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| <b>Name of proposal/policy</b>                   | Change to the opening hours of Wootton Library     | <b>Budget number (if applicable)</b> |            |
| <b>Service area responsible</b>                  | Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Officer | <b>Cabinet meeting date</b>          |            |
| <b>Name of completing officer</b>                | Anne Lovely  | <b>Date EqIA created</b>             | 10.11.2016 |
| <b>Approved by Director / Assistant Director</b> | Janet Doran  | <b>Date of approval</b>              | 14.11.2016 |

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](mailto:equalities@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

## PART 1

### Description of current provision/policy and main beneficiaries/stakeholders

The current library at Wootton is housed in a temporary portacabin structure, sited on the grounds of the Community Centre building, following the relocation from the shared library at Caroline Chisholm School in November 2012. The intention is to use Section 106 funding from nearby housing developments to provide alternative library provision. This funding is not yet available to us, so these plans have not yet come to fruition.

The current library is small, with very limited space for providing activities.

Following public consultation on the relocation to the current location, the agreed opening hours were over and above the normal amount for a comparably sized small library:

Current opening hours :

Tuesday – Thursday 10am – 7pm

Friday 10am – 6pm

Saturday - 10am – 2pm

Sunday, 11am – 2pm

Visitor figures have been monitored through hourly visitor counts over an extended period and the usage of the library does not warrant these extended opening times or the provision of an additional member of staff to provide lunchtime cover.

### Description of proposal under consideration/development

To reflect the current usage of this library, we propose bringing the opening hours into line with comparable libraries.

The proposed opening times are:

Tuesday 2pm – 5 pm

Wednesday 10am – 1pm

Thursday - Friday 2pm – 5pm

Saturday - 10am – 2pm

Sunday - 11am – 2pm

### Data used in this Equality Impact Assessment (general population data where appropriate but each EqlA 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 EqlA)

**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”**

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| <p><b>Library Usage</b></p> <p>Vistor counts undertaken by the library service support this proposal.</p>  | <p>For the year 2015/16<br/>Visits to Wootton library on its current opening hours ( 42 hours per week) totalled 9783.</p> <p>Visits to libraries with comparable opening hours to those proposed at Wootton (19 hours per week) :</p> <p>Danesholme 6172</p> <p>Woodford Halse 8246</p> <p>Finedon 12649</p> <p>Hourly visit counts at Wootton Library consistently show that the large majority of visits occur between 2pm and 5pm.</p> <p>39% of users of this library also make use of the following libraries:</p> <p>Hunsbury (61%)<br/>Northampton Central (54%)<br/>Other alternatives include Duston, Roade, Kingsthorpe , Far Cotton, Wellingborough, Wollaston and Finedon.<br/>Hunsbury Library is the most accessible being only 2.9 miles away.</p>                              |
| <p>Library Reach Area Data - Source : Northamptonshire Analysis:<br/><a href="https://www.northamptonshireanalysis.co.uk/profiles/profile?profileId=32&amp;geoTypeld=58&amp;geolds=E01027206">https://www.northamptonshireanalysis.co.uk/profiles/profile?profileId=32&amp;geoTypeld=58&amp;geolds=E01027206</a></p> | <p>Wootton forms part of the E01027206 Lower Super Output Area (LSOA). Data from the Library Reach Area Data on Northamptonshire Analysis for Wootton Library shows the following:</p> <p>Total Resident Population: 25,933 (2014 figures)<br/>26.34% of the population is aged under 18 (6,831)<br/>11% of the population is aged 65 and over (2,864)</p> <p>14.3% of the population have no qualifications (2,791) (2011 census figures)<br/>15.2% of the population have Level 1 qualifications (2,985)<br/>17.3% of the population have Level 2 qualifications (3,380)<br/>3.4% of the population have an Apprenticeship level qualification (656)<br/>13.2% of the population have Level 3 qualifications (2,586)<br/>31.2% of the population have Level 4 or 5 qualifications (6,117)</p> |

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|  | <p>81.8% of the population classifies themselves as White British (20,800) (2011 Census figures), with the remainder (18.2% or 4,614) classifying themselves as non-White British.</p> <p>7% of the population aged 3 years or above does not have English as their main language (1,709 people); this equates to 4.7% of households (471 households).</p> <p>0.2% of households (21) are deprived in four dimensions of deprivation (employment, education, health and disability and housing).</p> <p>6.4% of households (656) are defined as being in fuel poverty.</p> <p>The LSOA does not appear within the 20% most deprived LSOAs nationally.</p> <p>11.3% of households (1,145) have no car or van. 5.5% of people (785) travel to work by public transport. 79.9% of people (11,493) travel to work using a method of transport with an engine e.g. car, van, motorcycle etc. 9.2% of people (1,318) travel to work by walking.</p> <p>Source : Northamptonshire Analysis:<br/> <a href="https://www.northamptonshireanalysis.co.uk/profiles/profile?profileId=32&amp;geoTypeld=58&amp;geolds=E01027206">https://www.northamptonshireanalysis.co.uk/profiles/profile?profileId=32&amp;geoTypeld=58&amp;geolds=E01027206</a></p> |
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| <b>Tick the relevant box for each line by using a capital 'P' to make a <input type="checkbox"/></b> | <b>Based on the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups?</b> |          |         |        |
|--|---|----------|---------|--------|
|  | Positive  | Negative | Neutral | Unsure |
| Sex  |   |          | √       |        |
| Gender Reassignment  |   |          | √       |        |
| Age  |   |          | √       |        |
| Disability   |   |          | √       |        |
| Race & Ethnicity   |   |          | √       |        |
| Sexual Orientation   |   |          | √       |        |
| Religion or Belief (or No Belief)  |   |          | √       |        |

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| <b>Pregnancy &amp; Maternity</b>                                    |  |  | √ |  |
| <b>Human Rights (Please see articles in toolkit)</b>                |  |  | √ |  |
| <b>Other Groups (rural isolation, socio-economic exclusion etc)</b> |  |  | √ |  |

| <b>Initial impact</b>  |   |
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| <b>Explain your findings above</b>   | <b>Actions identified to mitigate, advance equality or fill gaps in information</b>   |
| <p>Although this proposal would reduce the opening hours of the library, we believe the overall impact of the proposed change is neutral.</p> <p>We will provide the same number of sessions for under 5s.</p> <p>We will still be able to offer the full range of library services during the proposed opening hours, including self-service, computer hire, printing and assistance with Blue Badge applications and bus passes.</p> | <p>If a session is currently run during a time period that the library will not be open under these proposals, we will accommodate these within the new opening hours.</p> <p>The proposed hours give a spread across mornings, afternoons and weekends to offer maximum accessibility to customers and reflect the pattern of current usage even though the library is currently open for longer periods.</p> <p>The Home Library Service could be offered to any customers who have difficulty travelling to the library and find that they are unable to visit during the proposed opening times. Any customer requiring this service can request it by asking staff at any library.</p> |

| <b>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</b>  |
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| <p>A period of consultation with library customers will be held, starting Monday 14 November and ending Friday 16 December. The consultation will be analysed and this equality impact assessment will be updated reflecting the feedback received, the final impact analysis and the final decision.</p> |

**PART 2 – if required**

| <b>Consultation, follow up data and information gathered from actions identified above</b> |  |
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|  | <b>What does this information tell us?</b> |
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| <b>Final impact analysis (taking the findings from Part 2 into account) – including review date if required</b> |
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