

Name of proposal/policy	Library Provision in Danesholme	Budget number (if applicable)	
Service area responsible	Public Health	Cabinet meeting date	11 th December 2018 and 14 th May 2019
Name of completing officer	Emma Gadsby/Dawn Howsam/Ben Dawson/Carl Dorney	Date EqIA created	15 th November 2018 Updated 29 th March 2019
Approved by Director / Assistant Director	Lucy Wightman – Director Public Health	Date of approval	3 rd December 2018 and 1 st May 2019

The Equality Act 2010 places a ‘General Duty’ on all public bodies to have ‘Due regard’ to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advancing equality of opportunity
- Fostering good relations

We do this by undertaking equality impact assessments (EqIAs) to help us understand the implications of policies and decisions on people with protected characteristics – EqIAs are our way of evidencing this.

All assessments must be published on the NCC equalities web pages. All Cabinet papers where an EqIA is relevant **MUST** include a link to the web page where this assessment will be published. If you require assistance in getting your EqIA published, please contact equalities@northamptonshire.gov.uk

PART 1 – 15th NOVEMBER 2018

Description of current provision/policy and main beneficiaries/stakeholders

Northamptonshire County Council currently provides a standard public library service from Danesholme Library including the provision of a range of printed and non-printed material for information and lending, access to the internet for public use and library staff to deal with enquiries. Additional services provided from the library include Universal Children's Centre provision and support for Blue Badge and Bus Pass applications.

The Library is very small and is in a shopping precinct. There is a community centre opposite with local councillor support. There is a free neighbourhood car park close to the library.

Some of the activities on offer in 2018:

- For 0to4s: None
- Other: Knit and natter and Summer Reading Challenge.

Current opening hours:

Thursday 2 – 6

Friday 2 – 6

Saturday 10 – 2

Description of proposal under consideration/development

In October 2017 a public consultation was held around 3 proposals for the future of Northamptonshire Libraries. Following a Judicial Review in August 2018 the decision to retain 15 libraries under 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 the council conducted a new review of the library service, ensuring NCC are able to deliver their statutory duty to provide a "comprehensive and efficient" library service, whilst achieving necessary savings for the council by identifying opportunities to work with community groups to coproduce community managed libraries where possible. Following meetings with community groups, parishes and Borough and District councils, individual proposals have been identified for each library.

It is proposed that Danesholme Library no longer forms part of NCC statutory library provision and that elements of the service are run by a community group, with ongoing discussions about what that would look like. A needs assessment has identified that this library is within 5 miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision (Corby) and is not well-used.

It is proposed that the book lending service is 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. Under this arrangement, the building that the library is currently in would close.

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

Data used in this Equality Impact Assessment (general population data where appropriate but each EqIA should contain information on people who use the service under consideration – if this is not applicable to your proposal then you probably do not need to do an EqIA)

Data Source (include link where published)	Please summarise what the data tells us – for example “X number of people use this service, X are male, Y are female etc.”			
<p>It is acknowledged that the Library Service Review, NCC's Section 114 spending controls and reduced opening hours in libraries in 2018 will all have had an effect on library usage. Previous data is available in the EQIAs from October 2017 at https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/council-and-democracy/budgets-and-spending/Pages/review-of-library-services-in-northamptonshire.aspx</p> <p>The membership data is based on the records of members registered with the library and captures cards which were used in 2017/18. A membership card is only required for a few library services, for e.g. borrowing something, checking your account, renewing and requesting items. Many library services do not require membership and facilitate anonymous use as a community hub, for e.g. visiting the library for any purpose, using the computer, attending activities, reading newspapers etc. There are no administration systems in place able to capture this use on an individual basis, though numbers of visits, attendances and use of some services are available.</p> <p>For this library the above data is based on 260 membership records of which 93 are from adults aged 18 and over.</p> <p>2) In 2016, 30 adults in this Library took part in a week long visitor survey (the Adult Public library User Survey, or</p>	Protected characteristics		All libraries	Danesholme
	Gender	Female	All Mship: 55%	All Mship: 53%
			Adult Only Mship: 56%	Adult Only Mship: 57%
			APLUS: 58%	APLUS: 54%
		Male	All Mship: 43%	All Mship: 43%
	Unknown	All Mship: 2%	All Mship: 3%	
	Gender Reassignment		No data collected	No data collected
	Age	Children 0-10	33%	52%
		Young adults 11-17	9%	13%
		Adults 18+	57%	36%
		(of which aged 60+ for Mship and 65 and over for APLUS)	All Mship: 23%	All Mship: 15%
	Adult Only Mship: 32%	Adult Only Mship: 37%		
	APLUS: 34%	APLUS: 22%		
	Disability	Disabled	All Mship: 3.7%	All Mship: 2.7%
			Adult Only Mship: 5.3%	Adult Only Mship: 6.5%
APLUS: 24.9%			APLUS: 36.7%	
Not disabled/blank/ prefer not to state		All Mship: 96.3%	All Mship: 97.3%	
Adult Only Mship: 94.7%	Adult Only Mship: 93.5%			

APLUS), where paper questionnaires are offered to all adult library visitors during the survey period.			APLUS: 75.1%	APLUS: 63.3%	
	Race & Ethnicity	Asian or Asian British	All Mship: 2.5%	All Mship: 0%	
			Adult Only Mship: 2.1%	Adult Only Mship: 0%	
			APLUS: 2.7%	APLUS: 0%	
		Black or Black British	All Mship: 2.5%	All Mship: 0.4%	
			Adult Only Mship: 2.0%	Adult Only Mship: 0%	
			APLUS: 2.0%	APLUS: 0%	
		Mixed	All Mship: 1.6%	All Mship: 1.5%	
			Adult Only Mship: 0.8%	Adult Only Mship: 0%	
			APLUS: 1.6%	APLUS: 3.3%	
		White	All Mship: 56.6%	All Mship: 47.3%	
			Adult Only Mship: 56.1%	Adult Only Mship: 59.1%	
			APLUS: 79.0%	APLUS: 93.3%	
	Blank/ prefer not to say/ other	All Mship: 36.8%	All Mship: 50.8%		
		Adult Only Mship: 39%	Adult Only Mship: 40.9%		
		APLUS: 14.7%	APLUS: 3.3%		
	Sexual Orientation: From APLUS only	Heterosexual/ Straight	82.2%	81.8%	
		Gay / Lesbian / Bisexual / Other	2.1%	2.8%	
		No response	15.7%	15.3%	
	Religion Or Belief	Blank/ Prefer not to state/ no religion	All Mship: 82.8%	All Mship: 91.2%	
			Adult Only Mship: 83.1%	Adult Only Mship: 90.3%	
APLUS: 46.1%			APLUS: 50%		
Christian		All Mship: 14.9%	All Mship: 6.9%		

		Other religion	Adult Only Mship: 14.9%	Adult Only Mship: 7.5%	
			APLUS: 48.8 %	APLUS: 40%	
			All Mship: 2.4%	All Mship: 1.9%	
			Adult Only Mship: 2.1%	Adult Only Mship: 2.2%	
	APLUS: 5.1%	APLUS: 10%			
Pregnancy And Maternity			No data collected	No data collected	

Nearest alternative library provision

Statutory library – Corby – 3.9 miles

Public transport in the area and car ownership

- 20.11% of households in the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) which mention Danesholme have no car / van in the household. The County % is 21.1%. (Source: Northamptonshire Analysis using Census and LSOA data).
- The following data was gathered from the 2016 Adult Public library User Survey (APLUS):

APLUS 2016:	Private transport, e.g. car, motorbike	Public transport, e.g. bus, train, metro / tram	On foot	Bicycle	Other	Blank
Danesholme Library	23%	7%	53%	0%	0%	17%
Service Average	43%	11%	37%	2%	1%	7%

Details of groups/activities run for people with protected characteristics.

- Based on the activity data recorded for 2017/18, the Library delivered:
- 0 activities for 0to4s
 - 48 activities for 5-19s with 143 attendances, an average of 3 per activity
 - 74 activities for adults with 284 attendances, an average of 4 per activity, for example:
 - o 3 activities targeting Job/Business skills, with 6 attendances

LSOA data

The Library's postcode is in Corby O08B LSOA which is ranked 4,402 out of 32,844 LSOAs. This is amongst the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country.

Tick the relevant box for each line ✓	Based on the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups?			
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
Sex		✓		
Gender Reassignment			✓	
Age		✓		
Disability		✓		
Race & Ethnicity			✓	
Sexual Orientation			✓	
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)			✓	
Pregnancy & Maternity		✓		
Human Rights (Please see articles in toolkit)			✓	
Other Groups (rural isolation, socio-economic exclusion etc.)		✓		

Initial impact	
Explain your findings above	Actions identified to mitigate, advance equality or fill gaps in information
<p>We have assessed the impact for sex, age, disability, pregnancy and maternity and other groups as negative at this time. We acknowledge that a move to purely a book-lending service results in the loss of other non-statutory services such as blue badge applications, as well access to the internet and the social aspects of a staffed library. The previous consultation on libraries indicated that this was a particular concern for women, older people, children and young people, disabled people, pregnant women, new mothers and people on low incomes.</p> <p>There is nothing to suggest anything other than a neutral impact, as a result of their protected characteristics, on the other groups listed above.</p> <p>The EQIAs undertaken in the 2017/18 review are available to view here:</p>	<p>The proposal to move the book-lending service into the nearby community centre, and co-locating with other community services, could negate some of these potential negative impacts.</p> <p>The nearest statutory library (Corby) is within 2 miles of the alternative book lending service, with good public transport, which mitigates the negative impacts to some extent.</p> <p>There will be an eight-week consultation period to give people the opportunity to feed back their views on this proposal and indicate if they can identify any negative impacts associated with this proposal.</p> <p>The Library To You service is available to individuals, depending on the availability of volunteers.</p>

<https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/council-and-democracy/budgets-and-spending/Pages/review-of-library-services-in-northamptonshire.aspx>

Do you need to undertake further work (e.g. consultation, further equality analysis) based on the impact and actions identified above? If yes, set this out below and then carry out the work and complete Part 2

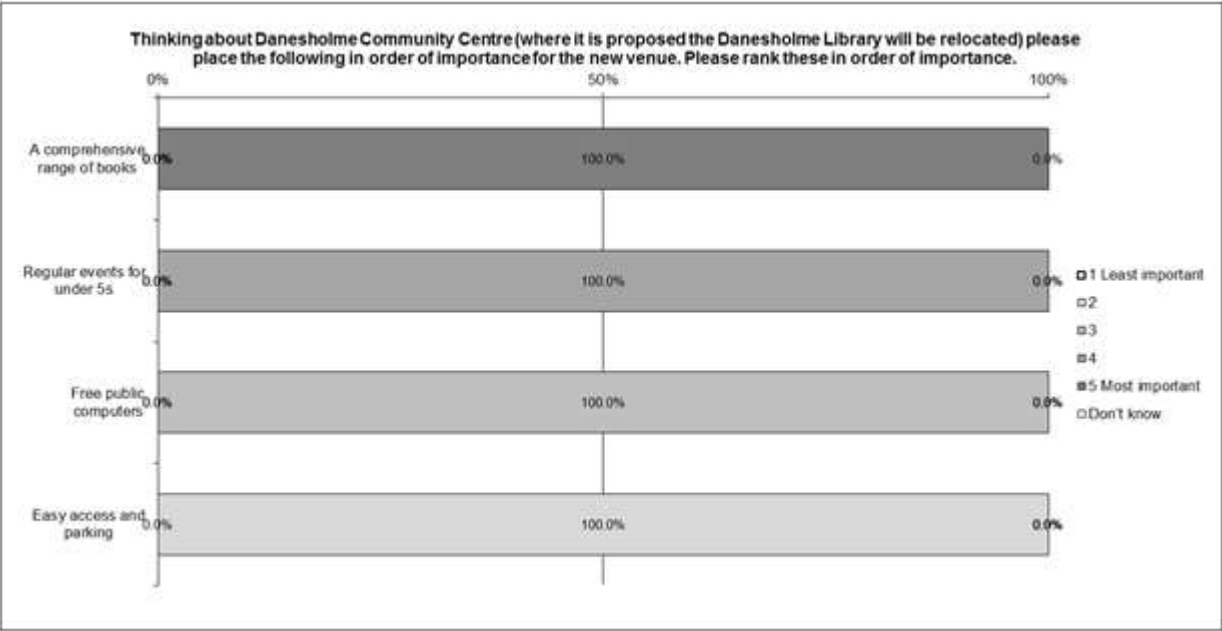
UPDATED

The consultation on this library and the 27 others that were ready for consultation after the December Cabinet meeting runs from 12th December to 8th February, Consultation on the remaining 8 libraries runs from 23rd January to 22nd March. Each consultation lasts eight weeks and two days. The findings for all 36 libraries will be presented to Cabinet in May 2019.

PART 2 – 29TH MARCH 2019

Consultation, follow up data and information gathered from actions identified above

	What does this information tell us?														
<p>Needs Analysis – Assessment of Impact of Proposals</p>	<p>Library data in relation to Danesholme</p>														
<p>Quantitative data from consultation questionnaire</p>	<p>2 people chose to respond to the questionnaire in relation to Danesholme Library.</p> <p>As this is less than 5, we are not showing a breakdown of demographic data</p> <div data-bbox="891 954 2112 1337" data-label="Figure"> <table border="1"> <caption>Chart Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Rating</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 Poor solution</td> <td>50.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Good solution</td> <td>50.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>0.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>0.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>0.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Don't know</td> <td>0.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <p>When asked to think about the proposed relocation of Danesholme Library, respondent ranked factors they considered important for the proposed new venue:</p>	Rating	Percentage	1 Poor solution	50.0%	5 Good solution	50.0%	2	0.0%	3	0.0%	4	0.0%	Don't know	0.0%
Rating	Percentage														
1 Poor solution	50.0%														
5 Good solution	50.0%														
2	0.0%														
3	0.0%														
4	0.0%														
Don't know	0.0%														



Comments/feedback from questionnaire, letters, emails, and events

In relation to Danesholme and people with protected characteristics, respondents to the questionnaire said that it is good small library for children who need to be encouraged to read.

There were no responses received relating to Danesholme Library by respondents using the Children and Young People's questionnaire.

A drop-in event was held at Danesholme Library on 18 January 2019, which was attended by 10 people. One attendee said that their children were doing well at school due to their use of the library.

Changes to the proposal during consultation

During the consultation period further discussions have taken place with the Community centre, councillors and Corby Borough Council to see if there is any feasibility of the library remaining in its current location. This would require funding for the rent. Corby Borough Council's Policy Committee met on March 26th in an exempt session to discuss a proposal to fund the rental on Danesholme Library which will allow the library to stay in its current

	premises under the auspices of the community centre and run by volunteers. This was approved by Corby Borough Council.
Recommended proposal	Following the consultation it is proposed that Danesholme Library becomes a community managed library service in its current location. A needs assessment has identified that Danesholme Library is within four miles of a library remaining within NCC statutory provision in Corby and is not well-used so it would no longer form part of NCC statutory provision. The original proposal was to work with the nearby Danesholme Community Centre to relocate the library into their building for them to run a community managed library from within but following feedback during the consultation and through working with the Borough Council it is agreed that it will remain in the current location. NCC will continue to provide the library infrastructure and support to help the group operate as part of the library network. The Community Centre will manage the library from its current location and will support the running costs with support from Corby Borough Council with the property costs. As this would be outside NCC's statutory provision, if this arrangement becomes unviable, the service would cease.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT IF COMMUNITY MANAGED LIBRARY IS IMPLEMENTED AS PROPOSED

Tick the relevant box for each line ✓	Based on the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups?			
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
Sex			✓	
Gender Reassignment			✓	
Age			✓	
Disability			✓	
Race & Ethnicity			✓	
Sexual Orientation			✓	
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)			✓	
Pregnancy & Maternity			✓	
Human Rights (Please see articles in toolkit)			✓	
Other Groups (rural isolation, socio-economic exclusion etc.)			✓	

Final impact analysis (taking the findings from Part 2 into account) – including review date if required

Based on the feedback received during consultation and the change to the proposal to enable the library to remain in its current location, volunteer run under the auspices of the Community Centre, we have re-assessed the impact for sex, age, disability, pregnancy and maternity and other groups as neutral at this time. We acknowledge that a move to a purely book-lending service would result in the loss of other non-statutory services such as blue badge applications, as well as access to the internet and the social aspects of a staffed library. However, the new proposal for the library to remain in its current location would allow for all these elements to be retained providing that the community centre and volunteers are able to deliver them with the support offered from Northamptonshire County Council.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT IF COMMUNITY MANAGED LIBRARY IS NOT IMPLEMENTED OR IS NOT SUSTAINABLE

Tick the relevant box for each line ✓	Based on the possibility of the library closing			
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
Sex		✓		
Gender Reassignment			✓	
Age		✓		
Disability		✓		
Race & Ethnicity			✓	
Sexual Orientation			✓	
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)			✓	
Pregnancy & Maternity		✓		
Human Rights (Please see articles in toolkit)			✓	
Other Groups (rural isolation, socio-economic exclusion etc)		✓		

Impact analysis if Library Closes

If no viable community managed proposal for Danesholme Library is progressed or if it becomes unviable after establishment then the library will close, and therefore the impact would be negative for some groups with protected characteristics. We know that women (particularly new mothers), children and young people and the elderly, people with disabilities, people on low incomes, people without internet access, those in rural areas and those without access to their own transport would be particularly negatively affected by a library closure.

A number of alternative services would provide some mitigation against potential negative impacts. We will continue to provide and seek to improve online library services including e-books and e-audiobooks. The volunteer-led Library to You service can provide customised book delivery to those unable to access alternative libraries. We are also working on variations to the Library to You service which could provide transport to nearest libraries for those unable to access their local library, as well as bringing a selection of books to a central point in locations where there is no longer a library. Based on the

needs assessment, the vast majority of users will be within five miles of a statutory library. We do, however, acknowledge that these cannot fully mitigate the negative impacts of a library closure.