



Empowering Learners Through Libraries

The FOYLE Approach

COLICO Meeting Dublin
4 November 2004



Outline

- **INSPIRE**
- **Origins of FOYLE**
- **Current activities**
- **Future activities**
- **Conclusion**



INSPIRE

Aims to provide a seamless cross-sectoral pathway for learning by adults across public, academic and national libraries.



Objectives

- Develop a cross-regional library access map for adult learners
- Build on existing networks of successful access partnerships into a single access route irrespective of geography
- Provide adult learners with access to the most appropriate learning materials irrespective of their formal learner status



Objectives

- Provide opportunities and access for socially excluded individuals and groups
- Guide learners to libraries with collections and materials relevant to their needs



Objectives

- Set the pace for fulfilling key aspects of the Framework for the Future 2013 vision:
 - Any member of a public library can also access materials held in HE and FE libraries
 - Anyone seeking opportunities for learning and training can be guided to a course through a public library



Objectives

- Develop the library and information workforce by raising awareness of access agreements and collections
- Streamline information about access rights and responsibilities in a sustainable format for future development



INSPIRE context

- Empowering the Learning Community
- WILIP/Routes to Knowledge
- People Flows: restoring the balance
- Reaching the Regions
- Government White Paper on the Future of Higher Education



Shared focus

- Lifelong learning
- Widening participation
- Social inclusion



FOYLE

- Altnagelvin Trust
- North West Institute of Further and Higher Education
- Western Education and Library Board
- University of Ulster Magee Campus

Altnagelvin Trust



North West Institute



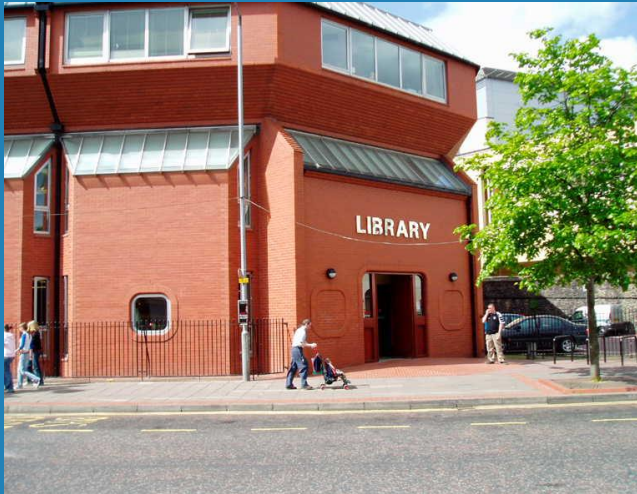
NORTH WEST INSTITUTE
OF FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION



University of Ulster Magee Campus



WELB Derry City Library





FOYLE offers

- Managed access to printed resources totalling over 150,000 items to a population of about 100,000 in the Derry city area
- Limited borrowing from 3 of the library services



FOYLE activities

- Acquired knowledge of each others collections and access practices
- Staff involved getting to know each other
- Organised managed access arrangements



Activities

- Moved on to considering lending
- Identified two areas for immediate collaboration:
 - Health information
 - Local studies
- Official launch
2nd September 2004



Feedback on the scheme to date

- Very favourably received by the local community
- Uptake has not been huge but significant
- Have modified some of our initial operating arrangements



Future activities

- Enlarge membership of group
- Organise and deliver joint training
- Obtain funding to undertake new developments



Conclusions

- Worthwhile activity
- Don't underestimate the amount of work involved
- Provide good documentation to potential audience and library staff
- All involved must take "can do" approach



Reference

- INSPIRE England: project report, August 2004 by Yvonne Hamblin
- Online version at :
http://www.inspire.gov.uk/ppp/Inspire_Eng_FR_Aug_04.pdf