

# Proposed change to the provision of Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Services

## Proposals for Individual Libraries by District

This document outlines the proposals for individual libraries by District. We are still working closely with some communities to develop solutions for the following libraries:

- Abington
- Duston
- Far Cotton
- Finedon
- Higham Ferrers
- Irchester
- Long Buckby
- St James

There are no proposals outlined below for these eight libraries as they are not part of this consultation. We will consult on the proposals for these eight libraries at a later date once they are available:

Where proposals mention Section 106 money, this is money that 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 ([www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/current-consultations)) and an overarching equalities impact assessment covering all libraries will be produced after the consultation to help inform decision making.

## South Northamptonshire

### Brackley

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.

## **Deanshanger**

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.

## **Middleton Cheney**

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.

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.

## **Roade**

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.

## **Towcester**

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

## **Corby Area**

### **Corby**

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.

### **Danesholme**

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 Danesholme library are run by this community group in an alternative location. The book lending service would be relocated to Danesholme Community Centre, approximately 1 minutes' 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.

## **Daventry District**

### **Brixworth**

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 S106 money available to invest in the development of this library.

### **Daventry**

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.

### **Moulton**

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.

### **Woodford Halse**

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.

## **East Northamptonshire District**

### **Irthlingborough**

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.

## **Oundle**

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.

## **Raunds**

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.

## **Rushden**

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.

## **Thrapston**

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.

## **Wellingborough District**

### **Earls Barton**

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.

## **Wellingborough**

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.

## **Wollaston**

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.

## **Kettering Borough Area**

### **Burton Latimer**

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.

### **Desborough**

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.

## **Kettering**

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.

## **Rothwell**

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.

## **Northampton Area**

### **Hunsbury**

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.

### **Kingsthorpe**

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.

### **Northampton Central**

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 Northampton 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.

### **Weston Favell**

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.

### **Wootton**

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.