

Appendix 1 - Public consultation survey including proposed opening hours and results analysis.



Halton Library Service Consultation



How people use our libraries is changing. We need to consider how best to provide a library service that responds to the changing library user needs, that continues to meet our statutory duty and is mindful of reduced resources.

A review of Halton Borough Council's library service may result in budget savings for the council while still keeping all four of the borough's libraries open. The council must make significant efficiencies over the next 3-year period. This means the council will have to make tough budgetary decisions around the delivery of services.

However, the council is clear that it does not want to close libraries and is considering making some changes which would help make libraries more sustainable and cost effective. The Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 requires the council to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for all those who live, work or study and want to access the service in the Borough.

We are looking at the services offered by our libraries and how they work, to see if there are ways to reduce costs while providing a comprehensive and efficient service for our users.

We are now consulting on our library service opening hours to provide a more consistent offer across the library sites. Information, along with data on local needs will be used as the basis for a review by the council.

Cllr Nolan (Executive Board Member Employment, Learning and Skills and Communities) said:

"I'm proud to have libraries within my portfolio, they offer a great service to our users, from libraries within our communities to the Home Library Service. I'm very supportive of the library service and everything it offers. As with all council services, the library service has to ensure it can continue to meet the needs of the community and provide best value for money.

The consultation is important to ensure that any decisions are informed by the views of the community. All responses to the consultation will be analysed and no decisions will be taken until after all the findings have been considered."

We want to hear your views on the proposals and also any alternatives to be more efficient.

The consultation takes the form of a short questionnaire which will be available in all four Halton libraries, Direct Links, community centres, the library service and the council's websites and will be circulated as widely as possible.

The consultation opens on 27th August and closes on 8th October 2024. If you require any further information, please contact hlelib@halton.gov.uk

Proposed Opening Hours Information

Ditton Library, Queens Avenue, Widnes:
changes to Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday



Existing Hours	Proposed Hours
Monday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Tuesday 10-6pm	10-5pm
Wednesday closed	closed
Thursday 9.30-5pm	10-5pm
Friday 10-2pm	10-2pm
Saturday 10-2.30pm	closed

Runcorn Library, Granville Street, Runcorn:
changes to Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday



Existing Hours	Proposed Hours
Monday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Tuesday 10-6pm	10-5pm
Wednesday closed	closed
Thursday 9.30-5pm	10-6pm
Friday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Saturday 10-2.30pm	closed

Halton Lea Library, Runcorn Shopping City, Runcorn:
changes to Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday



Existing Hours	Proposed Hours
Monday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Tuesday 9-5.30pm	10-5pm
Wednesday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Thursday 9-5.30pm	10-5pm
Friday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Saturday 10-2.30pm	10-2pm

Widnes Library, Victoria Square, Widnes:
changes to Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday



Existing Hours	Proposed Hours
Monday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Tuesday 9-7pm	10-6pm
Wednesday 10-5	10-5pm
Thursday 9-7pm	10-5pm
Friday 10-5pm	10-5pm
Saturday 10-2.30pm	10-2pm

How you use Halton Libraries

1. Do you use Halton Libraries? **Please select ONE answer**

☐ Yes (Please go to Q3)

☐ No (Please go to Q2)

2. If you do NOT use Halton Libraries please tell us why in the box below

If you do NOT use Halton Libraries please go to q6

3. Which Halton Libraries do you use? **Please select all that apply**

☐ Ditton Library

☐ Runcorn Library

☐ Halton Lea Library

☐ Widnes Library

4. What times of the day do you use the library? **Please select all that apply**

☐ Morning

☐ Afternoon

☐ Evening

☐ Weekend

5. Why do you use the library? **Please tell us in the box below**

6. Do you agree with the proposed opening times? **Please select ONE answer**

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. If we made the proposed changes to the opening hours how would this impact you? **Please tell us in the box below**

8. What improvements or changes, if any, would you like to see in Halton Library Service? **Please tell us in the box below**

Halton Library Service Budget

The Library Service budget for 2024/25 is £2,180,740. This equates to £16.91 per person, per year based on the current Halton population.

9. What are your thoughts on this? **Please tell us in the box below**

Further Ideas to Reduce Cost

10. Do you have any suggestions for how Halton Library Service can make cost savings? **Please tell us in the box below**

Further Comments

11. If you have any further comments about Halton Library Service please tell us in the box below

**Thank you for completing.
Please hand in at the venue you received the questionnaire or
return to any one of Halton's libraries.**

Data Protection

The information you are entering will be held processed hosted on a web platform with <https://www.snapsurveys.com/>.
Further information on snapsurveys please visit <https://www.snapsurveys.com/gdpr/gdpr-snap-xmp/>
For information on the Halton Library Service privacy notice please visit <https://library.haltonbc.info/policies/>

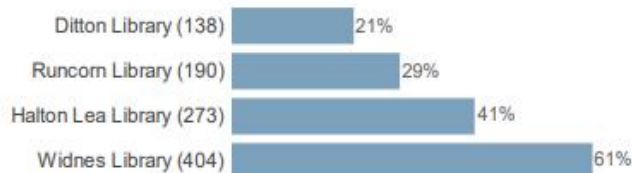
Halton Libraries Consultation

Number of responses: 718

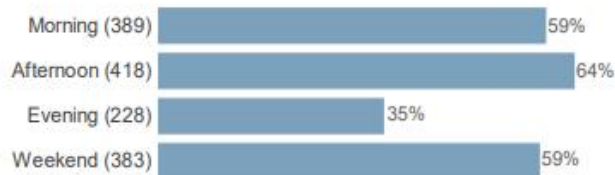
Do you use Halton Libraries? **Please select ONE answer**



Which Halton Libraries do you use? **Please select all that apply**



What times of the day do you use the library? **Please select all that apply**



Do you agree with the proposed opening times? **Please select ONE answer**

