

Armadale Community Centre and Library Survey

466 of you told us what you wanted from your new community centre and library when it reopens in late Spring of this year. Around 38% of the returns were received from customers who filled the questionnaire out in the library in West Main Street. Other opinions were returned from a street survey; a home survey; online via the Council web site; from Armadale residents on the citizen's panel; and from many community venues throughout the town.

You told us what you currently used the facilities for, when you would prefer us to be open, and what sort of services and activities would attract you into the new building.

The most popular use of the community centre was for fitness classes, with 37% of you participating in them. Adult education classes (22%), hall and room lets (19%) and youth clubs (10%) were also popular. Children's activities were used by nearly 20% of you both in the community centre and in the library.

A substantial 75% of you used the library to borrow books, but you also used it to find information (30%), hire DVDs (20%) and use the PCs (15%).

Regarding opening hours, it was obvious that everyone has busy lifestyles. Whether it is paid or voluntary work, or caring for relatives or children, your leisure needs had to fit in. The majority of customers were happy with current opening hours. As far as the community centre was concerned, the spread of times when you wanted to use it was consistent across most times during weekdays, with only slightly fewer people opting to use it on Saturdays and Sundays. A higher percentage of you said you wanted to use the library in the mornings, including Saturdays, or in the afternoon. Some also wanted extended library opening earlier in the mornings or in the evenings.

When we asked you what would make you use the facilities more, you said you would like:

- [to know what is on and when](#) - we will publicise events, classes and opening times both in print form and online
- [better disabled access](#) – the refurbishment has improved access to all parts of the new building
- [a wider selection of books](#) – new titles will be bought for the opening of the library
- [to be able to park near by](#) – unfortunately we cannot create more parking places, but we will look at what is available on the street, and highlight the bus services
- [a wide variety of activities, talks and displays for all age groups](#) – the community centre and library will work together to provide as much as possible. The display area available to the community will also be increased substantially.
- [new DVDs](#) – the latest DVD titles will be provided for overnight hire