



Reading and Reader Development Policy

Date: 8 December 2016

Policy Information	
Policy Title	<i>Reading and Reader Development Policy</i>
Policy Number:	<i>POL027</i>
Version	Version 2 Reviewed October 2016
Policy Sponsor	<i>The Assistant Director with responsibility for Stock and Reader Development</i>
Policy Owner	<i>Stock Manager</i>
Committee and date recommended for approval	<i>Services Committee</i>
Date approved by the Board	<i>8 December 2016</i>
Equality Screening Status	<p>1. Screened: <i>12 December 2014</i></p> <p>2. Screening Reviewed: <i>24 October 2016 screening reviewed as part of policy review.</i></p>
Date Set For Review	<i>January 2020</i>
Related Policies	<p><i>Children and Young People's Services Policy</i></p> <p><i>Culture and Creative Development</i></p> <p><i>Heritage Policy</i></p> <p><i>Information and Learning Services Policy</i></p> <p><i>Partnership Policy</i></p> <p><i>Social Media Policy</i></p> <p><i>Stock Policy</i></p>

Libraries NI

Reading and Reader Development Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Reading is an essential life skill, a source of enjoyment and inspiration; it contributes to health and wellbeing and provides a gateway to learning and information. Reading exercises our brains, improves concentration, builds up a store of background knowledge; improves vocabulary and leads to more highly developed language skills. Reading helps to prepare people for action by improving understanding of a subject and providing insights into the experience of others. In doing so it promotes community cohesion and the celebration of cultural diversity.
- 1.2 Reader development encourages people to read, to read more widely and to get more from their reading. It enriches lives by improving people's confidence in reading and enjoyment of reading, opening up reading choices and providing opportunities to share reading experiences. It encompasses activities such as reading groups, reviews, festivals, author visits and online promotions. Reading and reader development is central to the role of libraries.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of this policy is to ensure a consistent approach to the provision of reading and reader development activities as a core service of Libraries NI.

3. Policy

Libraries NI will:

- undertake activities and programmes which showcase titles, authors and genres
- support the work of local writers and develop Northern Ireland centred collections
- provide activities which offer information about titles, authors and genres
- undertake activities which promote and nurture a love of reading
- provide opportunities for shared reading experiences
- ensure that staff have the skills and knowledge to undertake reader development activities
- ensure that libraries provide an environment which is conducive to reading and reader development
- provide stock so that everyone can access appropriate reading materials
- be inclusive in its approach.

4. Authority

Policy Sponsor: The Assistant Director with responsibility for Stock and Reader Development is the Policy Sponsor.

Policy Owner: The Stock Manager is the Policy Owner.

Policy Contact: The Assistant Stock Managers are the Policy Contacts.

5. Related Documents

Policies

- Stock Policy
- Partnership Policy
- Social Media Policy

Procedures

- Requests procedures
- Stock complaints procedures

Guidelines

- Guidelines for reading groups