

Appendix 2 – Range of Services per library: Feb 2023 – Feb 2024

Library	Example of service / initiative
Abraham Moss	<p>In August 2023 following a multi-million investment from Manchester City Council, the brand-new state-of-the-art Abraham Moss Library and Leisure Centre which is open to the public for 96 hours a week was launched. The library is an ultra-modern open plan space, offering cultural and creative space for the whole community with great books, free access to wi-fi and the internet and an exciting and diverse event programme for all ages. This facility plays a significant role in helping to address deprivation and inequality for the local communities. The official opening day featured an advance taste of our forthcoming programme of health / wellbeing events including HAF for the community. Activities included Heart Valve Voice who offered heart health checks and advice for everyone with their trained clinicians. Manchester Libraries' Archives+ archivists showcased precious original archives from Crumpsall Workhouse and historic photographs from the Crumpsall Memory Box. Among our special guests were the Abraham Moss Community School pupil librarians, reading ambassadors and staff. National Poetry Day saw our very first guest author event for schools in the new library with Year 3 children from Abraham Moss Community School enjoying meeting engaging poet Dominic Berry who came along to perform poems from his new book "Make Some Noise" and encouraged the children to think about stories in a creative way.</p> <p>Library Staff joined the Read Manchester team at the Family Hub Launch at Woodville Children's Centre to engage families with our literacy and reading offer, and to promote The Summer Reading Challenge Ready, Set, Read! Parents and children could also choose a free book to take away and join the new Library and receive a new library card.</p>
Arcadia	<p>We continue to work in partnership with GLL, offering a 7 day a week service to customers. We provide a coffee morning which continues to remain popular and well-attended.</p> <p>The toddler story times also continue to be popular with parents in the area. We have continued to build on our schools programme to encourage children to read for pleasure, develop a love of books and the written word, in all formats.</p> <p>The Levenshulme Youth Project is expanding its provision at Arcadia Library. They currently provide a session on a Friday evening 6pm - 8pm within the library space. They have now expanded this to include a Monday evening and there is a new integrated activities programme. The library is the hub for this activity programme and aims to tackle some of the anti-social behaviour problems in the area; instil a sense of responsibility, empathy, and community pride among young people, contributing to a safer and more harmonious Library space</p>

Avenue	<p>Avenue is an Open Plus Library offering access to customers outside core library opening hours. It is a packed programme of events and activities. We held creative workshops with writer and naturalist Joe Shute to discover the history of the River Irk in October. The workshops explored the river through creative writing, storytelling and textile weaving. The first workshop got off to a great start with a group of local residents who contributed ideas, memories and creative written responses to the river Irk which runs through Middleton, Blackley and Blackley Forest, and, via the Irk Valley, through Crumpsall and Harpurhey into the city centre under Victoria Station. The ladies from the two Craft groups at Avenue Library played a starring role in making a huge success of the World's Biggest Macmillan Coffee Morning at the Macmillan Centre at North Manchester General Hospital.</p>
Barlow Moor	<p>Library staff launched a new story time in the Autumn, offering stories and rhymes for pre-school children and their adults. At Christmas we ran a special Christmas session, and each child was gifted with a book.</p> <p>Library staff attended Mersey Fest with a library stall where young people could do crafts and there were many books gifted for them to take home.</p> <p>As part of Chorlton book festival we did jewellery and Key ring making craft session at the after-school club.</p>
Beswick	<p>Students from The East Manchester Academy were invited to an event in the library to see a Miles Platting and Beswick Gasholder Films Screening by National Grid and Manchester Libraries. The screening included two short films made during the recent dismantling of the Saxon Street gasholder in Miles Platting. There was a photographic exhibition with historic and contemporary photographs, including previously unseen areas of these iconic industrial structures, alongside artefacts of the gasholder that have been donated by National Grid. This was a unique opportunity for the to learn about this important episode in Manchester's industrial heritage, since the second and last of these gas giants will begin its dismantling process this year and was a chance to ask questions of the engineers and professionals involved in the process and to spark a new generation of engineers or historians.</p> <p>Beswick Library is working with The Bread and Butter Thing to bring a mobile affordable food pantry to our community every Wednesday morning.</p>
Brooklands	<p>As part of our Black History Month events, we had a fantastic Saluting our sisters workshop delivered by Archives +, it researched Greater Manchester Pioneering Women of colour. The children and young people taking part learnt a lot and had great fun.</p> <p>We held an end of term Graduation Storytime session in July, over 20 families joined us for our final session and 10 children received a graduation certificate as they start school in September. The children dressed up in one of our Graduation gowns and caps. They all enjoyed stories, rhymes, crafts and the gifted books.</p> <p>Brooklands library staff have visited Button Lane primary school talking about the library and gifted the children with books</p>
Burnage	<p>In October the library celebrated its 10th Birthday as a Community run Library. We provided a full day of Childrens entertainment with two local artists Mandy & Caroline providing fun art workshops, it was super busy all day with all having a great time.</p> <p>Library staff arranged afternoon tea with the Lord Mayor for the Volunteers to celebrate.</p>
Central Library	<p>Central Library is the hub of the city's 22 libraries and delivers an outstanding collection of cultural activities throughout the year. We hosted the fantastic Jill</p>

	<p>Furmanovsky exhibition which was a great success. We worked with multiple partners this year to deliver our programme including Manchester International Festival, Literature festival and were part of the piano trail for the Jazz festival.</p> <p>We have refreshed the Archives+ exhibition, turned the film pods into sound and vision pods for easier access to the content delivered within them from the Northwest Film Archive and Sound archives. We have installed a new set of digital screens to promote the activity that is happening within Central Library to our visitors.</p> <p>School visits have proven to remain incredibly popular, and over 110 school groups have visited this year.</p> <p>Story times have proven incredibly popular, and we have doubled the capacity by running four sessions over two days to keep up with demand. We also run monthly Sensory, Mandarin, French and Spanish story times.</p> <p>We have launched new activities this year which help with users' wellbeing, including the biweekly vinyl listening group and monthly crochet club. Both activities see a diverse audience coming together to share an activity and chat.</p>
Chorlton	<p>To celebrate World book day, author Mark Bradley gave a talk to a local school. Dom Berry performed his new show to 90 local school children as part of our Take 10 Day. Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeolo also showcased their brand-new book Speak Up! to local school children.</p> <p>As part of our Carbon Literacy action day program, we ran a Family recycled Christmas event, we made Christmas tree decorations and Christmas boxes from repurposed stuff, Biffa also made recycled Christmas cards, our Carbon literacy champion was also on hand to help educate people.</p> <p>Flapjack Press performed at the Edge, which was one of the highlights of the ever-popular Chorlton Book Festival.</p> <p>Some great authors have visited Chorlton Library this year for talks including at the Edge Theatre where we ran a family fund day as part of the Chorlton Pride celebrations, which involved three craft stalls making Rainbow mobiles, friendship bracelets and heart wands.</p> <p>Libraries staff visited six Primary schools to promote the Summer Reading Challenge, talking in assemblies telling the children all about how they can get involved in the challenge.</p>
Didsbury	<p>In May to celebrate Local History Month Archives+ ran a workshop in the library, it inspired people to start their own family research.</p> <p>The library helped to facilitate Didsbury Arts Festival including a first for Manchester of a Flight Simulator on the forecourt.</p> <p>The library took part in the Disbury Pride event, running a rainbow themed craft activity aimed at families and children.</p> <p>Library staff attended the Sustainability fair at the Parish Hall, running a recycled Christmas tree decoration craft session</p>
Fallowfield	<p>Library officers continue to train and work with volunteers to run the library offer. The volunteers get a great understanding and learn new skills. Over the years many volunteers have gone on to get paid library jobs.</p>
Forum	<p>Forum Library continues to be a creative spaces venue, putting on and celebrating large events such as International Mother Language Day, Festival of Libraries and Fun Palace. The events are gaining in popularity with a record number of just over 700 people attending the last Fun Palace.</p> <p>We have delivered sensory Storytimes for Ashgate Specialist primary school, the school has brought groups of children into the library, and we have also visited</p>

	<p>the school to provide the sessions. The school also comes to the library most weeks to read and choose books.</p> <p>School visit still prove to be very popular at the library, we have delivered introduction to the library visits and storytelling sessions.</p> <p>We were proud to be part of Wythenshawe games again this year, attending all three Fridays with a full library offer including crafts, storytelling and book gifting.</p> <p>The library continues to visit Village 135 and deliver the Reading Friends sessions, it's always a lovely afternoon doing crafts and talking about books.</p> <p>Planning is well underway to transform the upper floor of the library into a cultural and creative hub, using Arts Council funding.</p>
Gorton	<p>Strong community partnerships continue at Gorton Library with lots of community events and activities on offer to local residents. There has been a focus on school engagement since moving into Gorton Hub, promoting the beautiful space available to local children, their families. To encourage our local youngsters to read for pleasure, we have facilitated numerous author visits. We have also worked with one of the Making Manchester Fairer Kickstarter priority schools which included a 'pop up stall' at parents' evenings to promote library/Hub services to parents and children.</p> <p>The Bread and Butter Thing delivers sessions every Friday in the library meeting room with an average of 65 residents benefitting.</p> <p>We delivered HAF sessions during Easter, summer and Christmas holidays. Young people have enjoyed a variety of activities with artists, cultural & STEM organisations. This allows young people to experience activities that may not always be available to them.</p> <p>The community rooms continue to be popular, particularly with organisations who are looking for venues where they can deliver sessions that are of societal benefit to the community, such as health and wellbeing; arts and crafts etc.</p> <p>We work in partnership working with other partners in the Hub and regularly contribute to atrium events.</p>
Hulme High Street	<p>The library continues to work well with our leisure partners on delivering events such as International Womens Day and other community activities. The library has a well-attended Storytime session for 0-5 year olds and over the past year GLL have set up a soft play session just before storytime.</p> <p>The over 50's coffee morning offers different activities every week such as talks from professionals on pensions, health, careers, volunteering as well as craft activities. The group has helped combat loneliness and isolation in the community.</p> <p>The Talk English session in partnership with (Manchester Adult Education service), continues to grow, helping our residents develop lifelong skills. As well as being of an educational benefit, the learners enjoy the session and benefit from the social aspect of being together.</p>
Longsight	<p>Longsight Library has recently undergone a refurbishment that has provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional 2 community meeting rooms • A new children's area, proving to be popular with families • New comfortable seating

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A drinks machine <p>The Library continues to be a bustling community space. Event highlights this year have included International Mother Language Day, Festival of Libraries and Fun Palaces.</p> <p>The 4 meeting rooms provide a valuable space for local community groups to meet on a regular basis. The rooms are also available to organisations who are looking for venues where they can deliver sessions that are of societal benefit to the community. For example, Save the Children are currently working on a project to research and improve provision for families with children under 5 in the Longsight area. As part of this project, we have been able to increase the LEGO stock and provide LEGO gifts to local children. Several new local groups using the rooms include Maximus (a group dedicated to jobseeker refugee help), Bollyfit, Women’s Empowerment through the arts, Support for women suffering domestic abuse and LMCP with a range of health and mental health related support groups. We have recently partnered with Barclays Bank, who will be using our interview room to deliver some services that don’t involve cash, to the local community. As well as providing a service need to local residents, this has provided the library service with a source of income. When the ground floor meeting rooms are not in use, they are opened up for customers to use as a quieter study space and are in demand as Longsight is a popular library destination with the student population.</p>
Miles Platting	<p>This is a popular community library working in partnership with local housing provider Jigsaw which offers regular Family Fundays. Activities include weekly Children’s Art Clubs. There is a popular walking mums club every week that meets to walk along the canal, they then come to the library for tea & coffee and Sure Start staff deliver a storytime and rhyme session for the children. There was a meet and greet Santa event at Xmas with a real reindeer! A Bike Library will be launching later in 2024 – bike maintenance is already happening. There are plans to offer some activities in the fabulous outside space this Summer, including planting and outdoor games.</p>
Moss Side Powerhouse	<p>The library has a community offer 11-2 Mon-Thu and Sat 12-5. This includes a regular adult reading group, our age-friendly coffee morning as well as community advice and guidance sessions.</p> <p>The young people's offer runs 3-7 Mon-Thu, including a well-attended homework club run by volunteers, a chess club, and a popular craft club/comic club.</p> <p>The library attracts lots of volunteers who help us deliver a wide range of services to children. We work closely with local schools and had over 2,500 children visit the library with their schools this year.</p>
New Moston	<p>The library runs weekly coffee mornings and Age Friendly hour with crafts and board games. There is also a monthly coffee with a copper event for local residents to pop in and speak to local PCSO’s about their concerns. We continue to strengthen connections with local schools and offer holiday activities for families which are always well attended.</p>
Newton Heath	<p>Newton Heath Library is a popular and well-loved local library in a verdant spot on the Rochdale Canal, close to the city centre and a haven for nature watchers where you can watch colourful canal boats and native wildlife float by. It is always vibrant and busy and is a real community hub providing a lifeline for local people. The two new meeting rooms, created in 2022 are heavily used by the community.</p>

	<p>Sessions include social groups, craft sessions, the popular weekly coffee mornings, Councillor Surgeries, NHS/MCC customer services consultations, Citizens Advice Bureau advice sessions and job interviews. The Bread and Butter Thing operate an extremely busy weekly service on Saturdays. Library staff have worked hard with local partners McrActive and Winning Hearts and Minds to reshape our teen offer and engage local young people with creative and positive activities including ping-pong, games, canoeing skills, karaoke and music. A table tennis tournament was very popular with all ages! The Women's Euros championship in July 2023 saw the library host the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to create a Manchester anthem and offer an orchestral taster session for all ages.</p>
North City Library	<p>North City Library is a Creative Space library which is co-located with partners The Manchester College. The Fun Palaces event had fun games about climate change delivered by MCC Climate Change Officer, we focused on recycling crafts (planting trees and wildflowers in a decorated pot made from a recycled plastic bottle and a bag to creatively decorate and take home using existing resources plus reuseable jigsaws and games in our other activities. Everything we did aimed for minimal impact on the environment – no glitter or new plastic in the craft decorations, paper or reuseable cups in the refreshments, recyclable plastic wrappings where necessary. As a local event, many families could walk or use the bus to get to the library rather than driving so transport was also a green aim. We had a singalong with the M9 Choir and Italian dance masters Matrafisc came back with a cool dance activity for families and children. We also displayed a LEGO Photo Exhibition and hosted a Challenge to see who could build the most imaginative Fun Palace from LEGO – with a prize for each of the winners.</p> <p>We launched our Summer Reading Challenge at Lily Lane Primary School with author James Campbell. Library staff delivered a Summer Reading Challenge assembly to help enthuse children with this year's Challenge "Ready, Set, Read!" and to invite them to our summer holiday activities. This school is one of our Make Manchester Fairer Children's and Education Kickstart priority schools. Library staff worked with partners GLL to offer a Summer Reading Challenge themed Treasure Hunt at North City Family Fitness Centre for children aged 5 – 10yrs and their families.</p>
Northenden	<p>Northenden Community Library has relocated to St. Wilfrids Church Hall, retaining the same amount of stock. Visitor numbers are on average slightly up from the previous location. Storytime and other activities continue at St. Wilfrids Church Hall.</p> <p>Some health and Children's books are now also located in Northenden Health Centre for people to borrow.</p>
Withington	<p>Withington Library ran a men's health event aimed at Caribbean and African men, and their family and friends. The event had some fabulous stalls offering and promoting free Health checks, social prescribing, health awareness, information on Prostate and Bowel cancer. We screened two amazing thought-provoking films, this really got people talking. People also got to eat some tasty Caribbean food, allowing them to enjoy, relax and share conversation.</p> <p>Holiday activity fund sessions take place in school holidays, with the young people got to enjoy activities such as Drama, football skills and clay modelling to mention a few, they also got lunch.</p> <p>A Withington customer gifted us a fantastic Lego model he had designed and built of the library, it is getting a lot of attention from customers and is very inspiring for the children that attend the busy Lego club.</p>

	<p>Library staff ran a library session with stories, crafts and library information at St Paul's stay and play sessions.</p> <p>The library was out and about again at Old Moat little Feast, the event had lots of activities for all ages, we ran a library stall and crafts.</p>
<p>HMP Manchester Prison Library</p>	<p>The past 12 months have brought a number of changes within the prison which have had a direct impact on the offered library services, including the introduction of the Reading Strategy for all prisons in England & Wales. The library manager worked with the Learning Work & Skills Lead and the Head of Education to create a local strategy ensuring that it meets the needs of the prison population.</p> <p>The library has worked with all areas of the prison to help them develop reading areas in the wings, workshops and programs departments, including securing a donation from Borderline Books of 400 books to get the individual collections started, creating promotional displays for the Shannon Trust Reading Program in all Reading Areas, training over 50 Shannon Trust mentors, provided collections from publishers such as Diffusion Books, Ransom and Barrington Stoke that ensure low level reading needs are met and are Dyslexia resources list with all Prisoner Information Desks workers so that they can share the library offer.</p> <p>The library has commissioned a series of workshops by Tony Sheppard for 2024. We have increased links with public libraries. All men being released into Greater Manchester area are now offered a public library card useable across the 10 Local Authorities,</p>
<p>Books To Go</p>	<p>We have delivered books and other resources to approximately 450 people with mobility difficulties this year.</p> <p>We attend outreach events, promoting the service, including Africa Day Windrush open day, Caribbean Carers group North, Caribbean Carers Group Central, Mental Health Support Group South Longsight Hub Festive event, and St Mary's hospital optical unit.</p> <p>Winter warmth bags have been delivered to customers.</p> <p>The service continues to be a lifeline for customers, with the delivery drivers often being the only people that they will speak to all day.</p>