

**WHAT WE STAND TO LOSE As the former Manager of the Library-I would like to put to you.---**

Modern City Central Library---Excellent access including from an undercover car parking Superb-facilities for all of our 43,000 a month visitors, ALL on one floor a massive 1,675 sq m of public space.

A well equipped gallery space -very popular with local groups,and highly acclaimed by all organisers of the diverse range of Festivals the city hosts.

Dedicated areas for Childrens and Families and Teenage areas both -re modelled after face to face consulting with our frequent users ,many families valuing the range of books readily available-many children have with family and staff support begun their reading activities, as well as the excellent activities organised, regularly attracting 60 plus children each time . Our 100 seater study area is frequently full, benefitting from new seating and improved lighting, plug in facilities for laptops and close access to many well used reference books.

Equally after consulting we refurnished the reading area again regularly filled with visitors enjoying papers and periodicals Our extensive stock of books are all on moveable book presses, an advantage to us to open up our large floor space for Author talks, Music and Drama, Festivals activities- using our in house p/a system, and loop Many Visitors, and Festival staff praising our excellent building .Very much into modern digital technology progress, our 35 public computers whilst not always in use, do have the latest software updates installed -to meet, our visitors demand/expectations, and trained staff can and do assist users including those seeking benefits and universal credit applicants We also have a good range of kit for those with visual impairment. A further 3 pcs have fast response library catalogue access. With our own direct dedicated high speed broadband connection, we offer study area users wifi hot spots, with 4 other spots around the library. All of our 3 meeting rooms have internet connections-widely used by hirers of these facilities. Our 5 self service kiosks are in regular demand certainly more than 9% of library visitors use them ,each has had the new library management systems installed. To aid archive hunters we purchased state of the art digital retrieval kit and printers- is a very very popular asset. Immediate access to our extensive archives is regularly appreciated by many researchers , as is access to the thousands of books currently in Rolling stack store--again sought after daily.

To aid visitors enjoyment, we re-lit our foyer, and installed new display boards-and groups pay to advertise the City's diverse events and activities, new signage inside our modern library and also with permission of our landlord Waitrose improved external information boards. Internally we installed a new air conditioning unit, along with new heating,.

I was proud to lead an excellent team of staff members, with whom regular workshops and training was done to enable their delivery of excellent front line service-which received national awards, it saddens me and I am sure many others that 25 posts feature in these savings plans.

I still believe that with professional promotion and marketing of both our service at this Wonderful Podium library, and facilities available, we can increase library footfall, use of our services and income from hired facilities has great potential to ards more income generation - at accost far less I suggest than the move proposed.

I fear that if this move happens the decimation, fragmenting, and considerable reduction in what we are applauded for providing within our Modern Central Library ,will impact on the future of literacy in this Heritage city, and I am certain affect the lives of so many people for many years to come. I would plead that it be reconsidered urgently.

Thank You.