

Making an Impact

Somerset Libraries Redesign Programme

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LIBRARIES REDESIGN PROGRAMME

- Maintaining a thriving and dynamic library service
- Reshaping the libraries network
- Putting the service onto a sustainable footing
- Having a greater understanding of need, demand, access and VFM per **library catchment**

Agreed approach

1. To define catchments for each library.
2. To analyse, assess and rank, each library against:
 - a) Need within the catchment, using mapped statistical data (including factors such as social isolation/digital exclusion).
 - b) Usage of the library, using library-specific data.
3. Identify where the overlap between catchment areas is significant.

Stage 1 methodology: catchments

Context – people do not always use the library closest to them. In order to get the best value out of diminishing funding we need to consider patterns of actual usage as well as geographical proximity.

1. Initial catchments were based on geographical proximity (based on centre point of 1800 census Output Areas ['OAs']). So every OA was mapped at least once to a library.
2. Distribution of library usage for each OA (considering borrowing, PN, event participation, footfall, library opening hours) was analysed.
3. Compared overlap catchments ('paired' libraries).

Issues:

- Catchments are widely defined, and overlap. They include areas where no-one uses the library.
- Usage that doesn't require a membership card can't be mapped (partially addressed by snapshot survey).

Stage 2a methodology: need

Context – in order to deploy resources most effectively, and to meet statutory requirements, the library network should be designed to address assessed need. We are commissioned to deliver outcomes and should assess need in line with this purpose, but also consider the statutory context. As a universal service, we need to balance targeted (specific) and universal (general) needs.

1. A set of need criteria was determined, considering relevant statutory frameworks and proposed outcomes.
2. Using OA / LSOA level data, the average need for each catchment was defined.
3. Considered the relative importance of different need criteria.
4. Ranked library catchments.

Stage 2b methodology: usage

Context – as well as considering statistical need, we also need to consider how the current network is actually used in practice. Well-used libraries not only provide better value for money, they are also very likely to be the most needed. Consideration of demand is also important to minimise the potential impact of any changes to funding.

1. A set of usage measures, based on a clear understanding of the services offered was determined.
2. Consider the relative importance of different types of usage.
3. Rank libraries by aggregated usage.

Stage 3 methodology: access

Context – our view is that a service can only be considered ‘comprehensive’ where the vast majority of the population has reasonable access to a library. However, we have to acknowledge that some smaller / more remote communities are unlikely to ever have convenient access to a static library. What constitutes ‘reasonable’ access is subjective, and will be informed by available funding, but we need to be consistent and fair.

1. Ranking libraries based on need and usage to identify ‘priority’ libraries, and libraries that are more ‘at risk’ of having funding reduced.
2. For each ‘at risk’ library, we assessed how easy it was for communities using that library to access their nearest alternative ‘priority’ library.
3. All ‘at risk’ library catchments were scored and ranked for access to alternatives, considering driving time and public transport links. Those that did not have reasonable alternative access could be re-prioritised / deemed statutory.

Issues : access to libraries in other local authority areas.

Stage 4 methodology: other factors

Context – statistical analysis cannot be wholly relied upon to give a full picture – we need to consider local, non-statistical factors. In order to deliver the best value service overall we should take account of differences in operating cost and asset condition – by doing so we will make scarce resources go further.

We also took other factors into account when determining the statutory network to inform funding decisions for other libraries:

1. Cost / value for money factors:

- Unit costs of operation (e.g. cost per visitor / active borrower)
- Building condition, suitability & location
- Partner contributions / shared use of library building

2. Other factors:

- Availability of other facilities that support communities / service delivery
- Projected housing growth in catchment
- Community / Friends group contribution
- Feedback from engagement and consultation

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Data

			Library Catchment population April 2018					Estimated housing / population growth in library locality					Catchment need: average decile across catchment as a whole, IMD domain deprivation and index scores (1 = most deprived, 10 = least deprived)							
Total Urban population (Census 2011)	Total population within 2 miles of each library	Total population within 2 miles of nearest library (no duplication)	Total library catchment population	Total early years (under 5 years)	Total under 18 years (0-18 years incl under 5s)	Total working age (aged 18-64 years)	Total elderly 65+ years	Design-ated tier of settlement	Local plan target housing increases (local built-up-area) - no. of additional dwellings to 2028	Population increase estimate from target housing growth to 2028 (assuming 2.2 people per dwelling)	New build housing , including windfalls to 2028 forecast from last 5 years.	Population Growth estimate based on new build housing including windfalls to 2028	Income decile average	Income affecting children decile	Employment decile average	Education decile average	Health decile average	Digital Exclusion decile average	Social Isolation decile average	Adult Social Care intervention decile average (1 = most interventions, 10 = least interventions)
2,349	3,589	3,589	4,643	214	981	2,544	1,118	2	150	330	254	599	8	8	7	6	8	7	8	7
41,276	45,176	45,176	75,845	4,888	16,293	44,558	14,994	1	3,288	7,234	2,423	5,330	5	5	5	4	6	5	5	6
2,984	3,334	3,334	5,066	194	1,398	2,589	1,079	2	203	447	64	138	7	7	7	7	6	9	7	7
23,325	20,378	14,800	37,261	1,717	6,799	20,316	10,146	1	670	1,474	757	1,666	6	6	5	5	6	4	5	4
3,232	3,855	3,855	8,783	342	1,907	4,580	2,296	1	374	823	462	1,000	8	8	8	6	9	6	7	6
13,074	14,328	14,328	27,289	1,421	5,161	14,849	7,279	1	1,220	2,684	605	1,308	6	6	6	5	7	4	4	4
5,199	7,008	7,008	15,406	672	3,049	8,580	3,777	1	590	1,298	454	999	7	8	7	8	8	7	8	7
7,826	9,138	9,138	22,187	1,022	3,882	11,737	6,568	1	961	2,114	519	1,123	7	7	7	7	6	8	5	6
1,052	1,281	1,281	3,670	115	501	1,972	1,197	N/A	-	-	95	208	6	6	6	6	4	6	2	7
26,203	27,727	27,727	46,823	2,634	10,208	27,013	9,602	1	2,300	5,060	1,020	2,264	6	7	6	5	7	7	7	6
8,471	9,819	9,156	31,239	1,572	6,170	17,861	7,208	1	800	1,760	479	1,064	6	6	6	6	7	5	6	4
23,325	17,062	8,462	6,964	451	1,464	4,053	1,447	1	163	359	800	1,760	4	4	3	3	5	3	3	4
5,808	6,504	6,504	13,082	694	2,474	6,899	3,709	1	496	1,091	285	616	6	6	7	6	8	5	6	4
3,063	4,312	4,312	21,450	972	4,008	11,509	5,933	1	374	823	348	752	7	7	7	7	7	5	7	5
4,522	6,201	6,201	16,603	806	1,173	8,929	4,653	2	281	618	281	608	7	7	7	6	7	7	6	5
2,802	2,970	2,970	3,400	159	643	1,887	910	2	279	614	100	216	8	7	8	6	8	5	7	8
11,981	11,812	11,812	26,180	1,094	4,031	13,544	8,605	1	750	1,650	662	1,457	5	5	5	4	5	2	4	5
1,373	1,789	1,789	4,780	220	834	2,519	1,427	2	75	165	-	-	7	7	7	5	8	4	7	6
3,142	7,065	5,265	8,168	642	1,890	4,876	1,402	1	270	594	57	124	6	5	7	5	7	6	7	6
1,213	1,408	1,408	2,214	58	303	1,049	862	2	-	-	-	-	7	8	7	4	7	1	6	7
64,621	38,827	19,845	21,704	1,489	5,039	12,760	3,905	1	N/A	-	-	-	5	5	5	5	5	6	5	5
10,369	10,971	10,971	23,075	1,284	4,772	13,524	4,779	1	1,300	2,860	342	759	7	7	7	5	7	6	7	5
4,339	4,671	4,671	19,012	943	3,555	10,275	5,182	1	374	823	504	1,091	7	7	7	6	8	5	7	5

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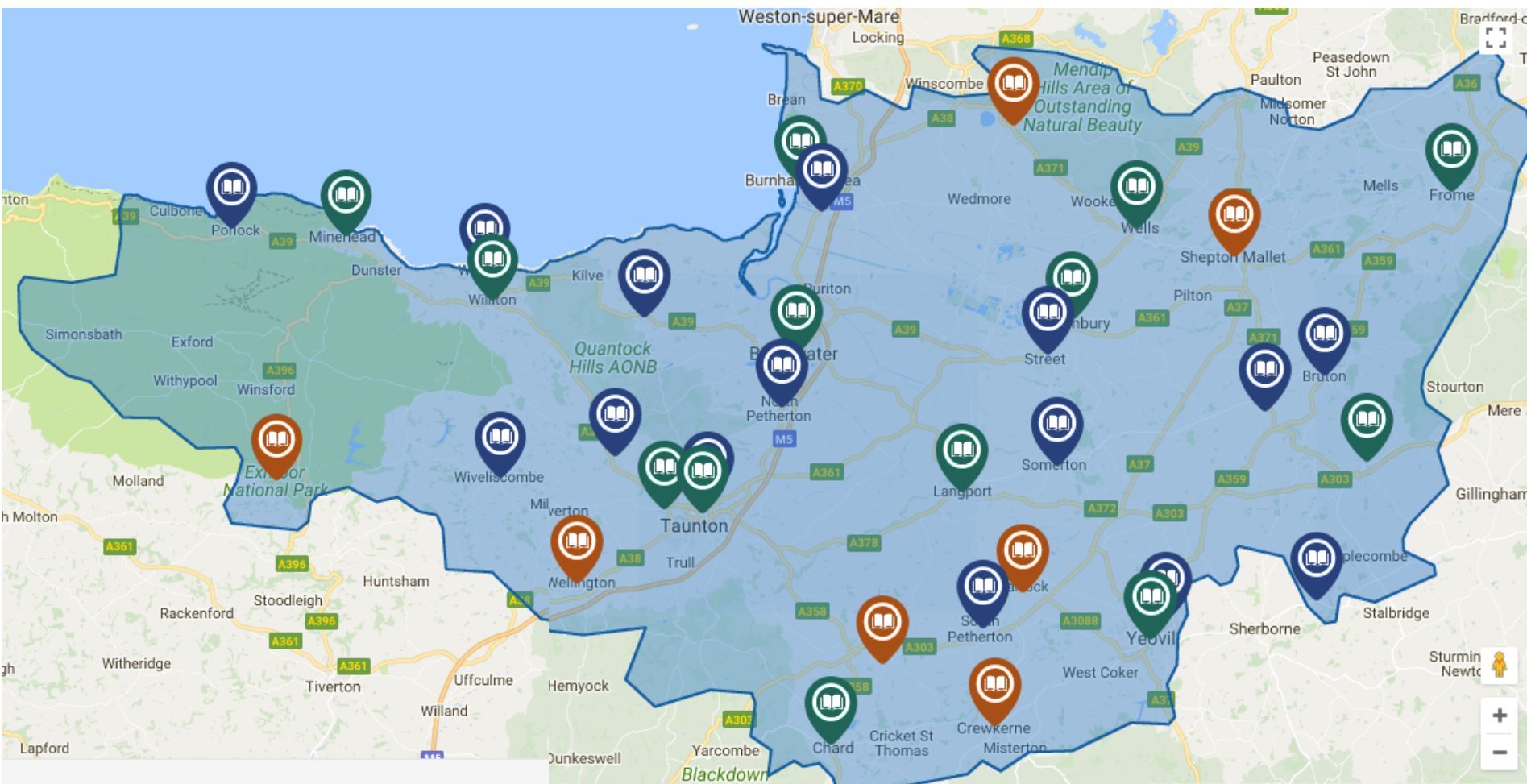
Proposals for Consultation

KEY

Green = No changes proposed

Orange = options included in proposal

Blue = a partnership with the local community to maintain a library building or alternative delivery



SOMERSET LIBRARIES CATCHMENT MAPPING TOOL

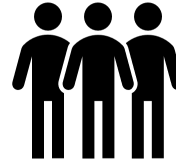
<https://catchments2018.azurewebsites.net/index.htm>

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Future Service Planning

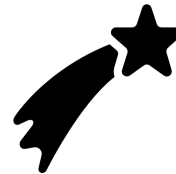
- Outcomes



- Outreach



- Performance



- Evidence

