

**Request:**

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information in respect of Wigan Library:

1. Is the library a member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)?
2. If so, please provide a list of any CILIP training, conferences or webinars that library staff have participated in.
3. Does the library use the Book 28 guide titled “Welcoming LGBTIQ+ users: advice for public library workers”?
4. Is the library a member of the Stonewall Diversity Champions scheme?
5. Please provide a list of any training in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion carried out by the library over the last 12 months.
6. What policies does the library employ when it comes to stocking and displaying controversial texts?
7. Does the library have policies or guidelines about decolonising their collections?
8. Does the library have policies or guidelines about how to treat texts that might be considered racist, sexist, homophobic or transphobic?
9. With respect to the breadth and diversity of the library collection, what consideration do you give to the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty, particularly the responsibility to “Advance equality of opportunity...and...Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not?”

**Response:**

1. No
2. Not applicable. No CILIP training, conferences or webinars.
3. No
4. No
5. In the last 12 months, all members of staff have undertaken Wigan Council’s mandatory Equality and Diversity training course.
6. Material that is defined by UK legislation as obscene or blasphemous, or which incites religious or political hatred, cannot be stocked or displayed. The library service/our stock suppliers does not knowingly purchase such material and if any item becomes subject to legal proceedings it will be removed. We will not add, or remove, any item from our shelves solely at the request of an individual or group
7. No
8. Public libraries are an integral part of any community, and their collections should reflect the ideas and views of that community. In doing this the service will stock/display items which some individuals find challenging and controversial. Material that is defined by UK legislation as obscene or blasphemous, or which incites religious or political hatred, cannot be stocked or displayed.
9. We review our collection to ensure that it is representative of our communities, including consideration of protected characteristics. Libraries stock/collections are purchased through Supplier Selection process. Our stock supplier’s core range is created from lots of national, regional and local publishers and is as broad as possible. Aside from this core range, any book that has had its ISBN registered on Nielsen Book Data can be found on our supplier’s website in the non-core and any library can order these. We do not have any stock management processes that specify we would remove or censor any type of literature.