37734 Public Libraries

Please provide information on the following:

Do you have a children's librarian?

Yes

If you do not have a children's librarian, when was one last in place? Please provide year.

Not applicable

How many borrowers born between 1997-2012 do you have?

Our systems are not configured in a manner that allows us to extract data within these parameters however, based on current reports held, we can provide information for those borrowers born between 2005 to 2014 (age 8 to 17).

For this range there are 23,112 members.

How many of these borrowers were active in the past (financial) year?

As above, based on the age 8 to 17, there were 8,353 active members.

What do you categorise ages 10-12, Teenage, and 20-25 as?

Our borrower categories that impact on this age group are;

'Child 8-11', 'Teenage 12-15' and 'Young Adult 16-17'.

What is your annual budget for borrowers in this (1997-2012) age range (10-12, Teenage, 20-25)?

Please provide a breakdown for each category age range.

As above, based on the age range 8 to 17 (born: 2005 – 2014):

Fiction: £34,910
Non – Fiction: £22,980
Children & Young People Team (approx.: £7,100
Children & Young People Digital: £7,500
Summer Reading Challenge: £8,670 (based on 51% of participants aged 8 – 12)

Total: £81,160

How many books do you have in stock for each of these age categories (10-12, Teenage, 20-25)?

Based on our three borrower categories listed above, as at 1 April 2022:

Category	Items
Children	688,197
Teenage	93,651
Young People	4,950

Note: Stock figures are related to 'stock categories', not 'borrower categories'.

How do you choose stock for these age categories? Is it primary through requests, best sellers/ top 10s, etc.

New titles are chosen by our suppliers, who we work with to create a profile based on our locations. This covers best sellers and top 10s, we also consider recommendations, monitor our reservation lists and engage with local Children & Young People (CYP) library users.

How quickly does it take for someone to place a reservation on a 'no trace' (non-stock) book, and for that book to be purchased and delivered to the borrower? Please answer in days.

This is no specific data recorded, but three weeks would be a minimum.

Do you have a New Adult category?

No, our closest borrower category is 'Young Adult 16-17'.

Is this a category that your library service wants to explore more?

No

Do you work with school libraries with the 10-12 and teenage age range? eg, literature activities and sharing stock, etc.

Edinburgh City Library service manages community and school libraries. We have 28 community libraries and 23 High school libraries. This amalgamation took place in 2017. Currently the libraries co-operate and work with one another but are not a single team.

The CYP service works with all our school libraries, they use the Teen Titles reviewing magazine to help shape the stock in digital and hard copy, stock is shared between schools and any "read out" public library stock is offered to the schools. We work together on core calendar events such as LGBT+ History Month, International Women's Day and Black History Month. We are currently introducing the schools' bibliotherapy campaign, 'Escape, Connect, Relate' into branches starting with a P7 to S1 transition project. We also run the 'Green Pencil Award', a writing prize for those aged 6 – 14.

Do you have author visits for these three age categories? If so, how often do they happen?

We do, depending on branches plans and funding. There were 13 last year.

What were your top 10 most borrowed books for 10-12, teenage, and 20-25 categories for the past 5 financial years?

This information is not available from readily available resources held by the Council and would require a specialist bespoke report to be commissioned from our suppliers. As the information can only be retrieved by an IT specialist, the Commissioner takes the view that the information is not held by the public authority.

What activities do you provide for children under 10?

Bookbug, Read Write Count storytelling, STEM and Chatterbooks are all core library activities. They happen regularly and across all our libraries.

What clubs/ activities do you provide for the 10-12, teenage, and 20-25 age range?

Children and Young people activities include Reading Groups (Glitzlit, LevelUP etc); STEM activities; Film nights; Film and Animation; Writers groups; Green Pencil Award activities;

Summer Reading Challenge etc STEM and Chatterbooks cover 8-12, each library has or will have at least one teen event per week as part of our core offer.

We are also in the process of engaging with young people via our 'No Going Back' project to help us better identify future library services and developments aimed at encouraging use and ensuring a service in line with their needs.

What clubs did you offer before covid procedures were put into place that you no longer offer, and why do you no longer offer them?

As above, currently there are no plans to stop any specific activities. Community libraries continue to develop and deliver activities based on local needs and priorities.

Have you noticed an increase or decrease in these age ranges being active in the library since covid procedures were put into place?

Post Covid we have seen a decrease of library users across all age ranges.

Since we re-opened the last of our libraries in April 2022, we have started to see some growth in user numbers across all ages and will continue to promote and encourage use with the aim of getting back to pre-covid user numbers.

How many books were borrowed within these age ranges in the past 5 financial years?

Physical:

Category	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21*	2021/22**
Children	583,166	575,983	566,308	23,600	273,704
Teenage	29,888	28,692	26,976	1,292	11,070
Young People	73	89	75	3	53

Notes:

*6 Libraries opened on reduced opening hours 6 Oct - 24 December 2020, 4 Libraries opened on reduced opening hours 8-24 December 2020

**Phased re-opening of Libraries from 3 May 2021 (Newington, Leith, Sighthill and Oxgangs Library remained closed during 2021/22 as they were used as Covid Test Centres)

Electronic:

eBook Issues:

	Child (Juv category 0-11 years)	Teen & YP (YA category 12-18)
2021/22	15,047	11,497
2020/21	20,488	15,269
2019/20	7,661	10,547

2018/19	6,420	8,690
2017/18	6,226	7,928

Audiobook Issues:

	Child (Juv category 0-11 years)	**Teen & YP (YA category 12-18)**
2021/22	11,487	4,438
2020/21	11,455	4,275
2019/20	6,776	3,697
2018/19	5,719	2,530
2017/18	4,555	1,780

Are you influenced by Booktok (Book influencers on TikTok) or Bookstagram (Books influencers on instagram) in your stock selection and display ideas?

Books are flagged up in OverDrive Marketplace as being popular on TikTok – we do buy these frequently as they usually circulate very well.

We have seen an increase in reservations on certain titles popular on BookTok and have purchased accordingly.

How do you choose ebook and audio titles?

Please refer to the following bullet points:

- We receive recommendations from service users through our Digital Request Form

- We keep an eye on series that we have already started to purchase

- We look at new stock sections on supplier websites

- We browse through suggested title lists that are provided to us by OverDrive, BorrowBox and uLIBRARY

- We regularly look at the bestselling books lists and browse bookshop websites such as Waterstones

- We keep up with popular book group lists such as BBC Radio 2 and Richard & Judy

- We follow book awards such as Costa, Booker etc. We try to add stock that matches the Council's goals and focus, and those of some of our physical collections, i.e., that promote healthy lifestyle, ecological matters, etc.

Who is your ebook/ audio provider? E.g., Libby.

OverDrive – eBook and eAudio (including Children, Teenage and Young Person)
Bolinda - eAudio
Ulverscroft – eAudio

Do you have any plans in the future for development in attracting borrowers aged 10-25?

The 'No Going Back' project will aim to identify what young people, both users and non-users, would want from their library.

How many libraries do you have?

28 community libraries, 23 school libraries, a prison library service and a mobile library service.