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Our ref: AQW 28278/22-27

Date: 8 July 2025

Michelle McIlveen MLA  
Parliament Buildings  
Ballymiscaw, Stormont  
Belfast  
BT4 3XX

Dear Michelle,

**AQW 28278/22-27**

You recently submitted an Assembly Written Question AQW 28278/22-27 which included a request for information on (i) the number of hours each library is open per week; and (ii) a breakdown of which libraries offer an out of hours service.

As outlined in my response, due to the large amount of detail required to provide a thorough answer to this section, I have arranged for the summary of Libraries NI Opening Hours/Out of Hours Service to be placed in the Assembly Library.

Yours sincerely,



**Gordon Lyons MLA**  
**Minister for Communities**



## Annex A

**AQW 28278/22-27 – To ask the Minister for Communities to detail: (i) the number of hours each library is open per week; and (ii) a breakdown of which libraries offer an out of hours service.**

This issue is an operational matter for Libraries NI.

I have sought the requested information from the Chief Executive, who has advised me as follows:

*‘Opening hours per week of library branches in Northern Ireland are:*

<b>Branch</b>	<b>Opening Hours Per Week</b>
Antrim	45
Ardoyne	35
Armagh City	45
Ballycastle	35
Ballyclare	40
Ballyhackamore	40
Ballymena	50
Ballymoney	40
Ballynahinch	35
Banbridge	45
Bangor Carnegie	54
Belfast Central	54
Bessbrook	25
Broughshane	18
Brownlow	35
Carnlough	18
Carrickfergus	50
Carryduff	25
Castlederg	25
Castlewellan	25
Chichester	40
Cloughfern	18
Coalisland	35

<b>Branch</b>	<b>Opening Hours Per Week</b>
Greystone	28
Grove	40
Hollywood	40
Hollywood Arches	40
Irvinestown	28
Keady	30
Kells and Connor	18
Kilkeel	40
Killyleagh	18
Kilrea	18
Larne	40
Limavady	40
Lisburn City	54
Lisburn Road	40
Lisnaskea	30
Lurgan	50
Maghera	38
Magherafelt	45
Moirá	25
Newcastle	40
Newry City	50
Newtownards	40
Newtownbreda	40



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<b>Branch</b>	<b>Opening Hours Per Week</b>
Coleraine	50
Colin Glen	40
Comber	35
Cookstown	45
Cregagh	40
Creggan	28
Crossmaglen	18
Crumlin	18
Cushendall	18
Derry Central	54
Donaghadee	35
Downpatrick	45
Draperstown	18
Dromore	28
Dundonald	40
Dungannon	50
Dungiven	25
Enniskillen	50
Falls Road	40
Finaghy	50
Fintona	18
Fivemiletown	27
Garvagh	18
Glengormley	50
Greenisland	25

<b>Branch</b>	<b>Opening Hours Per Week</b>
Newtownstewart	18
Omagh	54
Ormeau Road	45
Portadown	45
Portaferry	18
Portglenone	18
Portrush	28
Portstewart	35
Randalstown	25
Rathcoole	35
Rathfriland	25
Richhill	18
Saintfield	25
Shankill Road	40
Shantallow	40
Strabane	45
Strathfoyle	28
Suffolk	40
Tandragee	25
Tullycarnet	25
Warrenpoint	40
Waterside	45
Whitehead	28
Whiterock	35
Woodstock	40

*Libraries with Out of Hours (OOH) Service:*

<b>Library</b>	<b>Additional Hours available per Week (Out of Hours)</b>
Banbridge	51
Dungiven	34
Irvinestown	36
Lisnaskea	35
Maghera	33
Omagh	33
Saintfield	38
Whitehead	34'



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For any future queries relating to operational matters, you may wish to contact Libraries NI directly. Making direct contact with the ALB will ensure that you receive the information in the shortest possible timeframe and make best use of public resources.