

Kirklees Libraries' Home Service Library

A Reading Outcomes Framework Toolkit Evaluation

www.readingoutcomesframework.org.uk

Of the 200 surveyed:

75%

Found reading made them more relaxed

66%

Felt reading made them happier

38%

Felt reading made them feel less lonely

77%

Found the Home Service Library helped them to feel happier

59%

Felt that the Home Service Library made them more relaxed

41%

Felt less lonely as a result of the Home Service Library visits

Kirklees Library Service runs a **Home Service Library** to serve people who are unable to get to a static library. The Kirklees Library staff get to know the readers and using this knowledge select a range of books and audiobooks to deliver to them each fortnight. Staff select between **2-15 items per person** and over **80,000 resources** are borrowed annually. The service is delivered to elderly people, those unable to leave their homes, including those in care facilities, young carers and their families.

The aim of the of Home Service Library is both to allow these people to access something **to read or listen to**, and beyond that to help **reduce isolation and improve wellbeing and mental health**. As they are in the process of expanding their service, Kirklees wanted to evaluate their project to explore which aspects of the service had been **effective to date** to help feed into their **future design**.

Evaluation Steps

1. **Three** outcome areas matched to programme goals: mental health; reducing isolation; and access to reading materials.
2. **11 questions** used from the toolkit or created for this purpose.
3. **One off paper survey** completed in person with staff help.
4. Data from **200 people** entered into Excel.
5. Data analysed, report shared.



The Library Service intend to use the evaluation findings to **promote the service** to new customers, and to show key stakeholders how the service could help them to meet their **health and wellbeing aims**. The evidence section of the toolkit has also already been used to inform their **annual review document**.

"The evidence section is of great value and we have already used it for our annual review document"

(Kirklees Libraries)