

## PART A - Initial Impact Assessment

**Proposal Name:** Continued support for Volunteer Run Libraries

**EIA ID:** 2519

**EIA Author:** Lynne Richardson (Libraries)

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**Proposal Outline:** Proposal to continue support for Volunteer Run Libraries for the period April 1st 2024 to 31st March 2026, consisting of: • A grant for Associate Libraries • A package of support for both Associate and Co-delivered libraries.

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**Proposal Type:** Budget

**Entered on QTier:** Yes

**QTier Ref:** #

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**Year Of Proposal:** 24/25

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**Lead Director for proposal:** Lisa Firth

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**Service Area:** Libraries, Archives & Information Service

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**EIA Start Date:** 01/04/2024

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**Lead Equality Objective:** Understanding Communities

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**Equality Lead Officer:** Ed Sexton

**Decision Type**

**Committees:**

Policy Committees

- Communities, Parks & Leisure

## Portfolio

**Primary Portfolio:**

Neighbourhoods

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**EIA is cross portfolio:**

No

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**EIA is joint with another organisation:**

No

## Overview of Impact

**Overview Summary:**

In continuing to support volunteer run libraries, the impact will be to maintain the overall positive impacts these libraries have on people in communities - wellbeing from reading, wellbeing from visiting a safe and warm space, access to information via the Peoples Network Commuters, tackling social isolation, digital literacy, encouraging community activity and community development through providing a safe space for events and activities. Access to information that enables them to manage their health condition. As highlighted below, the results of a scheduled survey this year will be used to enhance the service's knowledge of people using the libraries and their priorities.

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**Impacted characteristics:**

- Age
- Health
- Poverty & Financial Inclusion
- Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors

## Consultation and other engagement

## Cumulative Impact

Does the proposal have a cumulative impact: No

Impact areas:

## Initial Sign-Off

Full impact assessment required: Yes

Review Date: 10/01/2024

## PART B - Full Impact Assessment

### Health

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: Users of volunteer run libraries, may continue to access information that may help them manage their health condition. Visiting a library and taking part in library activities, including volunteering, has a positive impact on health and wellbeing and helps to tackle social isolation.

Name of Lead Health Officer:

Comprehensive Assessment Being Completed: No

Public Health Lead signed off health impact(s):

## Age

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: People of all ages can continue to access Volunteer Run Libraries. For children, reading from a young age offers improved life chances. For older people libraries are a source of social interaction, and a venue to take part in and lead events and activities for the community.

## Poverty & Financial Inclusion

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: Libraries are a safe and warm space for people to visit with no time limit (except for opening hours) and completely free. People can access the peoples network for free to apply for jobs, get financial support, apply for benefits etc. Access to books and information that enables people to manage their financial situations. Reading for pleasure improves life chances.

## Voluntary / Community & Faith Sectors

Staff Impacted: Yes

Customers Impacted: No

Description of Impact: This proposal will enable sixteen volunteer run libraries to be supported. This will increase their sustainability and enable them to continue their development and offer to the community.

**Outline of action plan:**

This proposal for continued support will mean there are no mitigations required. However it is still important to monitor the impact of the Volunteer Run Libraries, and this is part of the grant monitoring processes. A workshop will be scheduled in the next financial year to look further at ongoing sustainability - which enables people in our communities to be supported. The results of a scheduled survey this year will be used to enhance the service's knowledge of people using the libraries and their priorities.

**Action plan evidence:**

Former research supporting previous cabinet reports from 2014, 2016, 2018. This includes Sheffield's Child Poverty report in 2017, the state of Sheffield report 2016, Census 2011. Recently 'Future sustainability of Volunteer Run Libraries' from 2023, with results included in Form 2 report.

**Changes made as a result of action plan:**

## Mitigation

**Significant risk after mitigation measures:** No

**Outline of impact and risks:**

## Review Date

**Review Date:** 10/01/2024

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