

Frequently Asked Questions

	FAQ	Response
1	On the questionnaire, question 1 has a check-box answer for use of the library service that allows more than one answer to be selected. Yet question 2 starts “from that single use...” Won’t this cause confusion?	The questions have been tested on 214 library users and this did not appear to cause confusion. However we will keep this in mind, and review in the future
2	Aren’t we just cherry-picking good stories for marketing purposes?	This was a real concern for the TaF, which is why we spent so long looking at the existing research. The evidence has identified these impacts, so the quantitative questionnaire will identify how often these <i>known</i> impacts occur. This gives a context for the qualitative case studies, and for the activity data that is collected nationally. If an interview or case study finds a negative impact we wouldn’t select it for advocacy or marketing that is true – but we could use it for service development or “lessons learned”
3	Why is there no option for comments, or “other”. Isn’t it all a bit leading?	We spent lots of time debating this. A key request from library staff was for a short, practical questionnaire. Some libraries don’t collect impact evidence because they don’t have time to handle the responses. The questionnaire therefore doesn’t collect any free text. This is why we spent so long looking at the existing research. The evidence has identified these impacts (and no others that can’t be mapped to them), so the quantitative questionnaire will identify how often <i>known</i> impacts occur. This gives a context for the qualitative case studies, and for the activity data that is collected nationally.
4	How long should libraries wait for impacts to happen, and when should services send out the questionnaire?	Very much a local decision as it depends on the circumstances and the particular impact of interest. A recent study (Brettle et al 2016) sent out the first questionnaire immediately following the contact then a reminder 6 weeks later. We will explore

		more of the evidence about the impact of learning and development events, as there may be a need for additional tools or guidance for best practice (based on evidence and consensus)
5	Can libraries use their own questions or tools as well?	We have been quite rigorous in looking at the existing evidence and existing tools, and have striven to ensure that the data collected maps to the current evidence base regarding health library impact. In the past slightly different wording or outcome categories has made comparison between studies difficult. This has been compounded by small samples suggesting that the evidence base is weak. Using the questions as they stand will make comparison, and collation of data possible and allow us to develop the evidence base at a national level. Libraries can add more specific questions (or develop their own), but ideally these should be selected from existing tools (such as the others listed in the toolkit) to enable comparison to other studies and to help us build the evidence base at local and national levels.
6	How will the data from the core questions be collated?	Based on experience piloting the questionnaire we are currently looking at regional or patch collection of the quantitative data using a shared survey software account. The process will be tried in two areas (Kent, Surrey and Sussex and Yorkshire and Humber) Some individual libraries are also trying out the questionnaire locally. The TaF has some ideas about collecting and collating the data annually perhaps at the same time as annual statistics are collected.
7	How will the case studies be collated?	Case studies can be submitted by LKS at any point during the year using the submission form on the KfH Blog

8	What happens after they are submitted?	<p>You should receive a confirmation message from the blog stating that your case study has been submitted. After this the case studies are assessed by a panel made up of LKS staff from across the country who look at each case study against the checklist provided on the blog.</p> <p>If we are unable to accept the case study for any reason you will receive a message detailing the reasons for this.</p> <p>Successful case studies are uploaded to the public facing area of the blog and LKS leads notified of examples added from their regions.</p> <p>As case studies are generally assessed a monthly basis you should allow up to 10 weeks following submission before case studies appear on the blog.</p>
9	Will the interview record sheets be collated?	<p>No. They are for best practice really. The results could then be fed into case studies, which is what we need at national level for K4H. Ideally the in-depth interviews would be used in a robust research study so the results could be published. This research needs to continue to identify new impacts, or changes in what library clients' value.</p>
10	What will happen to the existing training impact survey?	<p>Library services using the training impact toolkit have been notified that is being switched off at the end of March 2017</p>
11	My library clients work in local government and their role isn't included in the list for question 5	<p>You could add locally relevant options locally. We did consider using "other" but this is best avoided as free text complicates the data crunching. The TaF will need to think through how to capture these other roles when data is merged</p>

12	Focus Groups – are there any plans to develop tools to capture impact from Focus Groups?	The Impact Interviews templates could be adapted to work for Focus Groups. If you decide to go down this route, please share with us any modified tools you create and your experiences too.
13	Will any further tools be made available to assist in capturing financial impact?	There is a forthcoming KfH TAF on Return on Investment, probably in 2018, which will look into this. The contact for this is Linda Ferguson.
14	Is any guidance available to help capture consent.	Yes. The Value and Impact TAF have produced a guidance document to assist with this.
15	How do I obtain consent to <u>record</u> impact interviews with colleagues?	The interview consent form has been updated (August 2017) to allow for the capture of consent specifically for recording of interviews.