

# Public Libraries at a glance

**330**  
library branches &  
**31**  
mobile libraries  
across 31  
local authorities



**754,748**  
members  
in 2016

**45**  
new or  
extended library  
branches between  
2012 and 2017

**17,983,358**  
items loaned



**15%**  
Increase in spend  
on books and online  
resources

Increased investment  
from €7,678,118 in 2012 to  
**€8,819,676**  
in 2016



**17,270,751**  
Visits to libraries in 2016  
for a range of services including **Right  
to Read, Work Matters, Healthy  
Ireland at Your Library, My Open  
Library**, local studies

**Over 12 million**  
books and online resources available

## Our Public Libraries 2022

inspiring, connecting and empowering communities



A **bright attractive, trusted, welcoming**, civic space



**Extended opening hours** in at least 100 libraries by 2022 and 200 libraries by 2028



**Friendly, skilled staff**, actively supporting and guiding users throughout the library



A **meeting place**, informally and formally



Centrally located, **accessible and visible** across over 330 communities



Attracting **users of all ages**, increasing membership to 30% of the population



A **wide range of resources and services** for work, leisure, learning and creativity, online and in-library



**Leading edge digital technologies** and digital learning centres to enhance the service and available for users with support from staff



**Free service**, no fines or lending charges by 2022



**Workstation facilities** for hot-desking, supporting job seekers and entrepreneurs



The go-to place locally, with **national reach**



Valued by and **essential to communities**



Attracting and benefiting **local residents and users**



Places for **creativity and culture**



A **focal point** for all public services



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail  
Department of Rural and Community Development



Cumann Lucht Bainistíochta Contae agus Cathrach  
County and City Management Association



AN GHIOMHARBAICHTH BAINISTÍOCHTA IATHRÉALA  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY