

Alex Lea – Bath Deserves Better

Bath Central Library is like a second home to me. Everyone is welcome in the library, wherever we come from and regardless of whether we have any money in our pockets. We can pull up a chair or grab a beanbag and spend as long as we like reading, studying, working or just sheltering from the outside world. There are books to browse and books to borrow, books to learn from and books that put a great big smile on our face.

Libraries aren't just about books, of course, but also about community space. The events run by our librarians at Bath Central Library are incredible. They breathe life into the library and bring new people in through the doors, making the library a home for people as much as books.

Think of all the possibilities that our library can offer us with all that information, entertainment and knowledge available to everyone for free. How many people's lives have been changed for the better by libraries? I know mine has been. Councils are required by law to provide libraries because they add so much value to our lives.

Please don't make this just a cost cutting exercise. Work with us to make Bath Central Library an exceptional community space. Let's learn from amazing libraries around the UK to make our library even better and even more of a community hub than it already is. Let's get maximum benefit for the budget you have. Libraries have a profound effect on people's lives and they make us better people. We need them.