

Name of proposal/policy	Library Provision in Duston	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	17 th January 2019 Updated 5 th April 2019
Approved by Director / Assistant Director	Lucy Wightman – Director Public Health	Date of approval	17 th January 2019 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 – 17TH JANUARY 2019

Description of current provision/policy and main beneficiaries/stakeholders

Northamptonshire County Council currently provides a standard public library service from Duston 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 co-located with the Parish council and a café in the Community Centre. It is near a shopping precinct and the area has lots of new housing. There are underused spaces due to closure of the Children's Centre and the Library has a large back room space. The facility provides 22 parking spaces plus 4 spaces for disabled drivers shared with Sure Start centre.

Some of the activities on offer in 2018:

- For 0 to 4s: Bounce and rhyme, 2x Rhymetime per wk, Play and learn U5s, Drop in Health Visitor clinic, Drop-in and Play
- Other: Community group visits (e.g. scouts), I.T. assistance drop-in, Knits wits, Lego Club, 50+ Coffee mornings, Summer Reading Challenge

Current opening hours:

Monday – Friday 9 – 5

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 Duston 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.

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 2,172 membership records of which 1,061 are from adults aged 18 and over.</p> <p>2) In 2016, 365 adults in this Library took part in a week long visitor survey (the Adult Public library User Survey, or APLUS), where paper questionnaires are offered to all adult library visitors during the survey period.</p>	Protected characteristics	All libraries	Duston Library		
	Gender	Female	All Mship: 55%	All Mship: 56%	
			Adult Only Mship: 56%	Adult Only Mship: 58%	
			APLUS: 58%	APLUS: 61%	
		Male	All Mship: 43%	All Mship: 43%	
		Unknown	All Mship: 2%	All Mship: 1%	
	Gender Reassignment		No data collected	No data collected	
	Age	Children 0-10	33%	41%	
		Young adults 11-17	9%	10%	
		Adults 18+	57%	49%	
		(of which aged 60+ for Mship and 65 and over for APLUS)	All Mship: 23%	All Mship: 21%	
			Adult Only Mship: 32%	Adult Only Mship: 38%	
			APLUS: 34%	APLUS: 53%	
	Disability	Disabled	All Mship: 3.7%	All Mship: 2.8%	
			Adult Only Mship: 5.3%	Adult Only Mship: 4.3%	
		APLUS: 24.9%	APLUS: 21.9%		
	Not disabled/blank/ prefer not to state	All Mship: 96.3%	All Mship: 97.2%		
		Adult Only Mship: 94.7%	Adult Only Mship: 95.7%		
		APLUS: 75.1%	APLUS: 78.1%		
Race & Ethnicity	Asian or Asian British	All Mship: 2.5%	All Mship: 2.9%		

			Adult Only Mship: 2.1%	Adult Only Mship: 2.1%	
			APLUS: 2.7%	APLUS: 4.9%	
		Black or Black British	All Mship: 2.5%	All Mship: 2.6%	
			Adult Only Mship: 2.0%	Adult Only Mship: 1.9%	
			APLUS: 2.0%	APLUS: 2.5%	
		Mixed	All Mship: 1.6%	All Mship: 2%	
			Adult Only Mship: 0.8%	Adult Only Mship: 0.6%	
			APLUS: 1.6%	APLUS: 2.2%	
		White	All Mship: 56.6%	All Mship: 60%	
			Adult Only Mship: 56.1%	Adult Only Mship: 58.1%	
			APLUS: 79.0%	APLUS: 82.2%	
	Blank/ prefer not to say/ other	All Mship: 36.8%	All Mship: 32.5%		
		Adult Only Mship: 39%	Adult Only Mship: 37.4%		
		APLUS: 14.7%	APLUS: 8.2%		
	Sexual Orientation: From APLUS only	Heterosexual/ Straight	82.2%	84.5%	
		Gay / Lesbian / Bisexual / Other	2.1%	1.4%	
		No response	15.7%	14.1%	
	Religion Or Belief	Blank/ Prefer not to state/ no religion	All Mship: 82.8%	All Mship: 93.7%	
			Adult Only Mship: 83.1%	Adult Only Mship: 93.9%	
			APLUS: 46.1%	APLUS: 42.5%	
Christian		All Mship: 14.9%	All Mship: 4.8%		
		Adult Only Mship: 14.9%	Adult Only Mship: 5.3%		
		APLUS: 48.8 %	APLUS: 51%		

		Other religion	All Mship: 2.4%	All Mship: 1.4%	
			Adult Only Mship: 2.1%	Adult Only Mship: 0.8%	
			APLUS: 5.1%	APLUS: 6.6%	
	Pregnancy And Maternity		No data collected	No data collected	
Details of groups/activities run for people with protected characteristics.	<p>Based on the activity data recorded for 2017/18, the Library delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 305 activities for 0 to 4s with 7,761 attendances, an average of 25 per activity • 93 activities for 5-19s with 1,215 attendances, an average of 13 per activity • 71 activities for adults with 395 attendances, an average of 6 per activity, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 1 activity targeting People with disabilities, with 2 attendances o 1 activity targeting Library Visitors / Local Community, with 26 attendances o 18 activities targeting Older people with 85 attendances 				
LSOA data	The Library's postcode is in Northampton 018A LSOA which is ranked 17,588 out of 32,844 LSOAs. This is amongst the 50% least 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>There are no changes proposed to Duston Library and so the impact of the review overall is assessed to be neutral for all protected characteristics.</p> <p>There is the possibility that Duston Library will see increased footfall as a result of changes to other libraries in the area, subject to the outcome of the consultation, but it is not anticipated that this will have a negative impact, although this would be monitored.</p> <p>The EQIAs undertaken in the 2017/18 review are available to view here: https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/council-and-democracy/budgets-and-spending/Pages/review-of-library-services-in-northamptonshire.aspx</p>	<p>No mitigating actions are required, but people will have the opportunity to comment on all proposals, as part of the consultation being launched in December.</p>

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
<p>The consultation on this library, along with seven others that were not ready for consultation immediately after the December Cabinet meeting, will run from 23rd January to 22 March, lasting eight weeks and two days. Consultation on 28 of the libraries began on 12th December and will end on 8th February. The findings for all 36 libraries will be presented to Cabinet in May 2019.</p>

PART 2 – 5TH APRIL 2019

Consultation, follow up data and information gathered from actions identified above	
	What does this information tell us?
Needs Analysis – Assessment of Impact of Proposals	<p>Points of consideration in relation to Duston</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population density Active library membership Proportion of local population aged 0 to 10 Library data
Quantitative data from consultation questionnaire	Twelve people chose to respond to the questionnaire in relation to Duston Library.

Sex	
Male	Less than 5
Female	6
Prefer not to say	Less than 5
Did not answer	Less than 5

No respondents said they were pregnant or had had a baby in the last six months.

Age	
30-49 years	Less than 5
50-64 years	Less than 5
65-74 years	Less than 5
75 years +	Less than 5
Prefer not to say	Less than 5
Did not answer	Less than 5

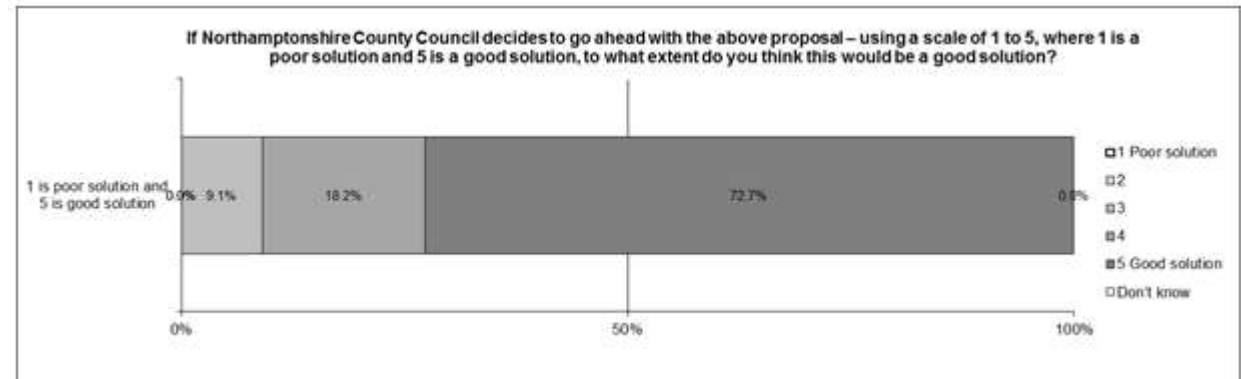
Fewer than five respondents said that they had a disability.

Religion	
Christian	7
None	Less than 5
Prefer not to say	1
Did not answer	2

Ethnicity	
White: White British	8
White: White Irish	Less than 5
Prefer not to say	1
Did not answer	2

Sexuality	
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Heterosexual	7
Prefer not to say	2
Did not answer	3



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

In relation to Duston and people with protected characteristics, one respondent to the questionnaire who felt the proposal was a good solution said NCC should be able to offer universal access to users of the library as it a vital service for them as a new parent and will continue to be as their child grows. Another said who they enjoy the events during the school holidays as they allow them to do interesting activities with their child and enables them to meet up with friends to take part in the same activity.

Respondents were then asked that if they feel this option would have a negative impact, to tell us what they think that impact would be along with any suggestions on how any potential negative impacts could be mitigated. Respondents commented that if the library were to close it would make it harder to complete school homework and projects; that there are few places to take children during the holidays to do activities for those that have limited access to transport; that the library provides a fun, safe place for children; and that users of the service should be involved in a review of the opening hours.

Respondents were then asked if they would like to tell us of any alternative solutions or suggestions to the Duston library proposal which they would like us to consider. The most frequent comment received was regarding the opening hours. Respondents requested that the

	<p>opening hours do not reduce, and commented that working parents struggle to attend the library with their families. . A respondent commented on the importance they placed on libraries with supporting education.</p> <p>We received two responses relating to Duston Library from respondents using the Children and Young People's questionnaire. When asked what else they do at the library, respondents for Duston said they do homework there. One respondent commented how they like the assistance they receive in searching for books. The one thing children and young people questionnaire respondents said they like best about their local library were the range of books to choose from, although one respondent added that they felt the amount of books available was reducing. When children and young people questionnaire respondents were invited to make any other comments, they said how they like attending the library and that it should be kept open. They praised the staff and enjoy seeing others, such as babies, enjoying the facilities; and commented that they felt the range of books was reducing.</p>
Recommended proposal	<p>Following the consultation the proposal for Duston Library remains the same. It is proposed that Duston 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.</p>

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)			✓	
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Final impact analysis (taking the findings from Part 2 into account) – including review date if required
As there are no changes proposed to Duston Library and consultation feedback has not raised any concerns the impact of the review overall is assessed to be neutral for all protected characteristics.