

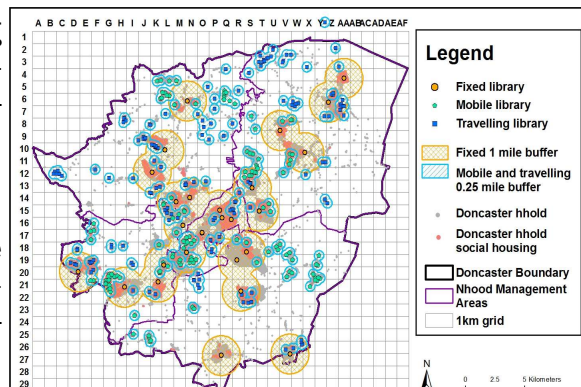
Access to Libraries in Doncaster

Aims

Doncaster MBC and Doncaster PCT, using neighbourhood renewal funding, commissioned Mayhew Associates (MA) to undertake a detailed assessment of population and deprivation in Doncaster. Based on administrative data sources, MA nkm techniques were used to estimate the Doncaster population. The resulting database was used to study access to libraries, either fixed or mobile and travelling, for all Doncaster households, to assess which groups may be disadvantaged.

What we did

In partnership with the PCT and local authority, we obtained and linked data from each agency to the Local Property Gazetteer. We then risk assessed all households using the following risk factors: aged 65 and over, living alone, children in household and local authority housing tenure. We mapped the location of libraries and all households in Doncaster, highlighting local authority housing, to visualize the patterns of access to libraries more easily (see map).



Map showing all libraries and associated buffers for households in Doncaster

Tailoring services to local needs

Row	households in category	Household with person 65+	living alone	household with children (<20)	living in local authority housing	> 1 mile from fixed library	lower confidence limit	upper confidence limit	Row	households in category	household with person 65+	living alone	household with children (<20)	living in local authority housing	> 0.25 mile from mobile or travelling library	lower confidence limit	upper confidence limit
1	977	Y		Y		21.9	19.3	24.6	1	632		Y	Y		54.6	50.6	58.5
2	15219	Y				20.0	19.3	20.6	2	17688		Y			54.4	53.7	55.2
3	26482					19.2	18.7	19.7	3	977	Y		Y		53.4	50.2	56.6
4	32429			Y		16.6	16.2	17.0	4	10441	Y	Y			52.0	51.1	53.0
5	10441	Y	Y			16.1	15.4	16.8	5	26482					51.2	50.6	51.8
6	17688		Y			13.4	12.9	13.9	6	15219	Y				50.4	49.6	51.2
7	632		Y	Y		12.8	10.3	15.7	7	32429			Y		49.7	49.1	50.2
8	174	Y		Y	Y	8.0	4.5	13.1	8	6174			Y	Y	43.4	42.2	44.7
9	2760	Y				7.9	6.9	8.9	9	133		Y	Y	Y	42.1	33.6	51.0
10	2474				Y	6.7	5.8	7.8	10	3510		Y		Y	40.7	39.1	42.4
11	3510		Y			6.3	5.5	7.2	11	174	Y		Y	Y	40.2	32.9	47.9
12	5578	Y	Y		Y	6.2	5.6	6.9	12	2474				Y	40.0	38.1	42.0
13	6174			Y	Y	5.3	4.7	5.9	13	2760	Y			Y	34.1	32.4	35.9
14	133		Y	Y	Y	4.5	1.7	9.6	14	5578	Y	Y		Y	33.3	32.1	34.5
15	0	Y	Y	Y					15	0	Y	Y	Y				
16	0	Y	Y	Y	Y				16	0	Y	Y	Y	Y			
total	124671	35149	37982	40519	20803	15.4	15.2	15.6	total	124671	35149	37982	40519	20803	28.8	15.2	15.6

Risk factor segmentation of Doncaster households according to access to a) fixed libraries and b) mobile or travelling libraries

Outputs

For fixed libraries, the average of 15.4% of households over a mile from a library reduces to less than 10% for local authority housing, and increases to 21.9% for older people in private tenure. Our logistic regression model shows that living in local authority housing nearly trebles the odds of living within a mile of a fixed library. Those living alone and households with children are also more likely to be within a mile of a library, whereas older residents are slightly more likely to be further than a mile from one. An average of 28.8% households are over a quarter of a mile from a fixed or travelling library, meaning access is generally good. This rises to 54.6% for those living alone. Overall, both types of library offer the best geographical access to local authority housing households, policy may already be successful for this group and need to broaden to consider other household types.