



Children, Education and Communities Scrutiny

19 September 2017

**Vision for the City's
Library Service**



Working together, to improve and make a difference

The Context

- Re-letting the current contract
- The needs of users
- A “comprehensive assessment of need”



The Steps

- **A public consultation, between November and January, that:**
 - Invites comment on the vision, and
 - Asks citizens about their requirements for the library service
- **A comprehensive statement of need based on:**
 - The vision
 - The feedback from the consultation
 - A desktop analysis of the performance of the current service
- **A specification for the next contract period - to be approved by the Executive**



What we know about the current service

- Explore York
- Desktop analysis of performance
- Residents' needs for their library service



The Future

- 21st Century Learning: 21st Century Libraries
- *Centres of Learning and Opportunity for All*
- Community Hubs



Libraries Deliver: Ambition for Public Libraries for England 2016-21

- Cultural and creative enrichment enabling co-creation
- Increased reading and literacy
- Improved digital access and literacy
- Helping everyone achieve their full potential – raising aspirations and building skills
- Healthier and happier lives
- Greater prosperity
- Stronger, more resilient communities



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The Vision

We aim for all our libraries to be:

- Modern, contemporary spaces, designed and adapted to meet the needs of everyone
- Fully flexible with spaces able to be easily transformed to other purposes
- Fully accessible; information will be easy to obtain; reading encouraged; research easy and learning natural
- Outward looking – linking with the surrounding community and drawing people in to foster a sense of place



Working together, to improve and make a difference

- Opening hours will reflect the needs of the community and will include late night and weekend opening
- Reflect local need, promoting community involvement and enabling local people to take action in their area
- Creative spaces that encourage innovation and the sharing of knowledge
- Outside of the building will be transparent and visible – clearly signed as to its purpose and opening hours
- Inside thought will be given to clear patterns of circulation and spatial legibility
- Staff will be highly trained with excellent customer focus



a. Learning spaces:

- State of the art learning spaces accessible to all, including investment in the latest digital technologies
- Flexible spaces easily adapted to create informal and formal learning spaces
- Management of the Learning Network, planning developments with York Learning
- Spaces for making (creative space)
- High quality local study spaces

b. Direct Delivery of Programmes and Activities


- Delivery of a range of learning programmes such as family and local history, reading, IT
- Delivery of a digital inclusion learning programme that will get people online for free. All of our sites are UK Online Centres



c. Partnerships and supporting learning

- Partnership with York Learning to support their delivery of a range of programmes in skills development and to improve core skills and prepare people for work
- Support to a range of community learning celebration events
- Joint delivery of a number of community based city wide arts programmes and projects
- Partnership with other learning providers supporting



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- Explore's active membership of the York Community Learning Partnership
 - Support for literacy at all ages
 - Access to the national book collection through inter library loan
 - Information literacy programmes delivered
 - Resources to support the National Curriculum

How might the service be organised?

Tier One York Explore Library Learning Centre

Tier Two Three other Explore Library Learning Centres situated across the City

Tier Three Library provision at community level

Tier Four Virtual Libraries – a 24/7 service provided online

Reading Cafés – a different type of library service



A journey through the spaces of an Explore Library Learning Centre

- Transition space
- Quick Choice
- Lending Library
- Reference and Information Library
- Archive and Local History
- The Children's Library
- Young People's Library
- IT
- Community Activities Exhibition/Performance space
- Information and Advice Point
- Learning Spaces