00-2.30. Rhyme time special for families-monthly. Saturday 10.30-11.00; Parent led play-weekly. Thursday 10.00-12.00; Parent led play-weekly. Friday 10.00-12.00; Homework club 7+ weekly term time. Wednesday 3.30-4.45; Homework club 7+ weekly term time. Saturday 11.00-1.00; Drawing club 7+ monthly 12.00-1.00; Craft and chatter weekly. Wednesday 10.30-12.00; Scrabble club weekly. Monday 10.30-12.00; Scrabble club weekly. Friday 10.30-12.00. Adult reading group monthly. Thursday 2.00-3.00. I.T. Buddy monthly. Friday 10.00-12.00; Social inclusion drop in monthly. 10.00-12.00; Police surgeries monthly. Days vary. Citizens Advise Bureau weekly. Monday afternoon. Children’s craft event twice monthly. Weekends. There is a good turn out for all our sessions. In fact in the children’s play area, parents and little people have to be turned away much to our dismay. Health and safety numbers. Specific numbers allowed in that area. You know you are safe with Rothwell Library. The below services cannot be completed anywhere else in Rothwell. Blue Badge application. Bus pass application. School placement application. Libraries to you-book delivery to those who cannot leave their homes. Summer Reading challenge and stats. Council office. Drop in open to the public. Public toilet; the only one in Rothwell were you do not need to make a purchase. Children’s area: all universal and children’s Centre Services. Social aspect. News paper table which is often full of people. People who live alone especially love it as its daily. Well being support. Multiple cases of support for people with mental health and social interaction issues. Schools and nurseries in Rothwell regularly visit in groups.

The building is in the centre of town and would impact on the use of local shops & parents would have to travel to access Kettering library by either car or public transport whereas Rothwell library is in walking distance of the whole town & located by the primary schools.
• I don't drive and can't carry a lot of books so to have to travel to Kettering Library would be almost impossible for me. I can't afford to use the bus a lot but I can take a shopping trolley to Rothwell Library.

• If cost for services was implicated this would have an adverse effect on people with low income such as unemployed, pensioners, people on benefits so any costs must be kept low or concessionable.

• See above.

• I am sure the volunteers will do their best, but they have no training and I worry that the library service will not be as efficient and consequently not as well supported by the public. Currently our library is a real community hub. When you walk in it is a very vibrant, well loved and well used building. It is ideally placed, it has disabled access unlike the Market House, for council meetings and for the many groups which currently use it. It is a tragedy and totally unacceptable that as a community we stand to lose this most valuable asset because money has been mismanaged by councillors for so many years.

• The library serves the whole community, especially: children and elderly. I can't think of another venue in town where these services could be transferred to. The current library has such a welcoming atmosphere, it is a safe place to go. Many residents can't get to Kettering to access services and get help there. As well Kettering Library is already very busy, it can't provide the same high quality services as what we can access at Rothwell Library.

• The negative impact of the option for Rothwell, is that folk will be denied free access to knowledge. Folk will also lose access to fellowship and suffer isolation and loneliness, leading to depression and stagnation. One should not have to rely on 'volunteers' to sustain the service. This is regression, not 'progression'.

• The negative impact would be the closure of a vital service and one which used to be regarded as part of a civilised society. Put up the council tax to pay for decent services.

• You cannot confirm there will be enough volunteers to run the library, who will pay for the IT and the training of volunteers, there are concerns about volunteers being able to have access to more areas than they do already with regards to personal information. Rothwell is a low income community and needs the services provided by the library in it's former format.

• Children's services were transferred from the school to the library. If there are not enough volunteers then this service will falter. KBC should support the children's services within the library.

• There cannot be a negative impact if the library stays open.

• I like it when I visit and the children are there. My great-granddaughter really enjoys the songs the storytelling and mixing with other children her own age. Soon [date] I am to have a great grandson and you are really messing up his future. The librarian [name] and the other ladies are also a great help to me. By the way I read mostly murders!!
• As committed as the volunteers are, the experience and continuity provided by the librarian would be missed.
• When I moved to Rothwell at [number] months pregnant I used the Sure Start Centre to meet people. I believe that losing the library would negatively impact people who knew no-one. It will leave people isolated and vulnerable. The most vulnerable people will be impacted.
• Keeping Rothwell Library open
• The users of Rothwell library as characterised by your statistics deserve a statutory library service. To mitigate the disadvantages caused by the insistence of NCC on a non statutory, completely volunteer run service, in a very expensive building for which all maintenance is to be found by the local (very small, socially deprived) population, which is under the threat of all library services "ceasing". I suggest: Statutory status; Peppercorn rent or a transfer of community asset of the library building to Rothwell Town Council, or the registered charity Rothwell Community Library Trust; A part time paid member of staff; A removal of the constant threat to sell the library building; LAP services as defined
• The negative impacts could include, as above, loss of the childrens centre services, reduced opening hours, reduction of ease of access to information, and families not being able to benefit from a library in their own community. I do think that even in a community managed model there should be support from NCC, possibly in the form of paid staff to help reduce the risk of these impacts.
• The absence of paid, trained staff will clearly have a negative impact. A volunteer has already told me that when people ask her something she often tells them that she is "just a volunteer" and they understand that and go away. Members of the public who enter a library expect help and information to be provided so that is a retrograde step. I don't think that volunteers will be prepared either for the disputes that frequently occur, mainly concerning fines. There are sometimes challenging people to deal with and Rothwell has experienced significant anti-social behaviour in the past. I still feel that it is only by having this library as a properly run one with paid staff will it succeed long term.
• As per my previous comment. The cost of running and maintaining the library is far beyond the scope for the 8000 residents to commit to long term, at the present valuation for sale or to rent. The library is well used and should be continued under the umbrella of NCC services.
• As I've said above
• There would be a very negative impact if the Library could not remain open. A lot of secondary school pupils have always used the Library to obtain information to assist with their studies. Not everyone has their own vehicular access so cannot travel to other libraries - this affects all age groups.
• The Friends are working hard to keep this a positive experience and deserve as much support as possible but a future negative impact could be two fold. 1. If the funds
dried up. 2. Unknown as yet - the outcome/outputs and therefore the effect of a Unitary Council.

- The Friends of Rothwell Library are working hard to keep the Library functioning and to make it a positive experience. Future negative impacts could be: 1. Funds dry up. 2. Unknown as yet - the effect of a Unitary Council.
- See above
- Leave it open it is gender free non religious non racist a place for all. Rothwell will have nothing.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Rothwell Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 22 responses to this question

- Charge developers on going charges for local facilities
- Keep us within the remit of the authority.
- Ncc should make this a statutory library Alternatively they should gift the library building to the friends to allow them to run a fantastic community provision without risk
- The library building was originally given to the town and is steeped in the history. Maybe the building could be signed back over to the town to prevent it falling into the hands of developers. Another consideration would be for all developers building in the town to pay an annual fee per dwelling that they build to go towards the funding of the vital library resource in the town.
- Rothwell should remain part of statutory provision.
- To use the money more appropriately on community resources rather than high wages, new buildings (without parking)
- Rothwell Hub/Library should be offered some degree of `statutory protection' as afforded to significantly smaller centres at Earls Barton, Thrapston and Brixworth. Bearing in mind its high number of service users, there is no valid reason for all funding to be withdrawn while the latter 3 retain theirs.
- Why not fund us? If the NCC hadn't overspent so wildly, the £100k to keep Rothwell open wouldn't be such a shock.
- I wish to see more financial support from NCC in order to help the Friends Group to keep the library running.
- The root cause needs to be addressed. The Government. They should be ensuring that libraries have the finances to remain part of governments responsibility to function. NCC salaries at the top management level could be vastly reduced, allowing more of the budget to keep Rothwell Library running as it has been for years. Folk cannot afford, in many cases, to get to Kettering library. Many are also unable to use Kettering due to age/illness.
• KBC should use some of their money to support the library. It must stay in the building it is in at present as it puts it at the heart of the community.
• The Council should put in some money to help us. We are the people who voted for you remember, it's people who vote not numbers.
• JUST KEEP IT AS IT IS
• A dedicated sum of money - however small to help maintain the libraries. A commitment to local people to provide a safe space for families and other people
• Statutory service Part time paid staff LAP services "Transfer of community asset" to safeguard building
• I would like Rothwell library to be considered for remaining part of the statutory library service, even under the community run model. There is a lot of anger within the community that we all pay into the central 'pot' in the form of our taxes to provide services such as libraries but that we are not going to receive the same services, and will probably have to pay extra in the form of precepts, that the larger towns benefit from.
• Already covered. Rothwell Library needs to be kept as a properly run statutory and hopefully more money will be available to run the library service when the Unitary system is here. Mr Hollobone told the town in November 2017 that this would be so (but of course, Unitaries weren't even on the horizon then)!
• No longer an adequate bus service to take us to other library’s. 700 new homes being built. Lots of under 10 and over 60 in the Community.
• Continuation of provision of services for the running of the library from NCC.
• Allow a review if you think it's becoming unviable but don't move to close once handed over to the friends of the library
• I think that Northants County Council could give the Rothwell Library building back to the town.
• The library should remain as a statutory library. We are way behind the European guidelines for the amount of libraries we have

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Rothwell Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 14 responses to this question
• Rothwell library serves a large community, including several villages. The decreasing bus service makes it not a realistic prospect for the young families and the elderly to travel to Kettering.
• The library needs to have its own rear access sorted out separately from the fire station.
• The library is a much needed resource in the town.
Our town adores our library and it is very well used. It’s in a prime spot and is well run. Customers of ALL ages would miss this service immeasurably if it was to move or even lessen its services. Please save our library.

The friends of Rothwell library have been doing a magnificent job of keeping the library going and the volunteer home delivery service has continued without disruption it has and will continue to be a dedicated effort by all involved we owe them many thanks.

The Rothwell library is the hub of our community, for both young and old. Our customers enjoy being involved in the various groups and activities. They enjoy social intercourse, in convivial surroundings, with other members of our community. There are a number of lonely people who come in everyday, to read newspapers, borrow books, or sit and enjoy the atmosphere. Support for the library is strong.

Just keep it open. The 'wealthy' at Westminster must not be allowed to dictate what would be a 'catastrophe' for working class Rothwell. Turn their proposals around.

No more messing around with the streets of Kettering. We are paying Council Tax supposedly to keep it all in Rothwell so give us the people of Rothwell support.

Rothwell Library serves as a community centre as well as a basic lending library, and information centre with access to a Kettering Borough Council representative. This wide use is much more than just a library.

N/A

It would be better for this public service to remain under the authority for generic provision but anything is preferable to it closing.

Rothwell Library serves more purposes than the library lending service. The suggestions for "Wellbeing" coming from government including relieving loneliness, and reducing social isolation are already happening in our library and there is no other suitable venue in the town. Our active Friends group provides a meeting place for local groups such as craft and scrabble groups, mother and child groups and newspapers and story telling sessions. They host the youth council, and other groups who want to meet in the evening. The proposal would have a far better chance of continuing all of the services, and extending them as detailed in the meticulously prepared business plan, if the constant threat of selling the building were removed. We need our library in Rothwell built on the site of the old Grammar School (Did NCC ever pay for the site?)

This echoes my concerns about the future of Rothwell Library. NCC itself in the Libraries Review of 2012 - 2015 wrote this about community libraries: "On the surface, community run libraries look attractive. Little Chalfont in Buckinghamshire is community run and a success with healthy donations, good bookstock, many activities and an increase in visits of 25% and 20% in borrowing. However, Jim Brooks has a cohort of 50-60 volunteers and says the work needed to run a “library business” is prohibitive. In his view, the model would only work in affluent areas. The County Council in Buckinghamshire found that more support was needed for this library than originally planned for. Our colleagues in Cambridgeshire have 10
community run libraries. Some are struggling and all require more support than originally anticipated. This provides a financial drain on the rest of the service”.

- It should be statutory. It has been valued at too high a price and KBC have refused to help in the purchase.
Rushden Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Rushden Library?

There were 24 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Rushden library</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Rushden Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 24 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
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Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

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<tr>
<th><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>12.5%</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong> - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong> – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong> – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong> - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Rushden Library</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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**About Rushden Library and its proposed future**

No changes are proposed for Rushden Library and it is proposed that Rushden Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making. [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations)
Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 23 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Poor solution</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Poor solution</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Poor solution</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Good solution</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Good solution</td>
<td>73.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 13 responses to this question

- It’s a good outcome for Rushden, but it stinks that we have no chance to comment on the overall plans for the libraries countywide. It is a deliberate attempt to twist the results of consultation, and you should be ashamed of yourselves.
- Well run and used service
- Excellent provision
- Rushden library is an essential part of the town and used by many people. It has helpful staff who can always answer any query you may have. Though not used by Me I know lots of young mums who use the activities put on for toddlers.
- I think it's very important to retain the library in Rushden in its present form. As a retired teacher I feel that the provision for young children and their parents is very important. All children should be encouraged to read and enjoy books and it helps the parents to learn how to encourage it in their children. I also appreciate the newspapers being available. It is good to be able to see a variety (which one wouldn’t have at home). I also use the DVDs and photocopier. Another important reason for keeping the library is the fact that the town is about to grow - new housing developments. If smaller libraries close in surrounding villages it will be essential for Rushden Library, not only to stay, but also to develop. The library and its building are
part of the history and heritage of Rushden. Many people still do not have access to books so we need a library. The staff are always pleasant and helpful. Need to promote the facilities of the library. What connections do you have with local schools/toddler groups etc? Use of free press?

- Rushden Library is an essential service in the town. It provides a whole range of different facilities that are unavailable elsewhere. From [date] to [date] I was a regular volunteer at Rushden Library, an great and uplifting experience.
- Rushden library is a valuable resource and a lifeline for parents with young children like myself.
- The library is a very positive addition to the community and in our view, we’ll used and supported by the people of the area.
- Although I no longer use the library regularly to borrow books (I have a Kindle), I know what an important part it plays in Rushden for regular users, both to borrow books and maps etc., and also as a place to go for reference purposes and also as a social hub. The current location works well. It would be unbearable to think that this library should ever close as, once places are closed even 'temporarily', they seldom open open again. Rushden would be much poorer for any change, other than any change for the better.
- I think libraries need paid staff. Some extremely and knowledgeable volunteers.
- Library’s should be made available for all in all towns & villages by the local authority, even if it means a few pound extra in taxation
- If kept under NCC banner - must be a good thing!
- People are losing too many services. Library is also a meeting point for people to meet etc. So much is now lost.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 3 responses to this question

- Libraries are as important as universities in modern times. More effort needs to into libraries for adults. Separate section for geography and history. Staff to have more knowledge of none-fiction
- N/A
- This would ever have a negative impact always a positive impact. People should have these places.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Rushden Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 3 responses to this question

- Mobile libraries in certain areas. Don’t sell the libraries, run them.
• N/A
• I think it is sad to lose papers. High handed penny pinching. Reading is so relaxing.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Rushden Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 4 responses to this question
• Really positive and supportive staff. We also appreciate the commitment to the library provision of the council, considering the financial difficulties the organisation are facing.
• Staff to help send photos
• N/A
• Too many to say
St James Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend St James Library?

There were 14 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>More often than once a week</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Fortnightly</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
<th>Less often than monthly</th>
<th>I do not currently use library services in St James library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>64.3%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at St James Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 14 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>64.3%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
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</table>

**Health Services** – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
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</table>

**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I do not currently use library services in St James Library

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in St James Library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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**TOTAL**

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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**About St James Library and its proposed future**

It is proposed that St James Library becomes a Community Managed Library in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with various community groups and a local Community Interest Company.

It is proposed that St James Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that although this library is in a deprived, densely populated area with high 0-10 year old populations, this library is within 2 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Northamptonshire Central Library and has a relatively low number of physical visits.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 11 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 8 responses to this question

- Because some people may not be able to travel far and also for some people it is easier to get to than going into town. Lifeline for the community
- St James Library is at the centre of a densely populated Housing area both Private and Social. It provides a focal point for the local community which is made up of a great mix of ages, backgrounds and origins. This public/community service must continue.
- Although there is a library in town, it does offer the same services. Coffee mornings, trips at subsidised costs, a lot of residents use these services.
- I don’t believe the community at present has access to sufficient skill or funds to run as a community managed Library. It is important to people who would find no equivalent support at Central. They prob wouldn’t think to go to central mid crisis...they can go to st james and be directed to the most suitable resource.
This proposal to take the library outside of the statutory provision will ultimately lead to closure and the loss of a well loved and much needed facility. The community in St James needs access to a library within the locality where they live. Being in the top 30% of deprived communities means there are many financially disadvantaged people and many health disadvantaged. Meaning they will not be able to either afford to travel further afield nor will their health allow them to. The proposal to make this library community managed places it at great risk of closure. Volunteers are not easy to come by and those that will only wish to come hours that suit them with the reservation that they are not obliged to attend compulsory. It is even less likely they will volunteer to manage other volunteers given the responsibility that entails. It is simply unsustainable in an area, and particularly an area such as St James for volunteers to be expected to run a library outside of support form the Library Service. Costs will be another prohibitive factor in communities running this library, with no financial support from either council, no ability to raise money from any other source to service the substantial (for a small group) running costs will effectively make this scheme a non starter.

- It should be a fully staffed facility for all the reasons previously mentioned...deprived area etc,etc. personally know people who have been helped back to work through this library, have had mental health issues lessened through support here, have had help dealing with abusive relationships, children kept busy in holidays and so, so many other positive society benefits. This is short term measurable money saving compared to long term saving to be made by supporting a community and keeping children and other vulnerable people busy and happier and supported.

- Because many residents of St James do not have the ability/opportunity to attend central library to deal with their issues. As you said ...it is a deprived area etc, etc...

- Short sighted council

- Not sure how Community Managed Library looks like but it's important for the part of the social/community and also education

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 5 responses to this question

- As stated above, older residents use the library as a social gathering without this it would limit their social activities and a have health impact. Also trips that are organised for families are at a discounted rate and without this many families won't leave the area.

- Proper staffing for 2 half days a week. Cut the hours a little at one of the larger libraries to cover this. In that way the important things like bus passes etc can still be handled.
• As above but in addition the services that would not be able to be delivered would make the library less attractive to be used. Volunteers will not be in a position to deliver the kind of service previously enjoyed when the library was open 6 days a week. Many local people
• Vulnerable local people will not walk to Central to access these facilities...if they did then Central would be way overbooked in everything they did. This community has many homes that do not have internet or computers...all services need accessing this way these days...they will also not have cars to drive to another service point. We will try to provide some level of service as volunteers but we do not have the skills really to do what you are expecting.
• Exhausted from saying all the negative impacts over the 2 years. You know them...numerous studies have shown them...deprived area...remove services and increase pressure on already fragile system It is a community hub that keeps the community together...there is no such comparable place in st james.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the St James Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 3 responses to this question
• We need a community hub that is freely available to all residents of St James. It should be open reasonable hours 7 days a week. It should be available to use by groups and other organizations to communicate necessary information to residents.
• I have some idea how to keep this library stays open. It would be good to speak someone to discuss this.
• We have exhausted discussions. I feel we are in a very fortunate position to have [name] prepared to help us. The Council will regret this decision not to be more supportive and to allow the closures to continue although I appreciate massively the difference in levels of support I feel we are getting now compared to a year ago.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the St James Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 3 responses to this question
• We have struggled to support the library since the reduction in hours. Therefore Saturday opening is essential to enable us to access services in our local area. Thank you
• It would be really nice if the library did become a community hub as well as a library, maybe if it has few books and travelling library could attend maybe one day a week for more choice and help with homework etc. I would like to see more groups aimed at boys over 5 years old! As parents we are told to milit screen time, but with limited incomes it is hard to find suitable activities and my son does not enjoy craft. I think science clubs, board games clubs, cookery but where you do things other than pizza
and dips and soup. There should be space for a parents book group or groups, in the evenings so we can attend the library without children, also I feel there should be certain slots for example within the day that are just for adults, the services should remain for under 5s too and there is no safety provision for the under 2s, nobody is safeguarding them now children’s centres have become targeted and health visitors are over run! The library could link in with [name] which is opening up next door. Also I think expecting volunteers to run the library on a Saturday is unrealistic, and I feel would see lots of closures sue to staff shortages like we have done at most of the libraries for months. You could hold events such as information days about setting up your own community projects, businesses, how to gain further qualifications or gain qualifications, a staff SHOULD have training if they are expected to report any safeguarding issues etc, stagg should also be offered training if they are running any children’s groups. Also I think the community centre should allow the library to use the location (which is literally a 2 second walk away) at a reduced cost or for free!! That's supposed to be a community building for locals as well, yet none of the locals really use it. Its taken up with tkwondo which is really expensive and unrealistic prices for the parents of this area and then church groups have it every Sunday!! It would be great if the library could host big events like they used to. This drew the immunity together because it was a bigger space, this location could also support the cookery classes for children of all ages not just under 5! And maybe sports clubs for boys, dance classes, they can all be linked to a book, these events could be prizes for reading a certain amount of books in a time scale? There are plenty of ideas but you need to employ the right staff with these ideas and maybe employ some local people to the area that actually know what St James would like and wants and listens to the children, elderly and everyone else. It can work, but I think the community centre need to help the community on this one!!

- I have filled this form in several times...for the info to then be lost...im just hoping it all stays this time. It is a rubbish proposal as the library should be open and staffed 5 days a week...especially after all the childrens services etc have been put in to the Libraries. Crazy decision considering how little you will save (or not) in the long run.
Thrapston Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Thrapston Library?

There were 54 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Thrapston library</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Thrapston Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 54 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Services</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>87.0%</td>
</tr>
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Consultation, Equalities & Accessibility Team v1.0
**Universal Children’s Services** – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Change</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% of Respondents</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>18.5</td>
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</table>

**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Change</strong></td>
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<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% of Respondents</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>13.0</td>
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**Digital Services** - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Change</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% of Respondents</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>18.5</td>
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**Health Services** – to access information and advice on health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Change</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>% of Respondents</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.4</td>
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**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Change</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>% of Respondents</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>22.2</td>
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**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Change</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% of Respondents</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| I do not currently use library services in Thrapston Library |       | 3    |
|                                                           |       | 5.6  |
| TOTAL                                                      |       | 54   |

### About Thrapston Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Thrapston Library will be run by a community group in the current location but will remain part of the countywide statutory provision.

We are in discussions with Thrapston Town Council regarding the purchase of the building to ensure a provision can be kept in the town.

We are also in discussions with The Friends of Thrapston Library to run that provision on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate, at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services provided in Thrapston Library will continue to be delivered.

This could mean changes, either an increase or a decrease in the opening hours, but with an agreed minimum.
It is proposed that Thrapston Library remains part of the statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is outside the 5-mile catchment area of another statutory library within East Northamptonshire District and with a high number of children under 5 and the over 60s in the area and a high level of social isolation, indicating that statutory provision should continue. The Children’s Centre provision will continue.

As Thrapston Library would remain part of the statutory provision, should it become unviable as a community-run library, NCC would seek to find alternative provision to ensure it continued to provide a statutory service.

There is £34,000 Section 106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 54 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>Percentage (%)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 34 responses to this question

- Thrapston absolutely needs this library. The services are absolutely paramount to the support and well-being of the community
- I agree that Thrapston is too far from other libraries and as a pregnant person, I’m particularly pleased to see that the building will still be providing a space for children’s centre services which I intend to use.
- This proposal sounds best and if more volunteers are needed, I would be happy to help.
- I am pleased that the services for under 5s remain as they are the services we use. When I was a first time mum I found it a vital service and went a few times a week. I met friends there and felt very supported.
- It is a good thing that Thrapston Library is going to remain part of the statutory provision. But of course we don't really know what the future will bring once the North Northamptonshire Unitary Authority is running. At least NCC has recognised that Thrapston needs its library so I can only hope it will be safe.
- With regard to recent developments, the proposal is a much better option. It is a great shame that it has come to this, especially in light of the growth in population in Thrapston. However, this solution is much more positive and hands over responsibility to those who have the best interest of the town. My main concern would be the lack of concrete decision regarding the building.
- Any solution allowing Thrapston Library to continue to provide a service and act as a community hub for a growing town is a positive one. It is clear that considerable hard work is already present from a dedicated volunteer group which evidently has the community’s best interests at heart. It also appreciates the value of this resource in a town with no direct geographical link to another larger more heavily resourced one. Facilitating the volunteers effective focus on provision, allowing them to prosper and offer a variety of services, will surely centre largely around the building itself and how this is maintained. It seems sensible for the Town Council to contribute to this and indeed pool its resources where possible. Amalgamating the two groups could be considered thus making best use of potential funding available.
- The most important solution is to keep the library open and if this is the proposal to do so then is is a positive step.
It is great for the population of Thrapston and the surrounding villages that Thrapston Library will remain open, either as a Community Library or taken back in house by the County Council.

Ideally Thrapston library should be kept open with paid library staff as this has worked very well in the past but as there is no money to run it in this way, then the above solution has to be a good compromise.

Library provision maintained in the town

It is very positive that Thrapston library would stay open and remain part of a statutory provision. The library is a great asset to our family as we value the role that books play in the education of our daughter and in our own leisure time.

It isn’t ideal that a statutory provision will be provided by volunteers. Seems like NCC are passing the buck! However I am glad the library will remain.

Thrapston Library is an essential service for a broad range of ages - children for Rhymetime, school children for homework help and research, parents for books for their children and themselves and old people for reading matter and socialisation. I get [number] books a month out to use in the children’s [activity] classes I run.

The library is a very valuable service and I always use it to get books for my children. Without this there are no more libraries nearby, and it would cost so much more money to keep buying books. My son loves reading and is always excited to go in to the library and also to take part in the reading challenge.

It is important that the Library is retained in Thrapston and as an active member of the Friends group I am one of the volunteers who staffs the Library on [listed specific days of the week]. The number of times people have commented about the Library remaining open is too numerous to count and there is a healthy footfall. If it is possible to retain the supply of Blue Badges and Bus Passes, it would be a great service to the community.

believe it might prove hard to rely so much on volunteers after a time and therefore its future may be threatened again I also have to say that it is vital that the NCC actually do communicate with Thrapston re purchase of the building.

I understand the Council needs to save money. The proposed solution allows the library to continue with some NCC support but puts some responsibility back on the users of the library to ensure it remains open. A “use it or lose it” approach.

As a small town we need to maintain the limited facilities that we have

In the present circumstances this seems the only viable solution. A very sorry situation owing to appalling financial management by NCC!

The town needs a library - children must learn to use libraries. I am OAP and use the library - it is essential.

Because it’s very important that the Children’s Centre provision continues - getting children used to libraries is vital. Also as an OAP it’s good to have somewhere to sit, get books, read papers & magazines & have human contact.
- We need to keep these local services going for the younger children it is a great chance to enjoy the library - for new mums to the area to feel welcome and for the OAPs like myself an easy way to find out what’s going on and things to help me. Not everyone has a kindle or computer!!
- It is a good thing that Thrapston Library remains part of the statutory provision in Northants. It needs to open on Tuesdays and Saturdays, as these are busy/market days as well as Friday.
- The library should be retained fully as within the control of NCC (as proposed for Oundle), given the significant distance to the nearest libraries that are being retained under statutory control (Kettering, Oundle and Rushden all about 10 miles away).
- The current proposals would create a very uncertain and insecure future for Thrapston Library. Whilst NCC is claiming that Thrapston Library would remain part of the statutory provision under these proposals NCC is providing neither a building nor any staff under these proposals. There would also be minimal ongoing financial support. Thrapston Town Council are considering purchasing the building but as of 08/02/19 there is no firm and legally-binding commitment from TTC to allow The Friends of Thrapston Library to use the current building for the provision of library services. Currently no firm proposal is in place with regards to what would constitute a failure of the statutory-CML model and lead to NCC taking back full control of Thrapston Library.
- It is a positive solution in as much as it will ensure a library service is maintained in Thrapston, but seeking to claim that the service remains statutory while essentially forcing the Town Council to purchase the premises and the Friends group to provide volunteers, etc. seems baffling - either the library is part of the County Council’s statutory provision and should therefore be run without undue reliance of outside support and funds or the Council should not be trying to claim that this solution falls within its statutory duties
- Given the mis-management that has resulted in this situation, I would welcome any way of keeping the library open in any capacity. Of course I would prefer a proper, professional service.
- We need at the very least one trained librarian on one day each week, who would be supported by volunteers, in order to maintain the statutory services, in addition to the days covered by local volunteers.
- Should the library close it leaves many of us in Thrapston helpless. Im isolated enough by living here alone. I cant afford wifi at home. Have no computer and need the library services for my mental wellbeing and job searches. My coach at the jobcentre requires me to access their services to keep my universal credit benefit. Should the library close and services withdrawn I lose everything. Im unable to tax and insure car and i have [number] per month to pay food bills clothes etc. The library is literally a lifeline to many in thrapston. Especially the elderly
- If it means that the library can at least stay open that’s good. The hours need to be clearly publicised. An elderly lady I know wanted to renew her blue badge but has
found difficulty in doing so because she doesn’t know when the library is open. It would also be a good idea to open at various times during a week so it can be accessed on some days by the elderly and people with very young children and then on other days open later so school children can also have access

- It is a good solution as a last resort, in that at least the library remains open in Thrapston as it is a much needed service. However, I think the previous arrangement with trained and paid library staff would be my preferred option. I think bus pass applications and blue badge applications are also important and this proposal leaves that service at the mercy of the volunteers. I feel a volunteer run library is less than ideal as I imagine they will struggle to implement things such as summer reading challenge or book start bear adventures etc. You have also worryingly not mentioned what the agreed minimum of opening hours is. I think if there is a clear need for a library as there is in Thrapston that the council shouldn’t simply rely on the good nature and kindness of volunteers. I think this is poor practice and would hope the council would consider employing at least one part time member of staff with the development money available.

- These proposals are better than not having a library as it is now; but it will only be able to provide a much reduced service if we have to rely on volunteers without a paid librarian to manage the library. We need

- Community provision relies on volunteers who cannot provide all the services that should be available to the community.

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 11 responses to this question

- Potential negative impact would be the fact that provision relies on the Friends group being able to maintain the level of support in terms of volunteers and expertise to keep the library open in such a way as to replicate the community benefits currently or previously offered. This places undue pressure on residents giving their time and good faith in terms of the Council maintaining the support that is seemingly being offered - it leaves the operation of the library precariously balanced as any even small changes to volunteer availability and/or NCC support could seriously affect the library’s ability to operate

- Libraries being open and available to the community should be enshrined in law. If it is only run by volunteers or it is not legally required to be open eventually it will close. It will start with all good intentions but as time goes on opening hours will get less and less and it will rely on one or two good people keeping it going.

- It's not clear what the 'alternative provision' would comprise. I can imagine that (over time) it may be difficult to find volunteers to run a community library in Thrapston.
Please see above with consideration to how the building which houses the services is best maintained and funded.

Professional guidance on both library and community services should be available. I remain particularly concerned about the blurring of professional and voluntary lines. I have been aware of people discussing very personal things in the open library, with people whose experience of dealing with these situations is very limited.

The NCC proposal would have a detrimental effect on the wellbeing of elderly people, who use the library regularly to obtain specialist advice on various matters affecting them as well as to take out books and CDs. Young children who come for the activity sessions run by trained personnel would suffer from loss of the stimulation and learning opportunities.

Yes the limitations of the library will have a negative impact.

We need a library to be run professionally, with the help of volunteers, as without this there will be a very negative impact on the wellbeing of children and parents in the area; on retired people and the community in general. We need the library to be kept open and with a continued supply of books to cater for the many readers who use it. Services such as bus passes and blue badge provision are much used by elderly people. Help with and the use of computers is important, particularly for those who do not have computers at home, the population of the town is expanding, so there will be a greater demand for all the services it provides.

There are no negative impacts of keeping the Library open. As stated above vital service is the provision of Blue Badges and Bus Passes and it would be unfortunate if this provision was lost from the town.

The current proposals would create a very uncertain and insecure future for Thrapston Library. Some security of tenure in either the current building or another suitable building must be provided by either NCC or TTC if these proposals are to have a firm foundation for the future. Staffing and ongoing financial support levels must be looked at again. Firm criteria about what would constitute a failure of the statutory-CML model must be put in place.

It will become more difficult to access Blue Badge and Bus Pass services, but perhaps an appointment system might help - similar to MP attending every so many Fridays per year.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Thrapston Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:

There were 15 responses to this question

- Community space.

- If, as it appears to the case, there is a case for Thrapston Library to be viewed as being a necessary part of NCC fulfilling its statutory duty with regards to library provision, then NCC needs to ensure the Library can run without undue reliance on volunteers and the Friends group - volunteers and such groups should be there in a
statutory model to provide extras rather than being essential to the operation of the library

- I think Thrapston Library has more chance of surviving if there was a member of paid library staff to help run it (even if they only worked part time). The library service is struggling at the moment. NCC hasn't purchased any new books for several months and people have stopped visiting. If Thrapston Library is going to be part of the statutory provision I think it should always have an element of professional staff working there to build and develop the amenity. After NCC has eroded the library service so badly it will always be a struggle to re-build what has been lost.

- Bringing the Library under the watchful and supporting eye of the Town Council seems sensible. The potential to house these under the same roof, given access to any potential funds, is clearly a better alternative than seeking funding for two separate locations. It is more likely to receive positive financial input from any local investors so any potential for this to occur should be pursued.

- I, personally, would prefer to pay a proper level of council tax and receive proper services.

- NCC should employ one trained librarian to work at Thrapston library as least one day a week in order to maintain standards and to ensure statutory services are being provided.

- The ideal situation for Thrapston Library would be for it to continue to be run as it was in the past.

- Fund paid staff and ensure library provision remains on Saturday mornings as well as during the week.

- Community hub for meetings of groups and organisations with facilities for refreshments

- Ideally NCC would keep on running it rather than asking the community

- I don’t have one as I know it’s all down to money

- We would like our library to stay open at least 3 days a week, and be run by the Northamptonshire library service.

- I cannot think of any alternative solutions other than retaining the Library with full-time Northamptonshire County Council staff. As this is not an option the work of the Friends Group is vital with a very active pool of volunteers.

- At least one member of paid staff to be available during proposed opening hours.

- Open Tuesdays, open Saturdays. Use mix of volunteers, paid NCC staff etc. Grants? Lottery funding? Anything legal and morally acceptable to keep our library open and successful

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Thrapston Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 10 responses to this question
• Member so the Friends group have given an extraordinary amount of time and effort to trying to keep the library open, both by seeking to oppose the cuts and also by trying to work with NCC through the confusing and frustrating processes that have been going on this last 12 months. If the group is to play any role in supporting the continued opening of the library then there needs to be a lot more openness and honesty than there has been at times so far - it cannot be expected to accept being messed around and kept in the dark and then to fall into line to save the Council from not being able to fulfil its statutory obligations.

• Although there would be sense in the Thrapston town council taking ownership of the building (if financially viable), I would be very concerned about the burden and the long term issue, were the volunteers to struggle with the running and future NCC involvement.

• Need to make libraries more relevant to the wider community

• As a new mum second time round it is appalling how little provision there is for new parents in the town especially compared to 4yrs ago. The library *must* stay open!

• The children’s services are vital to the Thrapston community, they must continue.

• It’s a valuable part and resource of the community beyond Thrapston itself

• I have no further comments.

• Extremely angry that Thrapston town council is having to buy the library building that Thrapston citizens have already paid for through council tax.

• I would like more information on how the building will be utilised & see a business plan if the town council purchase it as proposed.

• We need to be able to keep Thrapston Library open for as many days/hours as possible, particularly for under 5s and over 60s. It has been an excellent resource for the Thrapston area and should continue to remain so for many years to come. Not every young family can afford to buy books and the library has been invaluable over the years as an introduction to books and ready (just look up what both Sir Michael Caine and Sir Terry Pratchett have had to say about our library system in England!)
**Towcester Library**

**Q.** Approximately how often do you usually attend Towcester Library?

There were 21 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

![Bar chart showing the frequency of library attendance]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Towcester Library</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Q.** Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Towcester Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 21 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>95.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services — to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Learning Services** - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Services</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **Digital Services** include the following:
- To learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

**Health Services** – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **Health Services** include the following:
- To access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

**Information Services** – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Services</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **Information Services** include the following:
- To access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.

**Culture Services** - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture Services</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The **Culture Services** include the following:
- To visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

I do not currently use library services in Towcester Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Towcester Library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

### About Towcester Library and its proposed future

No changes are proposed for Towcester Library and it is proposed that Towcester Library is kept by NCC in the current location.

This library will form part of the countywide statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations)
Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 18 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.6%</td>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 8 responses to this question

- great facility so should remain under current management arrangements.
- Obviously libraries, wherever, are for the good of all. My worry is if libraries become voluntarily run, are they still in the council orbit for book supplies.? Equally there is no mention at all in the documents on how the supply of new books is going to be maintained and from what funding and how that funding compares with previous years. Why no mention?
- Obviously I am happy Towcester library will remain as it is
- It is a good library with excellent facilities and helpful staff.
- This is a great facility and it should be maintained
- Towcester Library is a very welcoming space and anything which can enhance its offer is to be welcomed
- Glad that Towcester library will remain open... but still worried about the future & the fate of other libraries.
- I am unable to assess the impact of the proposal on users of other libraries.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There was 1 response to this question
- I know of people in other areas of the county who use their local libraries as a place to meet other people and as a way to go to pre-school groups. To close their local library would be detrimental for them.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Towcester Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 2 responses to this question
- Towcester library is fine. I do have a comment on general library use. I seems some of the population continue to look for particular books rather than to browse and pick a book that might interest. I think schools may have a place in encouraging a "try it" approach.
- You have told me that Towcester library will be unaffected.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Towcester Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 2 responses to this question
- Uncertainty continues given the poor state of NCC's financial position and the effect of proposed changes to local government.
- In Towcester library (& others) the consultation was not well publicised... How many people will bother to ask at the desk? Almost like NCC don't want us to fill in the survey!!?
Wellingborough Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Wellingborough Library?

There were 16 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

| More often than once a week | 3 | 18.8% |
| Weekly | 3 | 18.8% |
| Fortnightly | 3 | 18.8% |
| Monthly | 4 | 25.0% |
| Less often than monthly | 1 | 6.3% |
| I do not currently use library services in Wellingborough library | 2 | 12.5% |

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Wellingborough Library: Please tick (v) all that apply

There were 16 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

| Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library. | 11 | 68.8% |
| Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services. | 1 | 6.3% |
### Learning Services
- to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

| Learning Services | 3 | 18.8% |

### Digital Services
- to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

| Digital Services | 5 | 31.3% |

### Health Services
- to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

| Health Services | 2 | 12.5% |

### Information Services
- to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice or to use Registrations Services.

| Information Services | 5 | 31.3% |

### Culture Services
- to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

| Culture Services | 6 | 37.5% |

| I do not currently use library services in Wellingborough Library | 1 | 6.3% |
| **TOTAL** | 16 | |

### About Wellingborough Library and its proposed future

No changes are proposed for Wellingborough Library and it is proposed that Wellingborough Library is kept by NCC in the same location.

It is proposed that Wellingborough Library remains under NCC statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

There is £9,200 Section 106 money to be invested in the development of this library.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.
A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 14 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.
There were 5 responses to this question

- I’m pleased to hear that the library is not under threat.
- Wellingborough Library is used by many people of the local community for accessing services on the Internet (checking Emails, Blue Badge and other Government applications, printing payslips, boarding cards etc.), Birth/Marriage/Death registrations, Family History research etc.
- The more I go to the library is the more I realise the diverse needs the service meets.
- Whilst it is good to know that no negative changes are proposed for this library, it concerns me that no new books are currently being purchased. To maintain a "comprehensive and efficient" service and up to date stock of books is essential.
• The sums for development are inadequate. If not possible to raise to the best standards to encourage greater use then the facility should be reduced to minimal levels of service

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There was 1 response to this question
  • The funds should be used elsewhere as insufficient to make a real difference

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Wellingborough Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 0 responses to this question

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Wellingborough Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 0 responses to this question
Weston Favell Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Weston Favell Library?

There were 33 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Weston Favell library</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Weston Favell Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 31 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>83.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Children’s Services</strong> – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Learning Services - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.4%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Health Services – to access information and advice about health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### I do not currently use library services in Weston Favell Library

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### About Weston Favell Library and its proposed future

No changes are proposed for Weston Favell Library and it is proposed that Weston Favell Library is kept by NCC.

It is proposed that Weston Favell Library remains under NCC statutory provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library serves a large population, including areas of multiple deprivation, indicating that statutory provision should continue.

All libraries remaining under NCC statutory provision will be reviewed to develop the current offer, increase footfall and maximise income to ensure sustainability.

NCC is currently working with public sector partners including Police, Northampton Borough Council and Health to develop a vision for a wellbeing Hub within the Weston Favell Area and it is proposed that the library will form part of this new development.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact
assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 26 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Response number</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage (%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 17 responses to this question

- Clearly Weston Favell is not adversely affected by the changes however is does require maintainance and upkeep. Particularly the book stock is not being refreshed and this will affect the users who like to see new titles. The foyer area needs to be brightened up and the redundant cab room removed to make this a more usable space.
- Because it is the right decision for users and the county library network.
- Having lived in the area since 1980, the library at Weston Favell has always been an oasis in the cultural desert that the Eastern District is. The events for young children are entertaining and educational, and I have never seen it empty, there are always people in there, on computers, learning languages, reading newspapers, even looking at books! Thank God for Weston Favell Library, long may it stay open.
• Cutting libraries from people lives it is a crime same as cutting them food...Please let the new generation have access to culture and don't condemn them to ignorance!
• Weston Favell library is well used, has improved greatly, but could provide so much more. However any new site would need to be close to Weston Favell Centre, otherwise it will not attract enough people. Being in the centre is very beneficial to footfall. To include wellbeing services would be very good. could further space in centre be used, such as former New Look shop.
• Every area needs a library... it is the hub of the community.. It brings people together. Many uses of the facilities too..
• It's a good idea if done properly
• The hub sounds a good idea, but more information on this is needed to be able to make a proper decision as I wouldn't know what I am saying yes to. The Weston favell library as it is now in December 2018 is a large library with lots of space for all the different services they provide. It is also in a very convenient location with easy access. If it was to become part of a hub, would this reduce the library as it is? As I don't think that would be a good idea.
• Any proposals to keep libraries open and better used is more than welcome. Libraries are and have always been an integral part of Northamptonshire life. Can be accessed by anyone without little or no cost. Encourages reading by people of all ages and children's sessions etc all enhance this. I have used libraries for as long as I can remember and I would be very sad if a valuable asset to the county is reduced.
• The Council have identified that this Library is well used and an important asset to the large diverse community it serves. I am encouraged that it will not be changed and there are development plans for it. I commend the Council for the way they have considered the Community needs in their planning.
• Good that it is not scheduled to close. It is an amazing place
• It may be a bit old fashioned but I like a library to be just that. A place to find new reading material and to be able to sit quietly and read it. Notice boards with local news and advertisements for cultural events are great but this library is already noisy enough without turning it into a creche come health centre come community hall. Do we need money spending on a Wellbeing Hub? Why not save yourself some money, forget the Hub and just modernise the equipment in the existing library and increase the book stock. That's what makes a library attractive. Having books in stock rather than having to order them all the time. Weston Favell footfall isn't poor so why fix what isn't broken. Keep the library as a library and invest in that.
• I would like the library to grow and more opening hours with more staff and activities.
• The bit that says "NCC is currently working with public sector partners including Police..." Is incredibly vague. Does this mean a new building or location that the library will be moved into? Or moving those other services in to the library where it currently is?
- Haven’t used the library for a long-time but have recently retired and will want to start using library
- People need a place that houses books it’s a calming place away from home. Books are still very much used. People do read. It’s a place for society it develops minds. Reading times for children. The adventure of finding a book then finding another it’s not predictable. We need libraries

Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 7 responses to this question
- See above
- Give new generation a choice to learn, read, explore...
- Only negative impact is if new hub was not in or close to the shopping centre, which would reduce usage.
- If the library moves location and as this library is reported by the staff to have been consistently the 2nd or 3rd most visited library in the county. And with Children’s events on most days, as well as additional events like board gaming or coding. Where would you intend to fit the other services?
- See above. The last thing this library needs is more noise and hustle and bustle, it needs updating and restocking with a larger selection of reading materials.
- If the proposals are a way to cut back on staff and services, then I don’t agree with them.
- Closing any library has a negative impact on the community and every attempt should be made to maintain the service. For some people it’s the only way they would [...]

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Weston Favell Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 5 responses to this question
- See above
- Already addressed in earlier questions about location.
- Already answered.
- Provide more activities and make it accessible at all times to make it a pillar of the community for all ages and backgrounds. With good books and a warm loving, welcome from staff. These resources should not be used as a way to save money as they are a vital part of people's lives. The more these services are cut back the less people will use them.
- I often borrow the OS maps to use on walking trips. These could do with updating.
Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Weston Favell Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:

There were 5 responses to this question

- None
- Fantastic staff there already. maybe a quicker response to new books ordered to read.
- Can often have technical problems with the hire of computers or printing, and with a limited time of £1 per 20 minutes (unless you pay more), if the computer is playing up, the staff have to come and help and then give you more time, which is quite stressful and annoying, and the staff are trying to deal with several different tasks. Sometimes I only need to go to print things off from my email account, but this can sometimes end up being quite fiddly! Could have a bit better system for logging onto the computers, and printing.
- No thank you.
- Weston Favell library is an amazing place. Go there any weekday afternoon/evening and you will see dozens of schoolkids doing their homework and projects there. There is a great buzz and I am not sure where these young people would go if they couldn’t access the library.
Wollaston Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Wollaston Library?

There were 7 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Wollaston library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Wollaston Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 7 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### About Wollaston Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Wollaston Library will become a community managed library in the current location.

Discussions have taken place with The Friends of Wollaston Library to assess the feasibility of this proposal.

It is proposed that this group will take over the running of the library, supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services, such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. Some universal children’s services will continue to be delivered.

This could mean changes to the current opening hours, either an increase or a decrease, but there will be an agreed minimum.

It is proposed that Wollaston Library will no longer form part of NCC statutory library provision.
A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Wellingborough. As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (√) relevant answer

There were 7 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 3 responses to this question

- The village needs the library and is well used.
- People pay for their libraries through the Community Charge. If you steal their libraries from them, they may respond in kind.
- Better than closing it entirely but what a shame for council to give up ownership of such a vital resource that will never be re-acquired. I'd prefer to pay higher council tax to find public services than to see them being voluntary run and closed.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 2 responses to this question
- People pay for their libraries through the Community Charge. If you steal their libraries from them, they may respond in kind.
- Volunteer groups inevitably change, meaning the library may close in the future. Volunteer groups do not have child protection training, opportunities to help families, vulnerable people and children will be missed. Specially in light of cuts to health visitors in the village. Difficult to sustain volunteer groups in the long term. Volunteer groups can have their own agenda whilst running the library, not set by NCC. Low standard of provision provided by volunteers as opposed to trained members of long term staff.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Wollaston Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There were 2 responses to this question
- Keep library services as they are
- Increase council tax to pay for provision that is currently provided. An increase back to the original opening hours so that the resource of they library can be used more.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Wollaston Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There was 1 response to this question
- Fantastic that people are willing to volunteer but volunteer groups and difficult to maintain in the long term and will lower standards of provision at library.
Woodford Halse Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Woodford Halse Library?

There were 3 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

Approximately how often do you usually attend Woodford Halse Library?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Woodford Halse library</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Woodford Halse Library: Please tick (V) all that apply

There were 4 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Services – to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Children’s Services – to attend activities such as Rhymetime sessions, Play and Learn sessions, to access information and advice on school readiness services.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Services</strong> - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Services</strong> – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Services</strong> – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture Services</strong> - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I do not currently use library services in Woodford Halse Library</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

### About Woodford Halse Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Woodford Halse becomes a community managed library in its current location.

Discussions have taken place with Woodford Halse Parish Council about the feasibility of this proposal. Volunteers from the Parish Council are currently supporting the library’s published opening hours with volunteer support.

The library premises are owned by the Parish Council, where it is proposed to provide a facility supporting community need, providing a book lending service as well as additional services such as Blue Badge applications and bus pass renewals where appropriate and at the group’s discretion. Children Centre provision would continue.

It is proposed that Woodford Halse Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is not well used.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.
A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (V) relevant answer

There were 4 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor solution</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Good solution</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>75.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 3 responses to this question

- People pay for their libraries through the Community Charge. If you steal their libraries from them, they may respond in kind.
- Don’t steal our Council Tax by failing to support our libraries
- I believe that libraries are a vital local resource and should be funded at a county level, run by trained staff rather than volunteers.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?
There were 3 responses to this question

- People pay for their libraries through the Community Charge. If you steal their libraries from them, they may respond in kind.
- You steal from us: we will steal from you
- I am worried that the loss of paid, trained staff members will dilute the value of the library - volunteers may not be able to provide the same service. I am also worried that we will lose our links with other libraries (the ability to request books from other branches, for example) and some of the digital/online support in terms of taking out books and renewing online, which would make using the library more difficult for some.

Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Woodford Halse Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:
There was 1 response to this question

- Keep libraries open as before. Make any necessary cuts elsewhere.

Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Woodford Halse Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:
There were 0 responses to this question
Wootton Library

Q. Approximately how often do you usually attend Wootton Library?

There were 24 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More often than once a week</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnightly</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often than monthly</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not currently use library services in Wootton library</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Please tell us which of the following services you regularly use at Wootton Library:
Please tick (√) all that apply

There were 24 responses to this question, with respondents being able to select more than one option if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Services</strong> — to access a range of book stock or e-books, to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, to use the Library to You service, or to be a member of a Library.</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>91.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Services</strong> - to access digital support to help with using online services such as employability or family history research, or to take part in regular activities including craft events or Stitch and Chat groups.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Digital Services - to learn basic IT skills, to access public computers, photocopying, and printing facilities, to use free Wi-Fi and device charging facilities, to access County Council or District Council websites or to enrol on free online courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Health Services – to access information and advice health, lifestyle and wellbeing, parenting and family support, for Health Visitor drop-in sessions or breastfeeding facilities, or to access information about volunteering opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Information Services – to access support when looking for a job or to find out about starting and developing your own business, to apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass/disabled parking permit, to apply for school places, to access debt help and money management advice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Culture Services - to visit local displays, attend a play or speaker event outside of normal opening hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Do not currently use library services in Wootton Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 24

### About Wootton Library and its proposed future

It is proposed that Wootton Library becomes a community managed library.

Discussions have taken place with Wootton Parish Council about the feasibility of this proposal.

It is proposed to relocate the library from its current temporary location into a planned extension of the Community Centre. This will provide a facility for lending and returning books along with some other community services run by the community group.

It is proposed that Wootton Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Hunsbury.

As this would be outside NCC’s statutory library provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

There is £60,000 Section 106 money available for investment into the development.

Section 106 money comes from an agreement made under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 between a local authority and a developer. The agreement will
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

contain a planning obligation that can include the developer making contributions towards the local infrastructure and facilities.

A copy of the supporting information for this consultation, including the equality impact assessment, is available on our consultation website and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

Q. If Northamptonshire County Council decides to go ahead with the above proposal – using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is a poor solution and 5 is a good solution, to what extent do you think this would be a good solution? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 23 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

Q. If you would like to tell us why you said the above please do so here.

There were 14 responses to this question

- Potential of extended opening hours and more flexibility to meet the needs of local residents without being a financial burden in the council taxpayers
- This ensures there is a continued library provision in the area, and although Hunsbury library is less than 5 miles away, it is preferable to have a library closer to the residents of Wootton and the surrounding villages such as Hardingstone, Hackleton, Piddington and Quinton. Also, there are many new homes being built in the area and these new residents will likely provide additional demand for library services in teh
area, which can be met by the continued delivery of a library in Wootton under a community library supported by NCC.

- It would be really good to retain Wootton library but I don't know how the books would be replenished with different stock if it didn’t have access to the NCC library service.

- Library service is essential for my children

- Because you are abrogating responsibility for wider library provision. This approach leaves you with neither accountability or responsibility and pushing everything to voluntary groups and small local councils.

- Should be closed as unviable. East Hunsbury library meets the needs of Wootton residents.

- Council shouldn’t be offloading.

- If the library is run independently there is no process to share books across the county.

- This is no solution. I do not understand why Wootton is deemed "outside the statutory provision". The law says a comprehensive and efficient library service to those wishing to make use thereof. It says something about 5 miles from an alternative library but Duston, for example, 2 miles appears to be important. What exactly is your criteria. The service at Wootton should be relocated to the parish building but delivered and financed by NCC. I don't want to have to pay twice, which is what you are proposing; once via the NCC precept, once by the parish. Volunteers are good but cannot and should not replace paid staff.

- Putting the library into the community centre is a good idea, however making it a community run library feels like an excuse to get rid of it in the future

- I’m happy for it to become a community library rather than close down completely.

- In principle moving the library into the community centre is a good idea and being run by the community is fine. However, the possibility of it closing if this doesn't work is very poor! It should remain as part of the statutory provision as it forms a vital part of the local community and for young people to learn how to use it without the need to drive to another library, it also allows older residents to access library services in their local community and again not needing to travel.

- The current library is a shed with little space and facilities. Kids love the library and love that there is one they can travel to without a car. I and others would like to get more out of the library so I am hoping the community can do more with it than current. Need to understand what the community do and where it can be relocated

- I’m not sure of the difference between it staying as an NCC library or community managed as part of the centre. I just would like a library to remain where I can take my children locally to collect and return books, teaching them care and responsibility and encouraging their love of reading. I like to remain within my local community rather than going to another area or into town.
Q. If you feel this option would have a negative impact, please tell us what you think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated?

There were 8 responses to this question

- Because you are abrogating responsibility for wider library provision. This approach leaves you with neither accountability or responsibility and pushing everything to voluntary groups and small local councils. What purchasing power will this small library have; how will the current loans, returns and reservations system work? Why have you not calculated the wider social and council benefits and role of libraries into the financial calculation? Poor management is forcing library users to select from poor quality options.
- Wasted money that could be better used elsewhere
- It’s then dependent on volunteers who may come and go.
- Move the library as suggested and allow it to be run by the community BUT if it does not work NCC should retain control as part of its statutory requirement.
- I am hoping the community can do more with it than current. Need to understand what the community do and where it can be relocated in Wootton. Would be good to merge it with a café or other function in a larger space. Was great when it was at Caroline Chisholm. Wootton keep expanding their houses so this library will need to cater for the huge increase in residents.
- My only concern is that there would be the same books all the time but other than that it would be brilliant.
- It won’t last as won’t be viable. People will just go to Hunsbury which involves driving
- From your own stats 45%+ walk to this service. We cannot walk to Hunsbury or to Central. You are therefore excluding us from a service

It is proposed the library relocates to Wootton Community & Sports Centre, Curtlee Hill, Wootton, Northampton NN4 6ED [https://www.woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk](https://www.woottonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Q. Thinking about Wootton Community & Sports Centre (where it is proposed the Wootton Library will be relocated) please place the following in order of importance for the new venue.

Please rank these in order of importance using a scale of 1 – 5, with 5 being the most important and 1 the least important. Please only tick (✓) each column once

There were 19 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option per row.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

Thinking about Wootton Community & Sports Centre (where it is proposed the Wootton Library will be relocated) please place the following in order of importance for the new venue. Please rank these in order of importance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Least important</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Most important</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A comprehensive range of books</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular events for under 5s</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public computers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy access and parking</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If 'Other' please specify:

- 4 - the buttons don’t work
- Community related activities
- Other uses for the library will be welcomed to prolong its validity and use in the community. Pool table, bar, restaurant. Anything to get it out of the shed and into an area with more light and comfort.
- It won’t let me answer all the questions but each one of them is very important.
- Paid staff. Learning and information resources. Stable, regular opening hours
Q. If you feel there is anything that would prevent you from accessing Wootton Library if it moves to the Wootton Community & Sports Centre, then please tell us what these are and how they could be overcome.

There were 6 responses to this question

- Weekend access if important for working and secondary school age family.
- Car park is always locked to prevent residents using the community centre
- None
- Not sure what space the community services has as limited at the moment unless what you are really saying is you are keeping it in the existing shed which is a terrible idea. The community centre is a lifeless shape of a rectangular room of a bar, a hall for various sports and changing facilities. Where a library can go is beyond me
- Opening times.
- I don’t understand this question. I want a professional, good service available to me for no additional cost over and above other library services in the county

Q. Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposed relocation of Wootton Library, including if you feel there is an alternative venue that should be considered and why:

There were 8 responses to this question

- East Hunsbury library
- Great idea to extend the community centre and house the library in there. It would be good to have a cafe or something similar in the centre too - it would then become more of a focal point for the local community.
- I think the relocation of Wootton library into a purpose built facility as part of the extension of Wootton Community & Sports Centre is a positive step forward. The existing library is in a temporary mobile building, which is not fit for purpose and in need of extensive repairs/maintenance. Using the allocated s106 monies which are intended for the provision of library services in Wootton would be a good way of ensuring the library service can be maintained without causing a significant increase in precept charges to residents of Wootton Parish.
- Missing from list of how library is used: as a quiet place to read/study
- Why should our library services suffer due to an incompetency of our tory led council that has squandered millions for years. The venue is fine but parking and access need to be carefully considered particularly at busy times.
- There is a huge empty space next to Carolyn Chislhom that could be used for a major recreation area in Wootton which has grown in houses in past few years and longer. Could incorporate a library in a commercial venture that includes a swimming pool (instead of using the girl schools and making Caroline Chisolm kids walk over to that and swim in good weather or otherwise not swim) and other facilities which can include a library). Its a dried up field right now. Alternatively the spot where the
garden centre and Waitrose is would be ideal as has parking and space and many other reasons to visit.

- It’s the perfect location.
- No Comment

**Q. If you would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Wootton Library proposal which you would like us to consider then please tell us here:**

There were 3 responses to this question

- Close Wootton, Invest in East Hunsbury
- There is a huge empty space next to Carolyn Chisholm that could be used for a major recreation area in Wootton which has grown in houses in past few years and longer. Could incorporate a library in a commercial venture that includes a swimming pool (instead of using the girl schools and making Caroline Chisolm kids walk over to that and swim in good weather or otherwise not swim) and other facilities which can include a library). Its a dried up field right now. Alternatively the spot where the garden centre and Waitrose is would be ideal as has parking and space and many other reasons to visit.
- Maintain the service as part of the NCC provision

**Q. If you would like to make any other comments about the Wootton Library proposal that you have not already mentioned above, please tell us here:**

There were 3 responses to this question

- It appears that other community libraries will offer blue badge and bus pass services but these are not specifically mentioned in the Wootton proposal. It is hoped this is an oversight and these services are to be included.
- Please get rid of the shed it currently is in and use a more attractive facility with light and place to sit and meet. Can hire out function rooms or do other indoor activities. Wootton is a lovely area and growing in numbers but the council has seriously let the side down in terms of facilities. Nothing for teenagers and nothing indoors for elderly or kids of any age.
- Sustainable, equitable and good service funded by the county council is required
Additional feedback received from the online questionnaire

Any respondents to the online questionnaire who were seeking to provide feedback on a library that was not currently open to consultation were advised accordingly and invited to provide feedback on another library that was currently under consultation. They were also invited to leave a comment about the proposals put forward before opting to either exit the questionnaire or be redirected to select another library to comment upon.

A total of 8 respondents chose to leave an additional comment.

- The biggest question I hear from other disabled people with regards to closing of libraries generally in Northampton is how will they be able to access their benefits online when UC comes in? and how will they be able to pay bills online? Older and disabled people may not have or be able to use a tablet or smart phone. Loss of local libraries is a disaster about to happen for those who cannot afford to travel to other libraries, or are unable to use buses because of their health issues and poor mobility. With the increasing cuts targeting disabled and vulnerable adults, how will the council safeguard those people who must have online access? More people will need to use local libraries internet services as the cuts continue. Being online has become an absolute must so what provisions will be available for local vulnerable adults? It's a big question I hear often. Thank you.

- I have been a local resident, supporter and member of Abington library for many years. I have also participated in and led a number of initiatives on a voluntary basis to support the library, in particular the provision of after-school homework clubs, and special events such as Science Fun Days over the last few years. Should the need arise I am more than happy to volunteer my services one day a week to support the library and enable it to kept open if that possibility were to be made available.

- Abington Library has been available to be since the age of 3 I am now 60. It is part of the community for which it provides numerous services to single families, children and senior citizens and not just in the form of books. It has been asked to adapt and has done so as requested by N.C.C. Reducing or taking this library services will ensure that the children in the area suffer. The post code for this area is marked as an under privileged area which makes it worse. The building which was a church is unique and is probably eligible for listing. I believe that THE N.C.C SHOULD THINK VERY SERIOUSLY ABOUT ANY DECISION TO REDUCE ACCESS TO EDUCATION. Not everyone has money for laptops or books.

- The library is really important to Higham Ferrers. I would be against any consultation to close the facility.

- Higham Ferrers Library should be kept open for all the People of an expanding Town. Too many Services are being closed down while the Government is still handing out Millions & Millions to so called developing Countries. Charity begins at Home !!!!
• Irchester Library is the heart of the community serving all ages. There are monthly events Rhymetime, art, scrabble, knit and natter, coffee and chat, film nights for young adults/children and films for the general public catering for the whole of the residents of Irchester. There are other events throughout the year some income generating and others to stop people feeling isolated in a village with an infrequent bus service to Rushden and Wellingborough which does not allow proper access to the larger library, and with an ever increasing aging population neglects the elderly. There is computer access for those without internet access at home, an ever increasing need as so much is done on line - this questionnaire for one. We pay for our library service through the Council Tax system, if we loose our library and it has to be funded by the Parish Council under a precept the residents of Irchester will in fact be paying twice- this can hardly be right or equal. It is obvious that a proportion of the population will be disadvantaged.

• Many older people in Long Buckby use the Library. It is often the only reason they leave their home. The knock on effect may lead to costing more as they may require support at home, having lost an incentive to mix with their community. Reading for some older people is their lifeline. Please take this in to consideration.

• Burton Latimer library is the hub of the community it has various activities including, a walking group, singing group, baby creche, and various other activities. It means a lot too very many people, I go one would by very disappointed if it closes.
Demographic information

As an organisation, we collect specific demographic information from the people who participate in our consultations or complete surveys to build up an accurate understanding of the communities that we serve so that services and policies can be delivered to meet the needs of everybody, and ensure that everybody has an opportunity to have their voice heard. Please feel free to leave any questions which you do not wish to answer.

Any information you chose to provide will be treated confidentially and in accordance with data protection legislation and regulations.

Q. Are you responding to this questionnaire as an individual or on behalf of an organisation/community group? Please tick (✓) relevant answer

There were 1,520 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As an individual</td>
<td>1,480 97.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On behalf of an organisation/community group</td>
<td>40 2.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. If you’re replying on behalf of an organisations or community group please tell us the name of your organisation and your job title/role:

Organisation:
There were 37 responses to this question.
- Abington community centre
- Barnwell Parish Council
- Borough Council of Wellingborough
- C.E. Academy (2)
• Craft Group
• Creative Support Craft Group
• Desborough Library and Community Hub
• Desborough youth centre
• Earls Barton Parish Council
• Friends of Abington Library
• Friends of Deanshanger Library
• Friends of Desborough Library
• Friends of Earls Barton library
• Friends of Finedon Library and I am also a volunteer
• Friends of Hunsbury Library
• Hartwell parish council
• HE Bates Discussion Group/Rushden History Society
• Irchester Parish Council
• Irchester Parish Historical Society
• Irchester WI
• Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
• Just Kidz
• Kingsthforpe Grove Primary
• Lilford cum Wigsthorpe Thorpe Achurch Parish Council (2)
• Long Buckby Library and Village Hub
• Long Buckby Library and Village Hub Committee (2)
• Moulton Parish Council
• Northgate School Arts College Academy Trust (2)
• Roade Junction Community Group (2)
• SNC
• Thrapston Town Council

**Job title/role:**
There were 36 responses to this question. We have not listed the job titles / roles of respondents within this appendix in order to ensure respondents anonymity is retained.

**Please only complete the following section if you are responding as an individual.**

**Q. What is your postcode?** By providing us with your postcode, you are consenting for us to use this information to understand where respondents to this questionnaire live. If you do not consent to us using this information in this way, please do not provide your postcode. This information will only be used for the purposes of this consultation.
There were 1,322 responses to this question, including five valid postcodes from outside of the Northamptonshire area.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

Legend

- Number of respondents (count per postcode)
- Proposed Library status

- Statutory - NCC Run
- Non-statutory - NCC

- Statutory - CML
- Non-statutory - CML

Locations of respondents to library consultation mapped against Northamptonshire library locations - Kettering

Locations of respondents to library consultation mapped against Northamptonshire library locations - Northampton

Locations of respondents to library consultation mapped against Northamptonshire library locations - South Northamptonshire

Locations of respondents to library consultation mapped against Northamptonshire library locations - Wellingborough

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Consultation, Equalities & Accessibility Team v1.0
Q. Are you: (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,410 responses to this question.

![Bar chart showing gender distribution]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>69.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Are you currently Pregnant or have you had a baby in the last 6 months? (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,325 responses to this question.

![Bar chart showing pregnancy status]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>1,216</td>
<td>91.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. How old are you? (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,428 responses to this question.

![Bar chart showing age distribution]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 9</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 19</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 29</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 49</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 64</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 to 74</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75+</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Do you have a disability? (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,397 responses to this question.

![Bar chart showing disability status]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>77.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>1,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. If ‘Yes’, please tick the appropriate box(es) which best describes your disability?

There were 253 responses to this question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Disability</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing Impairment</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Disability</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sight Impairment</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. What is your religion or belief? (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,412 responses to this question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion/Belief</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>52.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikh</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any other religion (please specify)</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other:

- Agnostic (2)
- atheism is not a religion, but it is a belief, there is no appropriate tick box available for this belief
- Atheist (2)
- Catholic (2)
- Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster
- Human
- Humanist (2)
- love
- None and Christian
- Not really your business and I don’t understand why you need to ask
- Not relevant
- One of Jehovah’s witnesses
- Open minded
- Pagan (4)
- Quaker
- [Redacted]
- Spiritual not religious
- Spiritualist
- Thelemite
- Unitarian
- Why is this important
- WIKKAN
- yes

Q. How would you describe your ethnic origin? (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,373 responses to this question.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

### How would you describe your ethnic origin?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnic Origin</th>
<th>Response Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White – British</td>
<td>1,205</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White – Irish</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White - Other White Background</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British – Indian</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British – Pakistani</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British – Chinese</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Asian British – Other Asian Background</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed / Multiple ethnic Background – White &amp; Black Caribbean</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed / Multiple ethnic Background – White &amp; Black African</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed / Multiple ethnic Background – White &amp; Asian</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed / Multiple ethnic Background – Other mixed / multiple background</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Black British – Caribbean</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Black British – African</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Black British – Other Black Background</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other – Arab</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any other ethnic group (please state)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other:
- Australian
- detest being labeled in that way
- Disability and political parties
- English (4)
- I would describe my ethnic origin as irrelevant to this survey. What a racist question!
- None of your business
- Pale European
- White British
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

- White Caribbean
- White: English (7)
- White: Irish
- White: Welsh.....
- Why is this relevant?

Q. If you are 16 or over which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself? (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,346 responses to this question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bisexual</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay Man</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay Woman/Lesbian</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual</td>
<td>1,079</td>
<td>80.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were assigned at birth? (Please tick the appropriate box)

There were 1,381 responses to this question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were assigned at birth?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Children and Young People Questionnaire

Proposed change to
Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Services

Children and Young People Consultation Questionnaire

Your Library

Northamptonshire County Council is thinking about how we deliver the library and information service.

We do not have all the money we need to keep and run the library services in the way it is now being run. We want to keep as many libraries as open as we can but we need to think about how we can do this.

Your answers to the following questions will help us to understand your views about how you use the library service and the effect that any changes to current service may have.

What you say will be part of a report with the views of lots of other people, so you will not be personally identified. The report will be given to the people who make decisions at the Council. We were planning to make the decision on what to do about the future of the library service in March 2019, but this will now be made in May.

You can see all the details about what we are thinking of doing on our website
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations

How you can have your say

This questionnaire is for children and young people. By filling in this questionnaire we want to make sure we hear your views.

(If you are not a child or young person or want to complete the more detailed questionnaire you can do so by going to www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations.)

You do not have to answer all of the questions. If you need any help in completing this questionnaire, please speak to a member of library staff. Completed questionnaires can be returned to a member of library staff or in a pre-paid envelope, which are available upon request.

If you prefer you can complete this questionnaire online at:
https://northamptonshire.citizenspace.com/bipm/librariesproposalcyplibrariesproposalcyp
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

You can come to a library consultation drop-in event which are being held and speak to a member of staff. Have a look at the our website www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations to find out when these will be held.

You can also give us your views by emailing or writing to us. Please see our contact details below.

**Email address:** consult@northamptonshire.gov.uk  
**Postal address:** Consultation, Equalities and Accessibility Team, BIPM, Northamptonshire County Council, One Angel Square, Angel Street, Northampton NN1 1ED  
**Telephone:** 0300 126 1000

The deadline for giving us your feedback is [deadline].

**Thank you for helping us by completing this questionnaire.**

**Q. As this questionnaire is for children and young people only, please tell us how old are you?** Just tick (✓) one box

There were 54 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Response number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 years or younger</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 11 years</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 to 15 years</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. Which library do you use the most? If you do not use a library then you can tell us which library is closest to you. Just tick (v) one box

There were 51 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.
Q. How often do you go to your library? Just tick (v) one box

There were 48 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corby</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danesholme</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daventry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deanshanger</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desborough</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duston</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earls Barton</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Cotton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finedon</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higham Ferrers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunsbury</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irchester</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irthlingborough</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsthorpe</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Buckby</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middleton Cheney</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moulton</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton Central</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oundle</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raunds</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roade</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothwell</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushden</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St James</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrapston</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towcester</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellingborough</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weston Favell</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wollaston</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodford Halse</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wootton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. Please tell us about the things you think are important for you to do at your library?

There were 50 responses to this question, with respondents only being able to select one option per row.
Q. Please write in here about anything else you do at a library?

There were 37 responses to this question.

- talk to the librarians about books and other things. I feel it is really important for me to be able to do this.
- When I was little my mummy took me to baby groups at the library and she takes my little sister, who is 3, there a lot
- I love my library
- The library is a great place to choose book to help with my reading.
- I like the crafts and events at the library too
- Story time
- Use the play area informally. Attend consultations. Make friends
- I enjoy the help like when I cant find a book I am kindly assisted
- I do homework in the library
- I come to the homework club
- I go and see my [relative] and [their] friends at scrabble and, knit and knatter. I also go to Rhyme time / play with my [relative] and my [relative].
- Occasionally attend the under 1 playtime on Thursday afternoons with my [relative] and [relative].
- The beanbags where the children’s books are, are very useful because children can stand read the books they’ve just taken. I used to sit on them waiting for my [family member] from school. I also visit my [relative] in knit and natter and scrabble groups.
- Me and my daughter come to the library every week. We are part from the lovely groups that running in there. For us the library is like second home.
- Messy play. Stay n play
- I like to play with the toys. I want to come to creative play on a Friday
I attend rhymetime and play n learn
'Messy play' rhymetime
Socialise, meet people
My son and I always come to craft club on a Friday after school. He really looks forward to this each week
child friendly areas
Craft club after school on Fridays, change book, rhymetime
I use the library after school and at weekends for homework (either using the library as a place to study or as a place to research) I also borrow DVDs from the library. I used to use the scanning/printing and photocopying service a lot more than I do now. I now only print items or photocopy items that I cannot access outside of the library (e.g. online reference material or photocopying reference only material) A friend advised me that when the library service increased the cost of this service, [name] stationary shop (who are just around the corner from the library) were offering far cheaper prices for printing and photocopying. Therefore the library service priced itself out of the market.
I see my library friends that I don't see anywhere else. I used to come to the library every Saturday and see them and choose my books but I can't anymore because it's closed.
Borrow DVDs, books, use the computer
It's a social event for me too meeting other like-minded mums. It teaches my child social skills
We use the children's area. Sometimes attend Rhymetime
Play with the toys
Play with the toys. Whatch the magician.
Drawing, play with toys
Children Centre Services sessions we attend regularly & are a vital part of our routine. We also come regularly to play & look & borrow books.
We visit every week for play & learn which my little boy loves. We also try to attend Bounce & Rhyme too.
I like the seasonal stuff
Draw and play and colour.
Come and play / do arts and crafts
Work
Come every day to do school work. 100s of kids from [school] do this daily

Q. Please tell us the one thing you like best about your library?
There were 39 responses to this question.
The nice librarians and the books and that it is close to me.
The children’s area is bright and colourful. There are toys, colouring and lots of books!
All the activities I can join in on.
I can pick my own story the one I want. And when it is Any holiday special display is there for books like Christmas time.
Playing
The range of books but it is sadly fading. there are less books and it is obvious.
- Lots of books to choose from
- The people, the resources, the atmosphere
- It is really warm in the winter and I like going to see my family.
- The amount of sessions there are for people of all ages. Especially olders - it gives them an opportunity to get out of the house and socialise with friends e.g. Scrabble might be the only thing they do all week outside.
- It provides clubs for children and adults. It always has the books I want or need. The people who work there are so polite and helpful and caring.
- Books, puzzles, children groups!
- I like reading books and playing with toys – [name] aged 3.5
- To read new stories
- The above sessions
- Closeness of it to home
- The staff
- The library at Finedon is always friendly with a good range of books and it feels safe for my son
- activities and events for kids
- Books
- The fact that it is a community safe space for anyone to come and use.
- Wide range of books
- I like all the things. Looking at the books, playing with the toys especially with other children, the librarians who always play with me, doing my books on the machine, the Summer Reading Challenge, putting money in the box on the wall, stamping my hand.
- It has endless supplies of books and a nice atmosphere
- Lots of books
- The toys, the fun, the sharing of information and ideas
- How accessible it is. We love to be able to drop in on the way home from school
- Taking books home
- Read books
- The books
- Reading books
- Children facilities.
- The fact that they offer free activities for little ones is amazing! I would be happy to pay a small amount every week, if it would help things like this carry on!
- Seeing what there is. Exploring.
- Reading and colour.
- Everything
- Books
- Can get on with homework with mates with no hassle
- I like how you can sit down and look around and choose books and look at them and take them home.

Q. Is there anything else you want to tell us about your library?
There were 32 responses to this question.
• Please don’t close this library, it is brilliant and I loved taking part in the summer reading challenge last summer.
• It is important that the library is part of a community resource. It offers a range of information about the local area as well as books. The best thing about the library is that it is at the heart of Corby. It is friendly and accessible. Libraries are so important to the community. When my daughter was young and living at home we would use the libraries facilities very regularly. Long may they continue. DO NOT CLOSE.
• It is really important to our village.
• It needs an L on the sign, so it doesn’t say library.
• We do school trips to library and we have our cards. I like it.
• The staff are lovely and helpful and they know the books and what I might like. Its cute to see the babies singing. I did that when I was little and it was great. But where are the books?
• Love it. Keep it open.
• It is a great place to be and the people here are really nice
• I used to go there for Rhyme time when I was 2 and the books are very interesting.
• It is a safe and welcoming environment and is a great asset to the village I live in.
• I think it’s such a nice place and it provides more than what a library needs to do for the community purely for the people who use it and need it.
• Please keep that amazing place open for us!
• Fantastic volunteer support – [name]
• We love it
• Very inviting
• In the library is always great time spend. There is very nice place for chat with other people. Great we've got it in the town
• My local library in Higham Ferrers has a long history and is located in a beautiful building. The staff who work in it are dedicated and provide an excellent service. I think it would be an absolute travesty if the council were to close it down. There are few places that offer the benefits to the local community that the library does. It is simply not good enough for the council to simply say that we can use Rushden library instead.
• Relaxing place to be
• I love my library.
• No
• I would be lost without it
• We really value having a child friendly space to meet people. The fact that it is always warm and welcoming is a big plus to our community
• The librarians are always really nice and let him choose toys to play with
• [Name] the librarian orders books for me
• The librarians are really nice and helpful. Books can be ordered from other libraries. They recommend authors to me.
• I'm very happy with my Thrapston Library
• Vital part of the community in my eyes especially for young families. I would be lost without it.
• [Name] who does these groups is amazing!!
• I took my 7 year old to the library at least weekly from baby years. We engaged in every event hosted at our library which we have fond memories of now. She now
excels in reading and writing (which if recognised may just be her character). Libraries are our starting point for any questions we have about our community and how that translates in the big wide world.

- Do more activities for young people
- No
- Luv it :-)
- I like the people who run the library.
Written submissions

- Kettering Borough Council - The Council has noted the changes made to proposals to review and re-provide the library service, including the sudden inclusion of Burton Latimer library in the list for closures. We will continue to work with community groups and the County Council to ensure the survival of the three libraries in our A6 Towns and to make the Kettering library more sustainable. We are keen to help develop a joint approach to the management of the library, art gallery and museum in Kettering and to create more income earning options.

- Daventry District Council - The Council strongly supports the retention of Brixworth Library, as proposed.

- Daventry District Council – The Council strongly supports the proposed relocation of Daventry Library to the Abbey building, and will work with NCC to make this a success. The new location should markedly reduce NCC occupation costs, including contingent costs.

- Daventry Town Council - Daventry Town Council was pleased to learn of the County Council’s decision to conduct a new review of the library service and consider options to continue to deliver a sustainable library service, throughout the county, within budgetary constraints.

   Daventry Town Council advises its support for Daventry Library to be retained, under NCC statutory provision, and be relocated to the Abbey Centre, Daventry (owned by Daventry District Council) to facilitate the redevelopment of the old library site for the development of a cinema and public space for entertainment and leisure.

- Kettering Borough Council - The Council has noted the changes made to proposals to review and re-provide the library service, including the sudden inclusion of Burton Latimer library in the list for closures. We will continue to work with community groups and the County Council to ensure the survival of the three libraries in our A6 Towns and to make the Kettering library more sustainable. We are keen to help develop a joint approach to the management of the library, art gallery and museum in Kettering and to create more income earning options.
• Good Morning I would like to support keeping Kingsthorpe library open as our school uses the library regularly. We feel that it is vital that we are able to take classes of children down to the library which is currently within walking distance. We set the children up with library cards and give them access to all the facilities that the library has. After we do this, many of our children then access the library with their families. This is an excellent facility which supports the local community.

• It is very sad to hear about the closure of Kingsthorpe library, as a father of [number] kids using the library, it will be a huge loss, a potential loss to my kids education, I make a humble request to the council to change it’s mind on the closure and keep the library open

• I think this is disgraceful that library has been there forever and helped so many children and parents. Perfect for school trips and good for new parents struggling with new babies so for health issues and social activities. The council really need to sort their priorities out and start putting the people first.

• To whom it may concern, Re. Our local library in Kingsthorpe. I understand that Northgate Arts College Academy Trust has kindly submitted a proposal to the NCC to run a library service from The Beehive on Harborough Road, rather than see it face closure, however, our school community are concerned that there would be limited space at The Beehive which would restrict the range of services to the community which are available at the present library location. For instance it would not be possible to take a whole class of children to the library or for the library to be used for homework study space. Libraries play an important part in nurturing children's love of books and reading. Parents and young children benefit greatly from 'Rhyme Time' and storytelling sessions. Older residents enjoy book groups, quilting groups and Knit n' Natter in the library. The computers give access to people applying for benefits and jobs. Blue Badges and Bus Passes are available from Kingsthorpe library. Many of our families do not have transport and to move the library a further half mile from the town centre and away from the heart of Kingsthorpe will restrict access to many of our children and families. Whilst we appreciate the offer from The Beehive, I do believe that the County Council should continue to support and fund Kingsthorpe Library in its present location. It is over 2 miles from the Central Library in Abington Street - 2.6 miles - and as such should remain within NCC statutory provision, as it falls in a ‘in a deprived area, is densely populated with a high 0-10-year-old population. It has a high number of active library users, and a high aged 60 and over populations nearby.
- Kettering Borough Council: The Council has noted the changes made to proposals to review and re-provide the library service, including the sudden inclusion of Burton Latimer library in the list for closures. We will continue to work with community groups and the County Council to ensure the survival of the three libraries in our A6 Towns and to make the Kettering library more sustainable. We are keen to help develop a joint approach to the management of the library, art gallery and museum in Kettering and to create more income earning options.

- Daventry District Council - NCC is urged to work closely with Woodford Parish Council, to make the community libraries in Woodford Halse viable and successful. In particular, NCC is urged to surrender its lease of the library space without charging for this. Such a surrender would be in NCC’s own financial interest. Such surrender could, of course, be conditional on Woodford PC running a community library for a minimum period of time, such as five years.

- Hello. See email strand below. I sent this as part of the last consultation. Nothing has changed in my view. I have filled in a Wootton Library questionnaire this time and things have changed slightly since 2018...I still think it is inequitable to drop Wootton from your definition of statutory provision. I am unsure if you consulted on the criteria for that? In Duston's impact assessment it says 2 miles, whilst in Wootton it says 5?? Not making sense. If you compare Duston to Wootton in terms of its distance from other libraries, % of young children etc, Wootton comes out more in need. I shall be paying for a service to Duston through the council tax. I shall have to pay for a service in Wootton on top of that through the parish precept. Doesn't seem quite right to me. Overall I look at the budget savings for libraries over the next two years and it is huge. I cannot understand how short sighted this saving is. In terms of inclusion, learning, culture, community, digital skills etc libraries are right up there. I am appalled that libraries are taking such a hit. Invest in them. They could actually be part of the solution to the deterioration of the town centres if they were managed properly with initiative, enthusiasm and commitment. That means staff and resources are required. Please confirm this has been read and understood (previous email follows) Hello Thank you for the opportunity to be consulted on your proposals to close library service points in northamptonshire. My view is: 1. I don't want an unprofessional library service in the county. The strengths of the present provision is that it is county wide, staffed, resourced an on the whole good. 2. I don't want my local library (Wootton) closed. I use it regularly as do others and it is an important element of the County Council's provision to the people in the locality. 3. I don't want it transferred to a 'community'. It is already a community provision, used and wanted by the community. Transferred to a parish responsibility will water down the service...
to a second rate service and lose all the benefits of being provided by the strategic authority. My question is how much will this actually save? My understanding is that the staff will be redeployed. So what is the cost of providing it at the moment and how much will you actually save? I am not filling in your consultation as my swift reading of the questions are ones I cannot answer as the options are not what I want. But I assume that you will take my views into account. Thank you.

- Daventry District Council - NCC is urged to work closely with Moulton Parish Council, to make the community library in Moulton viable and successful. In particular, NCC is urged to surrender its lease of the library space without charging for this. Such a surrender would be in NCC’s own financial interest, and should avoid the need to repay planning obligations monies provided for the library. Such surrender could, of course, be conditional on Moulton PC running a community library for a minimum period of time, such as five years.

- Kettering Borough Council - The Council has noted the changes made to proposals to review and re-provide the library service, including the sudden inclusion of Burton Latimer library in the list for closures. We will continue to work with community groups and the County Council to ensure the survival of the three libraries in our A6 Towns and to make the Kettering library more sustainable. We are keen to help develop a joint approach to the management of the library, art gallery and museum in Kettering and to create more income earning options.

- I have always used libraries although not the mobile because it was an inconvenient day. However, I do find libraries an important source. As someone virtually house/village bound I cannot get to Middleton Cheney, as I have no transport. Can you tell me how I could order a book and get it delivered to the village?

- This letter is in response to the libraries consultation that has run from December 2018 until March 2019. Although Brackley is pleased to hear that Brackley’s library has now been recognised as a statutory, funded service we write on behalf of other libraries in Northamptonshire. Our neighbours in Middleton Cheney have been categorised as ‘statutory’ but not funded by NCC. If NCC recognises the legal obligation to provide a library service in Middleton Cheney (and all of the other libraries who have been given the same classification) why is not now funding that services?
The refusal by NCC to plan for funding the Middleton Cheney service, is stated to be because the Parish Council was interested in funding the library. We hear that this is not the case. Without funding at any Council level there is a reliance on a village that is not particularly wealthy to fund and volunteer run the library themselves. This is very unlikely to be possible. Libraries are not an easy or simple service to manage on a volunteer run and funded basis. Most volunteers are older, retired people, as the vast majority of working age residents need to be in paid, full time roles in order to keep a roof over their heads. This puts a natural limit of the skill pool of possible volunteers as the skill pool of a paid working age staff is completely different to retirees, hard working though both are.

This is particularly relevant to the role of librarian manager which is a highly qualified job and would need to also encompass fund raising. However even entry roles within the library team require physical strength and an ability to cope with the general public that not everyone with the time to volunteer is blessed with. A love of books and shelf stacking is not enough, and volunteer libraries have seen book borrowing fall or closed their doors across the country.

The reasons for Middleton Cheney’s classification as a statutory library relied on many factors, not least of which was that libraries are important and there is a particular level of need in the local area. The 2011 Ward Profile for Middleton Cheney illustrates that 13.7% of households in this ward don’t have a car or van at all to travel to another town or village for access to local services. Without a funded library service around one in seven households will completely lose access to any library service.

This situation is exacerbated by the cuts to Brackley Library’s opening hours – as the nearest Northamptonshire library service it is residents of Middleton Cheney’s nearest available funded option. However Brackley is now only open for 4 hours on a Saturday, from 10-2, meaning that any family who works during the week, particularly those with school age children, will only have a very limited time slot to visit a library locally.

The end result will be poorer literacy rates for children, and increased costs for elderly people in the village. The best solution would be to fund a library service in Middleton Cheney allowing both of these vulnerable, protected groups access to the library in a cost effective way.

We, at Save Brackley Library, respect and back Middleton Cheney’s statement that all libraries described as part of the statutory service also be funded by NCC, and onwards by the new Unitary Council as they become the authority responsible for libraries in the future.

Delivery of library services should not be dependant on whether or not the local area has a Parish Council willing to stump up cash, or on the proportion of the populace that has the time and is able and qualified to volunteer.

Although we speak of Middleton Cheney, our comments apply to all of the libraries affected.
Proposal in Consultation

It is proposed that Higham Ferrers becomes a Community Managed Library in the current location.

This will be a transitional arrangement while plans are developed to relocate the service to a new build community centre. Should the library move to a new build community centre it is anticipated this will not happen within the next 2-3 years. The library will stay in its current location until these plans are developed.

Discussions are ongoing with the Friends of the Library and the Town Council. It is proposed that Higham Ferrers Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 2 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision at Rushden and has relatively low physical visits.

Higham Ferrers Town Council fully support the need for a Library service to remain in Higham Ferrers. There is a committed Community Group who are already helping run the library during opening hours.

The option that the County Council is consulting on for Higham Ferrers has not been explored sufficiently before it has been put out for public consultation. To date no figures have been put in writing to the Town Council or Community Group on the revised costs of renting the current building. We understand a 40% reduction may be applied. It was made clear at a meeting on 16th January that the figures in the valuation from May 2018 (£33,000pa) meant that the proposal was not viable. A review of the figures was promised. The Town Council deem the consultation to be token and may give the public false hope, as figures have not been agreed and unless a substantial reduction is given is possibly not viable. Higham Ferrers is being disadvantaged against other communities as the rent being requested is higher, yet the access to resources from the community to fund this is not higher.

The Town Council are actively working on the new Community Centre, but need a period where the service stays in its current location at minimal cost. The Community Group volunteers are willing to staff the library. If the service closes it will never resurrect itself in a new building in 3 years time.

The assessment of need for all libraries has not been presented in a clear and transparent way.

The Council have analysed the data (copy attached) from the documents ‘Libraries Analysis – Assessment of Impact of October 2018’ presented. This indicates that Higham Ferrers performs well, particularly against Irthlingborough which is remaining as a statutory Library. Based on these figures how can the County Council say in its consultation statement for Higham Ferrers that the figures are relatively low. What
defines relatively low? This is misleading as the Town Council would interpret it as relatively high.

The County Council have refused to publish the detailed needs analysis from August 2018. Why is this? It is easy to make statements as to why one library is needed against another. These statements need to be evidenced and the reasoning be transparent and made public.

Have the County Council already made the decision and is it paying lip service to consultation? The ‘Drop in’ at the Library was poorly publicised by the County Council and one county council officer at the event remarked to a member of the public:– The library could not continue in its current location due to the high cost. It was an indulgence and a library didn’t need to be there. It was felt that the property should be sold and become apartments.. In addition the County Council has been talking to CANDO about relocation from the Higham Ferrers Library since August. Why the urgency when the decision had not yet been taken!

In the document ‘Proposed changes to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Services’ it leads the reader to think that proposal for all libraries are under review, even the ones that are proposed to stay within NCC control. The Council has been told (12th February 2019) that the decision on the libraries staying within NCC control is not under consultation as this decision has already been taken. The document is therefore misleading and also does not give communities the option to challenge the decision.

The Town Council challenges the decision to retain Irthlingborough and not Higham Ferrers Library. If residents can travel from Higham Ferrers to Irthlingborough they can also travel the other way to use the facilities. Higham Ferrers continually outperform Irthlingborough and the cost per visit is 88p compared to £4.43 for Irthlingborough. We are told Irthlingborough is more deprived. This is only marginal. The IMD for Higham Ferrers is 3 and Irthlingborough 2.

Higham Ferrers has grown by 38.2% since 2001. Rushden SUE is due to add another 2500 houses in the area. This does not appear to have been taken into consideration. This whole process started over 18 months ago. Throughout this time the Town Council have tried to work with the County Council but feel that there is lack of transparency and the timetables and goalposts keep being changed. Whilst we hear the words that the County Council understand and are passionate about the service, the Town Council is starting to doubt this. The Community Group are now beginning to understand what the Town Council have been working with and are feeling the same frustrations. The lack of uncertainty does not help them recruit volunteers.

The view of the Town Council is that the County Council have not adequately assessed the need in Higham Ferrers and should consider the service being one that is under statutory control.
Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries & Information Services - Appendix to the Consultation Analysis Report

- I was in the middle of a reply to the consultation and just came back to it. Although Finedon’s consultation is not supposed to be finished (the meeting is next week), the website page has disappeared. This is confusing as the 8 extra libraries consultations were supposed to last longer. I have been told that for some reason, under the information about Finedon library there was no list of which outside bodies, e.g. Friends of Finedon library etc had been consulted. Apparently, under all the other libraries this information was listed. Of course I would prefer the library to continue under NCC, however I realise that this is not possible. With the support currently offered with training, IT support, new books etc, it is feasible for a library group to run the library. I would not like to see this support removed however, as it would not be feasible to keep the library open under the Independent model.

- My family have used this library for the last 50 years, it is a genuine asset to the local people of the area. I would rate it above the central library! As the immediate area is of high density, with both young and old persons it forms an information hub; equally there is a growing population of European nationals who are able to make use of the expertise of the staff, which must help with integration. The building itself should be listed! Selling the building for housing would be a mistake on a par with giving the local football club 10 million pounds!!! (we suffer from a poor borough council as well)

- My wife and I are both residents in Long Buckby and are very keen indeed that our Library remains open. We are a large rural community and the library is a key focal point. I hope that every possible way will be considered as to how the library can remain open. I am sure that there are volunteers in the community who would be prepared to help staff the library by giving some of their time to help to keep it running.

- Preventing people from commenting on the overall proposals for libraries is absolutely disgusting. You are rigging the responses. I can't believe you have the gall to do this. This is weasel words, as you know full well that most people will only do the questionnaire. Setting it up this way is not going to give you a proper picture. To have to do the whole thing for each library you want to comment on is going to dissuade people. Even if this isn't deliberate manipulation of the consultation, it shows poor understanding of how people complete surveys etc. Another communications misjudgement from NCC. Let's hope that the unitaries look beyond you lot for their Comms teams. Please include my emails in the consultation.
• I am emailing you to ask that this questionnaire to be made available without having to send an email, as that is a right that I feel you should not strip from us and especially as you are doing just that on our services. Paying more now and getting less, stripping public services is below the belt and is seriously cruelty to our society. We pay for the lack of understanding and mismanagement of the financial status of NCC by losing our libraries and other as important services. Does Northamptonshire County Council have a backbone to challenge government for more funding for key areas and do the councillors involved in the decision making understand the severe consequences of the decisions they are making? Social Care is on the rise, you ain’t seen nothing yet, once you see libraries and their children’s services closing or hrs being cut as communities are not golden carpets in which we the most vulnerable can afford such money, I feel the cost of mental health in children and adults alike will hit its highest levels and these levels compared to the the money NCC plan to save on the library enforcement to Community ran groups or charities are going to show NCC in the coming year exactly why your incompetence should not punish the people! I would appreciate a reply should time be available, however, I don’t expect to see one.

• I would like to make the following comments about the libraries consultation. Unfortunately, I believe there are a number of flaws in the consultation: 1) Good consultation practice states that all information should be released at the start of the consultation and not be drip-fed during the course of the consultation. This consultation was obviously published before it was ready, indeed there is no information at all on eight libraries. I use one of the libraries that is proposed to be a community library. I have spoken to somebody who is a member of the community group that is trying to save this library, they state that the have received very little information from NCC. At this point of time they do not know whether they would be able to keep it open. There is no way I (or anyone else) could reasonably complete the consultation for that library as I have no idea whether that library could be community run. 2) Regardless of the financial situation of the County Council, you still have an obligation under the Public Libraries Act 1964 to provide a comprehensive & efficient service. You state that your proposals meet this, which I would strongly dispute but I fully appreciate that this could only be tested in a court law. 3) You state that NCC cannot consider maintaining the library service in its current form. This is prejudging the consultation, which not only is bad consultation practice but has also been found to be unlawful in previous consultations. It is clearly not true, the draft budget states that ‘savings’ from these proposals amount to £381,000 in 2019/20. This is not a large amount in the overall council budget. Off the top of my head I can think of a number of ways this amount could be raised- a) Raise Council Tax by more than 3% (this would require a referendum), b) Raise Council Tax by 2.999% rather than 2.99%, I calculate this would raise around £30,000 which could
be used towards libraries, c) find equivalent ‘savings’ from other areas, d) use some of your share of the £17million gained from Business Rates retention on libraries, e) wait until the final government funding formula is announced as there may be additional funding in this 4) The way the consultation is structured into individual libraries it is not possible to comment on the overall provision of a library service within the county. I, or anyone else for that matter may be able to come up with suggestions to make the required ‘savings’ in other ways. I have a number of questions I would like to ask about financial situation in respect of libraries. Can I ask you these questions, or would I need to put in a FOI request?

- What is the point? The consultation should say that we don’t want these changes but even if it does they will go ahead anyway. I am far away from being a Conservative and [name] may have got it all wrong but at least [they] stood up for what [they] knew we wanted. [they] also, unlike the rest of the Cabinet, took responsibility for the Conservatives failures[...] At least one with some integrity.

- I have completed a Questionnaire for Northampton Central Library. It did not afford me the opportunity of commenting on one of the services available county-wide without visiting one of the branches: BorrowBox. I hope that this service will not be curtailed. I feel that unfortunately it is not particularly well publicised. With a Borrower number and a password a whole array of e- and audio-books can be downloaded onto smartphones and tablets to be enjoyed at anytime absolutely anywhere.

- As I am not affected by a Library closure, I am not responding to the consultation. However, I do wish to ask the question as to "Why you are still going ahead with this?". The government have made it very clear that they will disband Northamptonshire County Council and the likelihood is they will set up two Unitary Authorities. Once these Unitary Authorities are set up their priorities may be totally different to those of Northamptonshire and they may want to keep all the libraries. I see this as spending valuable time and monies on this consultation as being unnecessary for the reasons outlined above.

- Frankly I think it's awful that the council are doing such a bad job with the money that they need to shut down a library
• A professional, between [year] and [year], worked at [number] of Northamptonshire’s public libraries, and served on the now extinct mobile libraries, I would like to comment on the proposals for several towns and villages. These proposals are evidently based on the incorrect assumption that everyone has the use of a car. In some cases, should a community managed library which is deemed to be outside the statutory provision fail and close it will be difficult for some to travel to the suggested alternative library especially, as observation on buses reveals some non-car users have mobility problems. **Long Buckby to Daventry** A bus service solely designed for Daventry rail commuters. There are six buses between Long Buckby and Daventry on Monday to Friday only. There are no buses from Long Buckby to Daventry after 0934 until 1604 and no bus from Daventry to Long Buckby after 0919 until 1551. 13.30% of households in the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) which mention Long Buckby have no car / van in the household. **Moulton to Weston Favell** The direct bus service between Moulton and Weston Favell Shopping Centre was withdrawn in August 2018. 13.37% of households in the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) which mention Moulton have no car / van in the household. **Raunds to Thrapston** There are only six Monday to Saturday buses between these towns. The ones to Thrapston at 0705 in the morning and back at 1813 in the evening probably are of little use to library users. 12.95% of households in the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) which mention Raunds have no car / van in the household. **Roade to Hunsbury** On Monday to Friday there are six buses between Roade and Mereway Tesco but only three return journeys. The direct Roade to Towcester bus service was withdrawn in July 2018. 16.40% of households in the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) which mention Roade have no car / van in the household. **Wollaston to Wellingborough** While there is an hourly bus service on Monday to Friday there are only four small minibuses on Saturdays 10.60% of households in the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) which mention Wollaston have no car / van in the household. Even where a suitable bus service exists, what used to be an errand of about an hour around the village will now become a half day excursion. The English national bus network continues to shrink so the continuation of existing links cannot even be guaranteed. **Earls Barton** We read that “a gap has been identified regrading travel times to (Wellingborough) and other statutory libraries”. On Monday to Friday there are four Wi-Fi equipped buses an hour between Earls Barton and Wellingborough, scheduled to take no more than twenty minutes for the journey, plus the free car parking in Wellingborough. Other communities in Northamptonshire and throughout England would welcome that sort of “gap”. **Kingsthorpe** There has been a library in Kingsthorpe for about ninety years, located in three different buildings, but all of them sited at the junction of Welford Road, Kingsland Avenue and Cranford Road convenient for shops and transport links. The proposal to move the library to a less convenient rather inaccurately measured “about half a mile away” location is not designed to increase use of the library. The fact that Duston is regarded as an
alternative for Kingsthorpe is another manifestation of the fact that this document is a design for a library service by car owners for car owners. **Woodford Halse.** Woodford Halse is classified as a community managed library outside N.C.C. statutory provision. In the event of this arrangement failing the library would close. For all the other libraries in this category an alternative statutory library up to five miles away, is identified. However, there is no alternative provision cited for Woodford Halse, presumably because the nearest other library is rather more than five miles away in Daventry. If Earls Barton’s circumstances justify it being retained as part of the statutory provision the same should apply to isolated Woodford Halse. We have not been told what criteria has been used in determining what constitutes a level of library service which satisfies the 1964 Act or who has determined them. Ease of access for users or meeting the authority’s statutory equal opportunities responsibility have certainly not been given a very high weighting.

- Please be advised that this response is from [name]. While recognising that the current proposals for all 36 public libraries in the county show some improvement on the ‘independent library process’ that was mooted by NCC councillors last year, I continue to have serious concerns regarding the sustainable future of those libraries that NCC proposes to remove from its current statutory provision. My concerns are as follows: 1) There is insufficient clarity regarding the provision in the 5 places where it is said that NCC deems it necessary for there to be a public library in order for the council to be fulfilling its statutory duty. It appears that local community or Friends’ groups, possibly in conjunction with the relevant town or parish council, have to take on the responsibility of running these libraries, including the provision of premises and responsibility for associated costs, but that if those groups fail in the task that NCC will step in and again provide fully staffed libraries. This is not the model for most community-managed libraries elsewhere in the country and without more clarity as to when a library might be deemed to be ‘failing’ it is difficult to know how this would work in reality. 2) The burden of property and associated (running, insurance, maintenance etc.) costs for the other 17 libraries is unreasonable, particularly where it cannot, or will not, be met through increased local taxation arising from precepts set by town or parish councils. Unless and until NCC’s Place (Property) Directorate, as well as the Public Health Directorate, is able to show that it has given accurate figures to all 17 communities and set out a clear strategy for supporting library groups in those communities with regard to property matters then I cannot see that the current proposals are sustainable. 3) As in (2) above, the issue of increased taxation for those communities that do have a library and also a town or parish council but where NCC is now proposing to remove the library from the statutory system, is significant. Residents in those communities will be paying their full council tax, and, quite probably an increased precept to their lower tier local council. So they will be financially penalised in comparison with other areas if their
local precept is increased, although, of course they will still be paying for the remainder of the statutory libraries in the county. This introduces an element of unfairness in my opinion. 4) By effectively seeking to create a three-tier arrangement for our public libraries, these proposals break up the existing cohesive system of 36 static service points. (There are now no mobile libraries left in Northamptonshire.) The county has an increasing population, with new house-building on a large scale in many of our towns and villages. If the county is to be split into two unitary authorities, the north and east of the county will have just 6 statutory non-volunteer libraries and the south and west the remaining 8, with 4 of those 8 being in Northampton itself. I refer you to the following recent newspaper article which points to a large increase in population in the next two decades in the North Northamptonshire area: [https://www.northantstelegraph.co.uk/news/north-northants-part-of-national-programme-to-improve-where-people-live-1-8845447](https://www.northantstelegraph.co.uk/news/north-northants-part-of-national-programme-to-improve-where-people-live-1-8845447) For places where the current proposals have led other bodies, including town and parish councils and also non-public sector organisations, to express interest in acquiring or leasing library premises, I have concerns as to how much influence those bodies are going to have. I have heard of several examples in our county where I can foresee that the core library functions are at risk of being seriously diminished and marginalised because of the need to accommodate other activities in order to become ‘commercially’ viable and/or to fulfil the priorities of lower tier councils. As a [occupation] I deplore any reduction in the proper functions of any public library. When the books become nothing more that a ‘wallpaper’ background then effectively the library is lost. Although there is evidence that NCC expects the buildings to remain as libraries, how can this be guaranteed when the county council has ceased to exist? 6) With retirement ages increasing I anticipate that a sustainable supply of reliable volunteers is not necessarily something that can be taken for granted. While local communities may be enthusiastic at the outset we have no details as to the level of support that NCC or any succeeding library authority would be prepared to provide on a long-term basis. 7) Finally, may I please make a plea concerning communication and cooperation matters. I have been dismayed to learn from some county councillors, who represent some of the 22 library areas, that they are still not receiving updates on the library plans as a matter of course. This is not helpful and makes it difficult for sympathetic councillors to be fully involved with their local library community/Friends groups. I consider that it will be vital for councillors to be fully informed once Cabinet (and presumably Council also) has declared its firm intentions after the Consultation analysis has been completed. Local groups also need to have information as soon as it becomes available and since they are going to have to take professional legal etc. advice any deadline timescales should provide for that. Groups will have to pay for such advice so that will be an initial financial burden for them. They should not be put under undue pressure arising from time constraints. Others in the voluntary sector have told me that they have serious reservations about the element of responsibility for buildings that is
embedded so firmly in the current proposals. Service Level Agreements will have to be professionally scrutinised; Schedules of Dilapidations obtained from experts and so on. If cordial relationships are to be fostered with volunteer groups and town or parish councils on an ongoing basis then there is a definite need for due respect to be paid by NCC to the sheer amount of work that the libraries review process has already caused for private individuals and the heavy burden that they are likely to have to bear in the future because of the proposed drastic reduction in the statutory provision. One way of showing that respect is by always communicating in a timely and appropriate manner.

- Comment cards from Friends of Abington Library [names and ages redacted]
  o I love Abington Library because it has lots of books and have regular activities.
  o I love Abington Library I love books.
  o I love Abington Library because they are so kind and helpful to me.
  o I love Abington Library the library has provided myself my family and new my grandchildren a constant source of company entertainment, help and I love it.
  o I love Abington Library because it’s a place I can meet and play with my friends. I have made lots of friends here.
  o I love Abington Library because of the toys the cuddle corner and because it’s little.
  o I love Abington Library I like the books and toys.
  o I love Abington Library I like book and the toys. I like the colours.
  o I love Abington Library because I was there since I was little. I like the reading chair. I used to go to rhymetime.
  o I love Abington Library because it’s somewhere we are able to bring our children to educate them and make them feel loved. It has always been a part of our family life. The rhymetimes are excellent and the warm, friendly staff a delight.
  o I love Abington Library because it is lots of fun and near to my house.
  o I love Abington Library because I love to read and this library is near my house!