

SUMMARY OF INDIVIDUAL LIBRARY ISSUES RAISED

Libraries proposed for Closure	Issues/Suggestions	Main group of people affected
Abbeyview	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computers: demand for PCs queues at times 2. Education: Children use library resources for school work and participate in Summer Reading Challenge 3. Access: children cannot walk to the libraries themselves 4. Inadequate public transport to alternative libraries: time, costs, bus 5. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: hill, parking, long distance from bus stops; Duloch PCs very slow <p>Other comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better to keep smaller libraries than to centralise services 2. Cut hours but keep library open 3. Transfer to another building e.g. local office or health centre 4. Move into Council building across the road – not within the timeframes of the library closure 	<p>Unemployed, physically disabled people, people with learning difficulties, elderly, families with young children</p>
Bowhill	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social Impact: library is located within the Community Centre which is the hub of the village 2. Education: regular visits by nursery and 2 schools which would not go to Lochgelly; children need access to books 3. Access: children, groups, and school cannot walk to other libraries or transport costs unaffordable 4. Inadequate public transport to alternative libraries: hourly bus service, high fares 5. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: up a steep hill 6. Four small villages one – transport very difficult for children, elderly and the disabled 7. Villages already very isolated and problems with cost of transport <p>Other comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better to keep communal building open rather than stand-alone library 	<p>Disabled people, elderly, children</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Reduce hours of opening, but have a drop-off facility in Community centre 3. Volunteers to run the library 	
Colinsburgh	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social Impact: currently an excellent building, library is an integral part of village life, heritage and history; it is a hub of the community and is the only public civic place funded through Fife Council 2. Loss of facility: losing the reading room which is used for meetings for clubs and Reading Group and other events; loss of notice board for local news, information and events 3. An important venue for children: Rhyme Time, Book Bug, and the Summer Reading Challenge 4. Use of computers: prescription requests from local GP must be emailed in; 5. Inadequate public transport: buses are expensive and not frequent 6. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: three quarters of a mile to walk from bus stop; too small and noisy; <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plans and action on proposals are underway to make the library more cost-effective and possibly become self-sustaining 2. Lack of "moral responsibility"; vulnerable people left without a service 3. Savings made would be negligible 4. Prepared to pay to keep the library open 5. Colinsburgh has very poor signal for mobile phones and internet access 	<p>Clubs and Groups; Disabled people; elderly; children</p>
Crail	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computer access: often well used facility 2. Social Impact: Crail is already seeing general withdrawal of services i.e. VisitScotland, doctors surgery, dentist, post office, bank etc, It is currently a focal point of the community 3. Education: regular visits by all classes at primary school; pupils write in to raise concerns of loss of service 4. Inadequate public transport to alternative libraries: unreliable, infrequent and indirect bus service; high costs; 5. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: very far from the bus stop 6. Environment Impact: more fuel used for travelling 7. Health Impact: cannot walk to the library 	<p>Elderly, children, unemployed people</p>

	<p>8. Disproportionately affect the elderly, and significantly reduce access for children contrary to expressed Scottish Government policy</p> <p>9. Mobile library alternative is flawed – reduction in number and additional workload is impossible</p> <p>10. Future housing development being planned</p> <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <p>1. Require an alternative positive and progressive approach to work with local agencies, local businesses, voluntary groups and local community to develop a local business plan to make the library vibrant civic centre</p> <p>2. Different calculation of realistic annual saving is small - £1565 as opposed to £9573</p>	
<p>Crossgates</p>	<p>Issues:</p> <p>1. Computers: well used and are the only public ones, need it to access internet to gain employment, benefits, and for printing</p> <p>2. Books: increased both number of items issued and number of users in recent years. Discriminating residents of the village for facilities</p> <p>3. Education: affect children’s learning abilities; for school projects, etc; difficult of parents to take children to alternative libraries when they can be attending other after school activities; children use library to do homework</p> <p>4. Social Impact: trapped; isolation; already huge loss to the village, already little in community as it is – bank and post office both closed; source of community information including FCT info</p> <p>5. Distance and inadequate public transport to alternative libraries: need to get two buses to get to Duloch, cost of bus fares and time taken; fit to walk but need safe walking routes – no private transport and can’t afford fares; children cannot go to libraries on their own</p> <p>6. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: car parking would be an issue at Cowdenbeath; Duloch library is hard to find.</p> <p>7. Environmental Impact: more fumes with people having to travel rather than walking</p> <p>8. Future housing development being planned</p> <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <p>1. Can’t add to Community Centre</p> <p>2. Other places where libraries closed, buildings lying derelict for a long time</p>	<p>Unemployed; elderly; disabled people; children</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Reduce opening hours of other branches and keep Crossgates open 4. It should open for evening sessions for those who work during the day 	
East Wemyss	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computers: Public PC's are required for welfare reform; main objection is PC withdrawal 2. Social Impact: amoral victimisation of unemployed people; will have a negative effect for people who want to improve themselves; those without private transport are likely to feel more housebound; already has relatively few public amenities; libraries give those in poverty what they need to get out of poverty 3. Education: hold back children's development; can't afford to buy books 4. Regular mobile library not just for housebound but all current library card holders 5. Distance to alternative libraries: can't allow children to walk to any alternatives <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Money saved is a small amount 7. Make savings by buying books differently 8. Space needs to be better use to bring in more income 	
Falkland	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computers: heavily used by residents and visitors/tourists 2. Education: Regular use by nursery and primary school; ECALM (Every Child A Library Member) Project targeting at P4 pupils in Fife 3. Social Impact: libraries are for life-long learning; social place for meeting people/casual chats; Reading Group; Falkland (Historical) Society has archive materials in library; location of information for visitors/tourists for Falkland Palace 4. Distance and Inadequate public transport links: a trip to Ladybank can take 3 hours; a 10 mile-round trip to Ladybank that can be difficult in bad weather 5. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: Auchtermuchty is on a hill 6. Mobile library would need longer stops and more often 7. New Housing development planned <p>Other Comments/Suggestion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "hub" libraries be open for fewer hours to make 	

	<p>savings</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Lomond Pharmacy submitted proposal for transfer of ownership and continuation of library service provision 3. Current library has good accessible and well-lit car park adjacent to village hall which often in use in the evenings, therefore mitigate staff lone-working safety issues 	
Freuchie	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computers: the loss of the only PC access in the village – it is always busy; people become digitally excluded 2. Education: regular use of nursery and primary school; ECALM Project; can't take classes to mobile library; Summer Reading Challenge; literacy and social skills; source of knowledge and information 3. Social Impact: it is a community hub – being penalised for living in a rural community; a town-based attitude – implies that only people who can drive can use a library; fear of losing Hall if loss of rental income for Hall Trust – only hall in the village; quality time with their children; used by Reading Group; one of the last social space in the village 4. Distance and inadequate public transport links: children cannot go to library by themselves (except to Falkland); bus service in the area is not good; standing at a bus stop in the cold is not an option for elderly or disabled people <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of visitors are inaccurate 2. Make library more entrepreneurial – bookshop, café 3. Look into set up of community charities - Freuchie Community Council to take on the funding role to raise funds for a "Freuchie Reading Room" 4. Reduce opening hours 5. Libraries need to repackaged and promoted 6. Don't spend money on fancy brochures for theatres 7. Schools are not formally consulted 	Elderly, children, disabled people
Glenwood	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education: reading is a key skill to enable young people to rise out of poverty 2. Currently heavily used: regular job club; variety of reading clubs and activities for children; good purpose-built building – modern, bright and 	Unemployed; children

	<p>spacious, pleasant environment; walking distance of 2 of the town's 3 high schools and 5 primary schools; used by Additional Support services – those pupils do not adjust to change easily</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Social Impact: Areas it serves are already deemed most socially deprived areas in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) not only of Fife but of Scotland; Community has already suffer from several closures – school, local office etc.; a community hub for social aspect, use of newspapers, researches, job searches 4. Distance and cost of transport: too far to walk to Rothies Halls library; fares are unaffordable - £1.85 single fare or £10 for a family; and for job seekers who need to log on 6 out of 7 days a week; too far to walk in the winter and carrying books; ECALM Project – too far for P4 pupils to visit libraries themselves 5. Unsuitable feature of alternative libraries: Rothies Halls library very dark and lack of space; <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staggered opening hours and adjust the opening hours of “hub” libraries 2. Can remaining alternative libraries cope with additional demand? 3. Review opening hours; reduce staff, turn down heating, use volunteers; use CCTV camera/swipe card system instead of security guard; use volunteers 4. Library sponsorship; payments for use of PCs; commercial enterprise in libraries – hiring out spaces etc. 5. Setting up community care in libraries 6. Ask house building companies to provide libraries 	
<p>Kinghorn</p>	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Currently it is well used: demonstrated increased usage and increase in members; good location centre of town and next to the Community centre; building good condition; currently a large part of a thriving community 2. Computers: access for job seekers, computer skill training, 3. Education: loss of Book Bug session, Baby & Toddler sessions; regular visits by primary school; used by children for homework, 	

	<p>projects; teach children responsibilities (looking after/returning books); low literacy rates show libraries are needed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Social Impact: part of a social network of the village, vital part of life in Kinghorn; 5. Distance and inadequate public transport: impossible to travel for some elderly residents; cost involved unaffordable; high cost for bus fares; most journeys are calculated to be 1-3 miles – Kinghorn is a greater distance to cover than most; People with learning disabilities can't travel safely to other libraries; children can't walk to library by themselves 6. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: no parking facilities; a fair distance to walk from rail station or bus station; 7. New Housing development in Kinghorn Loch – considerable expansion of population <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Against published principles of key legislation, government policy and various public documents including: The Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964, Equality Act 2010; FCT Annual Report, Council's FifePlan (2015), 2013 Employment Report, Council Plan 2017; FCT Articles of Association, FCT public filed accounts 2. Saving is small but impact is high 3. In what ways does Kinghorn meet FCT's 4 criteria for closure? 4. Libraries should be returned to Fife Council 5. Unconvincing of quality of mobile service: routes, stops and times; mobile libraries are comparatively expensive; how remaining 3 mobiles to cope with 16 closures? 6. Query about theatre profits – "libraries are more important" 7. What will happen with empty building 8. Become a worker's hub? 9. Charge more council tax 10. Raise income on ticket prices/booking fees 	
<p>Lundin Links</p>	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Used by young and old (books and computer use) alike 2. Social Impact: loneliness and boredom; not everyone can afford to buy books; a valuable community space; the library typically serves people who can least afford the alternatives, which are very expensive in terms of bus fares, 	

	<p>time, ease of access, the price of books etc</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Computers: no obvious alternative site for open access PCs 4. Distance and poor rural public transport links: playground leader can't take children to alternative libraries; high costs; unable to go on a bus carrying books 5. Accessibility: library has best facilities for the disabled in the local area 6. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: no suitable parking; noisy and dark; staff are intimidating 7. Major new housing development planned <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What had the fundraising part of the Trust done to find money for libraries 2. Assessment criteria do not take into account of school use and the distribution of the population 3. Any comparison made of present costs and future costs involving alternatives? Mobile services will have costs of increasing mileage, depreciation, fuel costs, wear and tear 4. Raise more income from more use of the space – more clubs, charge for bookbug etc 5. Largo Area Community Council investigating what can be done in the library buildings and find potential sources of funding 	
Markinch		
Pittenweem	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computers: they are always busy with locals and holiday makers; used for job searches 2. Education: big loss for children 3. Social Impact: source of knowledge and information; a good social hub; one of the few places that older and younger people can go to; can't afford to buy books; a source of help for the elderly; 4. Distance and inadequate transport: scarce bus frequency; children can't go on their own 5. Unsuitable feature of alternative libraries: St Monans library is down a hill; Leven and Elie are too far from the bus stop; pavements are poor between Pittenweem and Anstruther; <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce hours 2. Not sure about quality of mobile library service 3. Raise funds through author evenings, selling books, selling baking etc; open evenings 	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Working with other local authorities 5. Villages are being robbed of their services 6. Impression that FCT took over the libraries to ensure the libraries would be preserved and safe 	
Pitteuchar	<p>Issues</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening hours: 5pm is too early to close a library 2. Computers: use by unemployed people for job seekers allowance who can't afford PC and internet connection at home; PCs are high in demand in Rothes Halls and Job Centre; DWP expect to log on 6 out of 7 days to do job searches 3. Distance and public transport: bus fares to Rothes Halls are expensive <p>Other Comments/Suggestion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PC's could be re-located in Exit Centre nearby 2. Carrying out its own survey to assess if there is an interest in volunteering in the local community 	
Thornton	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Impact have on primary school children who often visit by themselves 2. Concerns for the elderly: isolation and transport 3. Current service is well suited to the needs of residents, not to take it away 	
Townhill	<p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computers: used by job seekers and those on benefits; genealogy and emails; 2. Education: used by local child minder, space for organised activities and events for children – Treasure Hut, clues to find books 3. Social Impact: a meeting place in the centre of community; provide company for large number of elderly residents; 4. Distance and inadequate public transport to alternative libraries: high bus fares; children can't go themselves 5. Unsuitable features of alternative libraries: Dunfermline Carnegie Library not easily accessible; having to walk up hill to get to bus station; problems with car parking – not convenient and not free; not enough books at Duloch for older children 6. Concerns re mobile library limited times, where do they stop etc, too small, high costs to run <p>Other Comments/Suggestions:</p>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Library should be open in the evenings or weekend2. Irony that we are encouraging library membership but closing local library3. Very little saving is made by closing4. If libraries close, they will never reopen	
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