

The proposal for consultation

Balancing factors in developing proposal

- trends and patterns of use of libraries over time;
- range of library services available within each library and locality;
- extent of staffed and unstaffed opening hours at each site;
- the library footprint required to deliver the library offer;
- release of space within library buildings to maximise income;
- income raising opportunities through library charges;
- range of material available through digital channels;
- availability of home and mobile services for more vulnerable residents;
- availability of the Local Studies and Archive service;
- traded service offer for early years and schools;
- capacity within the community to support library services;
- capacity within the voluntary sector and other partner organisations to support library service delivery;
- opportunities for re-locating and/or co-locating library services with other services offered by the Council, community groups or partner organisations;
- financial support for Friern Barnet and Garden Suburb community libraries; and
- future management arrangements for the library service

Proposal: Barnet vision for libraries

Barnet is a great place to live. We want a 21st Century library service that is in tune with the changing lifestyles of our residents. Libraries are a universal and unique service, offering learning opportunities from the early years and through retirement.

Our ambition is for libraries to:

- *Help all children in Barnet to have the best start in life, developing essential language, literacy and learning skills and developing a love of reading from an early age.*
- *Provide residents with the skills to live independently; to improve their health and wellbeing; and to get a job and progress whilst in work.*
- *Bring people together, acting as a focal point for communities and assisting resident groups to support their local area.*

Proposal: Conceptual Framework

A tiered approach has been developed with each 'tier' having a different 'offer'. Categorisation of each library is based on need, commerciality and available space.

Core

Core range of stock, core opening hours, core space for community use. Libraries with mid-range footfall and use located in key residential areas. Access to additional & specialist stock, services and reservations via Core Plus (Burnt Oak, East Finchley, Golders Green, Hendon, North Finchley, Osidge)

Core Plus

Extended range of stock, greater space for study and community use, extended opening hours. Libraries with the highest footfall and use, located in town centres, areas of highest population density and growth, and near to retail and transport hubs.

(Church End, Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Grahame Park)

Partnership:

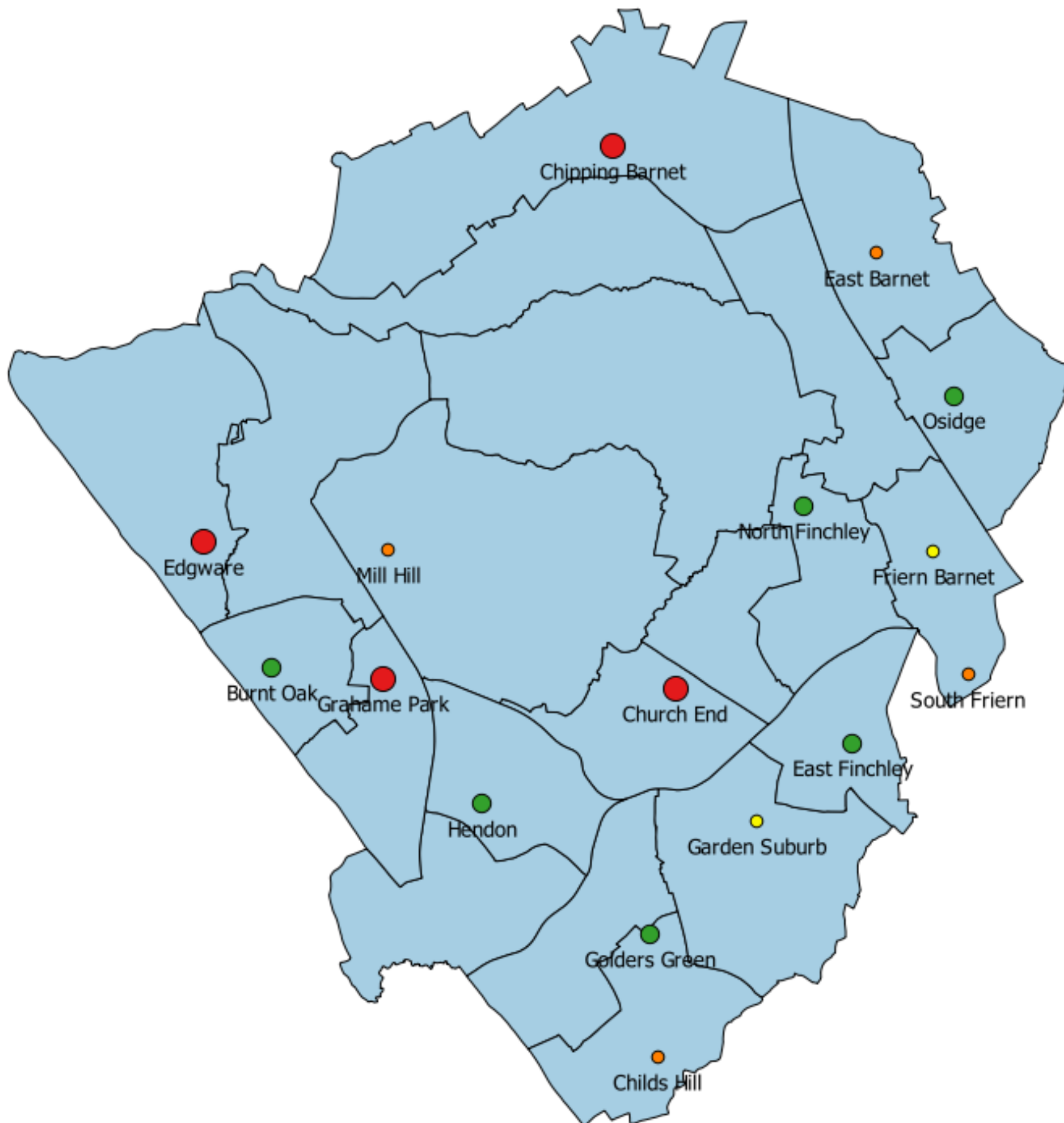
Community library points with high community and volunteer input. Focus upon community use, with a small stock of onsite resources. Access to additional & specialist stock, services and reservations via Core Plus and Core Libraries.

(Childs Hill, East Barnet, Mill Hill, South Friern)

Proposal: Locality-based libraries

- **West – Grahame Park, Golders Green, Hendon and Childs Hill**
- **East – Chipping Barnet, Osidge and East Barnet**
- **North – Edgware, Burnt Oak and Mill Hill**
- **Central – Church End, East Finchley, North Finchley and South Friern**

Map



Legend

- Core Plus (4)
- Core (6)
- Partnership (4)
- Community

Proposal: Opening hours

- **There will be three types of opening hours at Core and Core Plus libraries:**
 - **Staffed Opening (equivalent to 2 or 3 days per week, split into half day sessions)**
 - **Technology-enabled Opening supported by volunteers (2 ½ day sessions per week per site)**
 - **Technology-enabled Opening unstaffed**

Each type of opening has a specified service offer

Proposal: Library footprint

Three sizes of minimum library footprint:

- **Core libraries will be a minimum of 2,100 square feet,**
- **Core Plus libraries a minimum of 5,300 square feet**
- **Partnership libraries at least 1,900 square feet in size.**

(compared to 540 square feet in consultation)

Proposal: Increase in volunteering

- **Track record of positive engagement with volunteers, with over 11,000 hours donated**
- **Creation of volunteer ‘meeter and greeter’ role to support technology enabled libraries**
- **Re-establishment of Friends groups**

The Proposal will:

Deliver savings of £2.277m

- £1.731m savings derived from libraries revenue budget and
- £0.546m additional income from commercial rentals

Next steps

- **Proposal formally published later today (2nd October).**
- **... before being presented to CELS Committee on 12th October**
- **Potential referral to Full Council on 20th October**
- **Further round of public consultation and engagement (starting October 2015)**
- **Informal staff engagement (running during public consultation)**
- **Final report to CELS in Spring 2016**