

Essex Libraries

Community libraries and the future of the library service

Presentation to Essex Rural Partnership meeting, 24 April 2018

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Essex County Council

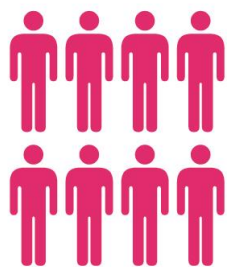
- Mobile library review
- Community libraries
- Public engagement
- Next steps



Mobile libraries review



VISITS FELL FROM 120,578 IN 2010/11
TO 64,289 IN 2016/17



120,578

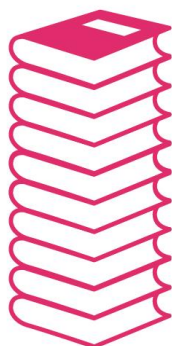
IN 2010/11



64,289

IN 2016/17

LOANS FELL FROM 252,646 IN 2010/11
TO 130,702 IN 2016/17



252,646

IN 2010/11



130,702

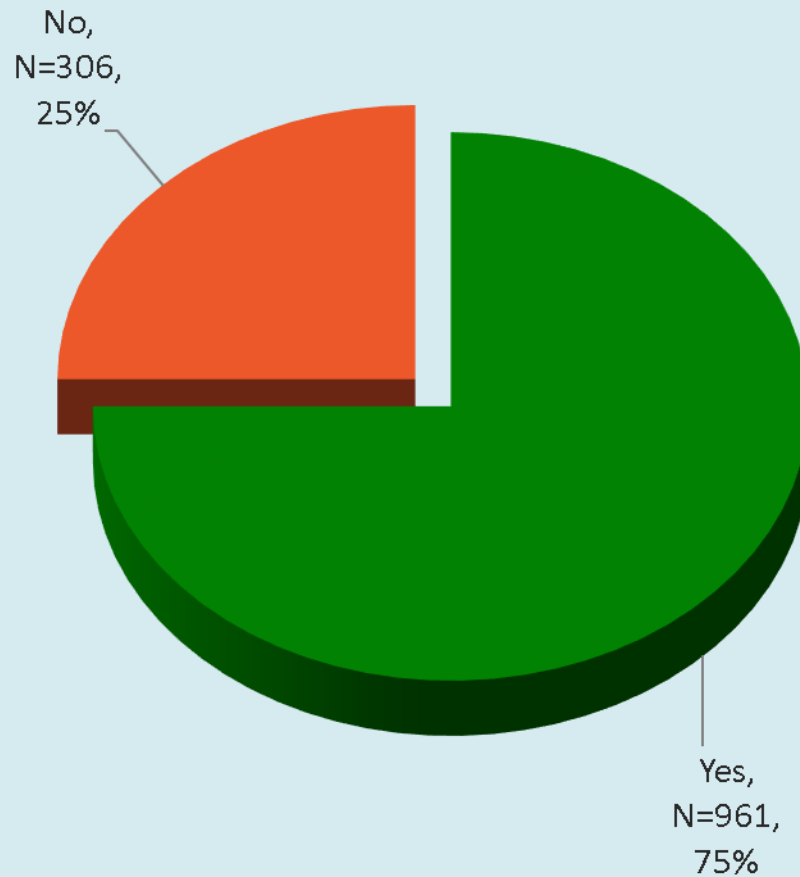
IN 2016/17



**35 STOPS
RECEIVED
NO VISITORS**

DURING A 12 WEEK
MONITORING PERIOD

Outcomes

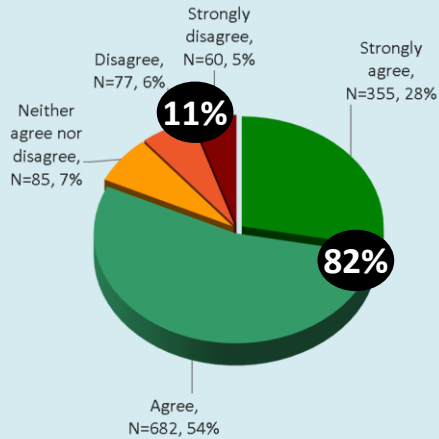


Do you use mobile libraries?

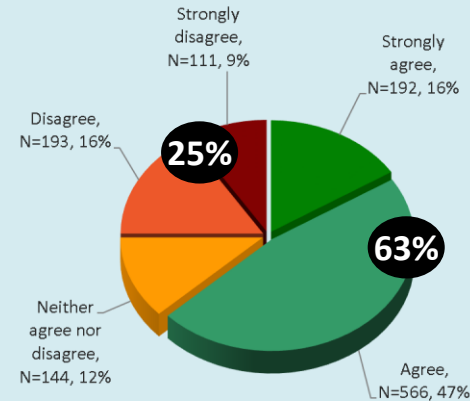
Response from individuals and families

Source: [Lake Market Research Report to ECC: Mobile Library Consultation; appendix 4 to Cabinet Report, Changes to Mobile Library Services,](#)

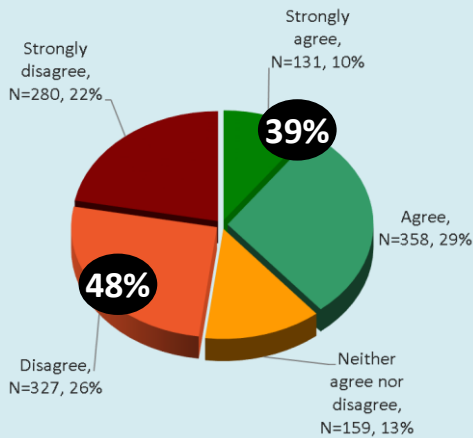
Outcomes



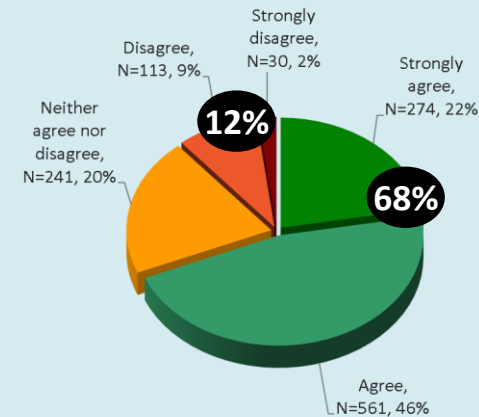
Withdraw unused stops



Merge stops



Two mile limit



Increase minimum stop time

Source: [Lake Market Research Report to ECC: Mobile Library Consultation; appendix 4 to Cabinet Report, Changes to Mobile Library Services,](#)

New timetable

- Started 3 April 2018
- Two vehicles visit each stop once every three weeks
- 217 locations
- Home Library Service or Friends and Family Membership for anyone who cannot reach a library
- Talking to older people's settings about the best options for their residents
- Review after six months

<http://libraries.essex.gov.uk/mobile-library-service/>

Community libraries



Community libraries

- Run by volunteers
- Owned by local group
- Opening hours, other activities, publicity, membership all up to local group

Key elements:

- Suitable venue
- Group of passionate and committed volunteers

Community libraries

Essex Libraries support:

- Checks on suitability of venue and group
- Core stock of books – replenished regularly
- Training to set up and run
- Help to organise opening day
- Advice on sources of funding
- Ongoing link with appropriate local Essex Library

Your community, libraries and you.

Be part of the conversation



What does your community
need?

What role can libraries play?

How can you help make it
happen?

Action zones

Community heart:

What assets does your community have, what is missing and what role can libraries play?

Innovation:

An opportunity to rethink what libraries can be to meet the way people live in the 21st century.

Getting involved:

How are you currently involved with libraries and how would you like to be in future?

Front door to services:

What services do you have and need in your community? Can libraries be a place to access more services?

Next steps

- Digest all the results
- Publish a summary
- Develop a forward plan
- Local consultations if needed

Thank you

libraries@essex.gov.uk



Essex County Council