

## **Libraries Needs Assessment and Priority Calculation**

This document explains the data and methodology used to carry out the Library Needs Assessment and Priority Calculations.

The Needs Assessment has been completed on a range of key indicators, which include use of Library services, demographic need, proximity calculations, and agreed Library Strategy aims, total scores have not been weighted.

**Table 1:**

Libraries ranked on all key indicators.

**Table 2:**

Libraries ranked on the use of Library services element.

**Table 3:**

Libraries ranked on demographic need element.

**Table 4:**

Libraries ranked on proximity calculations.

**Table 5:**

Libraries ranked on Library Strategy aims.

**Table 6:**

Key Indicator summary and background data.

**Table 7:**

Mobile and Housebound Service data.

### **Notes on Library Catchment Area**

The Library catchment area of each Library is based on registered active members making up more than 5% of the population of a Lower Super Output Area (LSOA). The exception to this is Beddington Library where no LSOA contained more than 5% of registered active members within the population. Here the catchment area is the 2 LSOAs containing the most registered active members.

**The following factors included within the Needs Assessment show the Library with the lowest figures within each category are ranked 9, indicating less need and/or viability. The Library with the highest figures within each category are ranked 1, indicating a greater need and/or viability.**

- Catchment population. (2011 census)
- Catchment population of children aged 0 - 19 years. (2011 census)
- Catchment population claiming out of work benefits. (benefits data 2014)
- Catchment population of adults with a long standing illness or disability. (2011 census)
- Catchment population of Black or Minority Ethnic Residents. (2011 census)
- Catchment population of residents aged over 65 years. (2011 census)
- Catchment population who are active members - Library catchment residents who have used the service within the last year. Year up to November 2014, (when the information was provided)
- Total active members - all residents who have used the service in the last year. Year up to November 2014 (when the information was provided)
- Library visits per hour open - yearly visitor figures averaged per hour open to reflect differing opening hours. (2013/14)
- LSOAs in the lowest 30% most deprived in the country.
- ICAM use per hour - public access computer use, yearly figure averaged per hour open to reflect differing opening hours. (2013/14)
- Issues per hour open - all item issues, yearly figure averaged per hour open to reflect differing opening hours. (2013/14)



**The following factors included within the Needs Assessment show the Library with the highest figures within each category are ranked 9, showing less need and/or viability. The Library with the lowest figures within each category are ranked 1, indicating a greater need and/or viability.**

Estimated average household income - estimated from Office for National Statistics.

Number of Libraries within a 10 minute drive - google map data from the base Library

Number of Libraries within 20 minutes by public transport - google map and transport data from the base Library

Cost per issue - total Library running costs divided by the number of issues per year 2013-14 (last year for which full figures were available)

Cost per visit - total Library running costs divided by the number of visits per year 2013-14

Building performance - total cost to run each site 2013-14 (last year for which full figures were available)

% of active members using other Libraries - all residents, members of one Library, and using other Libraries. (provided by the Library Management System in Feb 2015)

% catchment population who have level 4 qualifications and above. (2011 census)

% catchment population who have access to a car or van. (2011 census)



### **Background**

The Sutton needs assessment was initially based on the Bolton assessment method, which had been a successful model. Between January and April 2015, the needs assessment has been amended and refined to reflect DCMS recommendations to other borough Councils, i.e. Sheffield and Lincolnshire, to ensure we are following best practice recommendations and guidelines for informing assessments.

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