

# Kaipara District Council Dargaville Library and community hub: design brief



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# Introduction

## Background

The Kaipara District Council made the decision to build a new library and community hub in Dargaville on Council owned land beside the town hall on Hokianga Road. This followed consultation with the community in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan. Submissions were further sought from the community during the consultation process for the 2024-2027 Long Term Plan and these have helped inform the requirements for the new library and community hub. The funding to build the new hub is to be procured by means of a charitable trust which is yet to be formed.

## Purpose of the brief

Sue Sutherland Consulting has been engaged to work with library and council management to determine the functional and space requirements needed for a modern library service for the next 30-50 years. This design brief is a foundational document that, along with geotechnical and site surveys, will guide the architects and other consultants on what is needed and why, in the development of a concept design. The document:

- Places the Dargaville Library and community hub within the wider local context, including a discussion of the demographic, social, cultural, economic, and environmental characteristics
- Outlines the changes happening in libraries both in New Zealand and internationally
- Briefly describes the services and functions that will be delivered from the building
- Outlines the different types of spaces and the square metres required for the different functions and spaces, and any adjacencies
- The technology needed

The report is in four sections. The first section considers the context, including the demographics for the whole district and what library services are needed to serve that population. Section 2 outlines ideas from the community, young people, staff and elected members that have informed the spaces and functions in the brief. The third section sets the scene by outlining the trends and developments occurring in modern libraries, and the principles and values that are driving the project. It also details important aspects that need to be considered when designing a new building including accessibility, flexibility, standards, and design principles.

Section four is the detailed brief and provides a description of the spaces, collections, and technology requirements for the Dargaville Library/Community Hub. It is to be used as a guide by architects and/or designers in developing a concept and includes a detailed list of spaces with square metre spatial requirements. A set of appendices provides additional information supporting the main body of work in the brief.

## Section 1: Context

### Kaipara District

The Kaipara District runs north to south from the Waipoua Forest to the Kaipara Harbour and East to Mangawhai, covering 3110km<sup>2</sup>. State Highway 1 from Auckland runs though the east side at Kaiwaka and State Highway 12 runs through Maungaturoto, Dargaville and up the west coast. The nearest city is Whāngarei, which is around 60km northeast from Dargaville and a similar distance north from Mangawhai.

The major iwi/hapū of the Kaipara are Te Roroa and Te Uri o Hau. Te Roroa occupy the hinterland and rich valleys between the Kaipara and Hokianga harbours, particularly the Kaihu Valley, Waipoua, Tunatahi (Dargaville) and Maunganui Bluff areas. Te Uri o Hau (a hapu of Ngāti Whātua) occupy the Pouto peninsula, the hill country around the many arms of the Kaipara Harbour and the Mangawhai area. Iwi have Mana Whenua status over their ancestral lands (their rohe). This means they are recognised as having authority to exercise kaitiakitanga over their rohe.<sup>1</sup>

Kaipara's resident population at the 2023 census was 25,899<sup>2</sup>, a growth rate of 13.2% since the 2018 census. The district's population has been growing strongly, particularly over the past ten years and is projected to grow to 35,700 by 2054. The growth has occurred mainly in the east with both retirees and younger families choosing the lifestyle offered. Growth on the western side of the district is slower with Dargaville growing 0.6% over the five years to 2023<sup>3</sup>.

The Council's vision for the district is "Kaipara – the place to be!"<sup>4</sup>. The Draft Long Term Plan (LTP) has five goals for:

- Healthy environment
- Prosperous economy
- Vibrant communities
- Affordable living
- Dependable roading.

In 2022 the Council adopted the *Kaipara District Libraries Strategy*<sup>5</sup> which outlined the need for purpose built facilities to enable modern library services to be delivered. The strategy had three strategic priorities: broadening horizons, enriching lives and strengthening communities. Key enablers to achieve the strategy were to work in partnership with Iwi, strengthen customer and community engagement and have skilled staff and a sustainable business.

The Council also confirmed its support for arts, culture and heritage with the adoptions of *He Rautaki Toi ā Rohe ō Kaipara: an arts, culture and heritage strategy for the Kaipara District, 2022-2032*<sup>6</sup>. The strategy has six goals which include growing Ngā Toi Māori practice and delivery, creating cultural infrastructure, providing more opportunities to share rich heritage and build capability through opportunities for learning skills. It also had a focus on engaging youth and providing pathways for them in the creative industries.

There are synergies between what libraries offer and the aspirations of the Arts, culture and heritage strategy which have been taken into account in developing the design brief.

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<sup>1</sup> Kaipara, place, people and key trends. Kaipara District environmental scan 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Statistics New Zealand 2024 <https://2023census-statsnz.hub.arcgis.com/apps/51920290c2974bc8a2ad01772988402f/explore>

<sup>3</sup> Infometrics Regional economic profile, 2023 <https://rep.infometrics.co.nz/dargaville-urban-2023/report>

<sup>4</sup> Speak up for Kaipara. Long Term Plan 2024-2027 Consultation document. <https://www.kaipara.govt.nz/long-term-plan-ltp>

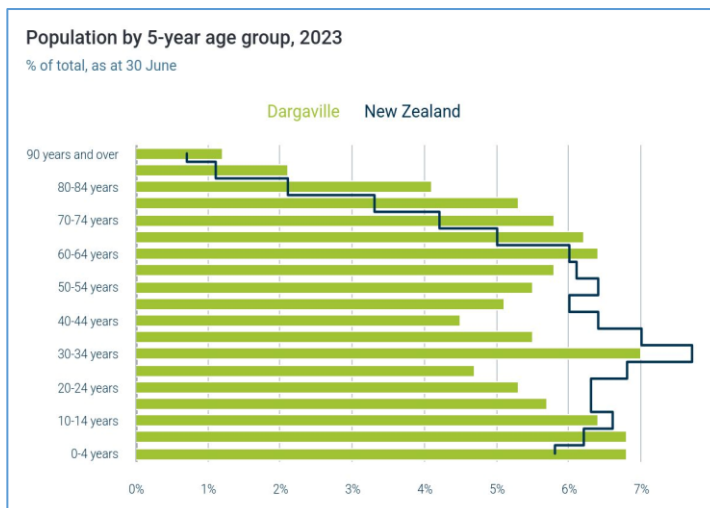
<sup>5</sup> <https://kaipara.govt.nz/uploads/library/Library%20Strategy%20Report%202022.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.kaipara.govt.nz/uploads/Arts%20Culture%20and%20Heritage%20Strategy/KDC%20Arts%20Culture%20and%20Heritage%20Strategy%202022-2032.pdf>

## Dargaville

The population of Dargaville was estimated to be 5,130 in 2023 with a projected growth to 6,420 by 2054. Data from the Environmental Scan 2023 and the economic profiles compiled by Infometrics highlight the following:

- In 2023, 55.2% of Dargaville's population was of working age (15-64 years). This proportion was lower than for the whole of New Zealand (64.9%).
- The proportion of young people (0-14) was 20.1% in Dargaville which is higher than New Zealand as a whole (18.5%) and Mangawhai (17%).
- The proportion of people 65 years and older was 24.8% in Dargaville which is higher than New Zealand as a whole (16.5%) but lower than Mangawhai (30.4%).
- In 2018, 35.7% of the Dargaville population identified as Māori compared to the district average of 24.6%. Early indications from the 2023 census are that the number of people identifying as Māori has grown.
- This increase will come not only from net migration and natural increase but also changing cultural identity, with more people who formerly chose to identify as non-Māori reconnecting with their heritage and coming to identify as Māori.
- Wellbeing is measured through the NZ Index of multiple deprivation. There are five quintiles, with Q1 being the least deprived (top 20%) and Q5 being the most deprived (bottom 20%). Kaipara had 42.9% of its population in Q4 and Q5 and no data zones in Q1.
- Manufacturing made the largest contribution to the overall growth in Dargaville's economy between 2022 and 2023, growing 19.3% over the period and was the largest employer accounting for 16.9% of total employment. This sector created 88 new jobs in that period. Agriculture, forestry and fishing are the next largest contributors.



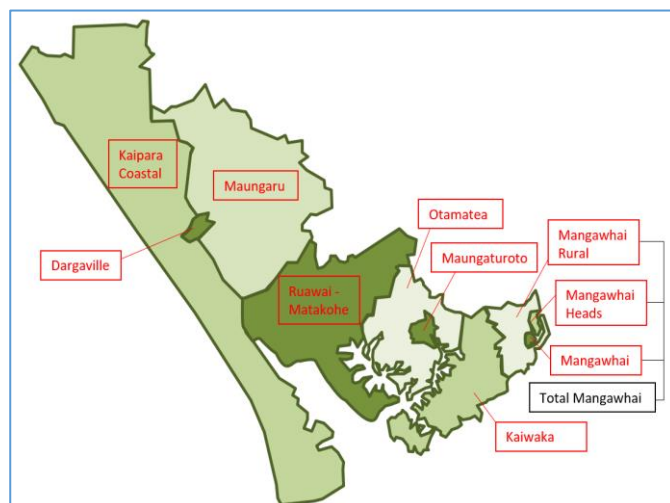
## Dargaville Library

Dargaville Library until recently was the only professional library in the district. It is still the only library serving the western half of the district and therefore its catchment is broader than the town boundary. The current library is too small (266m<sup>2</sup>) for the current population with no room to provide the sort of services offered by a modern public library.

The following statistical areas contribute users to the library:

SA2 area	Population		Potential catchment
	2022	2054	
Kaipara Coastal	4201	4764	4764
Maungaru	1936	2077	1039
Ruawai-Matakohe	2765	3020	1510
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>8902</b>	<b>9861</b>	<b>7313</b>
Dargaville	5214	6420	6420
<b>Total population</b>	<b>14,116</b>	<b>16,281</b>	<b>13733</b>

The potential catchment assumes that 100% of the Kaipara Coastal area and 50% of the other two districts would use Dargaville as their library location. This assumes by 2054 that a population of around 13,733 would be served by this library. We have therefore based our calculation for space on serving a population of 13,700.



## Community Trust

The Council has made the decision to support the formation of a community trust to raise the funding for building the new community hub in Dargaville. There is interest from individuals and groups to be part of the trust. This model has been used by the Far North District in the building of Te Ahu in Kaitaia, and in Kawakawa where the library is in the building developed by the Kawakawa Hundertwasser Memorial Park Charitable Trust. While a trust may have more avenues open to it for funding, local authorities can also procure funding for community facilities. The recently opened Manawatū Community Hub Libraries, based around the library in Feilding, procured funding for new facilities such as the maker area, meeting rooms, café and kitchen, as well as a basketball half court.

As the trust has not yet been formed, the functional design brief for the library and related community facilities, has had to be developed without the input of trust members. It may well be that additional community facilities will be wanted apart from what is described in Section 4 of this document.

In setting up the trust it will be vital from the outset to have clarity around the relationships, responsibilities and operational parameters so that library and other services are provided in a seamless way for the benefit of all in the community. Experience has shown that the Trust must be able to demonstrate its financial viability to sustain the ongoing maintenance and operation costs for the Hub. The library service will continue to be run by the Council and the assumption is that KDC will rent space in the Trust building. KDC will also need to fund the fit-out costs of the new library. The trust will benefit from strong community/iwi/council partnerships.

## Site for development

The Council has chosen to build the new community hub on land beside the town hall on Hokianga Road, known as Jaycee Park. Parts of the current town hall complex are to be demolished because of black mould, including the current toilets and kitchen. This will leave the following buildings:

Space	m <sup>2</sup>
Hall	563
Stage	150
Meeting room	32

It is proposed to build new toilets as part of the recladding of the facility. However, there will be no new kitchen facility, so this has been allowed for in this brief as part of the community hub. The hall needs renovation if it is to be useful. During the community input in the LTP several submitters mentioned the need for a large space for performances. The hall properly fitted out could provide such a space.

The hall could also be used as a civil defence centre, along with the new commercial kitchen, toilets and showers in the Hub.

There is the possibility that the Council could sign over the hall as well as the land for the community hub to the Trust. This would have advantages as the two facilities could be managed as one.

Adjacent to the town hall is the Municipal Chambers, built in 1922, which is listed with NZ Historic Places Trust as a category 2 historic building. Concepts need to be sympathetic to this building.

A copy of the site plan and the new look town hall complex are attached as Appendices 1 and 2. The available site is approximately 1950m<sup>2</sup> which may constrain a single level building, requiring it to be on two levels.



## Section 2: Community views and stakeholder engagement

### LTP consultation

The Council's aspiration for the new facility is that it serves as a community hub. As part of the consultation on the draft LTP the community was asked what else besides the library, they would like to see in the community hub. A summary of this feedback was presented to Council<sup>7</sup> as follows:

- **Important facilities:** Respondents prioritised a diverse range of facilities, including bookable meeting rooms, a multi-purpose hall, various spaces for arts, crafts, and technology, as well as internet access and learning spaces. Specialised areas for music, podcasting, exhibitions, and digital oral history were also valued. The community expressed a need for quiet areas, vibrant communal spaces (café, theatre), and dedicated youth and gaming areas. Outdoor facilities like parks, tracks, and green spaces, along with practical amenities such as kitchens, showers, and civil defence facilities, were deemed important.
- **Important functions:** The importance of having a multipurpose community hub with services such as Citizens Advice Bureau, counselling, after-school programmes, and social services was emphasised.
- **Other comments:** Mixed opinions were shared, with some suggesting the hub should be funded by local ratepayers, while others argued against spending on a new hub given more pressing issues. The economic climate and the need to prioritise essential services were also mentioned.

It is worth noting that there is considerable overlap between the ideas above and what would now be regarded as "normal" in a modern library setting.

### Library strategy consultation

During the development of the Kaipara Library Strategy, workshops with library and council staff, elected members, and interviews with Iwi and community representatives provided ideas and insights into community aspirations for libraries. Wider input was gained through an online questionnaire as Covid prevented any face to face focus groups or community gatherings.

The library was seen as a destination, a community hub that might have related civic, cultural or learning activities associated with it. It was valued as a civic, non-commercial space at the heart of a community. There was general support for:

- More space for activities, reading, browsing and working in the library
- Spaces for community meeting and use
- More opportunities for learning programmes and activities to build community knowledge, capability and creativity
- The importance of having access to digital tools and tech so that people can keep up with where the future of work and leisure is heading
- The importance of catering for a wide diversity of needs, abilities and cultures. Other ways of learning and experiencing the world need to be catered for, e.g. Te Ao Māori world view sitting alongside the traditional European view of library.

### Focus group of young people

A focus group of 11-13 year olds from Dargaville Intermediate School was held in June 2024. Their ideas included:

- Gaming area – with both digital gaming (PCs and consoles) and physical games, e.g. table tennis
- Music studio – the ability to play instruments and record music. The opportunity to have silent disco
- Maker area/Art area – tools such as VR headsets, 3D printer, heat press, laser cutter, cricut machine, materials and storage for arts and crafts. Will need a wet area.
- Hang out area with friends, bean bags, nap area, watch movies, chill

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<sup>7</sup> Kaipara District Council. Long Term Plan 2024-2027 summary of submissions. May 2024.

- Food/drink – ability to make own free drinks, and/or a vending machine. Place to cook stuff.
- Other ideas – two level building, kids downstairs, adults up, noisy and quiet spaces separated, laser tag area, basketball hoop, more books (particularly true crime), competition ladder to encourage reading, using QR codes.

### Staff workshop

A workshop with library and other council staff was held on 13 June which developed the set of principles and values to guide the development of the hub (see Section 3 below). Staff highlighted all the functions and spaces that could be delivered in a larger library and spent time exploring several of these in greater detail. Their ideas and thoughts have been mostly carried through to the functional design brief (section 4).

A summary mind map of all the ideas from the various groups is attached as Appendix 3.

### Elected member conversation

Three elected members were available to discuss the hub and key points from that meeting were:

- The importance of involving all groups in the community in the formation of the community trust for Dargaville library
- Spaces need to be flexible and with facilities that generate high use
- The two areas have differing needs for community space
- Possibilities of combining the community hub with other community or recreational needs

### Iwi engagement

An initial meeting was held between iwi representatives from Te Roroa (Snow Tane), Te Uri o Hau (Jane Raymond-Paikea) and Te Kūhi/Te Roroa (Delilah Te Aōrere Parore-Southan), and Kaipara District Council staff and the library consultant, to appraise them of the project. Te Roroa confirmed their interest in involvement with the trust to be set up for Dargaville, the importance of the hubs in reflecting the combined Māori and Pākehā histories, and for the hubs to be truly representative of the community. This was especially needed in Dargaville.

Ongoing iwi involvement is still subject to discussion at the time of writing. It is desirable that channels of communication remain open so that the functions and concept design can benefit from mana whenua input.

### Ongoing community involvement

This stage of the project will be complete when concept designs have been produced that provide a firm basis for developing the costs for the full design and construction. In due course, once contracts are let, it will be important that the community has an opportunity to feed into the preliminary design phase. This may be by way of focus groups for areas of the hub, e.g. the youth advisory group for the youth space, or a focus group to provide input into the creative maker areas. Another approach is to hold a community day in each location whereby members of the public can come and contribute ideas for what they would like to see in the different spaces or provide general comments about what is important to them culturally. In this way the brief and initial concept can be tested to ensure that, in the intervening time, if new needs and/or ideas have arisen they can be considered. It will also help build momentum for each project.

## Section 3: Setting the scene

### A modern public library experience

Public libraries in New Zealand and internationally have changed significantly over the past twenty-five years.

Modern libraries are community hubs providing spaces for meeting, learning, studying, reading, playing and connecting with others and with our local heritage. They have embraced the opportunities that technology and digital content and information have made possible. While reading is still foundational, the importance for people to be competent digital citizens is also crucial.

Technologies are developing at an ever increasing pace, especially AI technologies, and their impact on the world of work (both good and bad) is a hot topic for discussion. Innovation and building on others' ideas to create new job opportunities is vital. Libraries are increasingly being used by their communities as places to experience and experiment with these new technologies. Many a new business idea is born out of a person's opportunity to experiment or acquire new ideas from doing and reading. In this way libraries contribute to the economic well-being of the communities they serve.

Libraries are key institutions for democracy, making sure that everyone has access to the knowledge, tools and skills they need to participate in a world where mis- and dis-information, cyber bullying and scams are prevalent.

The library is a third space, not work (or school), not home, which is described by Oldenburg in his influential book *The Great Good Place*<sup>8</sup>, as being important for civil society, democracy, civic engagement, and establishing feelings of a sense of place. Some libraries are referred to as the 'community living room' and are at the centre of a community hub.

The *Future of local government report*<sup>9</sup> stated that "a transformational mindset sees local libraries as anchor institutions and multi-use community hubs that can strengthen community identity and create opportunities for civic and economic participation"<sup>10</sup>. Libraries as the anchor for community hubs have been located with other cultural facilities (Te Waka o Waipuna, Blenheim Library and Art Gallery), recreational facilities such as swimming pools (Waitohi, Johnsonville) and other community functions such as Plunket rooms and Citizens Advice Bureau (Birkenhead Library). There are many more examples combining libraries with museums, archives, recreational and sports facilities, as well as providing places for community based operations.

### Principles and values

The aspirations for the new hubs are based on the following concepts:

- Manaakitanga – welcoming, caring, hospitable, accessible, safe
- Kotahitanga – inclusive, equitable, fostering diversity
- Whanaungatanga – collaborative, intergenerational, youth voice, relationships
- Te Huinga – community gathering and connection
- Taiao – flexible and adaptable, sustainable in design, build and operations, biophilic<sup>11</sup>
- Culture and arts – reflecting and telling the local stories of Pakeha, Te Ao Māori, Pasifika
- Catalyst – for learning, creativity, inspiration, change
- Enabling – integrated digital technology and services, interactive, future focused, generating opportunities

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<sup>8</sup> Oldenburg, Ray *The great good place*. NY: Marlowe, Publishers Group West, 1999.

<sup>9</sup> Review into the Future for Local Government (2023) He piki tūranga, he piki kōtuku, Wellington: New Zealand. [https://www.futureforlocalgovernment.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/DIA\\_17168\\_Te-Arotake\\_Final-report\\_17\\_DIGITAL.pdf](https://www.futureforlocalgovernment.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/DIA_17168_Te-Arotake_Final-report_17_DIGITAL.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> Ibid p32

<sup>11</sup> Biophilic design. Wikipedia <https://tiny.cc/#>

## Accessibility, lighting, acoustics

It is expected that all standards for accessibility (NZS 4121:2001), acoustics, and lighting, including for library shelving will be met. Acoustics are particularly important so that noisier activities don't impact on other people's need for a quiet space. While the standards for accessibility deal well with physical access they do not cover the needs for those who are neuro diverse. Libraries are beginning to create spaces that either permanently, or at certain times of the day, or days of the week cater for such children in particular, so that they can enjoy the benefits that the library offers without experiencing undue stress for themselves or their whanau.

## Design principles and practice

Architectural styles and practices are dynamic and in recent years there has been a strong move to tie new buildings to the land and stories which have informed our present. Increasingly there is a desire to use Māori design principles and practice in helping to shape the fabric and interior of the building as well as the exterior. Auckland Council has information on their website regarding Māori design<sup>12</sup>. However, it is crucial that these principles are applied within the framework of local iwi thinking and practice. As the project develops, involvement of mana whenua in both projects would be ideal. Development of a cultural narrative can be a first step in this engagement process.

Recent projects such as Te Ara Ātea in Rolleston, Selwyn District, are great examples of what can be achieved through a collaboration with local iwi in delivering a modern, cultural experience that tells local stories. Tūranga, the central library in Christchurch City benefited from the cultural narrative produced by Matapopore Trust which influenced both the design, décor and art in the building.<sup>13</sup> The recently opened Manawatū Community Hub Libraries also worked closely with Iwi to develop a cultural narrative which influenced the design.<sup>14</sup>

## Benefits

Without exception, the building of a new library generates increased business. There are more visitors, more people reading and using materials, new users who are attracted by the space, the programmes and the places for meeting and connecting. Increased use can be as much as 300%. Dargaville Library has been limited and has not experienced a modern library service, so it would be expected that a significant proportion of the population will use the space and services for their leisure and learning. Appendix 6 details some of the increased business experienced by recently opened new libraries.

## Assumptions

In putting together the functional brief the following assumptions have been made:

- The building is based on 30 years' demographic growth, although a 50-year life should be achieved
- The population served includes the township of Dargaville, 100% of Kaipara Coastal area and 50% of the other two areas bordering Dargaville, giving an estimated population of 13,700 by 2053.
- Library collections will meet the growing population needs.
- The town hall will be available to meet the needs of the community for a large performance space and has the potential to act as a civil defence centre in a state of emergency.

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz/#top>

<sup>13</sup> <https://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/turanga/turanga-artworks-and-cultural-narrative/>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/cultural-narrative>

## Section 4: Functional brief

The current Dargaville Library is too small. More space is needed for:

- Displaying and accessing collections adequately
- Places for people to study, browse, read, collaborate, and meet
- Activity and meeting space, both for library run programmes as well as catering to community needs
- Space to learn, create and experiment with newer technologies
- Integrated technology and digital access

This section provides descriptions of the functions and spaces needed to deliver a modern public library service.

### Lobby/foyer

The foyer or lobby needs to provide protection against inclement weather. Two sets of automatic doors, ideally where one set closes before the other opens are essential, both from an accessibility point of view, but also weather protection. If there is insufficient depth to allow for that, then doors would need to be offset. 30m<sup>2</sup> has been allowed for this area.

### Welcome/customer service

The entry point to the library will set the scene for the experience inside. The need is for a welcoming, open area which is easily navigated and creates a sense of identity and belonging

One of the challenges in today's libraries is to accommodate the differing needs for group activity and interactive spaces, with those for reading, study, learning, programming, and quiet contemplation. The design needs to move from more noisy activities at the point of entry through to quieter activities as you move into the building.

Staff interaction with users occurs in a collaborative, side by side model. Most circulation transactions will be self-help with staff time spent on readers' advisory work and providing and co-ordinating activities and programmes that encourage literacy, digital skills, creativity and learning. Staff will be out in the library, potentially using mobile technology such as iPads. This area will need to accommodate the following:

- RFID self-issue and self-return kiosks
- Self-help shelving area for customers to collect their holds
- A staff service 'pod' with sit and stand options which provides a visible contact point for users as they enter the building
- Exhibition/display space incorporating digital display
- An online catalogue terminal (OPAC)



This area can also serve as a meeting place, or a place to wait for someone, so thought needs to be given to whether seating might be needed in this area and what kind. Accommodation for umbrellas and coats on a wet day may be needed.

Council customer service may also occur in this area. This will require a desk or counter with computer and money taking facilities.

<p><i>Key Features</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library and Council customer service</li> <li>• Retail look with face-out display of any items</li> <li>• Shelving/area for customer holds</li> </ul>	<p><i>Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check-out and return of books and media</li> <li>• Help with enquiries and computer use</li> <li>• Place of meeting and orientation</li> </ul>	<p><i>Adjacencies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public computers</li> <li>• Public toilets</li> <li>• Cafe</li> </ul>
<p><i>Design Considerations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open, welcoming area</li> <li>• Easy to see what the facility provides upon entry</li> </ul>	<p><i>Technology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catalogue computer (OPAC)</li> <li>• staff computers, issue technology, self-issue kiosks, self-return shelves</li> <li>• Digital signage</li> </ul>	<p><i>Space requirements</i> 55m<sup>2</sup></p>

## Collections

The physical collections remain a core resource for reading, information, and enjoyment

We expect that around 30% of the total space will be given over to the housing and display of collections. Library shelving has traditionally been in rows but there are other possibilities that use shelving to define spaces. Merchandising approaches to display of materials will allow for face out display with the possibility of using end panels to display items, as well as special display stands. End panels can also be used for OPACs.

Shelving can be 5 high in adult collections, as long as there is some face out display on top shelves and that the space between shelving bays is no less than 1200mm.

Children’s and young adult areas should be no more than four shelves high and for junior fiction, probably 3 shelves high. Shelving in these areas should be on wheels to enable the shelving to be pushed aside for events that require more space than usual.

There are several experienced shelving suppliers in New Zealand who will advise on shelving plans and different types of shelving for different formats.

The breakdown of shelving by type of materials is approximately:

Collection type	m <sup>2</sup>		
Adult collections	195	Heritage	13
Magazines, nonbook, newspapers	33	Children’s	45
Young Adults	12		
<b>Total space required</b>	<b>298m<sup>2</sup></b>		



Children’s area, Tūranga, Christchurch



Magazine shelving, Blenheim

## Lounge and study seating

*“Public libraries are places where the feet can rest, and the mind can soar.”*

Different types of seating are needed to cater for the different needs of users. Comfortable chairs and/or couches with overhang tables, study chairs and tables and a range of other individual seating suitable to different activities. If coffee style tables are used, they need to be of sufficient height for a range of purposes, and not so low that they can be used as footstools.

Groups of seating can be associated with the different areas. For example, a group of chairs suitable for older people with arms and at a height for easy standing can be associated with the large print collections. Seating in the children’s area needs to be suitable for families to sit together, with some chairs suitable for reading stories together. Child size chairs and tables will be needed in this area as well.

Bench seating can be useful for those wanting to work, study and use their own devices. Experience has shown that people are less inclined to sit across a discrete table from a stranger, than they are to sit side by side at a bench. A co-worker space for those who want to work away from home is likely to be a mix of high bench seating and lower bench seating. It should be adjacent to the digital hub with photocopier and printing technologies.

In addition, there may be stools or ottomans that can be pulled up to a shelf for ease of browsing the lower shelves. Bean bags or booth seating might be appropriate for the youth area.

Breakdown of seating areas	m <sup>2</sup>
General adult, including areas for seniors, co-workers, study tables and work area in heritage	137
Children	25
Young adults, including study table	35
<b>Total space required</b>	<b>197m<sup>2</sup></b>

Note –seating for library computers is additional to this space.



Overhang table



Young Adults area, Tūranga, Christchurch



## Children’s Area

This space caters for children from 0-12 years. Children and their parents have different learning needs at different ages. 1-3 year olds are mobile and need safe play areas away from exit doors as much as possible. Children of this age will begin to find and use preschool collections with increasing independence; shelving needs to be at child height, and parents need to have good line of site from where they might sit with a baby to watch their toddler.



Play is important at all ages and access to such things as lego and duplo and other educational games is important.

The first three to four years of school are ones of discovery requiring a dynamic, interactive environment – things to touch, move, look at and read. Interactive games, as well as learning to read will be happening. Encouraging reading for pleasure and beginning the lifelong habits of enquiry means having collections for leisure and learning with strong ties between the physical collections and eCollections for children.

9-12 year olds require greater homework support and opportunities to use more sophisticated technology for learning and creativity. A furniture setup that makes it easy for children to work together is important. Gaming, programming robots, making videos, using a 3-D printer and other activities that encourage STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and maths) are important for this older age group, so proximity to the creative maker space is desirable.

Areas should flow naturally into one another but can be defined by careful placement of furniture, fittings and shelving. The creation of some niche seating, or hideaway space that a child can climb into is great to have. There needs to be sufficient space for buggy parking (during children’s programmes). Safe access to the outdoors for play is desirable.

<p><b>Key Features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area for storytelling and children’s programmes</li> <li>• Collections – most shelving moveable</li> <li>• Play area, with lego, duplo and other educational toys</li> <li>• Variety of seating types – niche</li> </ul>	<p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading and story reading</li> <li>• Smaller group activities and programmes</li> <li>• Family visits</li> <li>• Making and creating things for younger children</li> <li>• Class visits</li> </ul>	<p><b>Adjacencies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close to parenting room</li> <li>• Room for buggy parking (up to 10)</li> <li>• Possibly opening to outdoor play area</li> </ul>
<p><b>Design Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vibrant and stimulating – create a sense of excitement</li> <li>• Distinctive area, safe and secure</li> <li>• Noise – good acoustics</li> <li>• Child friendly – including for those with a disability</li> </ul>	<p><b>Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wifi</li> <li>• Tablets and/or chrome books for children</li> <li>• Touch screen or similar library catalogue (OPAC)</li> <li>• Play station</li> </ul>	<p><b>Space requirements</b> 95m<sup>2</sup> including shelving (45m<sup>2</sup>) &amp; share of seating</p>



Children’s craft and games area



Children’s technology, Geelong, Victoria, Australia



## Youth

Young people will be able to use any part of the library but a space which is especially focused on the resources they like to read for pleasure, and which provides them with a place to hang out and talk with their friends, use the wifi with their own devices and generally 'chill', is important.

The youth area should be away from areas that require quiet. Ideally it should have some adjacency to the creative maker space as it is anticipated they will be keen users of the technologies and tools on offer. As well an area for gaming of various kinds, including computer gaming, is part of this space.

Niche seats, possibly booth type seating, high tables for leaning or with stools, couches, bean bags, pod chairs are all possible. A large study table may also work in this area, although youth who require quiet study areas may use other parts of the library for this activity, including the small 3-4 person meeting rooms.

Streaming music or movies from the libraries' e-collections should be easily accessible from the Youth space, along with play station and gaming tech.

Collections for young people are shelved with this space.

<p><i>Key Features</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YA collections on wheels</li> <li>• Group study table</li> <li>• backpack friendly</li> </ul>	<p><i>Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Studying</li> <li>• Playing games</li> <li>• Using computers</li> </ul>	<p><i>Adjacencies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Near creative maker space if possible</li> <li>• Away from quiet areas</li> </ul>
<p><i>Design Considerations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area needs to be distinct/separated from children</li> <li>• Noise – good acoustics</li> <li>• Appropriate mix of seating</li> </ul>	<p><i>Technology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tablets and computers</li> <li>• TV and gaming station</li> <li>• Touch screens</li> </ul>	<p><i>Space requirements – 80m<sup>2</sup></i> <i>includes shelving (12m<sup>2</sup>) &amp; seating (35m<sup>2</sup>)</i></p>



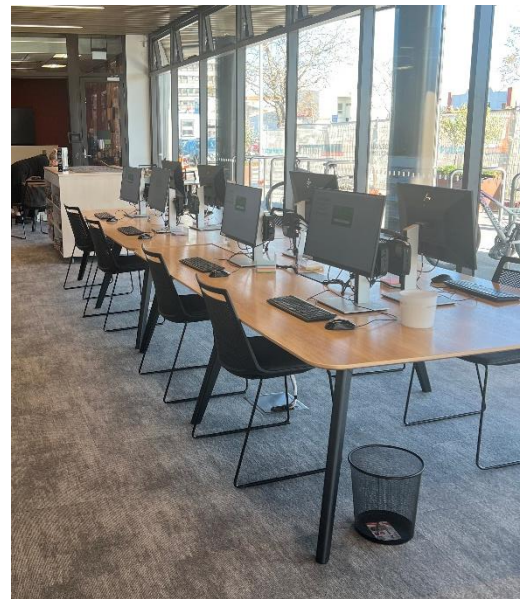
Booth seating, Te Ara Ātea, Selwyn District

## Digital hub and other technology

Technology will keep evolving and library facilities need to be able to accommodate this.

The rapid development of new technologies will continue to enhance library experiences, provide efficiencies, and facilitate changes in service delivery. These changes impact on how people use the library's space. The design needs to take account of the following needs and aspirations:

- Quality library-wide wifi (APNK<sup>15</sup>) for people who want to use their own mobile devices to access content and services in the library.
- Desktop computers (APNK) continue to have a place in libraries, particularly for work which is not as easy to do on a tablet device. Free access to the Internet is now part of the library brand.
- Tablet devices or chrome books offer flexibility and ease of use for those that don't have their own device.
- Electric power sockets for charging laptops and other devices; possibly a phone charging station and USB-C connections
- Standard size screen (20-23 inch) equipped various connectors, to enable those with their own device to plug in, for ease of use



APNK computer area, Blenheim Library

The fixed public computers are likely to be in a group for ease of assistance and for small group tuition.

The design will need to plan for the integration of technology into a seamless digital and physical experience. Digital resources will sit alongside physical resources. As an example, physical and digital newspapers and magazines can sit alongside each in a space devoted to media and news. Local history photographs can be searched once in a digital repository using large screen technology. Maker technology has been described under that space. Agility of planned space for future technology evolution is key and it will be vital that a Technology Plan is produced prior to the preliminary design phase of the build.

<p><i>Design Considerations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some privacy for computer users</li> <li>• Light not reflecting on screens or users looking into light</li> </ul>	<p><i>Adjacencies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Near a staff service point for ease of help</li> <li>• Adjacent to co-worker area</li> </ul>
<p><i>Technology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desktop computers, APNK (4)</li> <li>• Printer, scanner and other business technology</li> </ul>	<p><i>Space requirements</i></p> <p>25m<sup>2</sup></p>



<sup>15</sup> Aotearoa People's Network Kaharoa service supplied by the National Library of New Zealand

## Creative maker area and music studio

A modern library experience provides opportunities for people to learn, create, experience, and participate in programmes. Libraries are providing a range of digital and craft technologies for people to try out, experiment with, and make things for themselves. The design needs to be flexible and visible. This space will be available for after-hours use when the library is closed. One side of the space will require large glass doors that can be kept open during library hours, so that users spill out into the library if needed.

The space must be flexible so that it can morph into what activity is required at any given time. It must accommodate a range of uses such as:

- Wet area which might be used for kids' crafts, creative art and painting or other activities that will require the ability to clean up or access water.
- Clean area – for material crafts, using sewing machines, overlockers, cricut, and T-shirt printers etc.
- Digital/technical craft area for using 3D printers, vinyl cutter, laser cutter, badge making, etc. It is important that these are self-ventilating.

There is likely to be a need for some devices to be able to connect to public wifi, other than APNK wifi.

Ideas from the consultation and community for the creative maker area are attached as Appendix 4.

A small music studio that will enable the playing and recording of music or voice, is included. It will need good sound proofing both to ensure the sound is contained but also to prevent outside noise interfering with the quality of recording. This space is also to be available after hours.

It is important that the space complements other facilities in the district and doesn't compete with men's shed style workshops. There is insufficient room to accommodate these functions.

<p><i>Key Features</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storage for equipment</li> <li>• Benches/tables and chairs</li> </ul>	<p><i>Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual use</li> <li>• Group programmes</li> </ul>	<p><i>Adjacencies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibly near young adults' area</li> <li>• Near entry to allow after hours use</li> </ul>
<p><i>Design Considerations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good ventilation</li> <li>• Floor coverings and surfaces</li> <li>• Running water</li> </ul>	<p><i>Technology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3D printers, robots, Sewing machines, etc</li> <li>• Wireless enabled</li> <li>• Power points</li> <li>• Music and video software, computer</li> </ul>	<p><i>Space requirements</i></p> <p><i>Creative space 75m<sup>2</sup></i></p> <p><i>Music studio 15m<sup>2</sup></i></p>



Music Studio, Matatiki Centre, Hornby Christchurch

## Meeting and learning spaces

As well as the creative maker space, the library needs access to a larger meeting/learning space which can be used for events and programmes, including class visits. Programmes might include computer based teaching of digital skills, or learning programmes that cover a multitude of topics, delivered both by library staff and by external experts and providers. This space should be available to be used after library opening hours, with separate access from outside, and with the use of the public toilets.

If desired the large room could be divided with a moveable wall to make two spaces. One end of the room should have a 'kitchen in a cupboard' with a small under bench fridge and tea and coffee making facilities with the ability to serve snack food. There will also be a need to store stacka chairs and tables.

As well as the large room, provision has been made for one medium sized room for 8-10 people (accessible for staff use as well) and two small rooms for 3-4 people. The medium sized meeting room should also be available for after hours. The smaller rooms are likely to be used for small group study in the library, by people wanting to have an interview, or for a JP clinic. They should be glass fronted for good visibility in and out and be bookable, but also be able to be used by anyone when not booked.

The breakdown of meeting spaces is as follows:

	Space	Seating for
1 x Large	75m <sup>2</sup>	50
1 x medium	20m <sup>2</sup>	10
2 x small (1 x 10m <sup>2</sup> 1 x 7m <sup>2</sup> )	17m <sup>2</sup>	5-6 & 3-4
<b>Total</b>	<b>112m<sup>2</sup></b>	



<p><i>Key Features</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hideaway kitchen in large multipurpose room</li> <li>• Storage for stacka chairs, tables</li> <li>• Glass fronted to library</li> </ul>	<p><i>Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings and interviews</li> <li>• Community led activities</li> <li>• Learning programmes &amp; events</li> <li>• Class visits</li> </ul>	<p><i>Adjacencies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public toilets</li> <li>• Commercial kitchen</li> <li>• External entry</li> </ul>
<p><i>Design Considerations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent acoustics and lighting</li> <li>• After-hours access to large multi-purpose room and mid-size room</li> </ul>	<p><i>Technology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large screen TV in larger rooms</li> <li>• Wireless enabled</li> <li>• Power points</li> <li>• Video conferencing</li> </ul>	<p><i>Space requirements</i> 112m<sup>2</sup></p>

## Community kitchen

Drinking and eating is now acceptable in the library and many libraries have either a café or a community kitchen. This provides an opportunity for refreshments in an environment that encourages conversation, browsing magazines, and relaxing with a good book. An alternative to the café is a community kitchen where people can make their own coffee and heat food in a microwave. Ideally there should be the ability for indoor and outdoor use of the café and magazines are usually located in the vicinity for browsing. The size of this area is based on a small café where food is brought in from elsewhere and seating is in nearby library seating, possibly high bench or a small table with chairs. Equally this space would serve well as a community kitchen.

Size allowed is 25m<sup>2</sup>

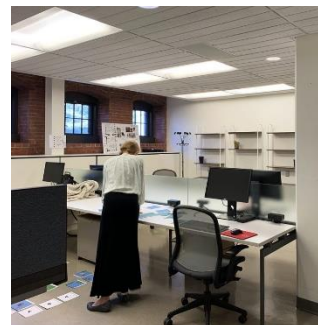


Community kitchen, Takaanini Community Hub

## Staff facilities

This area needs to accommodate the following:

- Open plan workspace shared by up to 6-7 staff.
- New stock unpacking and sorting area; space for collection management and maintenance
- Book returns, sorting and storage for crates
- Storage for stationery, children’s activity materials, etc
- Staff break room with lockers
- Staff toilet
- Small meeting room, huddle<sup>16</sup> style



For larger staff meetings the medium size meeting room can be booked.

While a significant amount of staff time is expected to be on the public floor working with users in various roles and activities there is still the need for quiet space away from the public to catch up with email, plan programmes and work with resources.



The Dargaville library serves as the headquarters for the library network.

Staff meeting room, Ashburton Civic Centre & Library

<p><i>Key Features</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workstations</li> <li>• In house returns slot</li> </ul>	<p><i>Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff administration and email</li> <li>• Collection management: book exchange, weeding, repairs etc</li> <li>• Returns and sorting</li> </ul>	<p><i>Adjacencies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff toilet, staff break room, staff meeting room</li> <li>• Loading area and back entry for courier</li> </ul>
<p><i>Design Considerations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety space if staff need a ‘bolt hole’</li> <li>• Privacy but with visibility outwards</li> <li>• Storage</li> </ul>	<p><i>Technology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wifi</li> <li>• Staff PCs and/or laptops</li> </ul>	<p><i>Space requirements</i></p> <p>93m<sup>2</sup></p>

## Utilities

Utilities include the following:

- Two unisex toilets and one accessible toilet.
- Parenting Room with children’s toilet and baby change facility, is ideally located adjacent to the children’s space. It should be possible for a breast feeding mother to use this area if privacy is required.
- Water fountain
- A communications cupboard
- Cleaner’s cupboard
- Area for rubbish bin storage and loading area for supplies and the book courier



The public toilets need to be of high quality and able to be used after hours in association with the meeting rooms and creative maker space. Each unisex toilet will contain its own handbasin. Decisions regarding colour and hand dryers need to be made with the needs of people who suffer from sensory overload in mind. A recent new build with bright yellow tiles and very noisy hand dryers caused problems for some neurodiverse people.



Estimated size requirements for these functions is : 84m<sup>2</sup>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.unisonworkspaces.co.nz/products/herman-miller-oe1-huddle-table/>

## Community facilities

### *Commercial kitchen*

A commercial kitchen which can be used for catering for events in the hall or in the large meeting room should be easily accessible from the hall. This does not replace the café/community kitchen in the shared space. The kitchen may also be used for programming – programmes that encourage learning to cook home grown produce for young people – or people wanting to experiment with cooking new styles of cookery. A balance between a full catering kitchen and one that can cater for food to be brought in and kept hot or cold as needed. The kitchen will be a vital component if the complex is used as a civil defence centre in an emergency.

Space required is 20m<sup>2</sup>.

### *Toilets and showers*

If the building is to be used as a civil defence centre, there is a need for showers and more toilets additional to what has been allowed in the reclad of the town hall. We have allowed for 4 showers, and 2 additional toilets for both men and women as single sex facilities. An accessible unisex toilet, shower and changing space is also allowed for.

Space required is 64m<sup>2</sup>.

### *Storage*

Storage of 8m<sup>2</sup> for community or civil defence purposes has been allocated.

### *Potential facilities*

The other potential space required may be for a Trust office and store. Any other community facilities desired by the Trust would be additional to the 1160m<sup>2</sup>.

## Culture, art and exhibition

The concept for art and exhibits is that they will be throughout the building rather than one dedicated space. Making use of wall space, decorative pillars, or art as part of the furnishings brings the culture of the area into the interior and fabric of the building. Temporary exhibitions can be mounted in the welcome area or other appropriate parts of the building, e.g. displaying art of local school children within the children's space. The transition space between the town hall and the hub may be suitable for external art. Art can be introduced through specially designed carpets or in niche seating areas.

Exhibition space, Te Ara Ātea



Ashburton Civic Centre and Library

Tāwhaki, atrium stairway, Tūranga



Snuggle space combined with art, Te Ara Ātea



Seed pods, artwork, Ashburton Civic Centre and Library

## Site and landscape

It is important that any design takes account of the surrounding landscape. There have been calls for a play area for children, for accessible parking, and for the possibility of community gardens. The ability for library customers to spill out into the exterior on fine and sunny days is an advantage.

Outdoor play area, Ashburton Civic Centre and Library



Community garden, Te Patikitiki library, Highbury



## Space allocation

Following is a summary of the spatial requirements. It does not take account of the additional space needed for stairs and lifts should a two level building with a mezzanine be required. This would be additional space of between 150-200m<sup>2</sup>.

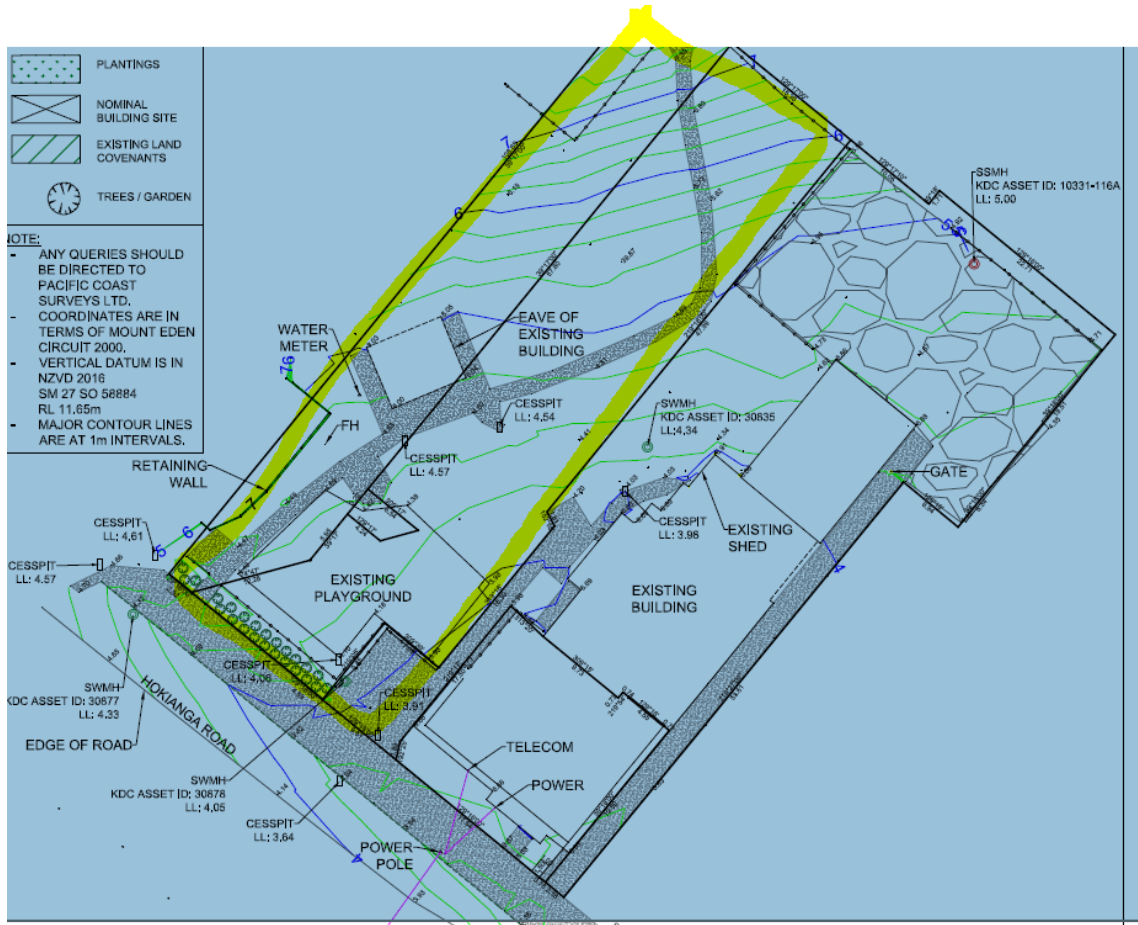
The space allocation has been checked against the State Library of New South Wales *People Places* calculator which indicates a building of 1174m<sup>2</sup> to serve the population of the Dargaville and surrounding area. The showers and toilets and commercial kitchen and store of 92m<sup>2</sup> are not included in the *People Places calculator* and are additional. We have endeavoured to bring the building within 1160m by reducing the amount of space allowed for seating from 91 to 70 and put more of the collections on 5 high shelving. This figure of 1160m<sup>2</sup> includes the 92m<sup>2</sup> for the community functions needed to support the Wairoa Memorial Hall. The service based calculator is attached as Appendix 5.

Function	Space	m <sup>2</sup>
	Lobby	30
	Welcome/customer service	55
Collections	Adult collections	195
	Magazines, nonbook, newspaper collections	33
	Heritage collections	13
Seating	Seating - including area for seniors, co-workers, heritage space	137
	Children's area (including seating and shelving)	95
	Youth space (including seating and shelving)	80
Digital	Digital hub: Public computers, copiers, printer	25
Creative	Creative Maker space	75
	Music studio	15
Activity/meeting	Activity/meeting room - large (sub dividable in 2)	75
	Small (1 x 10m <sup>2</sup> and 1 x 8m <sup>2</sup> )	18
	Medium	20
	Community kitchen	25
Staff	Work room	40
	Meeting room	12
	Break room	15
	Staff toilet	6
	Storage	20
Utilities	Public unisex toilets (2), Accessible (1)	14
	Parenting room	20
	Plant, communications, loading, cleaners' cupboard	50
Community	Commercial kitchen (to complement Hall)	20
	men's and women's showers (8 total) and 4 toilets	54
	Accessible toilet and shower and changing space	10
	Store	8
		<b>1160 m<sup>2</sup></b>



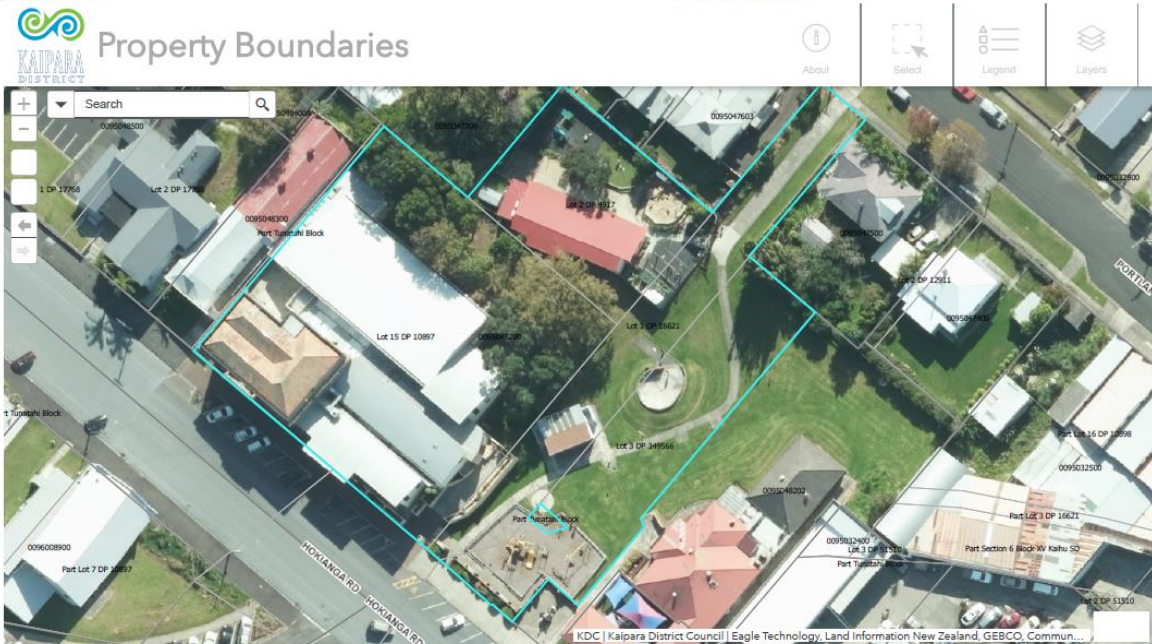
# Appendices

## Appendix 1: Hokianga Road site

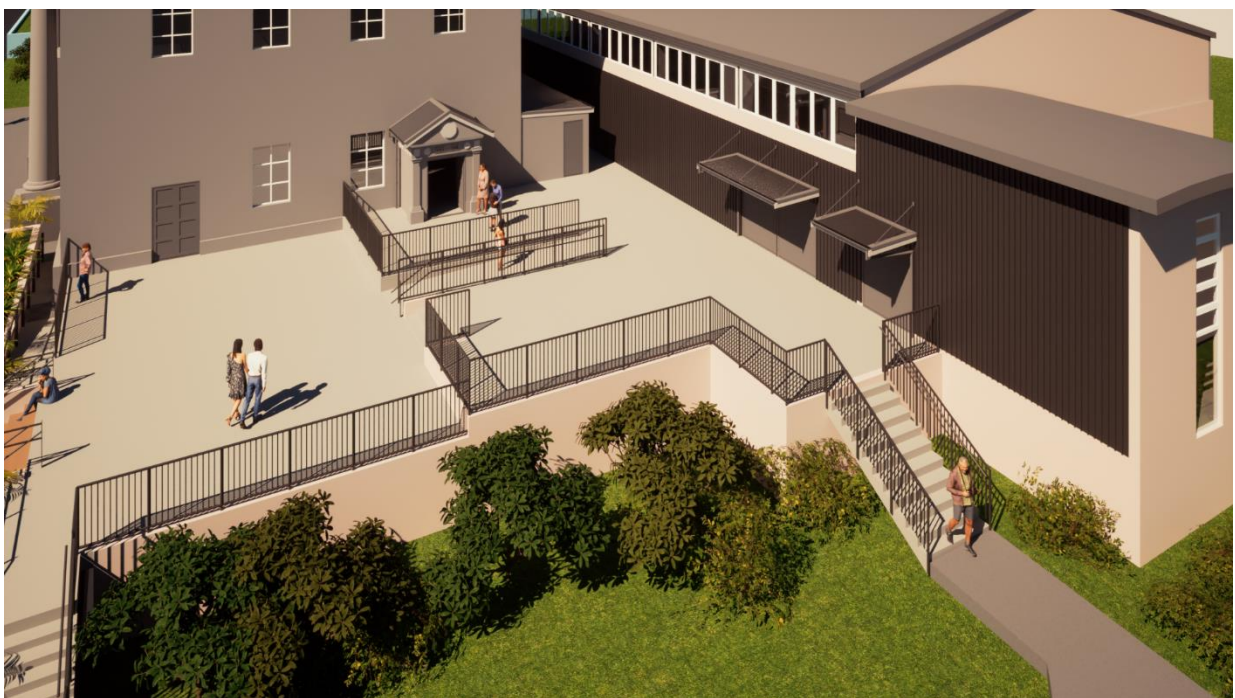


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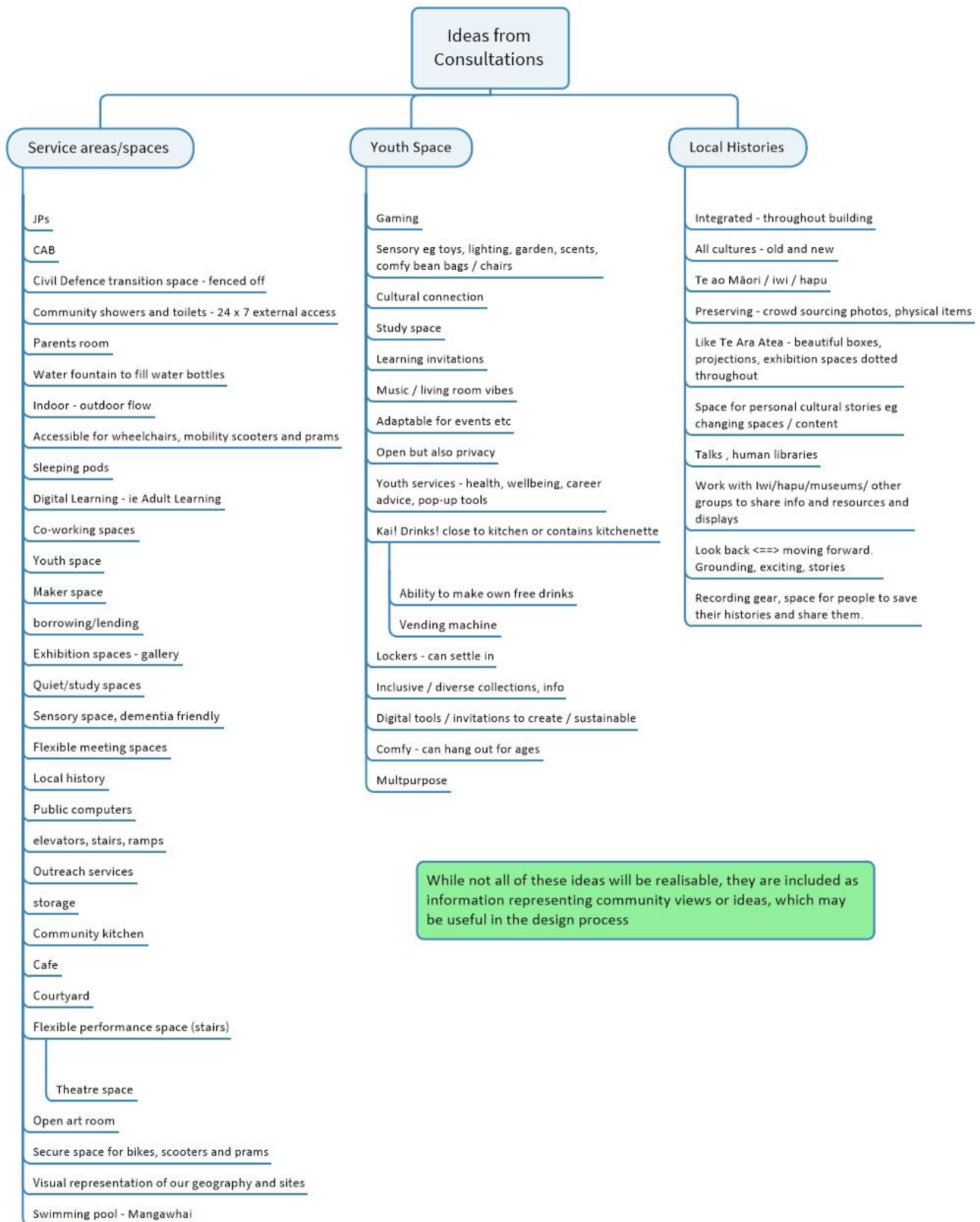
Property Boundaries



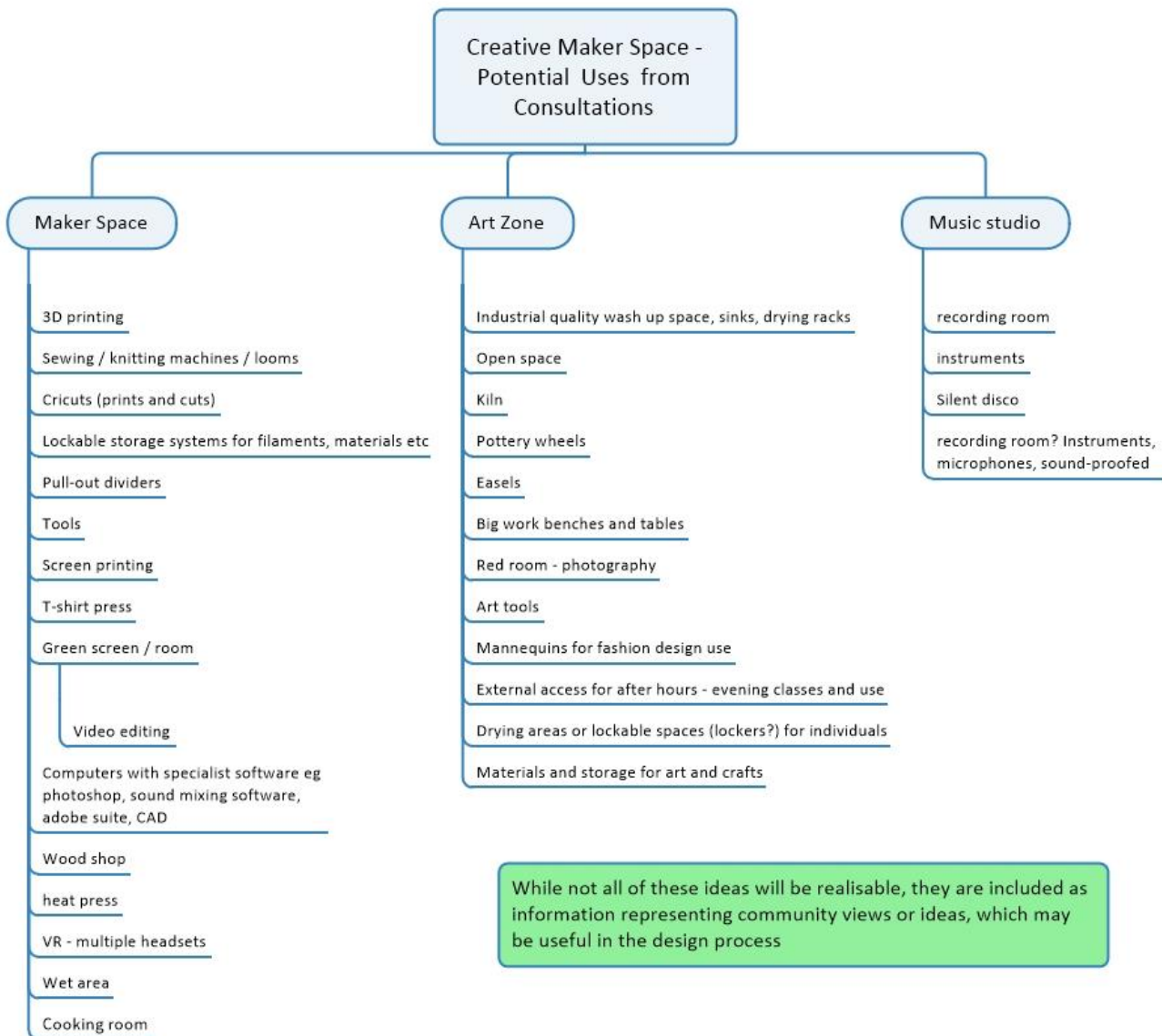
Appendix 2: Town Hall and surrounds after demolition



## Appendix 3: Ideas for the community hub from consultation



## Appendix 4: Ideas for the use of the creative maker space



## Appendix 5: People Places calculator

### Service Based Calculator

To start using the service based calculator, please enter the following values:

<b>Catchment Population</b>	13,700	<i>Please note, for populations of fewer than 2,750 persons we recommend a minimum gross floor area of 190sqm.</i>
<b>Collection Size</b>	24,500	
<b>% Books</b>	93%	
<b>% Periodicals</b>	4%	
<b>% Non-Print</b>	3%	
<b>% Virtual &amp; Digital</b>		

Base Area	% of Collection	No. of items	% out on loan	Adjusted no. of items	Items per sqm	Floor Area
<b>Collection size</b>	100%	24,500				
Books & vols on shelves	93%	22,785	30%	15950	70	228
Periodicals	4%	980	30%	686	10	69
Non-print material	3%	735	30%	515	100	5
Virtual & digital	0%	0	30%	0	0	0
<b>Collection floor area</b>						<b>302 sqm</b>

	No. of items	Sqm per item	Floor area
<b>Area for library computers &amp; personal devices</b>			
Catchment population	13,700		
Recommended public computers	4	5	20
Additional public computers		5	0
Personal devices (desk space)		5	0
Personal devices (lounge space)		3	0
Self check units	4	3	12
<b>Computers, tablets &amp; other devices floor area</b>			<b>32 sqm</b>

<b>Total base area</b>	<b>334 sqm</b>
------------------------	----------------

Reading, seating & study areas	Recommended seats	Desired seats
Seating based on population	90.5	91

	Percentage of total	Recommended values		Desired floor area
		Sqm per item	Floor Area	
seating as desks	10%	5	45 sqm	45 sqm
seating as lounges	70%	3	190 sqm	190 sqm
seating as group study	20%	1.8	33 sqm	33 sqm
	100%			268 sqm

<b>Total reading, seating &amp; study areas</b>	<b>268 sqm</b>
-------------------------------------------------	----------------

Other functional & service areas	Recommended floor area	Desired floor area
Service desk	15 sqm	15 sqm
Returns	17 sqm	17 sqm
Quick picks, display & information	23 sqm	23 sqm
Newspaper & magazine area	17 sqm	17 sqm
<b>Children/youth Areas</b>		
Children's story telling	23 sqm	23 sqm
Toy library	0 sqm	0 sqm
Young adult area	23 sqm	23 sqm
Games area/digital media space	23 sqm	23 sqm

<b>Specialist</b>		
Specialist genre collection	23 sqm	23 sqm
Local & family history room	23 sqm	23 sqm
Storage for archive/conservation	17 sqm	17 sqm
IT training room	23 sqm	23 sqm
<b>Staff</b>		
Staff work, lunch, lockers	33 sqm	33 sqm
Work area storage	17 sqm	17 sqm
Mobile library services area	0 sqm	0 sqm
Central & regional work area	0 sqm	0 sqm
<b>Amenities and ancillary</b>		
Foyer, lobby, corridors etc	23 sqm	23 sqm
Vertical circulation (lifts, lift lobby, stair	0 sqm	0 sqm
Toilets/restrooms, cleaners	17 sqm	17 sqm
Plant, equipment, maintenance	23 sqm	23 sqm
Server room	17 sqm	17 sqm
Photocopiers, digital equipment	17 sqm	17 sqm
Loading dock, garbage & store	23 sqm	23 sqm
Stack area	0 sqm	0 sqm
<b>Additional services (optional)</b>		
Café	0 sqm	25 sqm
Community services	0 sqm	0 sqm
Exhibition space	0 sqm	0 sqm
Community kitchen	0 sqm	20 sqm
<b>Total other functional &amp; service areas</b>		<b>357 sqm</b>

<b>Meeting Spaces (optional)</b>	<b>No. of rooms</b>	<b>No. of people</b>	<b>Area/Person</b>
Meeting room & storage	1	60	1.5
Small meeting rooms	2	4	2
Mid size meeting room	1	10	2
Makerspaces & associated storage	1	30	3
Multipurpose or training room			2

	<b>Recommended floor area</b>	<b>Desired floor area</b>
Meeting room & storage	90 sqm	90 sqm
Small meeting rooms	16 sqm	16 sqm
Mid size meeting room	20 sqm	20 sqm
Makerspaces & associated storage	90 sqm	90 sqm
Multipurpose or training room	0 sqm	0 sqm

**Total meeting spaces** **216 sqm**

**Total Gross Floor Area** **1,174 sqm**

## Appendix 6: New libraries in New Zealand

### *Te Ara Ātea, Rolleston, Selwyn District Council*

Size: 2200m<sup>2</sup> over two levels

Population served: 20,000 plus

This library opened in December 2021. It is described as a place of discovery, community gathering and sharing knowledge. Te Ara Ātea refers to “the unobstructed trail to the world and beyond”. The library contributes to the cultural well-being of all Selwyn residents by blending cultural narratives, contemporary public library experiences and collections, meeting rooms, performances spaces, workshops, digital resources, social spaces as well as accessible and significant arts.

During the first three months of opening, and despite the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, Te Ara Ātea saw significantly improved outcomes:

- 34,761 visitors, a 122.8% increase.
- 66,549 collection loans, an 83.4% increase.
- 96% surveyed satisfaction, up from 88%.
- 1645 new Selwyn Libraries members from across Selwyn District.
- 224 arts, culture, and lifelong learning programmes, attended by 2475 people.

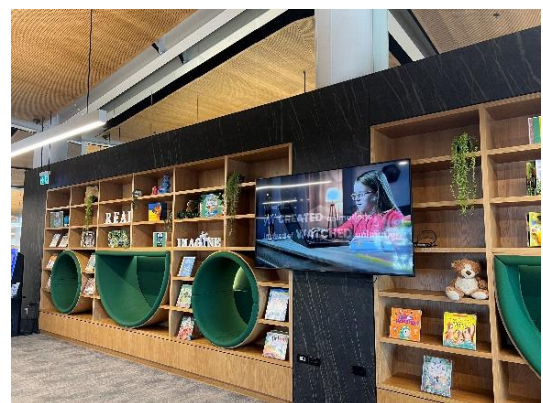


### *Te Kahu o Waipuna Library and Art Gallery, Blenheim, Marlborough District libraries*

Size: around 3000m<sup>2</sup> of which the library is just under 2000m<sup>2</sup>

Population served: ca 28,200

This two level building opened in mid May 2023 with its official opening on 30 June, when it was gifted its Māori name, Te Waka o Waipuna. The library had over 175,000 visitors in four months.



*Waitohi, Johnsonville, Wellington City Libraries*

Size: 1996m<sup>2</sup>

Population served: 33,100

The hub includes the library, Waitohi Kindergarten, Common Ground café, and Keith Spry Pool (which was existing and is additional to the 1996m<sup>2</sup>). The new parts of the build were 1996sqm interior and 554sqmm exterior. This includes a “link space” (the walkway through from the carpark to the main road). The collection is approximately 40,000 items.

There was a 100% increase (minimum) in issues and visitation, and in the first months a 500% increase in new registrations.



*Te Kete Aronui, Rotoruna, Hamilton City Libraries*

Size: 1600m<sup>2</sup>

Population served 16,210

This new library was opened in July 2023 in the northern suburbs of Hamilton City. As well as traditional library offerings, the space has a range of bookable meeting rooms, an Auaha Makerspace, fully accessible Changing Places bathroom and an on-site café called Chapter One. Users can access a range of Council services from the library, including general enquiries, rates payments and dog registrations.

The collection is approximately 40,000 items.

