Communities, Equality and Local Government **Committee Inquiry into Public Libraries in Wales**

Key Statistics

 ${\bf 532}\, {\sf Total}\, {\sf number}\, {\sf of}\, {\sf survey}\, {\sf responses}\, {\sf received}$

Summary of Survey Responses

Section 1 - Survey Respondents

This section provides a breakdown of the survey respondents including the age-ranges, gender, and location of respondents.

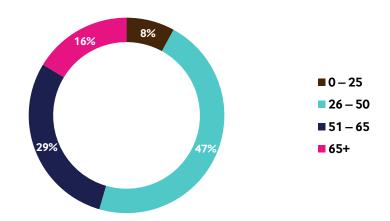
01. What is your age?

0 - 25: **8% (41)**

26 - 50: 46.50% (237)

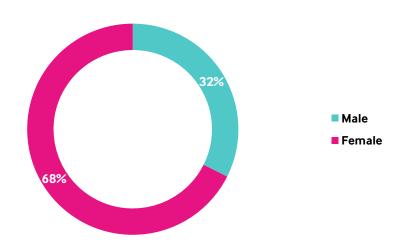
51 - 65: **29.20% (149)**

65+:16.30% (83)



02. What is your gender?

Male: 32.40% (163) Female: 67.60% (341)



03. In which local authority area do you live?

Isle of Anglesey – 9 Merthyr Tydfil – 13

Blaenau Gwent -3 Monmouthshire -33

Bridgend – 4 Neath Port Talbot – 10

Caerphilly – 4 Newport – 9

Cardiff – 73 Pembrokeshire – 8

Carmarthenshire – 126 Powys – 19

Ceredigion – 29 Rhondda Cynon Taf – 17

Conwy – 16 Swansea – 60

Denbighshire – 13 Torfaen – 5

Flintshire – 10 Vale of Glamorgan – 34

Gwynedd -9 Wrexham -4

04. What is your home postcode?

LL: 48

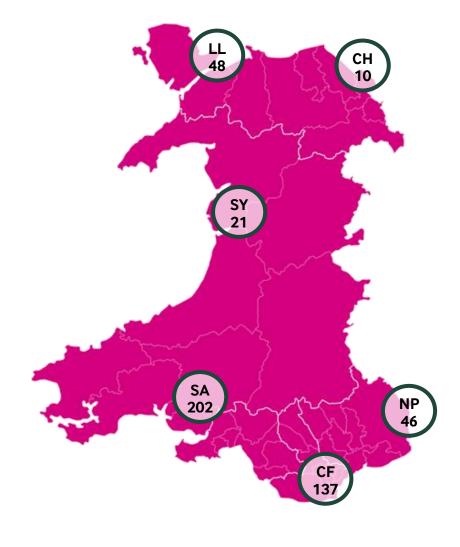
CH: 10

SY: 21

SA: 202

CF: 137

NP: 46



Section 2 - Findings

This section outlines the key findings of the survey which covers participant's level of library usage; the reasons that respondents gave for using their local library service; and their views on how greater use of public libraries could be encouraged.

05. On average, how often do you use public libraries?

Never: 2.11% (11)

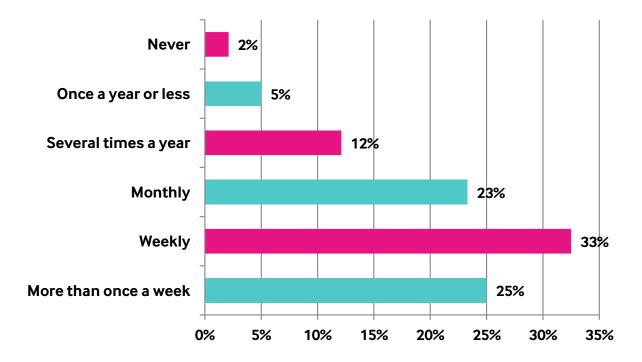
Once a year or less: 5% (26)

Several times a year: 12.11% (63)

Monthly: 23.30% (121)

Weekly: 32.50% (169)

More than once a week: 25% (130)



06. Why do you use the library? (Choose your top 3).

To borrow books: 35.30% (456)

As a place to research/study: 10.40% (134)

For social reasons: 4% (52)

To attend children's activities: 5.90% (76)

To attend events and/or meetings: 6.10% (79)

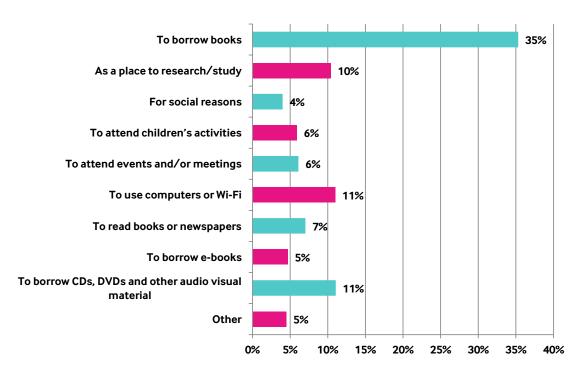
To use computers or Wi-Fi: 11% (142)

To read books or newspapers: 7.04% (91)

To borrow e-books: 4.70% (61)

To borrow CDs, DVDs and other audio visual material: 11.06% (143)

Other: 4.50% (58)



Below is a breakdown of the issues raised, followed by the number of respondents, under the 'other' category:

Photocopying: 1 I don't use the library: 6

To use the mobile library: 1 To access council services: 2

For reference books: 2 For e-material: 9

For local information and public To keep warm: 1

Announcements: 7 To relieve stress: 2



07. What would encourage you to use public libraries more?

A better range of books and e-books: 23.60% (142)

A better range of CDs, DVDs and other audio-visual material: 2.50% (15)

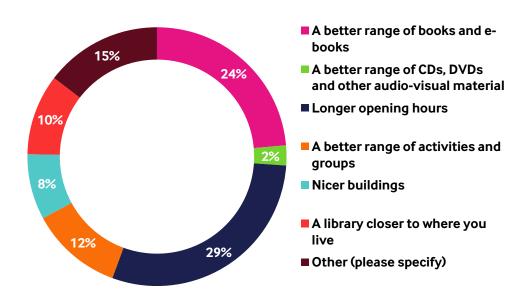
Longer opening hours: 29.50% (177)

A better range of activities and groups: 11.50% (69)

Nicer buildings: 8.20% (49)

A library closer to where you live: 10.10% (61)

Other (please specify): 14.60% (88)



Below is a breakdown of the issues raised, followed by the number of respondents, under the 'other' category:

Later (rather than longer) opening hours: 6

Longer borrowing period: 2

More information about events going on at the library: 4

Improved online services: 2

More facilities and resources (e.g. toilets/computers etc.): 4

Improved access to the library: 8

More helpful staff: 2



08. What do you value most about your library?

Books and e-books: 44.10% (250)

The social aspect: 4.80% (27)

Activities and groups: 4.20% (24)

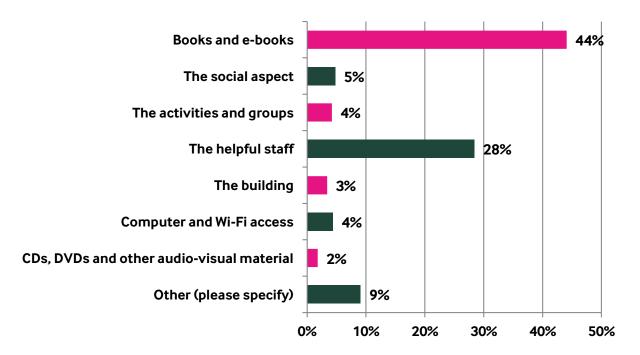
Helpful staff: 28.40% (161)

The building: 3.40% (19)

Computer and Wi-Fi access: 4.40% (25)

CDs, DVDs and other audio-visual material: 1.80% (10)

Other (please specify): 9% (51)



Below is a breakdown of the issues raised, followed by the number of respondents, under the 'other' category:

The library as a Resource Centre for Council Services: 3

I value all aspects of the library: 9

E-library catalogue: 1

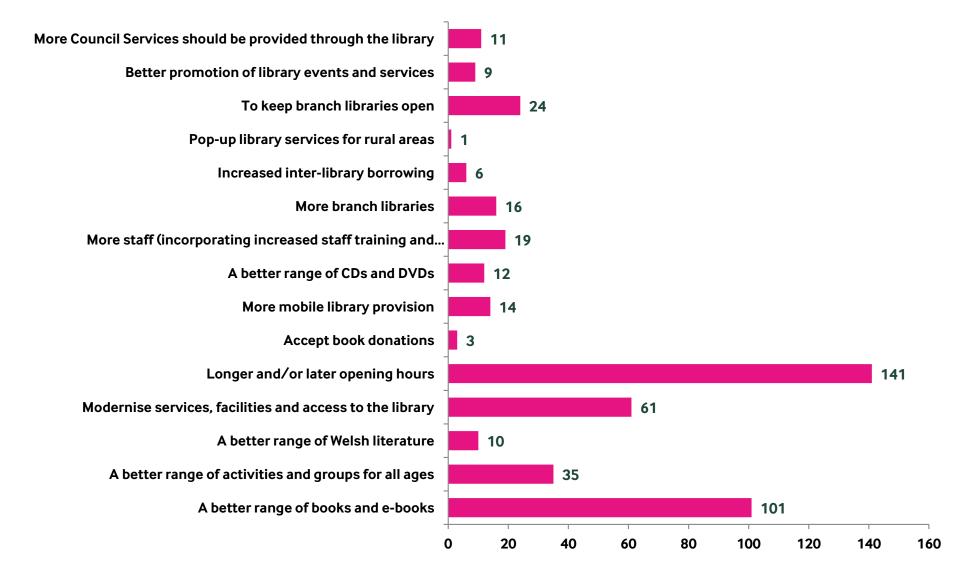
Mobile library Services: 1

The library's free Services: 2

Location of the library: 1



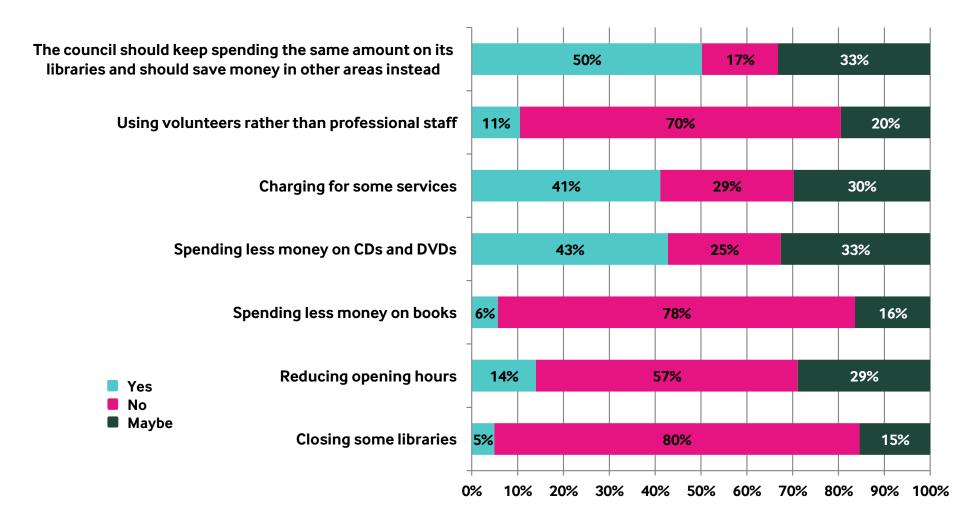
09. How could library services in your area be improved?





10. Do you think that councils should save money, whilst providing library services, by:

For this question, participants were asked to answer yes, no, or maybe in a relation to a number of money-saving options. Views were also sought on other ways that councils could save money whilst providing library services.





b. If you have any other ideas as to how the Council should save money whilst providing library services, please provide details here:

