



# Huddersfield Central Library

West Yorkshire

## Case Study



## Brief

Huddersfield Library, Kirklees Council's Central Library and Art Gallery, is a four-storey, Grade II listed building in the town centre.

The task was to transform the Lending department into a flexible space, within the limits of its listed status.

With a growing demand for open space in the building to hold events, but stifled by its fixed shelving throughout the space, we worked with Kirklees Libraries, specifying mobile bays that contrasted with the listed, fixed shelves around the perimeter.

## Solution

The result was a refreshed Lending Library that can now be used to hold one-off events, moving the shelving back to make use of the vast area on the ground floor of the building. The shelf signage makes it easier for customers to navigate their way around the large stock selection.

Contemporary, striking tones were chosen to give the library a lift, with an accent of orange on the new counter, which now accommodates the Tourist Information offer that was formerly in the foyer.

'Latitude' shelving is open-backed and lower than the 1960's wooden bays it replaced, giving the space a sense of openness and light. 'WOW' end panels and 'Elements' display units provide space for concise, forward facing book displays, drawing the eye of library visitors and the counter has become a single focal point, whilst not detracting from the self-service offer. A few months after the shelving installation, a ground-breaking Oasis Soft meeting pod was introduced to the lower ground floor, offering additional quiet space for both staff and users alike.





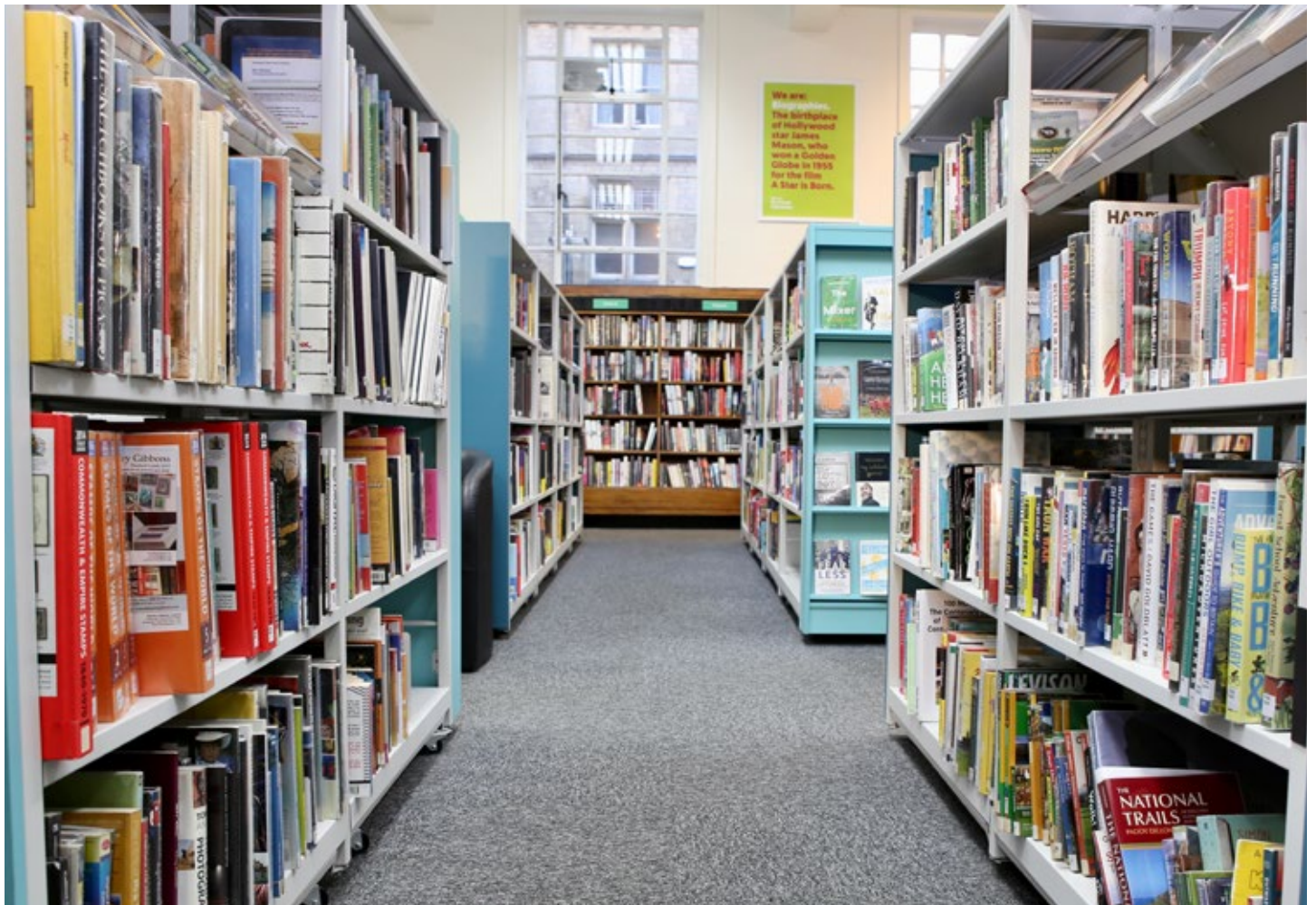
*'FG Library & Learning's ability to manufacture in-house means they have control over lead-times and product quality, which offers reassurance to libraries with regards to delivery, timescales and budget.'*

*I wouldn't hesitate in recommending FGLL if you're considering a library refurbishment, no matter what the size'*

**Georgina Barraclough, Kirklees Libraries**











*'FG Library & Learning have designed flexible library spaces for Kirklees for some years now, in both new and old buildings. They understand the specialised needs of libraries - in this case the project requirements within the context of a listed building - and provide expert advice and guidance.'*

*'The colour choices and shelving system in this project weren't something Kirklees would usually choose but FG Library & Learning's top-class design service and 3D visuals helped bring everything to life, resulting in a vibrant, stylish look.'*

**Georgina Barraclough, Kirklees Libraries**





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