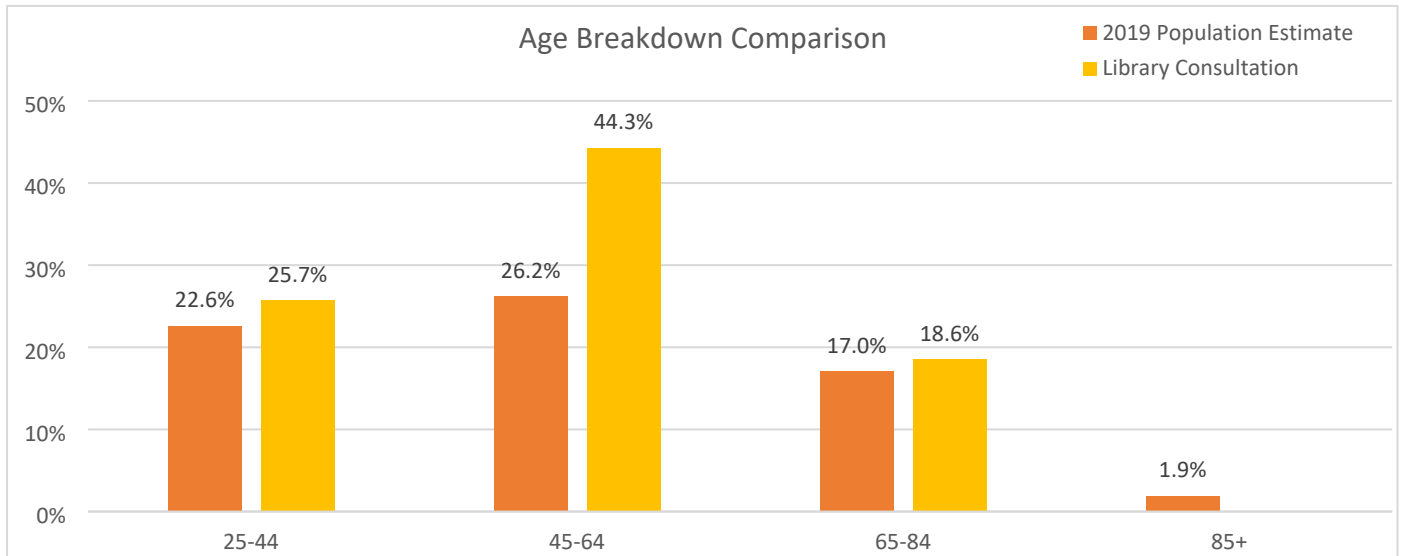


Appendix 3

Staveley Library Consultation September 2023

Background

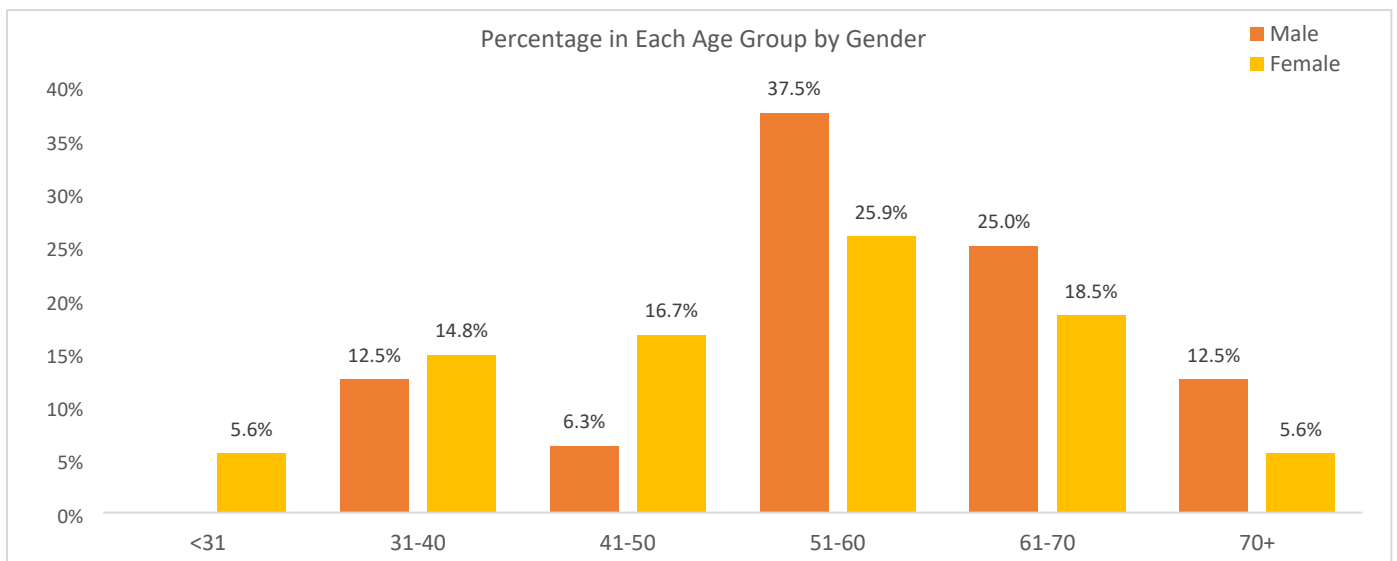
According to 2019 population estimates, the total population of Staveley was 12,693. Of this 18.9% (2409 people) were over 65. (This is based on the data for the area of Staveley and doesn't include the part within Staveley North & Whittington)



As a result of the consultation for Staveley library 70 responses were received. Of these, over 85% of those who replied said were library members.

Approx ¾ of respondents were female (77.1%) and of those that stated 56% were over 50 and just over 27% were over 60.

The average age of all respondents is 53.1 years. This figure is slightly lower for females (51.5) compared to males (57.3). This is in part because just over 20% of females are 40 or under compared to 12.5% of males. (2 out of 16)

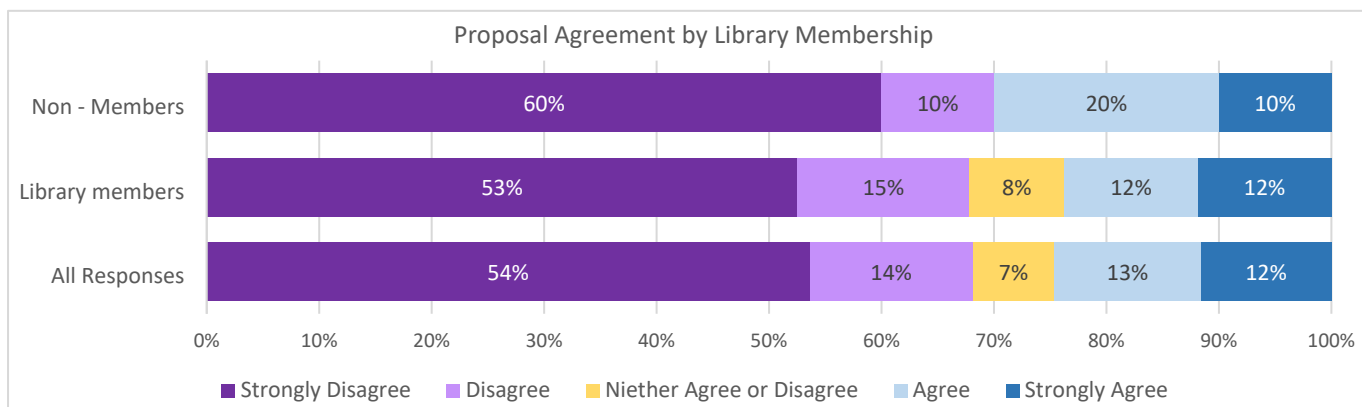


With a handful of exceptions, the vast majority (91%) were 'White English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British' and. This figure is not dissimilar to the overall ethnicity breakdown for Staveley where approximately 3% of the population classed themselves as not White British.

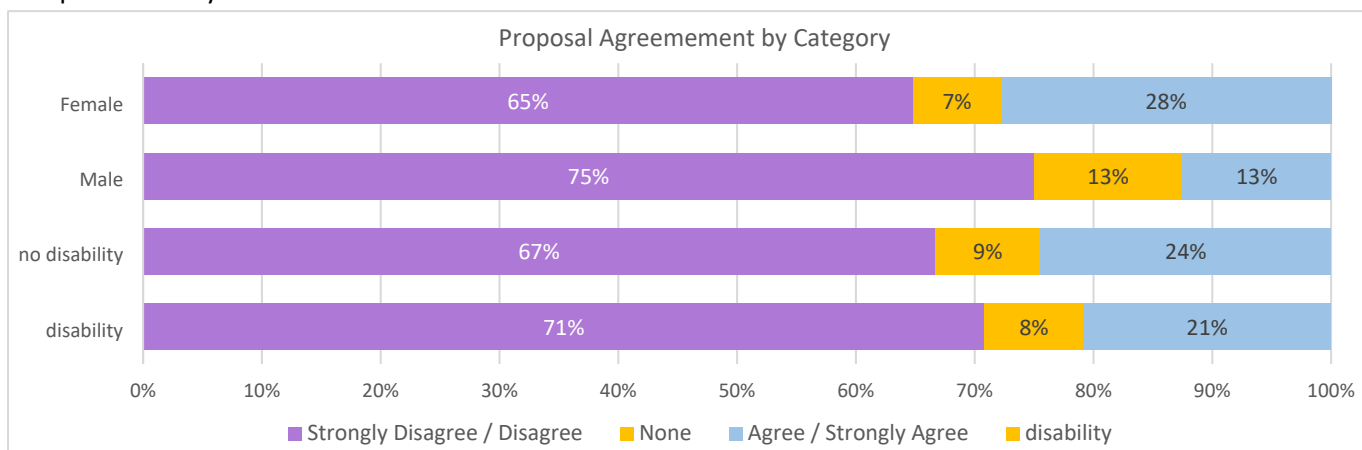
Overall

For all respondents to the consultation, 67% either Disagreed or Strongly Disagreed with the proposal to relocate the library. This compares to 24% who Agreed or Strongly Agree.

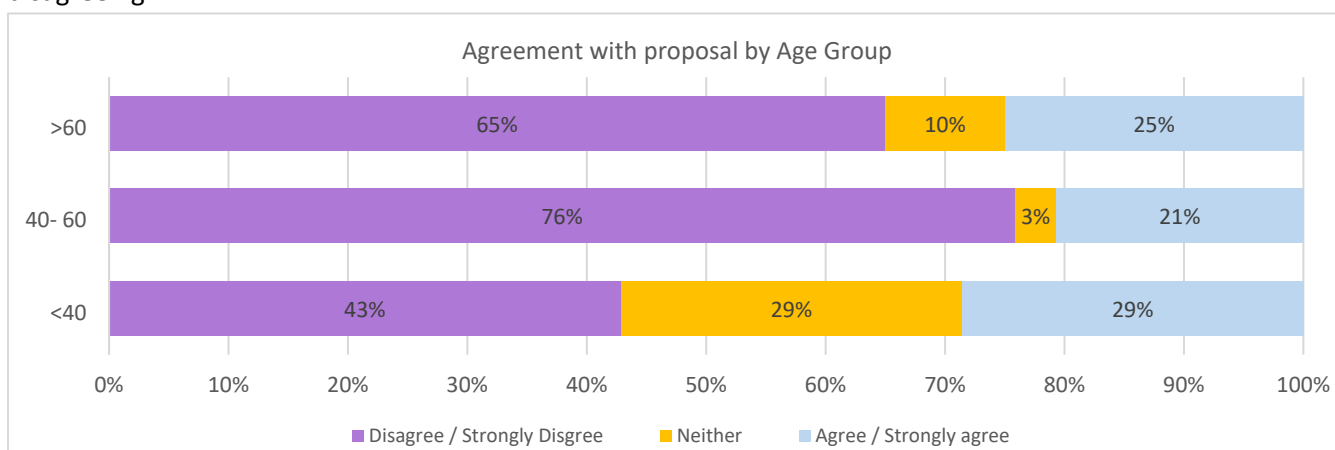
Overall, the proportion of library members who disagreed or strongly disagreed with the proposal is similar to that for non-library members (67% - 70%). Non-members are slightly more likely to Strongly Disagree (60% to 52%) but also are more likely to agree or strongly agree (30% to 23%). However, the proviso with this is that there were 59 library members who replied compared to 10 non-members – so there are limitations when considering the non-member data



Looking at the responses in more detail and considering some of the other demographic data available. From this it appears that females are more likely to agree with 28% of females compared to only 13% of males saying they agree or strongly agree with the proposal. This compares to 75% of males who agree or Strongly Agree with the proposal compared to only 65% of females.



From an age perspective, those under 40 seem to have less strong opinions on the proposal than those in older age groups. With 50% neither agreeing or disagreeing compared to 20% or less in the other categories. Older age groups also seem more likely to disagree with the proposals with over 65% of each age group either disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.



Relocation Issues

Context

Users could give multiple answers to the question of relocation difficulties, so there were 88 responses in total from 70 surveys. Of these 75 came from library members and 63 from people who disagreed or strongly disagreed with the proposal. There were also 34 responses from people with disabilities and 66 responses from females compared to 22 from males

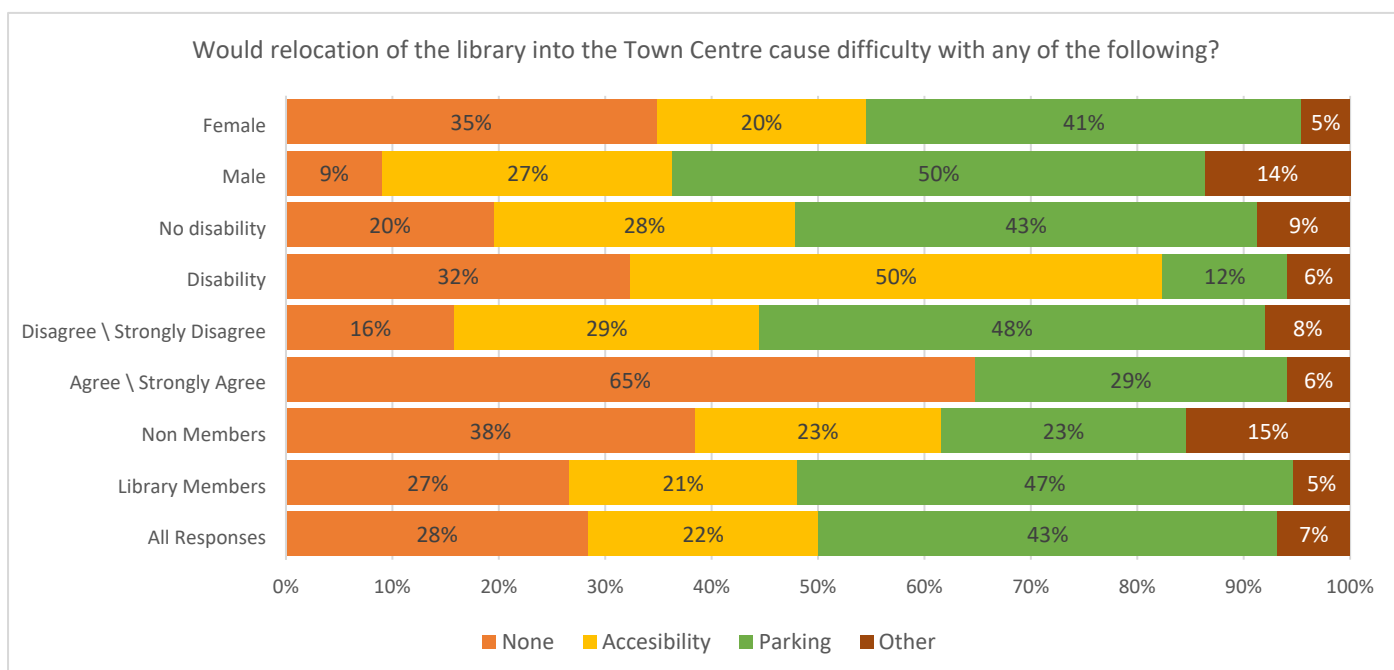
When asked about the library relocation nearly half of respondents (43%) expressed a concern about parking, though this reduces to only 29% for those that agree or strongly agree with the proposal.

Accessibility is less of an issue with 22% of all respondents and 29% of those who disagree or strongly disagree with the proposal expressing it as a concern.

For those that agree or strongly agree with the proposal nearly two thirds (65%) said there were no issues. However, this reduces to only 16% for those that disagree / strongly disagree.

Results for library members tend to follow the to the general pattern, with 47% raising the issue of parking and 21% mentioning accessibility. Non-members have less issues (38% said none)

Looking at the issue further by cross referencing some of the demographics, it shows that people with a disability are more concerned with accessibility with 50% expressing a concern whereas those with no disability are more concerned with parking (43%). Also, a third of females had no issues with the proposal compared to 1 in 10 males.



Only six responses added other as an option and those comments mentioned issues around Safety, anti-social behaviour and that the current location is quiet and has a nice atmosphere some of the comments are below
“Currently the library is in a quiet location ideally suited for it’s needs not a busy town centre shopping area with all associated noises and distractions.”

“Staveley Library is one of the best in the county in terms of atmosphere and is a genuinely uplifting place to be. Too many re-locations have resulted in provision which gives a strongly offputting message.”

“Need to make sure that the current library remains open unit the town deal building is built. Why can't we use the Staveley cinema site or redevelop the charity shop betting area of the Town.”

Library Usage

Given users could provide multiple answers to this question, there were 154 responses in total from 70 respondents with most people choosing multiple options. Perhaps unsurprisingly most respondents use the library to Borrow or return books with 38% of people giving this option. Of the other options provided, research (14%) was the next popular with Leisure, to read and to use the computers also getting a reasonable number of responses although all the possible options received at least 6 responses apart from 'look for work / job applications' which only had 1 Other options provided when answering other were to use the printer / photocopier, browsing, peace and to access the citizens advice service and a couple of further miscellaneous comments:

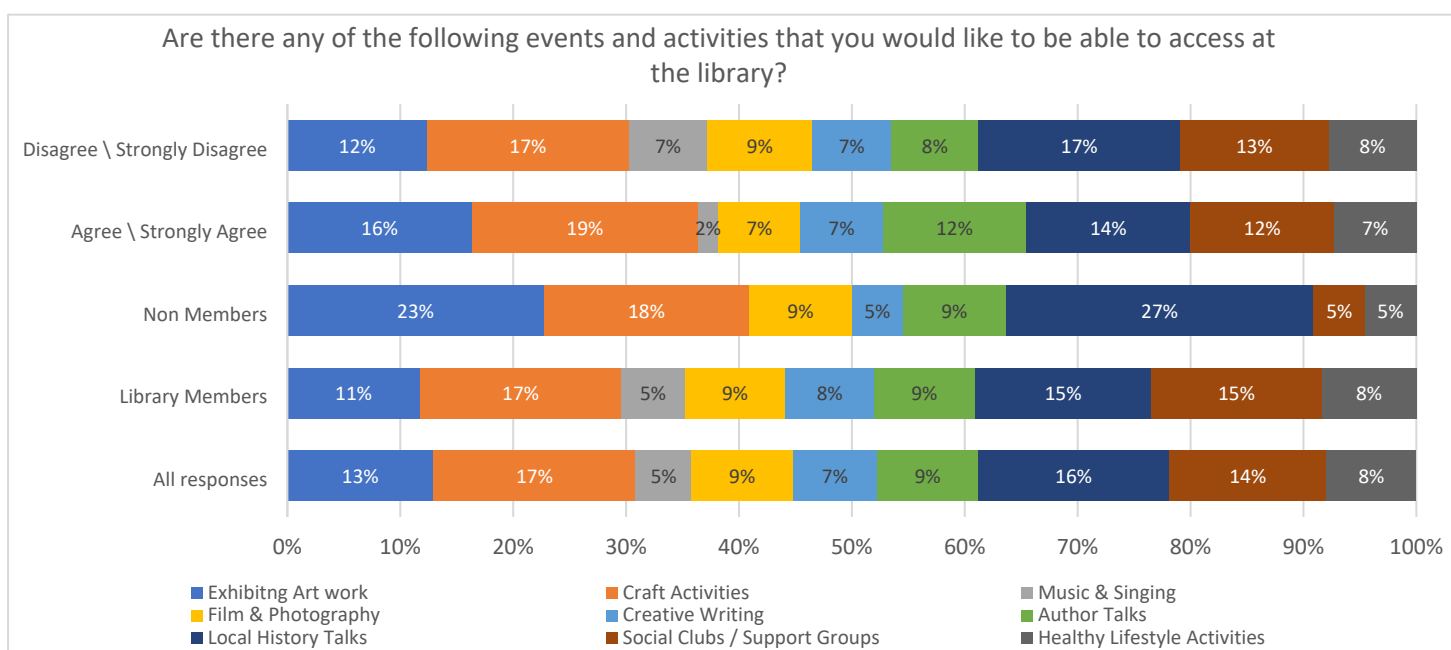
"I don't visit the library but know people who do"

"a beautiful building purpose built for a library service, years of neglect have made this a very expensive project to update."

Other Possible Events and Activities

As with the previous question, this was another where people could fill in multiple responses, and in this cases there were 207 responses in total from the 70 surveys. Of these 185 came from library members, 57 from those who agree or strongly agree and 133 from those who disagree or strongly disagree with the proposal.

From the results all activities / events received over 10 selections, with Craft Activities and Local History talks being slightly more popular.



There were also 6 responses of other – where the comments made were:

"Community cafe area would be nice"

"Groups for children age 5-11 years old. Perhaps short sessions over half terms, book club style? To encourage a love of reading in younger children."

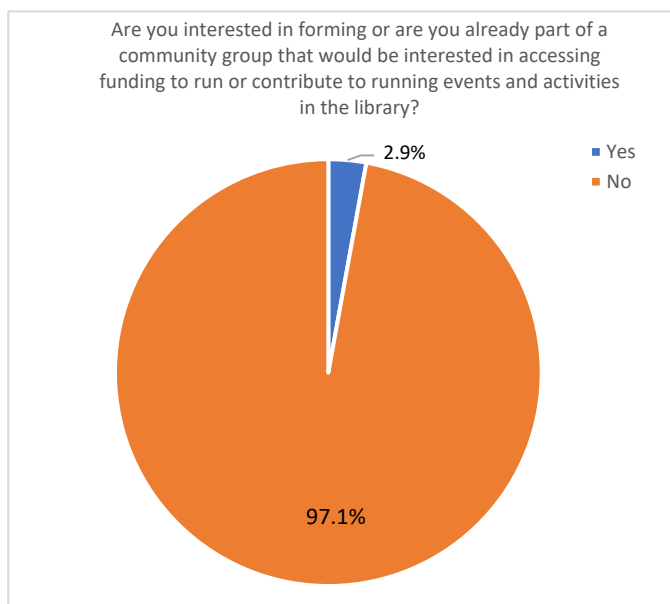
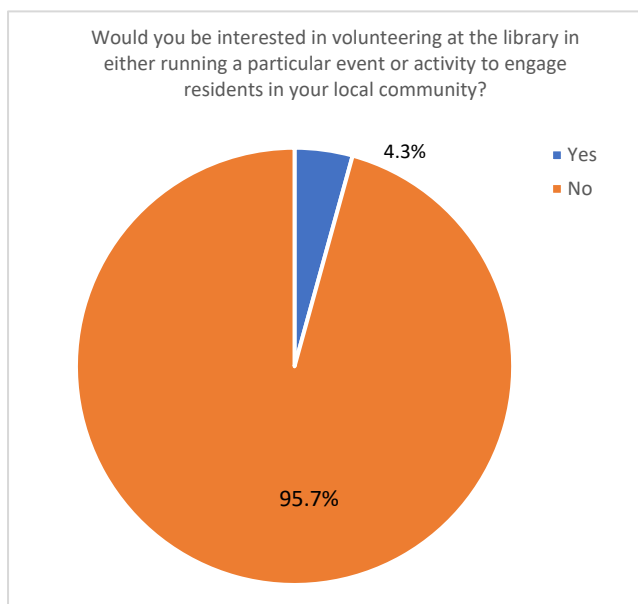
"All of these have at some time and still do take place in this library."

And 3 responses of "None", "None of the above" or "Na"

Interested in Volunteering / Community Groups

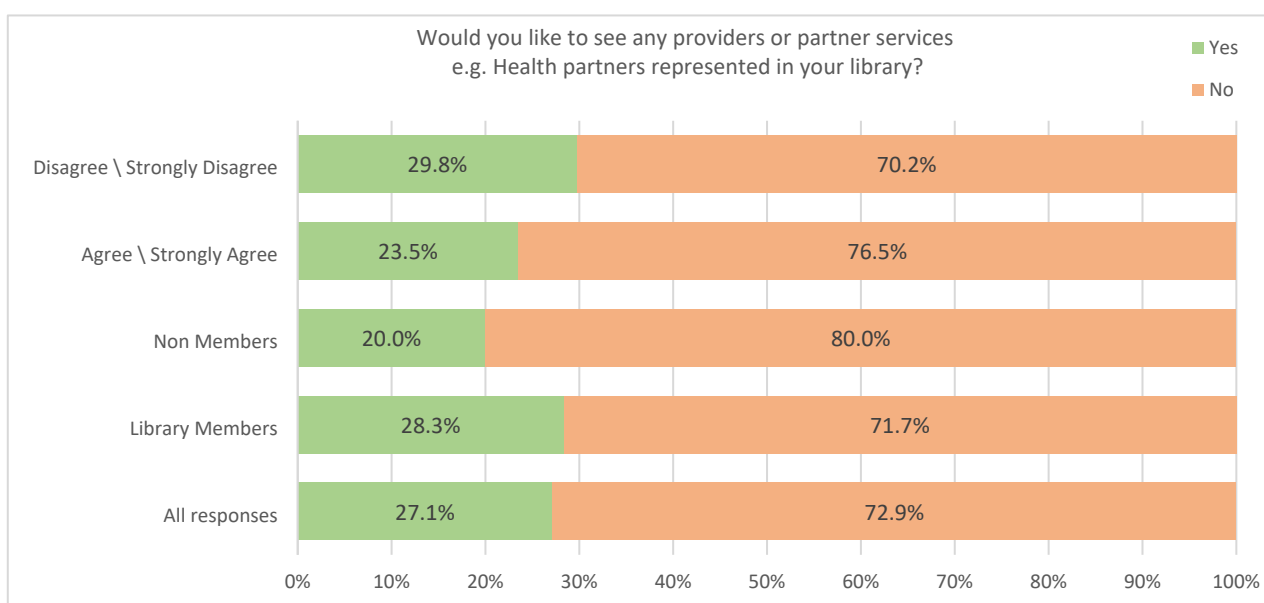
Of all the respondents to these questions, there were only a small number who replied positively to say that they would be interested in volunteering at the library or to be part of a community group to run events at the library.

For these questions there are too few yes responses to break down the results by different groups as there only 3 and 2 yes responses respectively for the questions.



Other Options

When asked if they would like providers or partner services represented in the library, just over 27% of respondents agreed with this. When broken down by different categories, they follow the pattern of the overall share – with 20% to 30% of people being in favour of having other providers / partners in the library with 75 – 80% against. The lowest percentage in favour is for non-members with 20% whilst for those who disagree / strongly disagree the number goes up to nearly 30%.



As part of this question, there were a selection of comments included in the responses. The main suggestions were related to health & wellbeing services and citizens advice and unemployment advice– the comments are listed below although 51 out of the 70 responses didn't make any comment:

Health & Wellbeing

- Blood pressure and health advice
- Mental health. Help in a quiet place.
- Health visitors. Parent drop in groups.
- Triage services
- Having a walk in service for health checks(blood pressure etc) would help the community.
- Maybe groups about pain & illnesses e.g. fibromyalgia & M.E./ CFS
- It would be easier and quicker for general information on health issues
- midwives, breast feeding groups etc
- Access to blood pressure, advice on diet etc, encourage uptake of vaccinations in children and adults
- Local health and well-being groups such as the local gym, support groups for healthy living, and mental health support

Other

- Any, depending who can find time to be there, it would help the locals too
- Job Centre Health Social Services
- Unemployed workers
- citizens advice center
- Citizens advice

Anything else that could improve the library experience

Respondents were given a free text option to comment if there was anything else that could improve their library experience and the comments are below separated by their response as to if they agree with the proposal or not.

All comments were made by people who were library members. Those who were non-members didn't make any comments in answer to this question.

Positive comments include being closer to town and convenience. There were also comments about things that could be done to better utilise the space and encourage more people to use it

Negative comments mainly focus on the attachment to the existing building and location

Strongly Agree	Using the space to hold sessions to support teenagers in finding training, volunteering or employment opportunities
Agree	It's closer to Staveley town
	Increase the number of large print and spoken word materials.
	Better engagement with the local primary schools, perhaps offering set sessions for classes to come down and explore the library setting, could also encourage more sign ups and better use of the space - eg children encourage their parents to take them. During the winter months encourage the library to be used as a warm space, perhaps offering hot drinks to those who want to come and use the space to meet others, read, research etc.
Neither	I'm currently quite happy with the library. I understand why you might want to move it to a refurbished town centre but careful not to turn it into a noisy place where reading is not encouraged.
	Closer to town so wouldn't have to move the car if going in to town
Disagree	I would just like a guarantee that if Staveley Library building is sold, that the proceeds go back into the town and not into other areas
	Fix the leaks, make improvements to the building and windows in line with listed building it is a thing of beauty, respect and repair it.
	I appreciate the council has its eye on selling Staveley Library. However, this is shortsighted due to the development of the canal basin and the views from the library and more could be done to utilise this.
Strongly Disagree	Staveley Library is a fantastic building run by wonderful staff. To re-locate to the new proposed site would be a disaster on so many levels.
	Keep it where it is now!
	There is nothing to improve it is alright, its in a quite location so avoiding traffic, the staff are great .
	The library in its current format covers all my needs. The library where it is is perfectly accessible, it has a large selection of books, there are computers for people who require their use and friendly helpful staff should you need help or advice. This library was purpose built and is as relevant today as when it opened. We do not need to try to fix or improve something that doesn't need it.
	Nothing, the existing library is excellently placed and is great as it is.
	Leaving it where it is in the historic building with car park
	Keep it where it is
	Keeping the purpose built library OPEN
	More up to date books. In other words spending on books needs to be increased.
	This survey is about using Staveley money to relocate the existing library. Why are you asking about activities that can take place at our existing library? It's not relevant,