

Future Libraries Consultation Children and Young People



Final Report
December 2023

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONSULTATION

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Authors

This report was compiled by Carol Doig (Children & Young People's Librarian) and Margaret Hill (Early Years Librarian).

1 Context

The Service agreed that it was essential to conduct a separate Children and Young People's Consultation as part of the wider 'Shaping Future Libraries' work. This decision supports the Scottish Government and local authority priority to 'put children's rights at the very heart of all services delivered to children and families'¹.

Using data from in-house systems and statistical information reported to the Scottish Government (ECALM), this report will provide context for the consultation; report back on the responses submitted by participants and, using this data to inform decisions, provide recommendations to support the 'Shape of Future Libraries' offer for Children and Young People and those who work with them across the city.

Recommendations will lead to the concept of co-design being fully embedded in all work undertaken for service planning, development, delivery and evaluation; providing real opportunities to develop innovative approaches to deliver a Library Service which meets the needs of Children, Young People, Families and Practitioners.

The key recommendations will form an Action Plan which will feed into the wider Service plan.

2 Data Capture

Information about the Children & Young People's Consultation was shared with partners including early years settings, partner providers, third sector organisations, schools and other youth organisations.

Data was captured through using an online survey (Citizen Space); making physical copies of the survey available in libraries; in-person focus groups and online focus groups.

¹ Local Outcome Improvement Plan (2022), p.17.

3 Data Analysis

Duplicate records and unintelligible responses were removed when cleaning the data.

Coding was applied to sort the remaining data.

Prescriptive Analysis was used to identify recommendations, informed by respondents, to shape future library services for Children and Young People.

The consultation for children and young people was designed with specific questions for different client groups. This means some questions show a higher number of 'Unanswered' questions depending on which client group the question was aimed at. For example, Question 3² asks children and young people to select the age category they fall into. The 'Unanswered' data includes the 154 Parents/Carers and 30 Practitioners who were not required to answer this question.

4 Consultation

The Children & Young People's Consultation aimed to capture the opinions and thoughts of children and young people aged 0-18yrs, Parents/Carers and Practitioners working with young people.

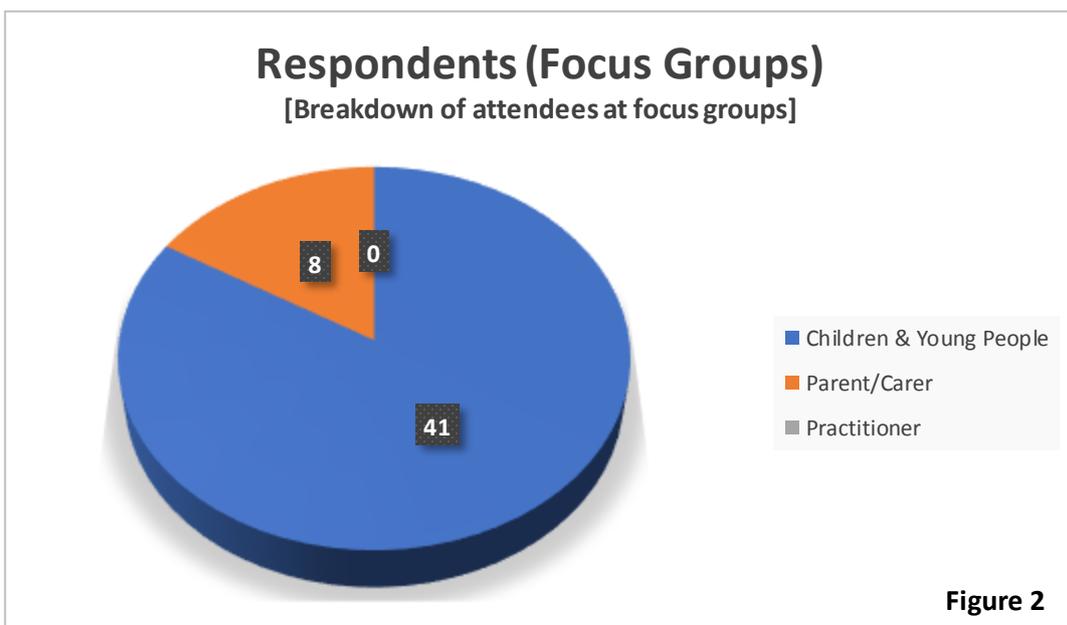
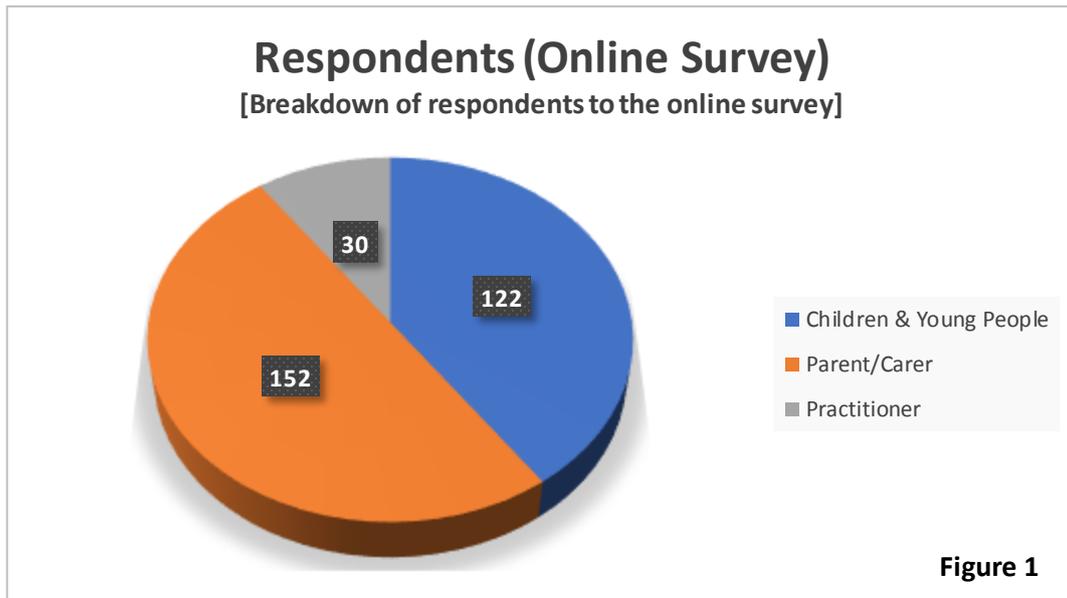
Four key themes had already been identified by the Children & Young People's Librarian (CYPL) and Early Years Librarian (EYL) in 2022/23 while working towards the development of co-design as standard practice. These themes provided the framework for the Children & Young People's Consultation around the 'Shape of Future Libraries'. The key purpose of the consultation was to provide a snapshot and baseline of library use, and to capture thoughts and ideas to help inform the future shape of library services for Children and Young People.

The Service was keen to find out from Children, Young People, Parents/Carers and Practitioners:

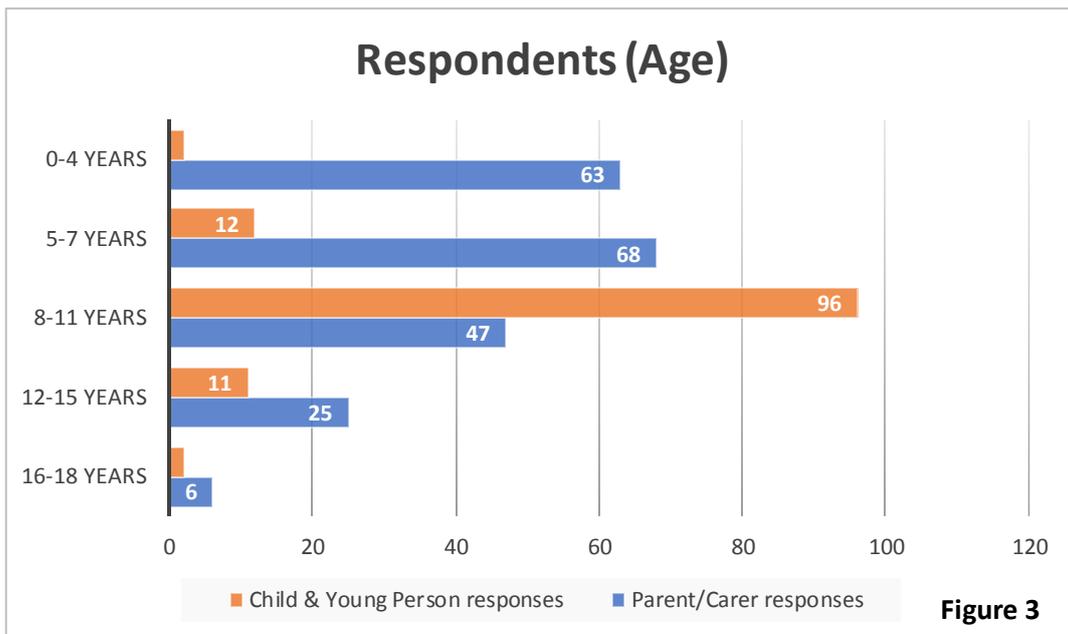
- how they use our public libraries;
- the services they currently use;
- any barriers to accessing our services,
- and the changes which, if implemented, would encourage more use of public libraries.

² Question for children and young people was 'How old are you?', p. 29.

There were 304 respondents (**Figure 1**) to the online survey, with a further 49 (**Figure 2**) people attending focus groups. In-person focus groups included discussions with pupils from Hazlehead Academy, Aberdeen Grammar and Riverbank School; a group of Home Educators and Parents/Carers. Practitioners did not take up the opportunity to attend the offered focus groups but did respond to the online survey.



Responses were recorded across five distinct age groupings³ - 0-4 years, 5-7 years, 8-11 years, 12-15 years and 16-18 years. The groupings reflect the age and stage of children and young people the Service works with i.e. Early Years, P1-P3, P4-P7, S1-S4 and Young Adult (**Figure 3**). The largest response was made by or on behalf of children aged 8-11 years



While we had comments about libraries saying, ‘They’re already perfect’ and ‘I love libraries’, we acknowledge that there are areas which need to be addressed by the Service to ensure we work more closely with Children and Young People to identify and meet their needs.

4.1 Library Use

Public libraries in Aberdeen supported 380 visits by 6589 children and young people, by schools, early years settings and partner organisations in the last 12 months. During the same period, libraries hosted 368 public activities for 3355 children and young people. Work to encourage library visits by schools, nurseries including partner providers continues.

Data from the Children & Young People and Parent/Carer responses shows that 140 young people (**Figure 4**) have used the library in the previous 30 days, with 13 young people having never used a public library. Survey responses show that children and young people have very definite opinions about libraries and we will build on this by providing opportunities for youngsters to co-design services e.g. participatory budgeting, reviewing library spaces.

³ Children and Young People were able to make individual responses; parents/carers responded on behalf of their child or young person but recorded the age of the youngster.

When did you last visit a public library in Aberdeen?

[Breakdown of last visit by Child, Young Person or with Parent/Carer]

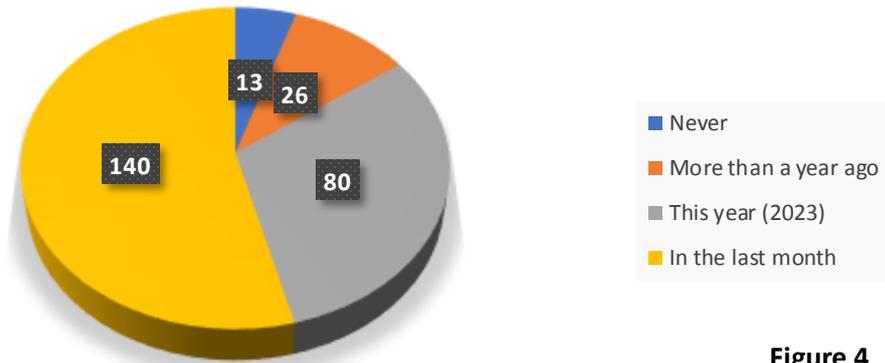


Figure 4

Library Systems data shows that there are 5951 children and young people – 27% of the total membership - who are active members⁴ of Aberdeen City Libraries. Children and young people who responded rely, in the main, on a Parent/Carer or other adult (**Figure 5**) to bring them to the library.

Do you visit the library with:

[Breakdown of responses from Children and Young People]

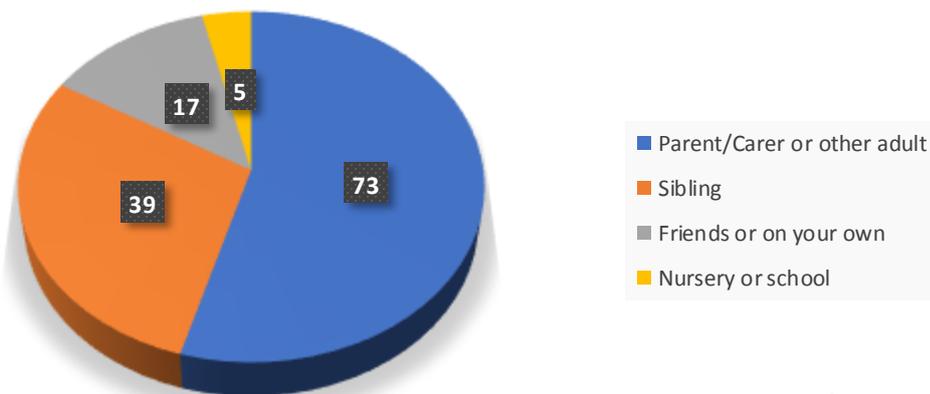


Figure 5

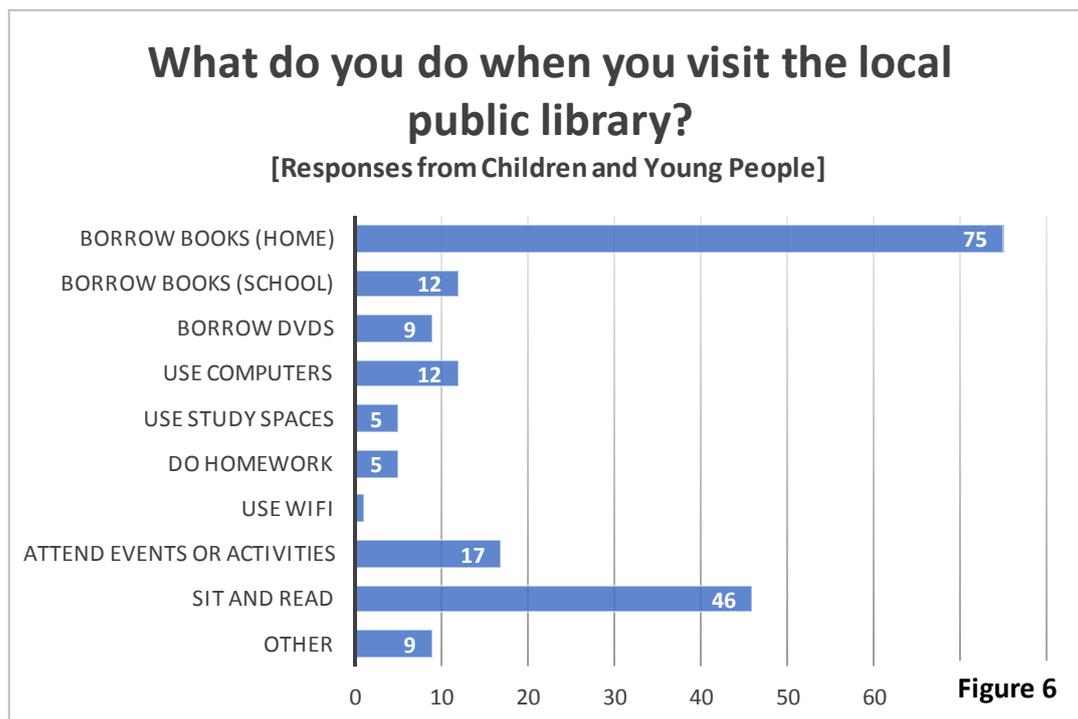
⁴ Active members refers to children and young people aged between 0-15yrs on the 30 September 2023 who have borrowed items in the last 12 months. Figures reported quarterly to the Scottish Government via the Scottish Library & Information Council (SLIC) as part of ECALM (Every Child a Library Member).

Recommendations

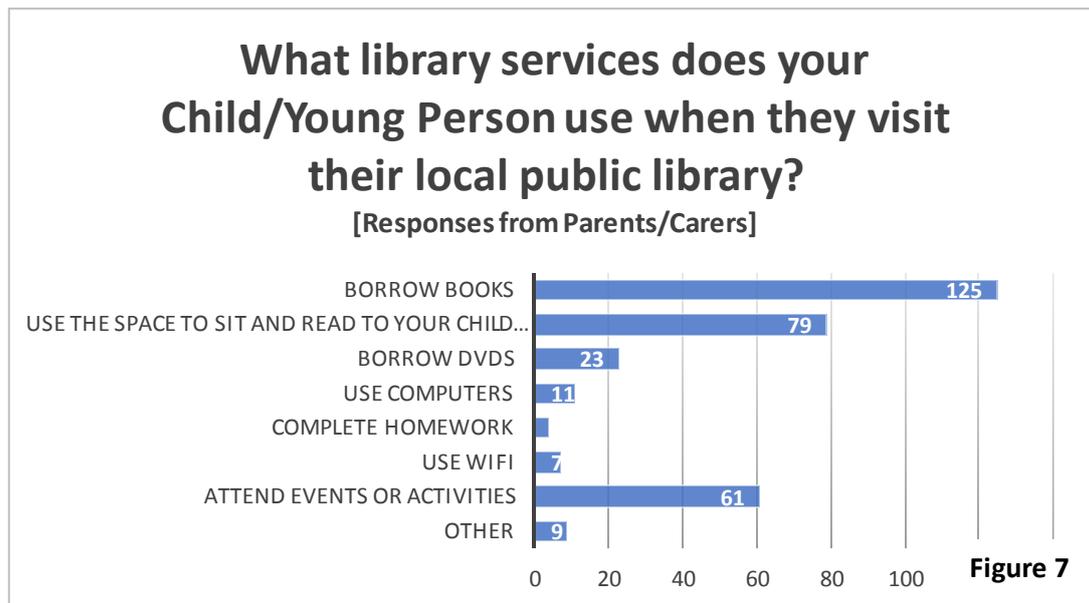
- Develop and embed mechanisms to actively involve children and young people in the co-design of services and service planning. This key recommendation reflects work already being undertaken by the Service and wider Child Rights Improvement Project.
- Build capacity within the Service to increase number of visits by early years settings, schools and other children/youth organisations.
- Review membership policy and procedures for children and young people to improve accessibility and reduce barriers to becoming library members.
- More focused promotion of services, including opening hours and locations of libraries, to identified partner organisations.

4.2 Library Services

The consultation data clearly shows that the primary use of public libraries by the children and young people who responded to the survey is for “borrowing books to take home” and to “sit and read” in public libraries (**Figure 6**).



Parents and carers of children and young people who responded to the consultation also identified “borrowing books” and using the space “to sit and read with your child” (**Figure 7**) as the primary services used when visiting the public libraries.



Feedback indicates a lack of satisfaction with the physical spaces in public libraries especially around the suitability/ age appropriateness of the décor and furnishing particularly for older children and young people. Children and young people also expressed that they thought libraries could be more welcoming.

Data from the consultation and focus groups highlighted a lack of awareness, among all categories of respondent, of the services, resources and activities offered by Aberdeen City Libraries. This was particularly the case regarding the digital offer for children and young people.

Aberdeen City Libraries has a collection of digital resources for children and young people which includes eBooks and eAudiobooks. Data collected via our digital platform (**Figure 8**) demonstrates that in the period 31st October 2022 to 31st October 2023, a total of 18841 Children and Young Adult eBooks/eAudiobooks were issued. It is not possible to ascertain precisely who borrowed these items and it is conceivable that adults borrowing these items were doing so on behalf of children and young people. Issues of eBooks and eAudiobooks have steadily risen since 2020.

However, the data from the consultation, including feedback from the focus groups, indicates that there is a preference for physical resources. This appears to be due to children being considered too young to use the online resources and a lack of awareness of the online resources available for children and young people.

Number of digital titles issued from the Children and Young Adult collections

[Borrowed between 31 Oct. 2022 - 31 Oct. 2023]



Figure 8

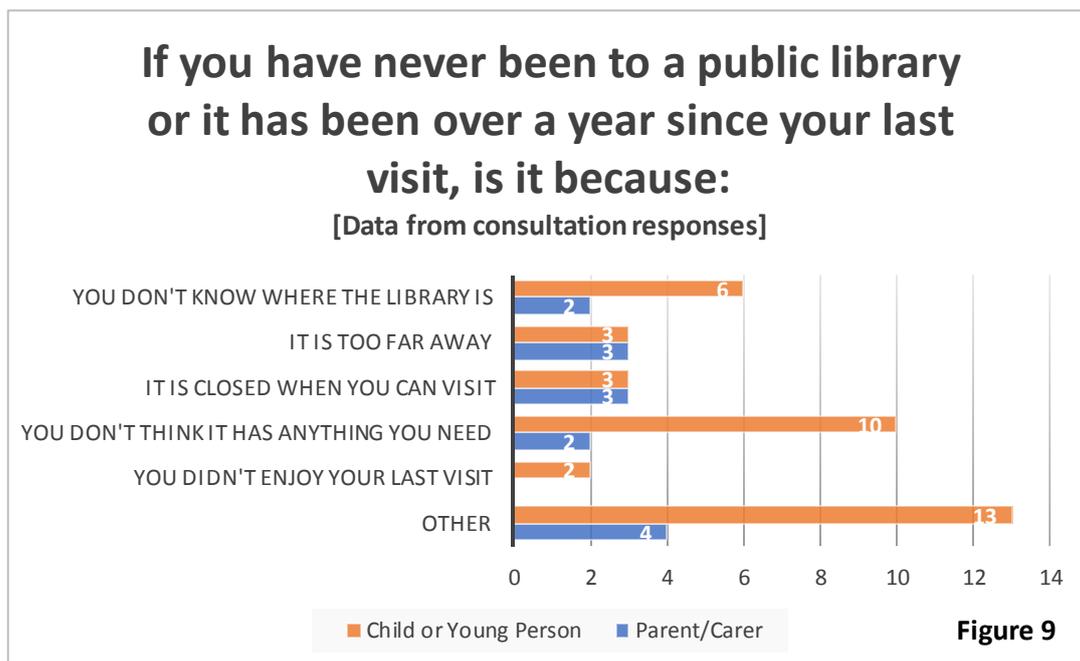
Recommendations

- Review the suitability of environment/library spaces, taking the opportunity to co-design solutions with children and young people.
- Target promotion of services and resources to stakeholder groups. This presents an opportunity to involve key stakeholders in the co-design of a focused communication strategy.
- Develop training for library teams to enhance skills, knowledge and expertise to improve marketing of services and resources in libraries and the wider community.
- Encourage participation in the Volunteering Programme by young people to increase library use, raise awareness of and challenge perceptions around library services.

4.3 Barriers to Accessing Libraries

Of the 304 responses to the consultation, 55 Children, Young People and Parent/Carers directly answered the question about barriers to using public libraries (**Figure 9**).

Respondents indicated that the main reasons for not using public libraries were because they don't think libraries have anything they need, and they don't know the location of their local library.



Responses to a further question 'What would encourage you to start using libraries, or use them more often?' (**Appendix D**) captured further data about challenges faced by individuals and communities when accessing library services. Increased opening hours, close proximity to a library and enhancing library spaces were frequently mentioned:

'Library needs to be convenient for daily life and not require a commute to another part of the city.'

'I feel the closure of the libraries has effected (sic) how often I take my children.'

'Better opening hours for remaining libraries'

'Tillydrone is too far for us to walk'

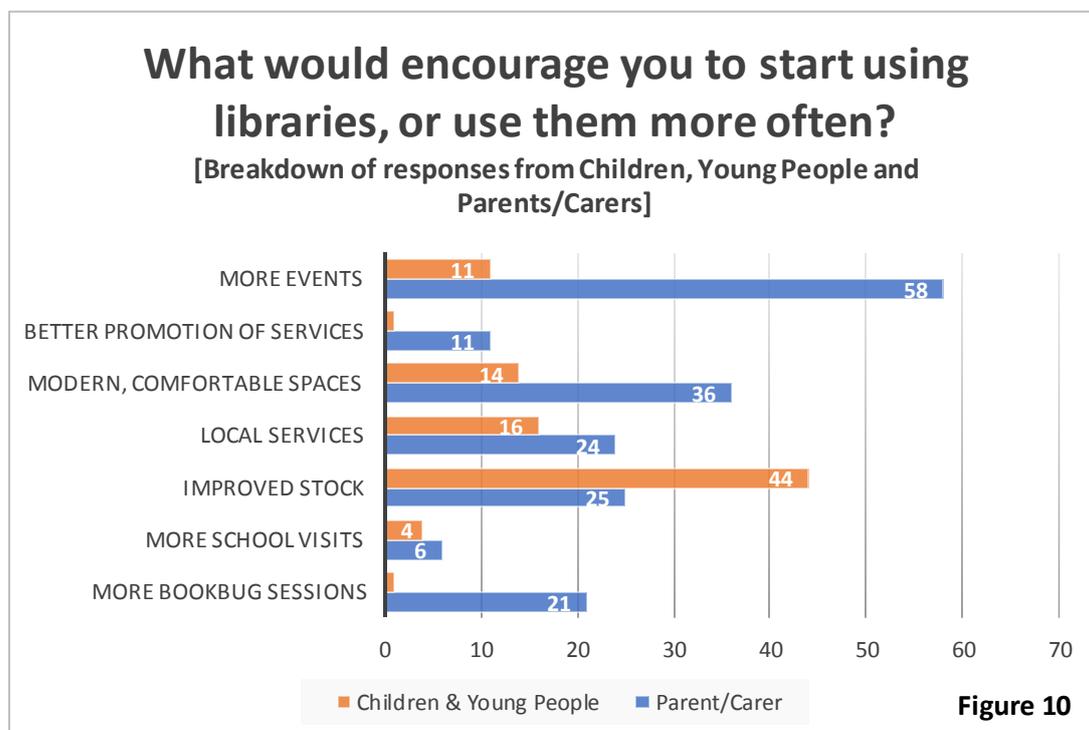
In terms of digital resources, Children and Young People responded that barriers to using online resources included the fact they preferred books (48), weren't aware of the online resources (29) or had no device (3) to support access to the resources.

Recommendations

- Continue to raise awareness of services by sharing through partners i.e. more direct and targeted promotion.
- Support staff to ensure consistency of approach when dealing with or supporting children and young people using our libraries i.e. every child or young person has the same positive experience when using a library.
- Provide opportunities for the Service to engage children and young people in promoting services e.g. social media takeover.
- Review the spread of activities across the network to ensure equitable provision for children and young people.

4.4 Encouraging Use

There were 303 responses to the question, 'What would encourage you to start using libraries, or use them more often?' (**Figure 10**). Respondents identified increased variety and number of activities (across all ages); improved range and quantity of stock available in libraries; modern and comfortable library spaces for all ages, and local services within walking distance of homes.



Focus groups with young people produced similar responses in terms of initiatives which would encourage more use of public libraries. More welcoming environments; areas more tailored to teenagers and young adults, more events and activities aimed at teenagers, and improved communication of service information to schools.

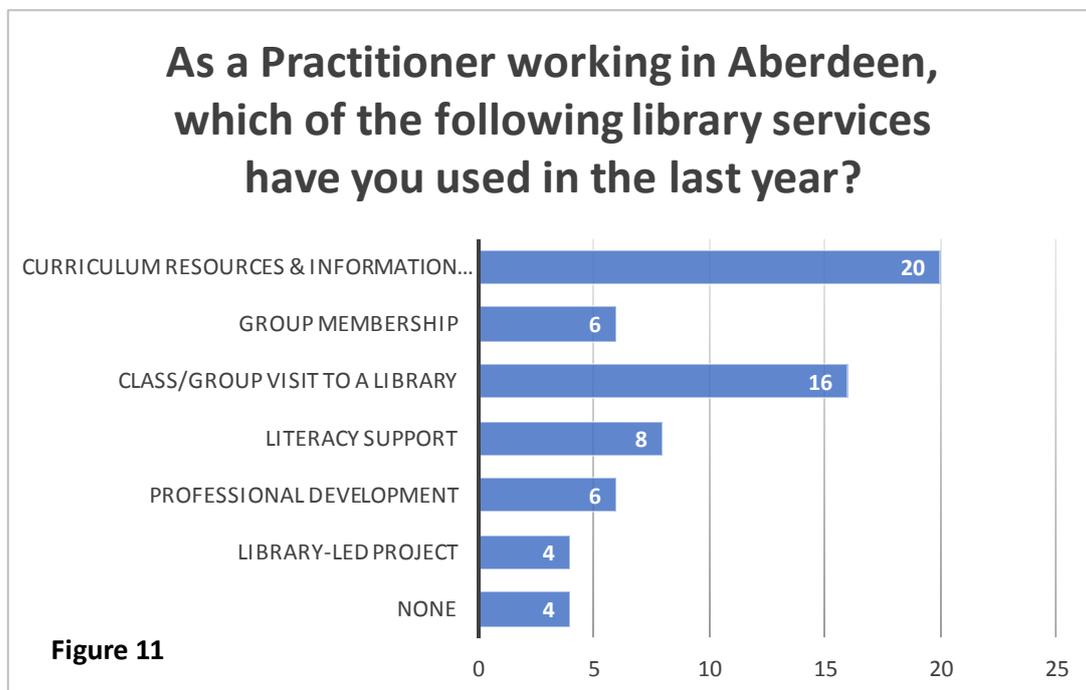
Recommendations

- Involve children and young people in reviewing and re-designing existing library spaces and in the co-design of new spaces within budget constraints.
- Review the spread of activities across the network to ensure equitable provision for children and young people.
- Develop mechanisms to support participatory budgeting opportunities with children and young people to address concerns raised about the quality and quantity of stock.
- Provide opportunities to involve children and young people in service planning.
- Continue to work with partner organisations in communities to support the promotion of services, resources and activities.

5 Practitioners

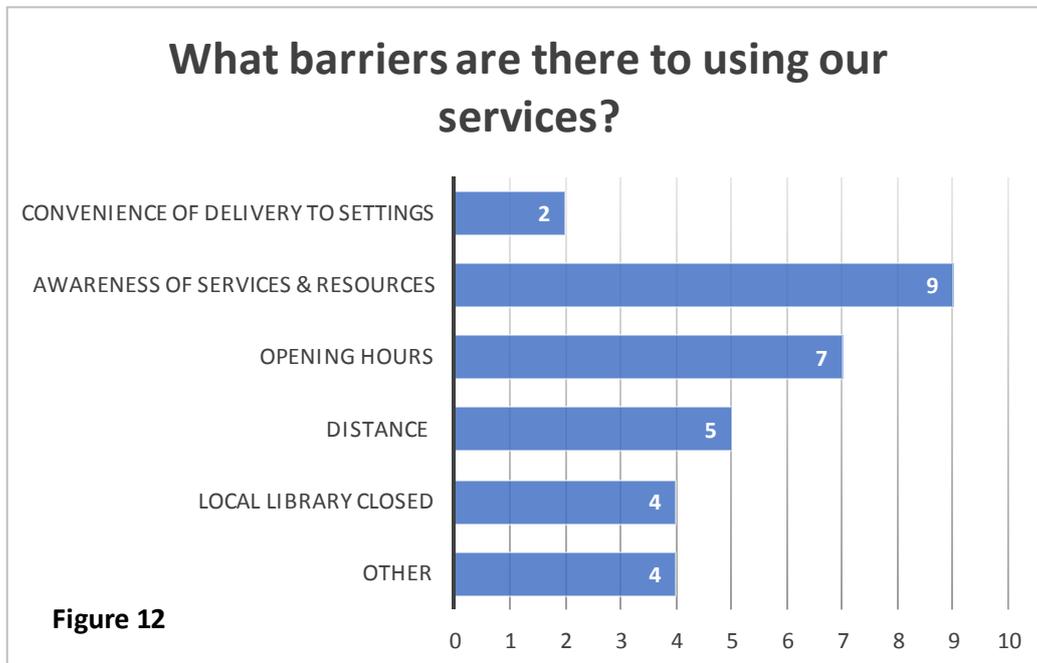
The consultation provided Practitioners⁵ with an opportunity to reflect on the support offered by Aberdeen City Libraries to learning and teaching. The data collected in the consultation will be considered alongside an earlier, end of 2022-23 academic year, survey delivered on behalf of the Curriculum Resources & Information Service (CRIS).

In the last 12 months, the services primarily used by Practitioners were the Curriculum Resources & Information Service; class/group visit to a library and literacy support from library teams (**Figure 11**).



⁵ Practitioners include individuals employed by Aberdeen City Council and working with Children and Young People in a variety of settings e.g. Teachers, Childminders, Educational Psychologists, PSAs.

Practitioners identified a number of barriers when considering using services to support their practice. (Figure 12)



Key changes which would encourage (**Figure 13**) more frequent use of services included raising awareness of available services and resources; provision of activities, workshops and author events in libraries for classes; extension of opening hours, and increasing the number of visits by schools and early years settings. The provision of a delivery service to schools/settings was also mentioned.

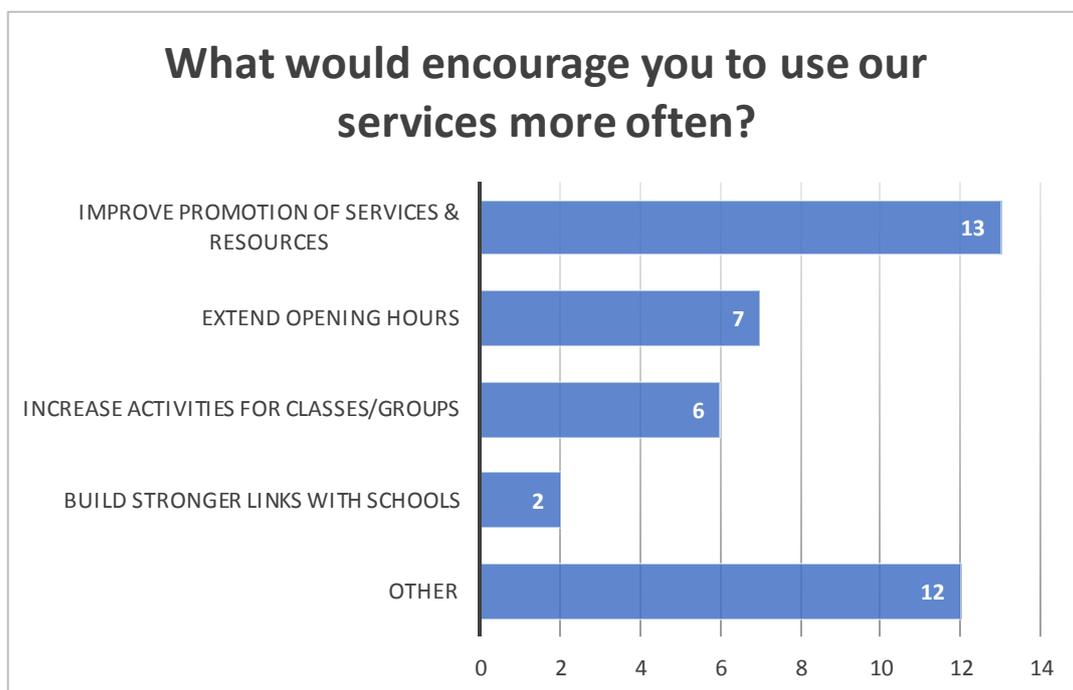
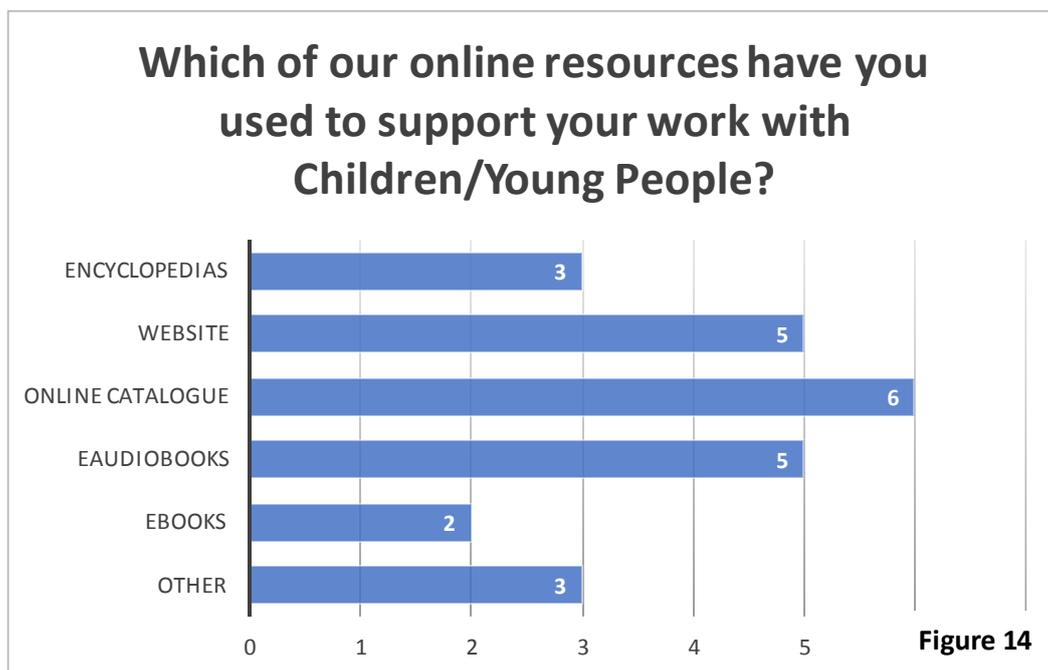


Figure 13

There was a mixed picture around the use of the Service’s digital resources by Practitioners. Resources primarily used (**Figure 14**) included the online catalogue, the website, eAudiobooks, Encyclopedias. Eighteen out of thirty respondents had never used our online resources, with nine Practitioners highlighting their lack of awareness about the availability of our digital content to support learning.



Recommendations

- Improve promotion of the support offered to Practitioners by Aberdeen City Libraries, particularly the Curriculum Resources & Information Service (CRIS).
- Continue to work with Practitioners in schools, early years settings including partner providers and other youth organisations to promote services, initiatives/events and library-led project opportunities.
- Raise awareness of the support offered to professional practice and development.
- Review operating hours of the Curriculum Resources & Information Service (CRIS) in line with the wider Service Plan to better meet the needs of Practitioners.
- Support library teams to further develop links with schools and early years settings, including partner providers, and other youth organisations to ensure consistency and equity of provision.
- Investigate mechanisms to support resource delivery to educational settings.



Our Commitment to Children and Young People

Aberdeen City Libraries is committed to the involvement of children and young people in decisions which impact them. We will continue to actively seek the views and opinions of children and young people, parents/carers and practitioners to inform the development and delivery of services.

This public report summarises the consultation and its outcomes in an accessible format to support children and young people's understanding of their potential to influence and inform change.

Impact on Mental Wellbeing of Visiting a Library

The LOIP⁶ documented that in Grampian alone there was a 280% increase in the number of children and young people referred for professional support with their mental health and wellbeing between 2019 and 2020. The consultation provided an opportunity for the Service to get a more holistic understanding of how public libraries impact on children and young people in Aberdeen. The Service asked Children and Young People, ‘How does visiting the library make you feel?’.



3.27 % Children and Young People said they felt ‘secure’ and ‘safe’ in the library.

How does visiting the library make you feel?



Happy	31%
Calm	20%
Good	8%
Excited	8%
Relaxed	8%

⁶ Local Outcome Improvement Plan (2022), p.5.

Children and Young People’s Consultation Responses

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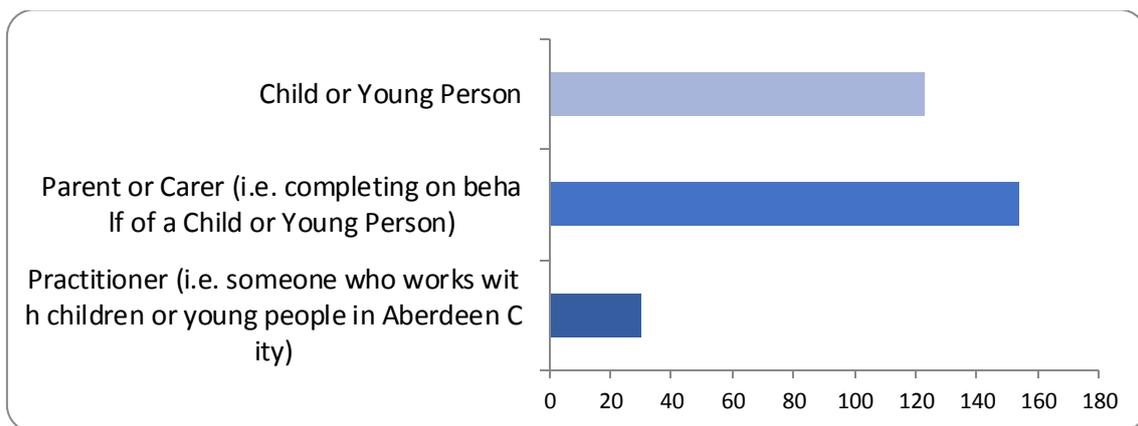
[The activity ran from 14/08/2023 to 31/10/2023]

Responses to this survey: **307**

1: Are you answering this survey as a:

Role

There were 307 responses to this part of the question.

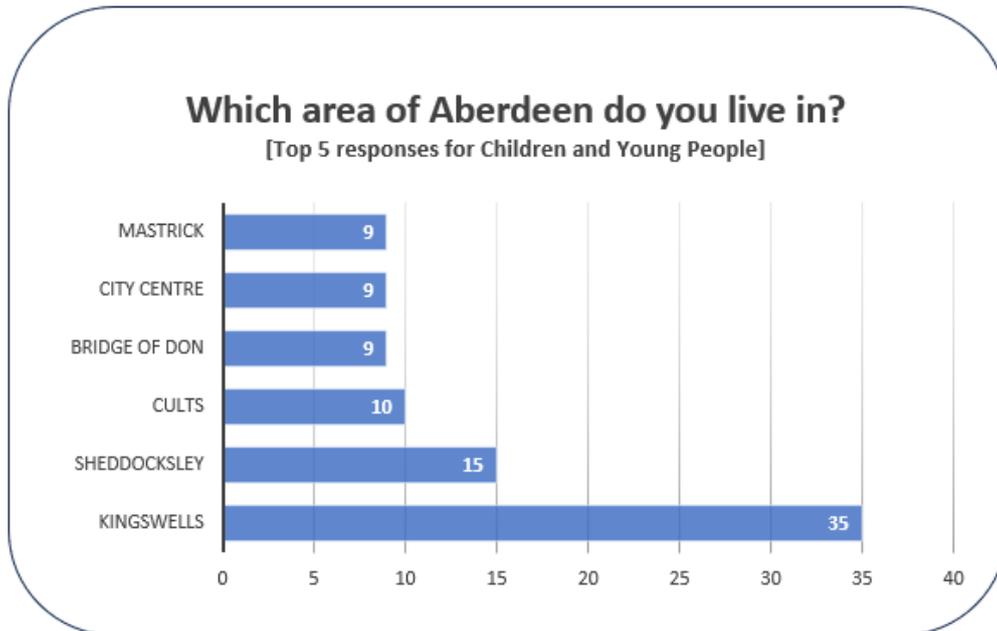


Option	Total	Percent
Child or Young Person	123	40.07%
Parent or Carer (i.e. completing on behalf of a Child or Young Person)	154	50.16%
Practitioner (i.e. someone who works with children or young people in Aberdeen City)	30	9.77%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

2: Tell us which area of Aberdeen you live in: (e.g. Kincorth, Bridge of Don)

CYP Location

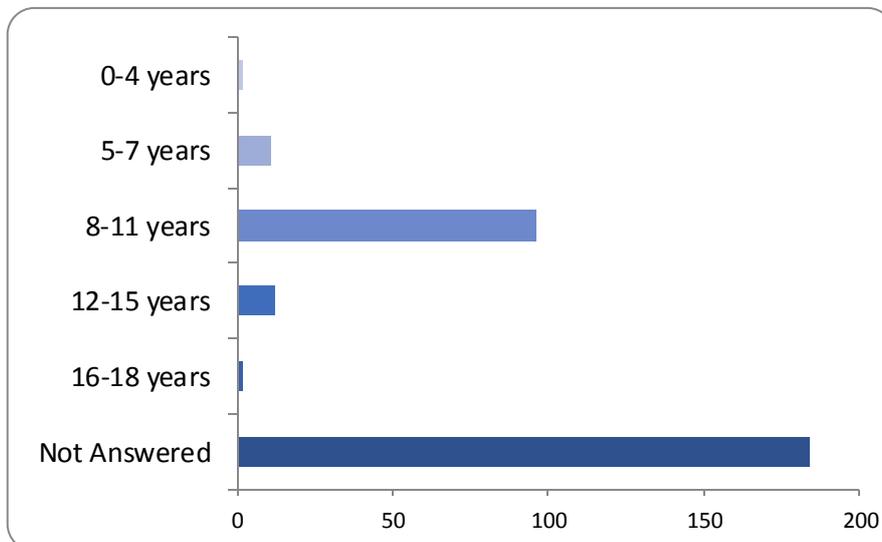
There were 123 responses to this part of the question. Top 6 answers below.



3: How old are you?

CYP Age

There were 123 responses to this part of the question.

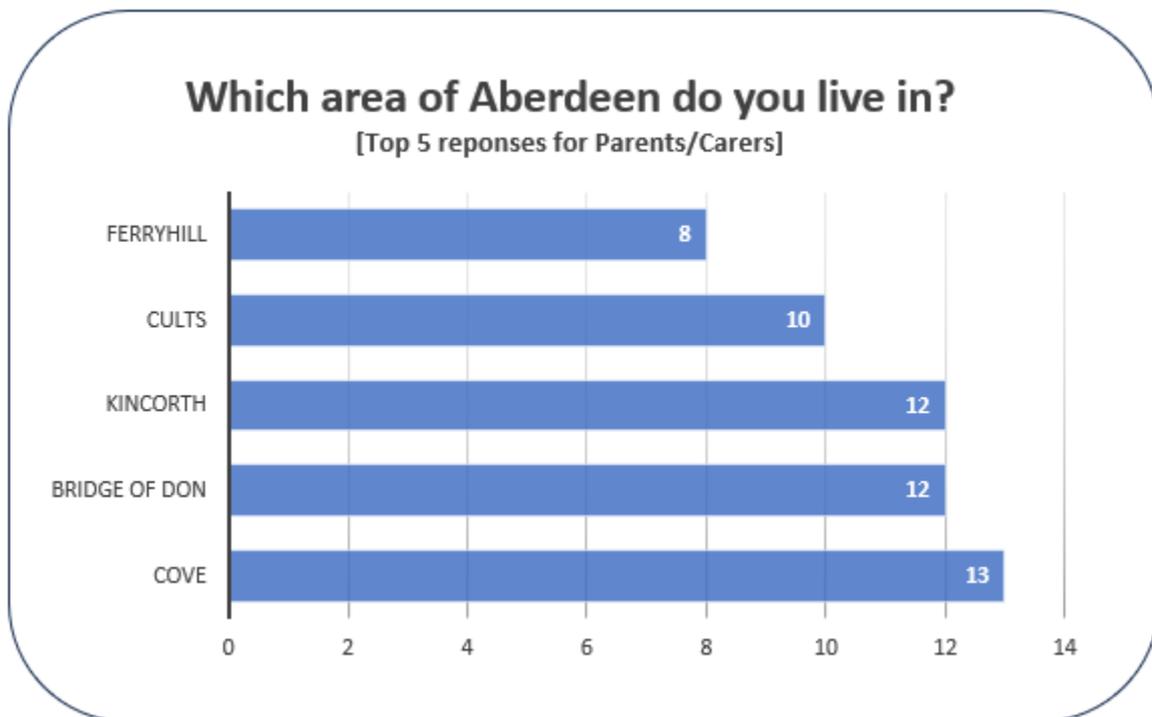


Option	Total	Percent
0-4 years	2	0.65%
5-7 years	11	3.58%
8-11 years	96	31.27%
12-15 years	12	3.91%
16-18 years	2	0.65%
Not Answered	184	59.93%

4: Which area of Aberdeen do you live in? (e.g. Kincorth, Bridge of Don)

PC Location

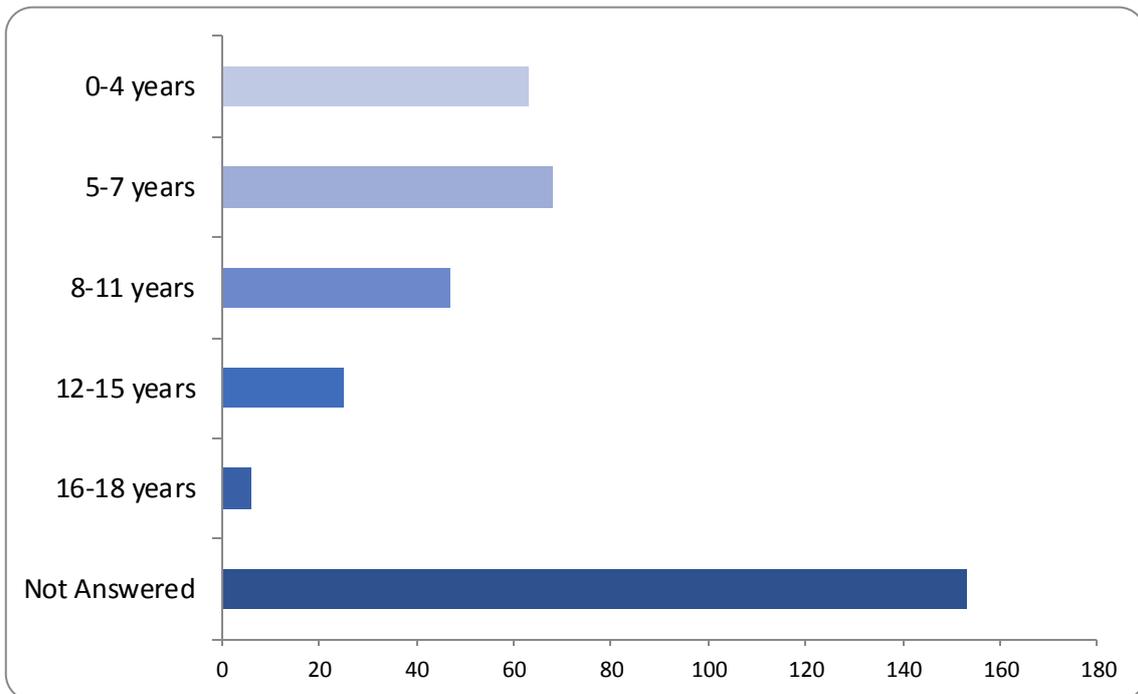
There were 154 responses to this part of the question. Top 5 responses below.



5: How old is your child/children and/or young person/young people?

PC Age Child

There were 154 responses to this part of the question.

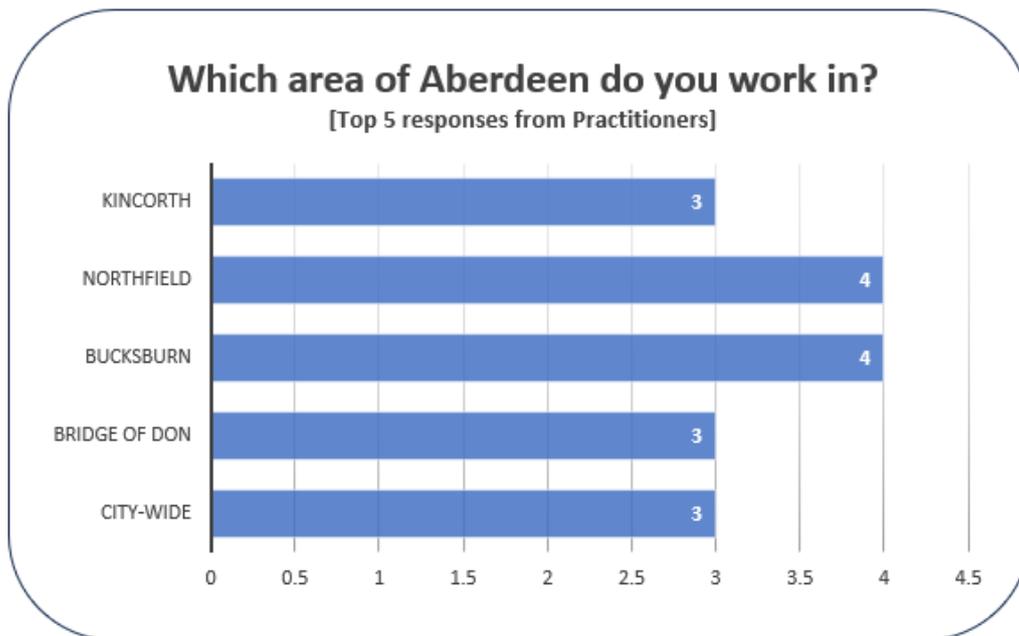


Option	Total	Percent
0-4 years	63	20.52%
5-7 years	68	22.15%
8-11 years	47	15.31%
12-15 years	25	8.14%
16-18 years	6	1.95%
Not Answered	153	49.84%

6: Which area of Aberdeen do you work in?

PR Location

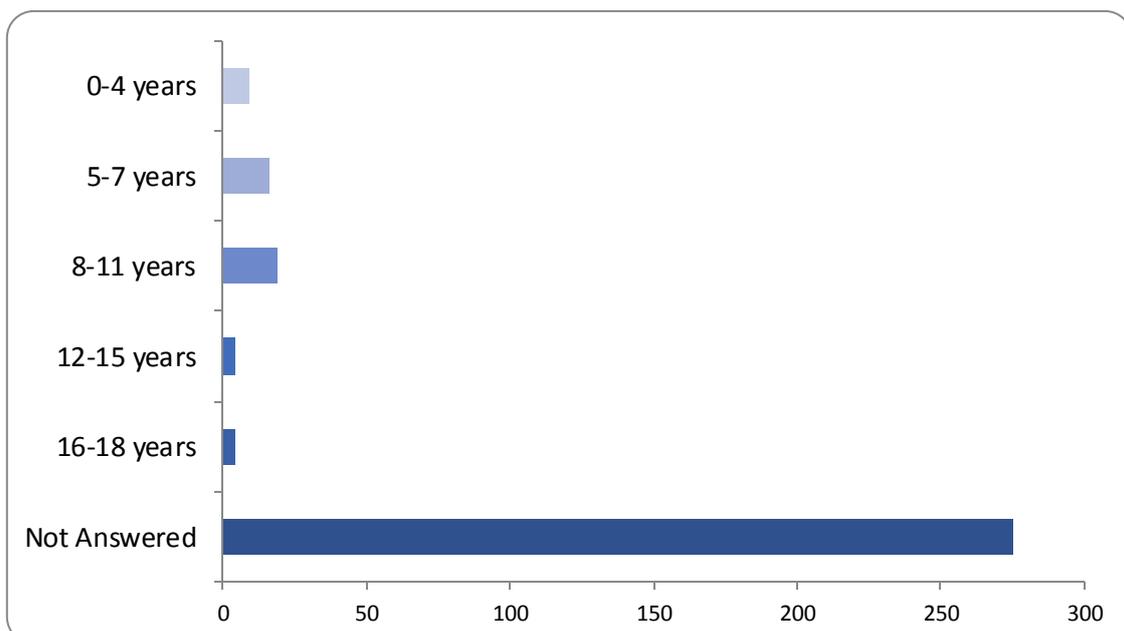
There were 32 responses to this part of the question. Top 5 responses below.



7: What best describes the age of the children or young people you work with?

PR Age

There were 32 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
0-4 years	9	2.93%
5-7 years	16	5.21%
8-11 years	19	6.19%
12-15 years	4	1.30%
16-18 years	4	1.30%
Not Answered	275	89.58%

8: What is your profession? e.g. Teacher, PSA, Educational Psychologist.

PR Profession

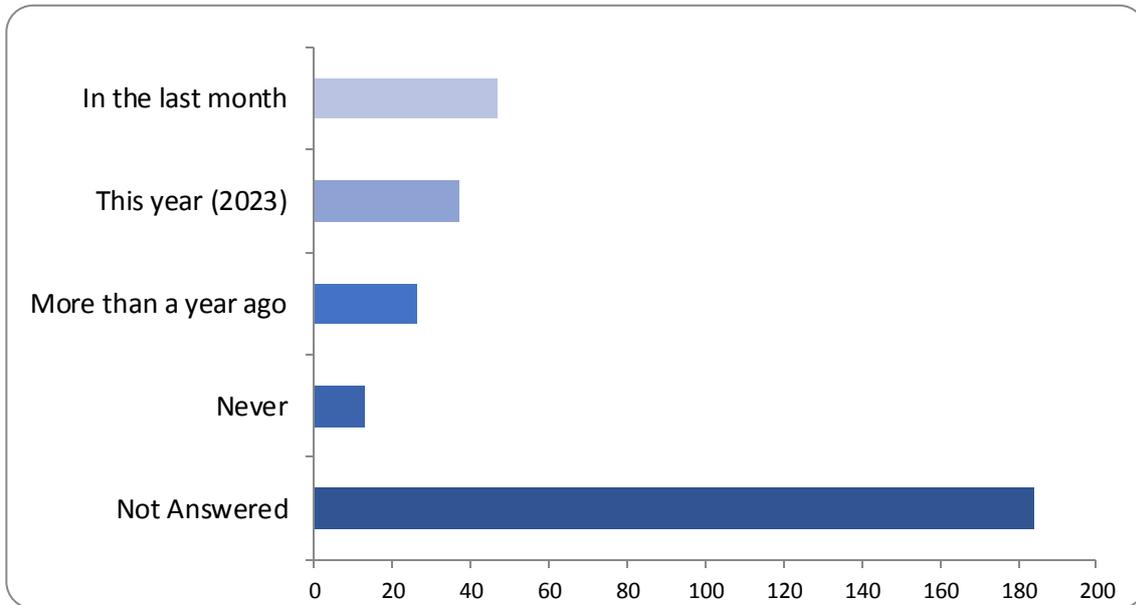
There were 32 responses to this part of the question.



9: When did you last visit a public library in Aberdeen?

CYP Last visit

There were 123 responses to this part of the question.

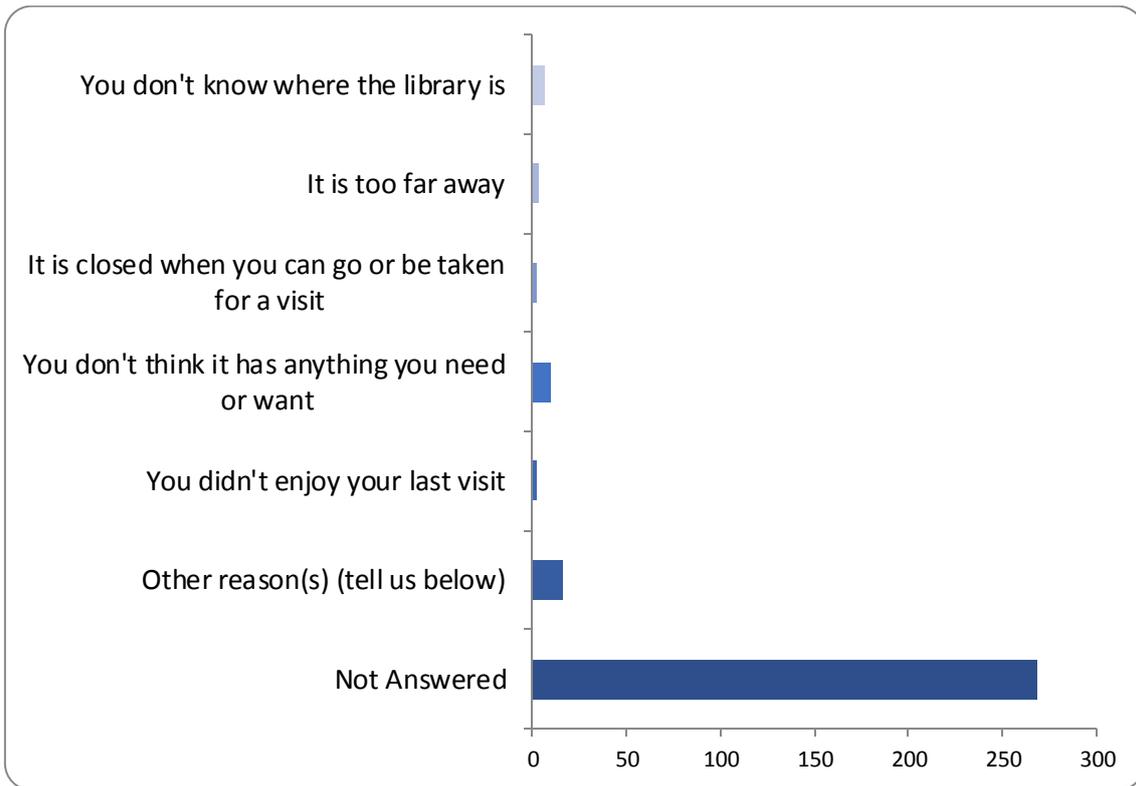


Option	Total	Percent
In the last month	47	15.31%
This year (2023)	37	12.05%
More than a year ago	26	8.47%
Never	13	4.23%
Not Answered	184	59.93%

10: If you have never been to a public library or it has been over a year since your last visit, is it because:

CYP Barriers

There were 39 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
You don't know where the library is	6	1.95%
It is too far away	3	0.98%
It is closed when you can go or be taken for a visit	2	0.65%
You don't think it has anything you need or want	10	3.26%
You didn't enjoy your last visit	2	0.65%
Other reason(s) (tell us below)	16	5.21%
Not Answered	268	87.30%

Other - please state answer

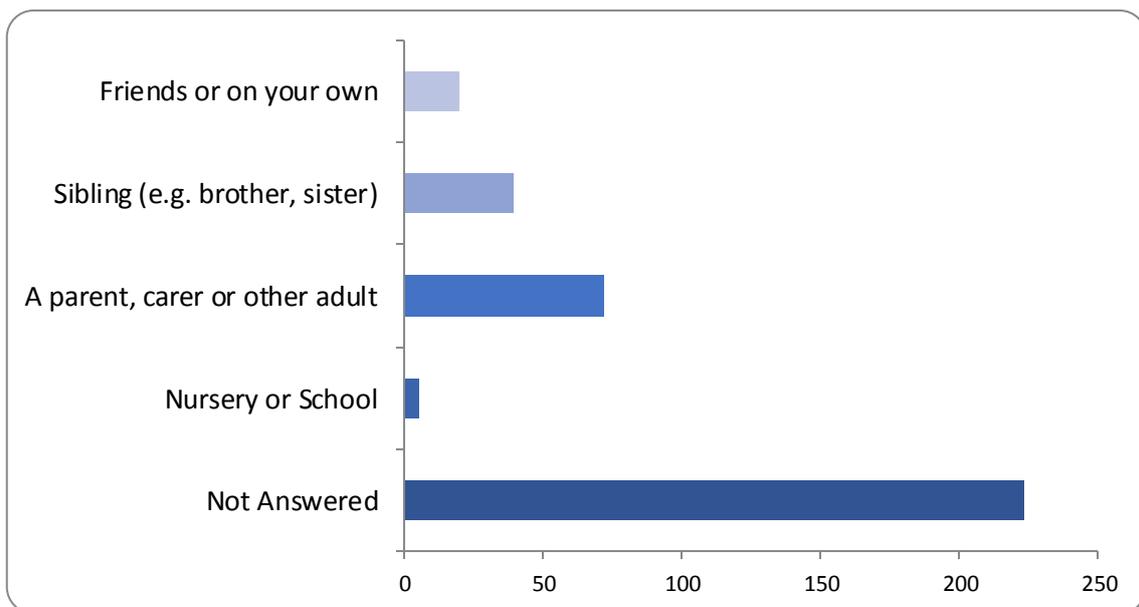
There were 18 responses to this part of the question. Responses included:

Response	Total
Me and my sister just have lots of books at home	2
We just joined	1
We just don't have space for new books and we don't have the time to go.	1
Opening hours don't work for us so well	1
We have lots of good books at home and at school so we don't need any more	3
Too busy at the weekends	1
I didn't live in Kingswells	1
I have no interest in libraries	1
My parents are always too busy	1
Because I don't have time	1
I'm not into reading	1
It is closed when you can go or be taken for a visit. It is closed altogether now.	1

11: Do you visit the library with:

CYP Accompanied

There were 84 responses to this part of the question.

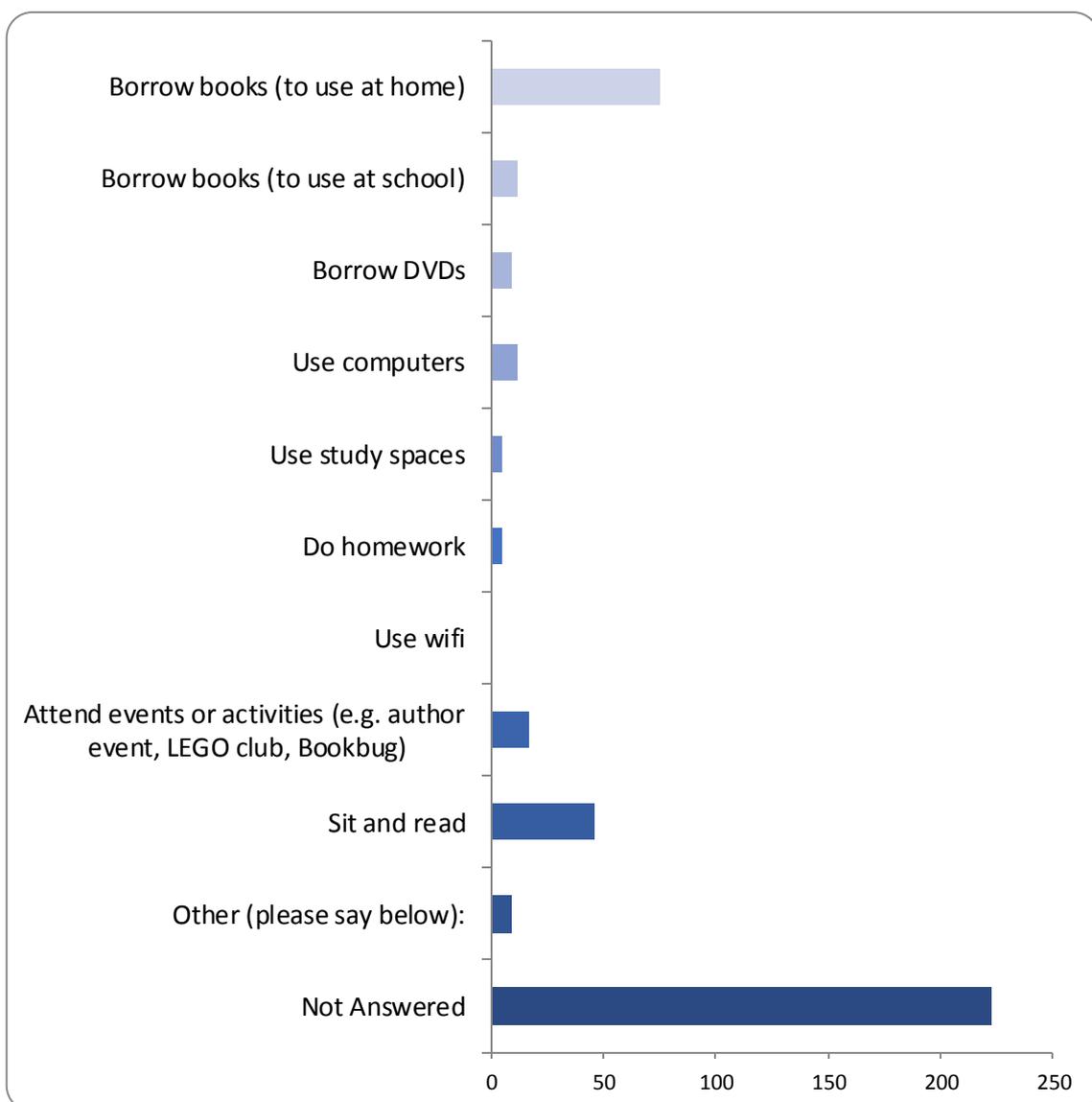


Option	Total	Percent
Friends or on your own	20	6.51%
Sibling (e.g. brother, sister)	39	12.70%
A parent, carer or other adult	72	23.45%
Nursery or School	5	1.63%
College	0	0.00%
Not Answered	223	72.64%

12: What do you do when you visit the local public library?

CYP Use Library

There were 84 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Borrow books (to use at home)	75	24.43%
Borrow books (to use at school)	12	3.91%
Borrow DVDs	9	2.93%
Use computers	12	3.91%
Use study spaces	5	1.63%
Do homework	5	1.63%
Use wifi	1	0.33%
Attend events or activities (e.g. author event, LEGO club, Bookbug)	17	5.54%
Sit and read	46	14.98%
Other (please say below):	9	2.93%
Not Answered	223	72.64%

Other - please state answer

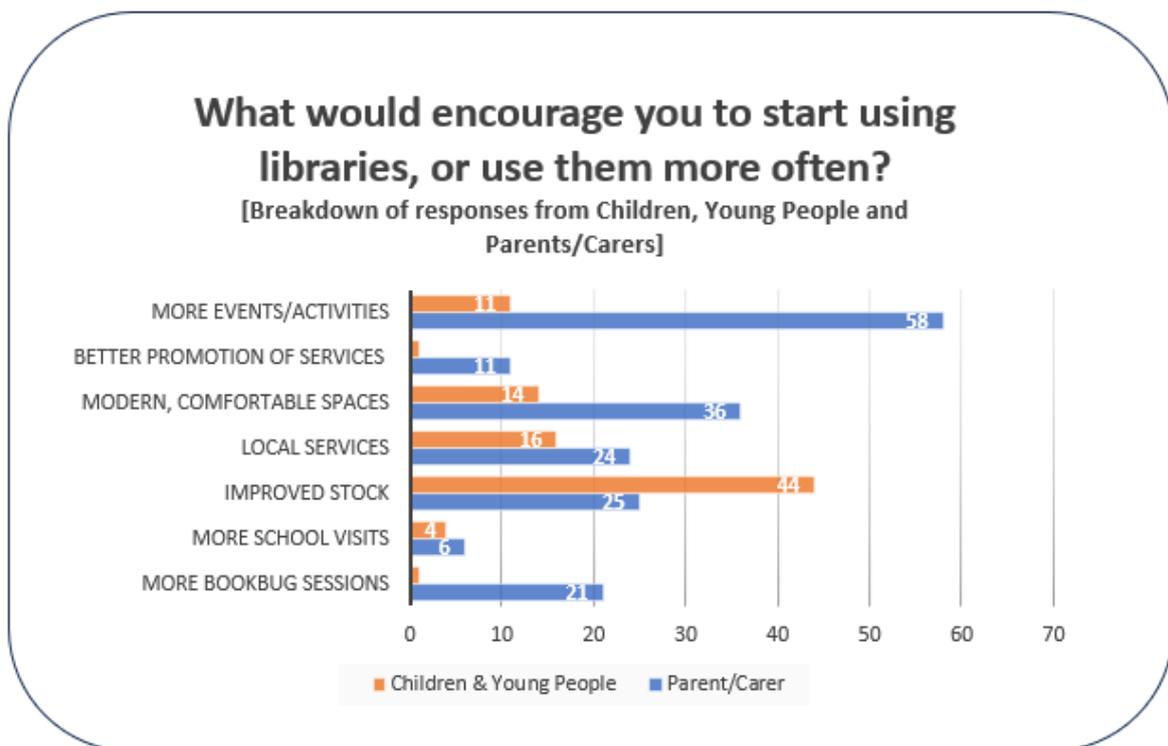
There were 11 responses to this part of the question.

Options	Total
Getting toothbrush/toothpaste	1
Picked up foodbags	1
Enjoy the colouring in or other activities set out	2
Register for a library card	1
Playaways/Audiobooks	3
Borrow toys	1
Look at books for next visit	1

13: What would encourage you to start using libraries, or use them more often?

CYP Increase visits

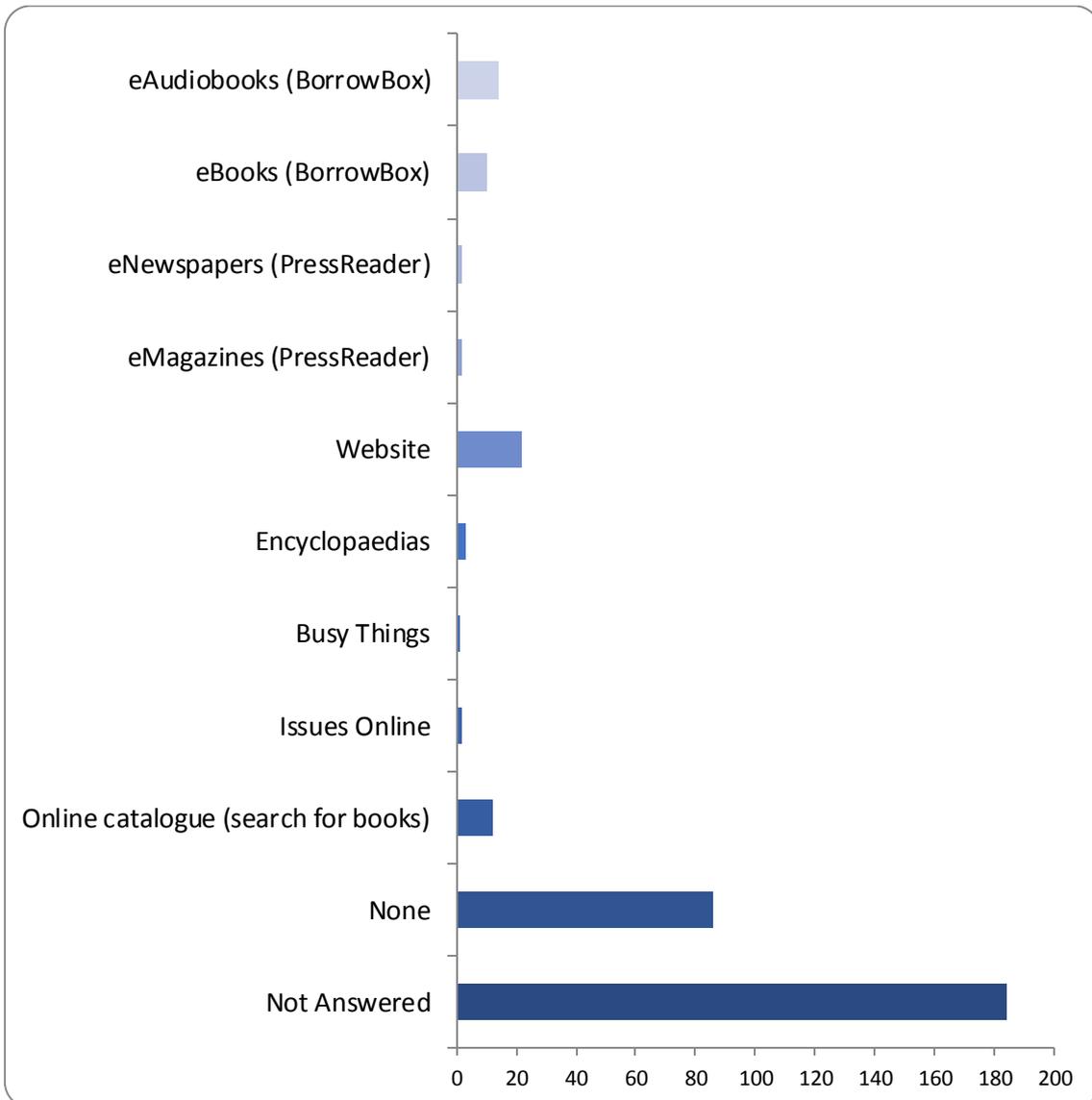
There were 123 responses to this part of the question. Top 7 responses detailed below.



14: Which of our online resources do you use?

CYP Online resources used

There were 123 responses to this part of the question.

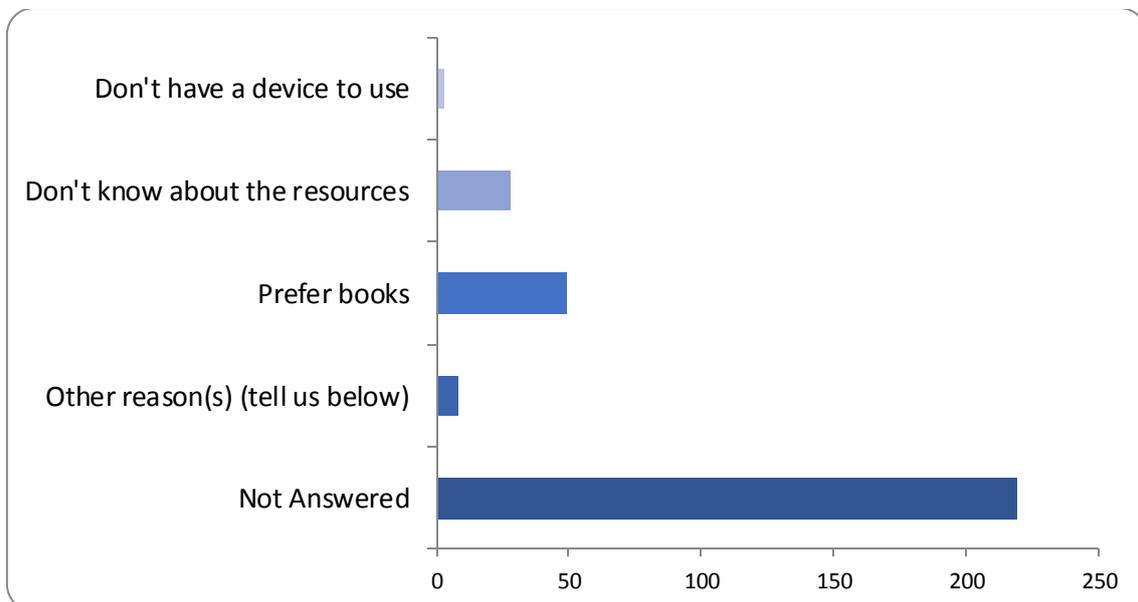


Option	Total	Percent
eAudiobooks (BorrowBox)	14	4.56%
eBooks (BorrowBox)	10	3.26%
eNewspapers (PressReader)	2	0.65%
eMagazines (PressReader)	2	0.65%
Website	22	7.17%
Encyclopaedias	3	0.98%
Busy Things	1	0.33%
Issues Online	2	0.65%
British Newspaper Archive	0	0.00%
Online catalogue (search for books)	12	3.91%
Theory Test Pro	0	0.00%
SCRAN	0	0.00%
None	86	28.01%
Not Answered	184	59.93%

15: If none, is it because you:

CYP Online barrier

There were 88 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Don't have a device to use	3	0.98%
Don't know about the resources	28	9.12%
Prefer books	49	15.96%
Don't have Internet at home	0	0.00%
Other reason(s) (tell us below)	8	2.61%
Not Answered	219	71.34%

Other - please state answer

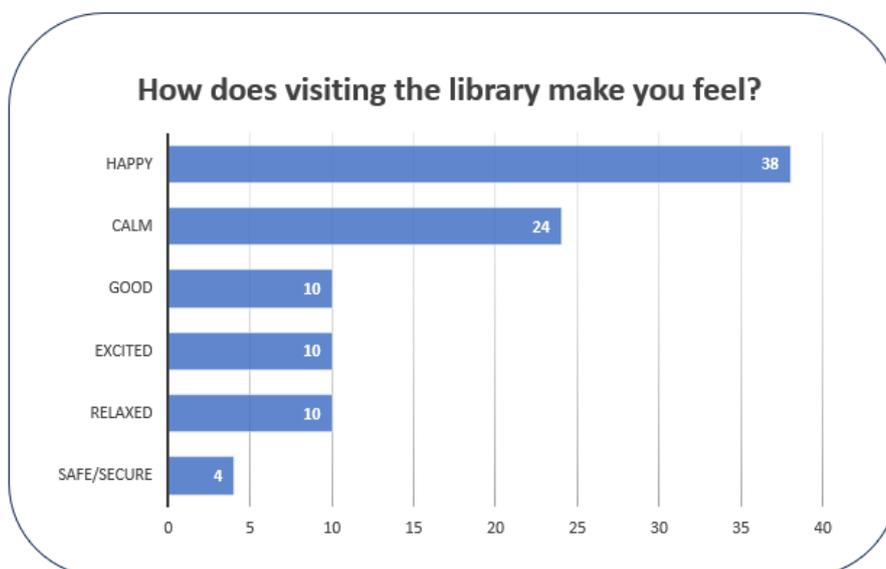
There were 11 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total
We can't	1
We came to borrow books so we didn't have time (or even a card to register at that time) to use the devices	1
It didn't work when we tried to search for books.	1
We came to borrow books so we didn't have time (or even a card to register at that time) to use the devices	1
My parents don't spend money on it.	1
Haven't used library yet	1
I didn't know about the website	1
I use Sunday Times & Amazon	1
No reason given	3

16: How does visiting the library make you feel?

CYP Emotions

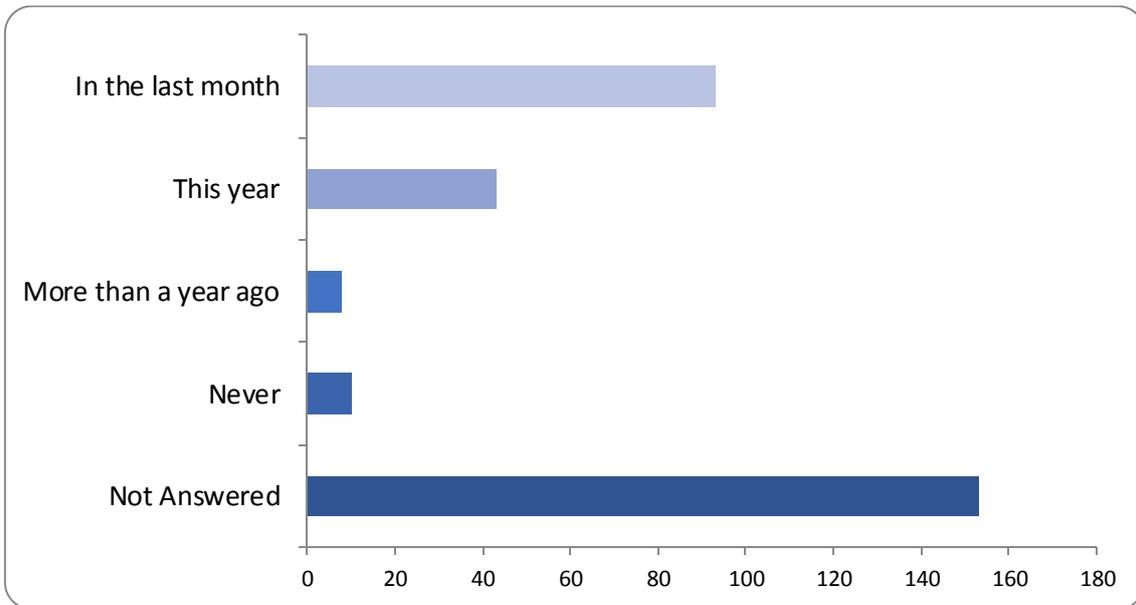
There were 123 responses to this part of the question. Top 6 responses detailed below.



17: When did your Child/Young Person last visit, with you or by themselves, a public library in Aberdeen?

PC Last visit

There were 154 responses to this part of the question.

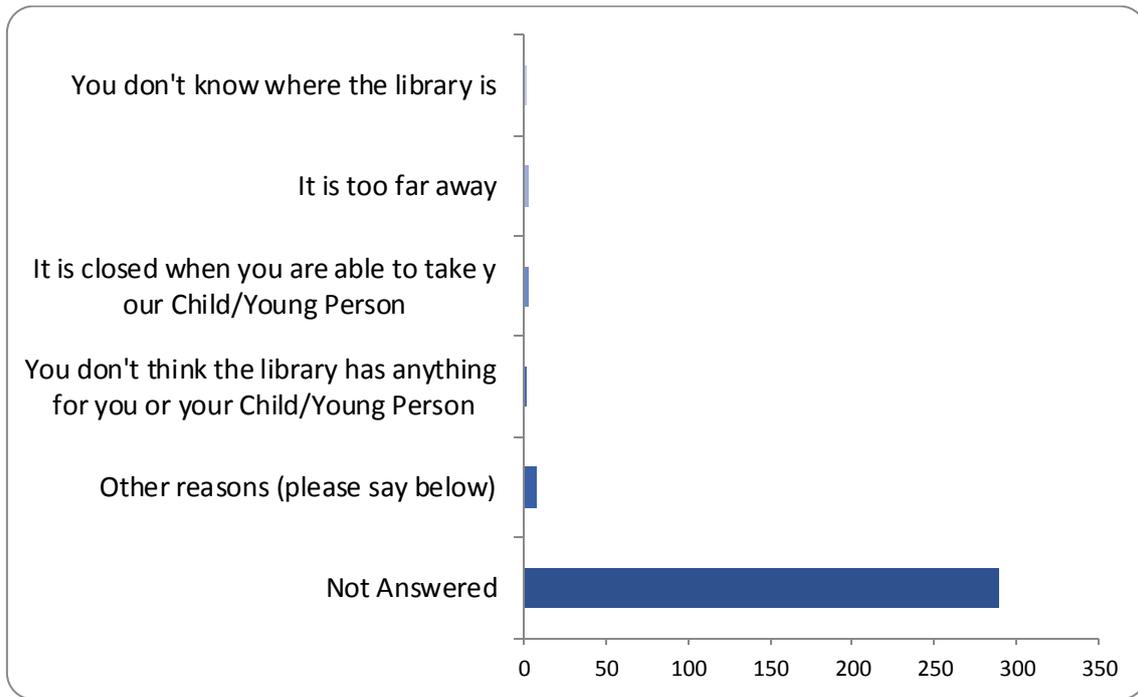


Option	Total	Percent
In the last month	93	30.29%
This year	43	14.01%
More than a year ago	8	2.61%
Never	10	3.26%
Not Answered	153	49.84%

18: If your Child/Young Person has never been to a public library or it has been over a year since their last visit, is it because:

PC Barrier visiting

There were 18 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
You don't know where the library is	2	0.65%
It is too far away	3	0.98%
Cost of travel is too expensive	0	0.00%
It is closed when you are able to take your Child/Young Person	3	0.98%
You don't think the library has anything for you or your Child/Young Person	2	0.65%
Your Child/Young Person didn't enjoy their previous visit	0	0.00%
Other reasons (please say below)	8	2.61%
Not Answered	289	94.14%

Other - please state answer

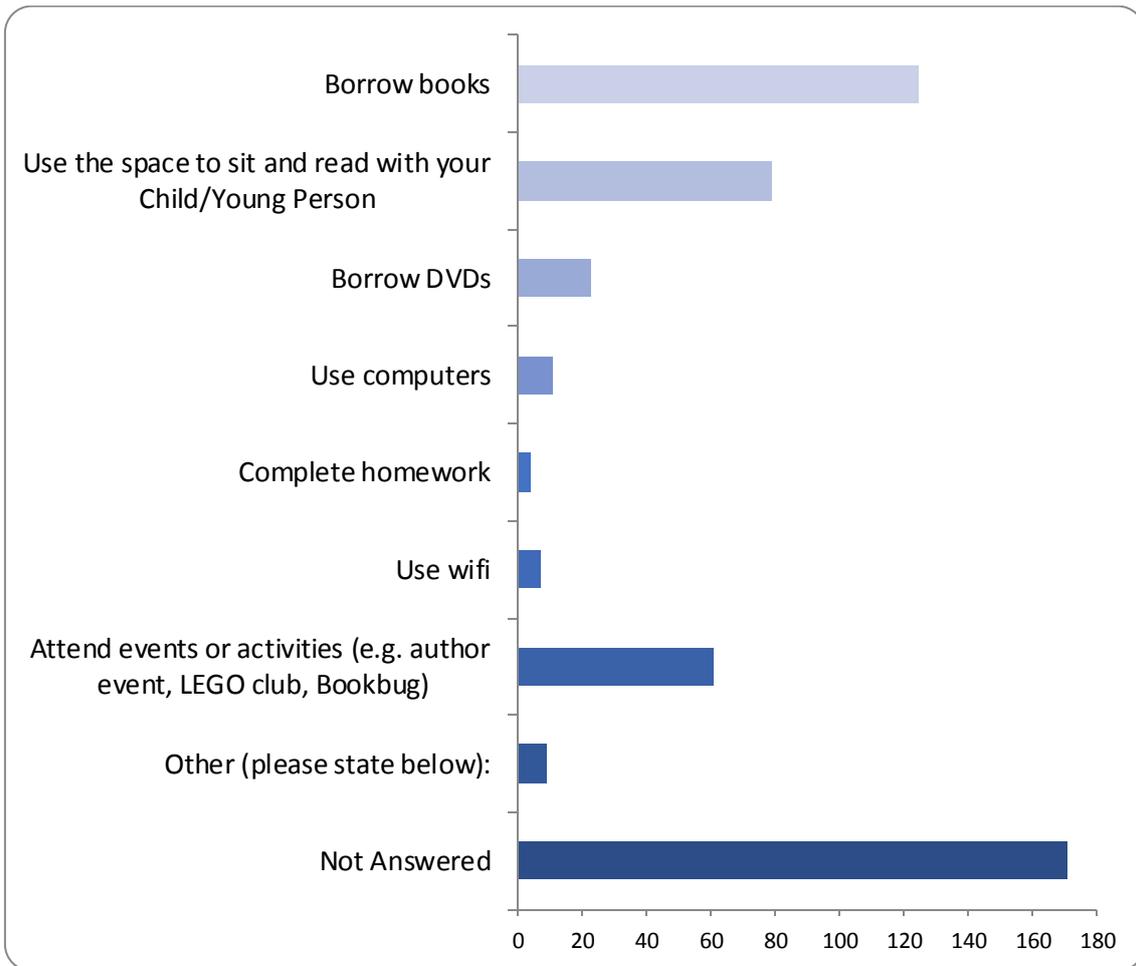
There were 8 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total
Covid-19 stopped us from going and haven't been since	1
Child has only recently started to read and has access to books at home for her reading level.	1
It is too far away. We used to go on a monthly basis when the Ferryhill library was open. Now it is just too far away to make it part of our routine. Very sad that Ferryhill has closed as we went there a lot.	1
Cults Library had been closed for a long time	1
Applied for card never received	1
Just not been with covid etc. Busy at weekends with other things.	1
Language barrier	1
Moved away	1

19: What library services does your Child/Young Person use when they visit their local public library?

PC Use

There were 136 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Borrow books	125	40.72%
Use the space to sit and read with your Child/Young Person	79	25.73%
Borrow DVDs	23	7.49%
Use computers	11	3.58%
Complete homework	4	1.30%
Use wifi	7	2.28%
Attend events or activities (e.g. author event, LEGO club, Bookbug)	61	19.87%
Other (please state below):	9	2.93%
Not Answered	171	55.70%

Other - please state answer

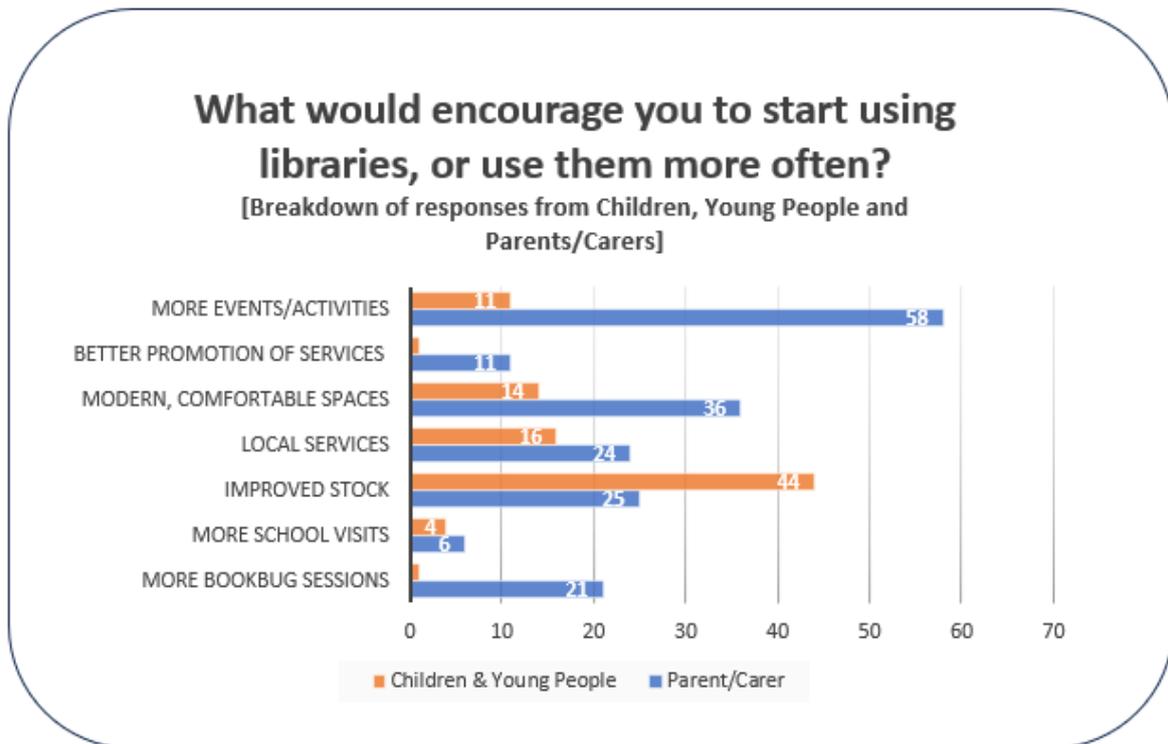
There were 12 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total
Learning	1
Safe space to go for a short time to relaxed with kids. Saturday mornings were best, as I'm working, but my local library, Woodside, is now closed and can't walk to any near us.	1
We are yet to register with our library but will be as think it's fantastic to go access things for school especially as they get older.	1
collect waste recycling bags, view notices for local community groups & browse books on sale	3
Do activities on offer e.g. colouring in space pictures during the summer.	1
It's a lovely peaceful place to take my Autistic child to read & explore new books. We have been to a few events & have done some activities there too which were good as they were free to attend.	1
To return books. Since the closures it's very difficult to get to a library so I don't let him borrow anything as they'd just end up late.	1
Used as motivation to get us out the house, interact with others, exercise with the walk there and back. Passes an enjoyable few hours together	1
A safe space to meet up with me when in the city centre as they can pick books while they wait for me to finish work.	1
Discuss their reading with the librarian who recommends new books we might like to read	1

20: As the parent or carer of a Child or Young Person (aged 0-18yrs), how do we encourage you or your Child/Young Person to use libraries more often?

PC Increase visits

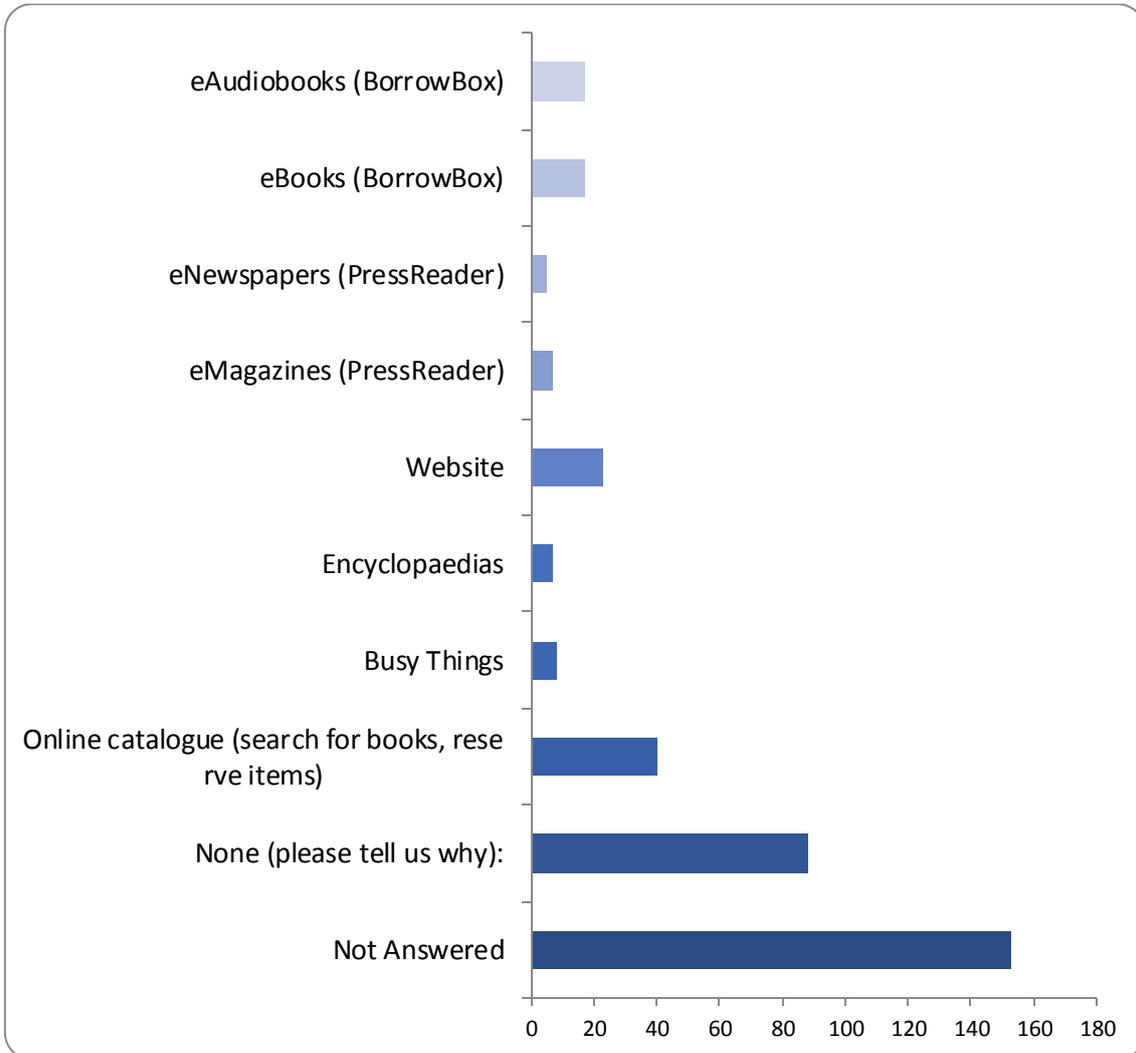
There were 154 responses to this part of the question. Top responses detailed below.



21: Which of our online services and/or resources does your Child/Young Person use?

PC Online resources used

There were 154 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
eAudiobooks (BorrowBox)	17	5.54%
eBooks (BorrowBox)	17	5.54%
eNewspapers (PressReader)	5	1.63%
eMagazines (PressReader)	7	2.28%
Website	23	7.49%
Encyclopaedias	7	2.28%
Busy Things	8	2.61%
Online catalogue (search for books, reserve items)	40	13.03%
None (please tell us why):	88	28.66%
Not Answered	153	49.84%

None - Please tell us why

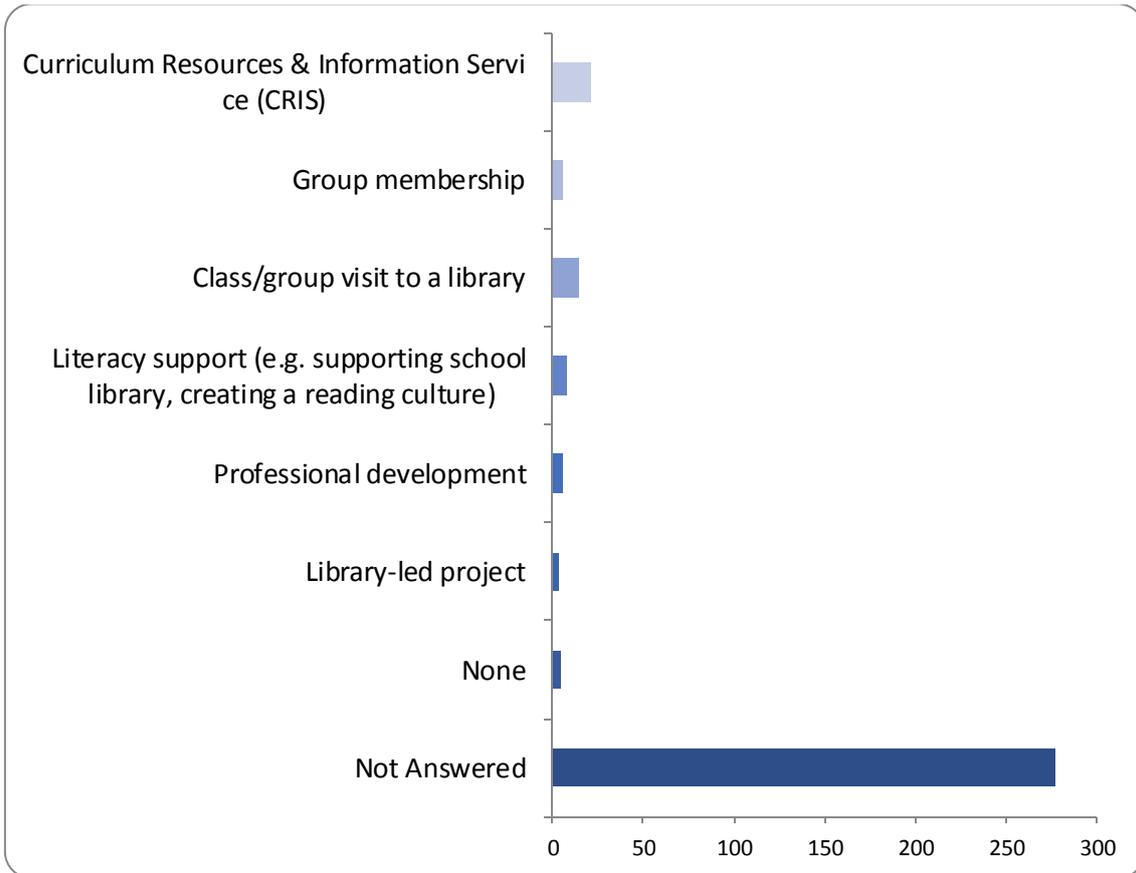
There were 76 responses – some with multiple answers - to this part of the question.

Option	Total
Children too young	24
Limit screen time	6
Prefer books	17
Unaware of resources	12
Prefer to visit library	8
Digital resources available at home/school	7
Never considered	2
No reason given	9
Not registered	1
Use Bookbug online	1
Have own resources	1

22: As a practitioner working in Aberdeen City, which of the following library services have you used in the last year?

PR Services

There were 30 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Curriculum Resources & Information Service (CRIS)	21	6.84%
Group membership	6	1.95%
Class/group visit to a library	14	4.56%
Literacy support (e.g. supporting school library, creating a reading culture)	8	2.61%
Professional development	6	1.95%
Library-led project	3	0.98%
None	5	1.63%
Not Answered	277	90.23%

23: What barriers are there to using the above services?

PR Services barrier

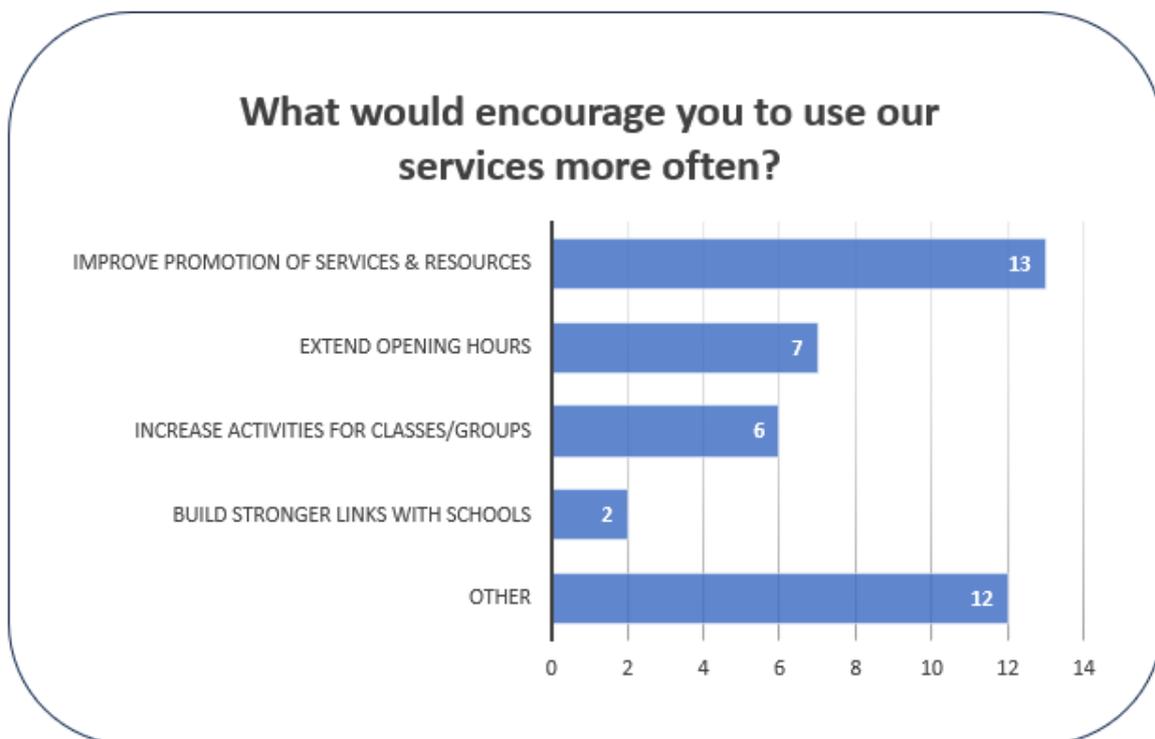
There were 30 responses – with multiple answers - to this part of the question.

Option	Total
Reduced/prohibitive opening hours	8
Location of facilities prohibitive e.g. CRIS, local library	6
Distance	3
Problem getting adult help to take classes to library	5
Lack of awareness of support/services	11
Lack of transport	1

24: What would encourage you to use our services more often?

PR Services increase use

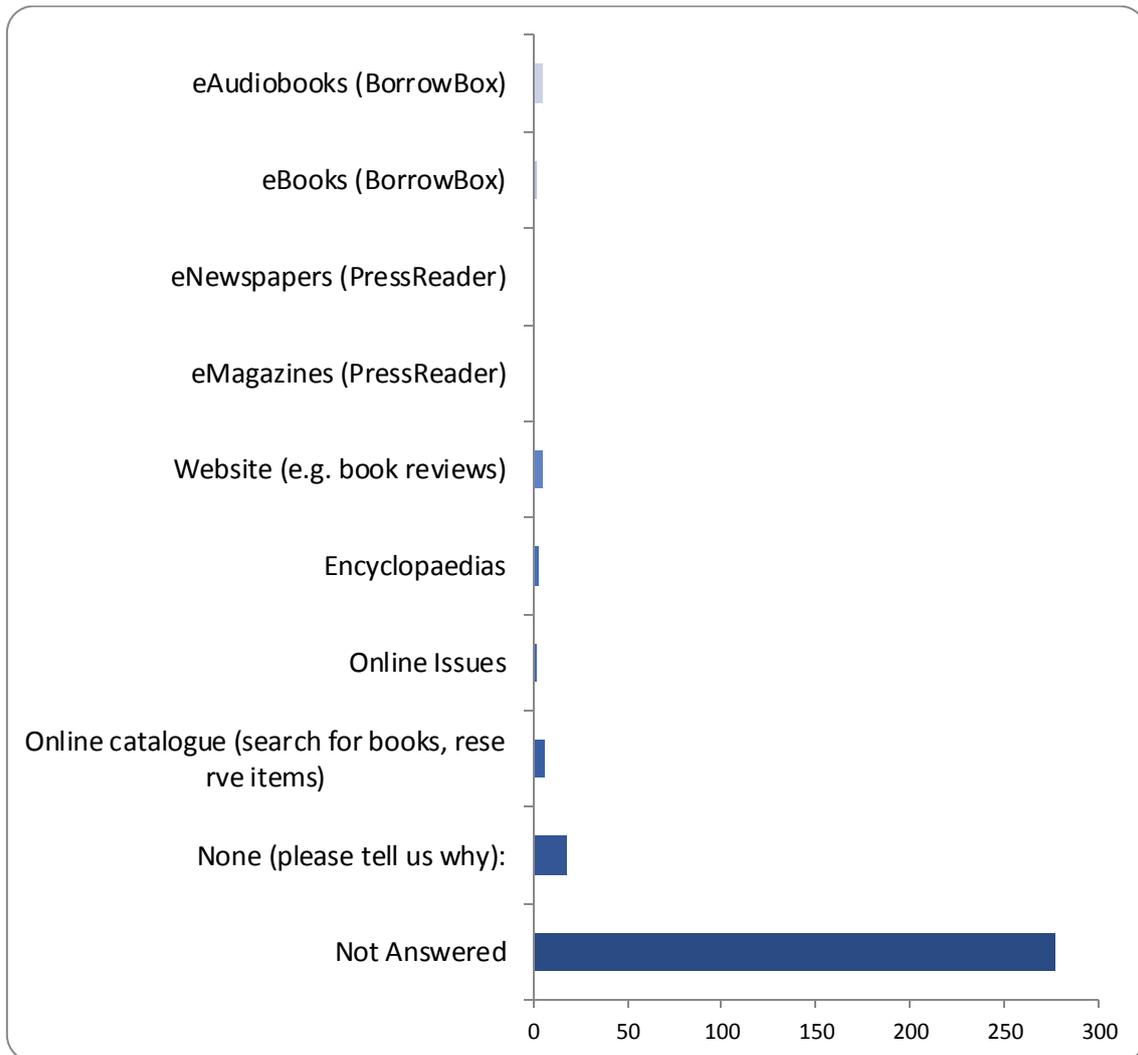
There were 30 responses – multiple answers - to this part of the question. Top 5 responses detailed below.



25: Which of our online resources have you used to support your work with Children/Young People?

PR Online resources use

There were 30 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
eAudiobooks (BorrowBox)	5	1.63%
eBooks (BorrowBox)	2	0.65%
eNewspapers (PressReader)	1	0.33%
eMagazines (PressReader)	1	0.33%
Website (e.g. book reviews)	5	1.63%
Encyclopaedias	3	0.98%
Busy Things	0	0.00%
Online Issues	2	0.65%
Online catalogue (search for books, reserve items)	6	1.95%
None (please tell us why):	18	5.86%
Not Answered	277	90.23%

None (please tell us why):

There were 20 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total
Need access to IT equipment for groups	2
Not aware of some of the resources	8
Alternative resources available	1
Prefer books	1
No training	1
Unsure of suitability for younger children	1
No reason given/answer not answering question	6

26: If you would like to be part of a focus group to help design library services for the future in Aberdeen City, please provide your email address below.

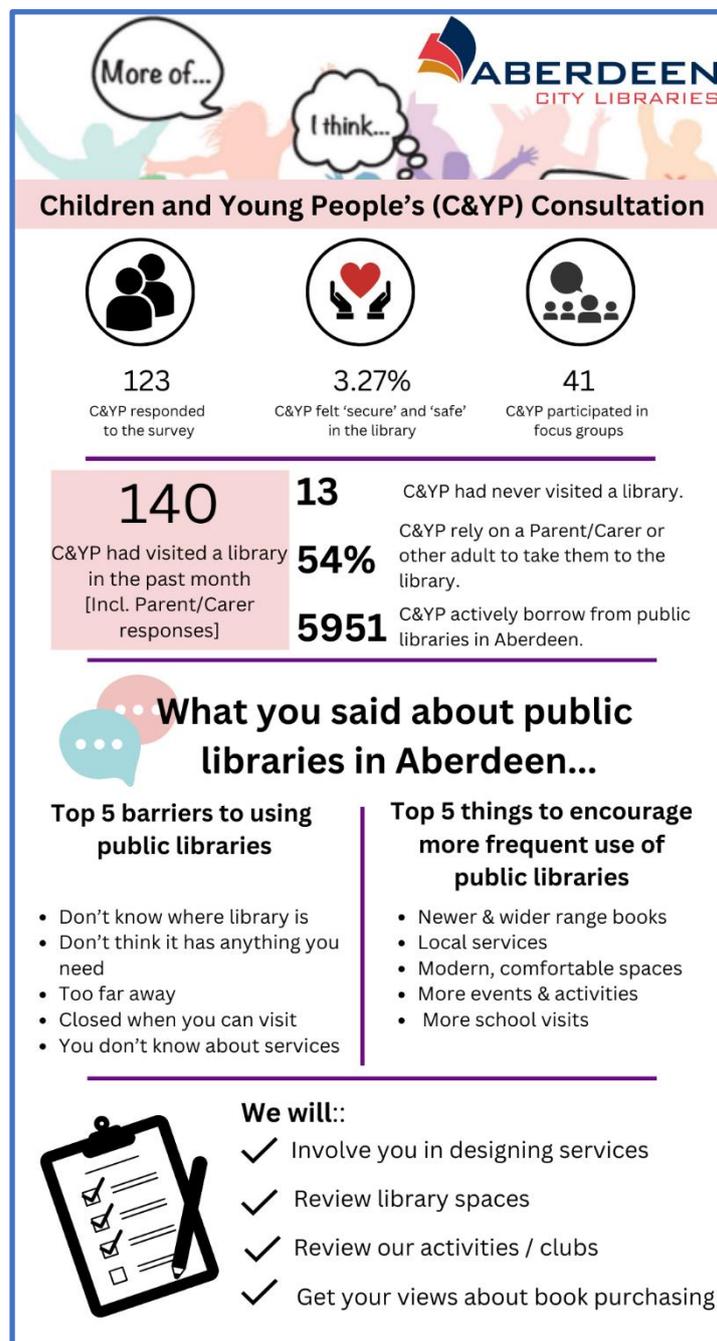
If you are Under 16 years, please ask a parent/carer for permission to take part in our focus groups.

Contact details

There were 71 responses to this part of the question.

Summary of Consultation (for Children and Young People)

Discussions with young people as part of the Child Rights Improvement Project highlighted that public documents need to be in a format and language easily accessible by children and young people. A summary of the responses from children and young people are captured below.



Comments from Children and Young People

Children and Young People were quite candid around their use and future shape of public libraries in Aberdeen. The comments below are a snapshot demonstrating the factors which Children and Young People say would contribute to them using public libraries more frequently.

'I think I would visit our library if it had more decorated rooms.'

'A quiet space and time for me to relax and actually assimilate whatever I'm reading.'

'If there was a more local library to where I live'

'More classes like the stop motion animation which was really good. More graphic novels and comics like Jamie Smart. My mum not having to order all the books – more on the shelves. More libraries around the city for all children. I am lucky Airyhall didn't get shut.'

'Newer books and more private reading areas. The one closest to me is very small and is open plan, with barely any sitting area - expect if you're a toddler or using those old fashioned computer's. The books are usually really old and well-worn so they break easily if you leave them in your bag- their also just little kiddie books or old timey grandma books.'

'Having activities /workshops at my local library - Bucksburn - for Home Educated children during school hours, such as LEGO club, arts and crafts, storytelling, writing club.'

'A larger collection of modern or recently written books.'

'If it looked more fun on the outside and if we went on school trips.'