

# **General update**

## **Project status – On track for opening Autumn 2025**

- Planning permission granted May 2025
- Furniture and layouts finalised
- Site visits planned through the summer including press opportunity
- Focusing on partnerships and programming

### **Next steps**

- Continuing with programme & partnership development
- Increasing public interest and intrigue:
  - Hoarding
  - Myth busting
  - More visible media/social media
- Agreeing a name for the building

Project Status: Green





# Programming: 3 key groups

#### The programming is divided into three key groups:

#### **Skills and Learning Focus:**

- Skills sessions have been established in collaboration with Adult Learning, Libraries, and the College of West Anglia since March.
- The focus is on reviewing local employers and employee gaps, identifying key learning areas, and establishing pathways
- Marketing materials and teams are aligned, and the next steps involve making the best use of all learning spaces and bringing in more partners

#### **Local Organisations:**

- Informal meetings have been held, and a formal group will be established with the Libraries Locality Manager
- The aim is to inform local groups and organisations from the voluntary sector and wider about the progress and opportunities for collaboration in the new space.
- Initial conversations have been held with the BID to explore the use of top floor space and co-locating town rangers in the building

#### **Internal Working Group**

- This group looks at practical aspects such as packing, moving, IT systems, heritage collections, stock planning and activity scheduling.
- They are currently considering opening events and activities, learning from Gt Yarmouth, and developing a plan for the first few weeks

# Key principles for King's Lynn Launch



Have a welcome party on the door

Prepare to be busy: Gt Yarmouth (GY) registered 210 new customers in week 1 vs average of 16 p.w.



Bookable tours for the public and existing groups



Partners on board and available from day one with a full programme of events & materials ready to share with the public



Utilising all space from day one with drop ins and tasters

Training kitchen

Classrooms

Activity spaces



Utilising exhibition space to showcase the historical book collection

GY First week's footfall 4556, the average month was previously 5525

# Programming and partnerships: Risks and Concerns

### Addressing the Role of the New Library in King's Lynn

The new Library in King's Lynn is set to enhance community learning and skills, but it cannot tackle all local challenges alone; collaboration and shared responsibility among various organisations is vital

### **Visibility and Engagement of Partners**

For this initiative to succeed, partners must be actively engaged and visible, providing clear guidance on accessing services.

#### **Attracting New Learners and Skill Development**

We know the Library <u>will</u> draw new learners and foster skill development – especially whilst it's 'new', but this requires collective effort from all stakeholders from the get go.

How can you help us with this?

# **Next steps**

Core comms focus: Informing and increasing intrigue (let's get people interested!)

- Hoarding design in progress to showcase the space and layouts
- Myth busting
- Project board visit June
- Press visit planned for July

Libraries increasing social media and newsletter content on the move

Naming the building

# **Naming**

The term 'MUCH' was always intended to be a project name - not a building name.

Currently with NCC members who will make the decision

- Current proposal 'King's Lynn Library'
- This name:
  - Fulfils criteria for simplicity, practicality and memorability
  - Reassures residents about the Library's future and preserves its identity
  - Aligns with the services' strategic goals around inclusivity and supporting lifelong learning
  - Is future-proof and timeless
  - Avoids naming pitfalls

During the naming discussions, a range of thoughtful approaches was explored to ensure the new building's name captured its essence and resonated with the community. However, these discussions did not result in any clear proposal or standout suggestion

Ultimately, the focus remained on selecting a name that was **clear, memorable**, and **representative** of the library's mission and legacy.

Prepared for King's Lynn Neighbourhood Board

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