



A history of CoLRiC surveys

Since its inception in 1993 CoLRiC has conducted a range of surveys of library and learning resource services in Further Education and sixth form colleges.

- Annual Performance and Impact Indicators survey (PII)
- Sixth Form College survey
- General FE College survey

Results from all surveys are available to members in the CoLRiC Document Repository.

The findings have helped inform local practices and provided heads of service with invaluable evidence of trends over time.

We appreciate the time and energy our members have invested in this process over the years.

In February 2020 CoLRiC launched a new annual survey for members. It integrated previous surveys and was designed to inform operational and strategic planning. The revised questions were designed to reflect considerable change across the Further Education and sixth form college sector and comprised two questionnaires - one for staff and one for students.

‘Student responses to the survey show that customer care and support are excellent and demonstrate very clearly the value students place on LRC services.’

CoLRiC Executive Committee member Helen Crowther (Library Manager, Blackpool Sixth Form College) reflects on student feedback. ‘There were lots of good news stories we extracted from the survey data; a wealth of compliments students made about their library and learning resource services. They very much value learning resources and services and the support of library staff. There was also universal praise for outreach activities, collaboration with curriculum teams and college leadership, alongside our significant contribution to e-learning.’

Staff responses to the survey focused on the library and learning resources service contribution to curriculum development and integration and collaboration with College management and leadership teams.

An Executive Summary of the 2020 survey is published in the CoLRiC document repository.

Performance and Impact Indicators Survey (PII)

Our sixteenth annual Performance and Impact Indicators member survey in 2018 was the final one in this format. The indicators focused on the qualitative aspects of library and learning resource service performance covering five key areas:

- Service usage
- User satisfaction
- User-service interface
- Finding and using information
- Integration with curriculum delivery

Sixth Form College survey

The first CoLRiC survey of library and learning resource services in sixth form colleges was undertaken in 2006/07, the second in 2014/15, with a third and final survey in 2016/17. All sixth form college library and learning resource services were invited to complete the survey - CoLRiC members and non-members. It surveyed budgets, opening times, staffing, study spaces, facilities and services, resources, user education, virtual learning environments, technology and e-books.

General FE College survey

In 2016 following the success of the Sixth Form College survey it was decided to carry out a similar survey of library and learning resource services in general FE colleges. It surveyed similar areas and has also been integrated into the new CoLRiC survey.

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