

M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries Strategy 2016 to 2019



Introduction

The aim of the Strategy 2016 to 2019 is to articulate and develop the role of the M25 Consortium as a major regional UK Consortium working for the benefit of its members in a rapidly changing information landscape. Where collaboration and partnerships will enable the development of customer focused services, both within and between higher education and other scholarly libraries.

The Strategy has been prepared by the Consortium's Steering Group and is presented to the 2016 AGM for consideration and approval. It will be implemented through a series of annual action plans.

Themes and enablers

The Consortium's Mission and Strategy are encapsulated in two key strategic themes and three enabling strands, which will encompass the Consortium's activities between 2016 and 2019.

The strategic themes are:

- Working together
- Inspiring our staff

The enabling strands are:

- Effective communication
- Influencing through partnerships
- Sustainable infrastructure

Vision

To enhance collaborative expertise in and around the M25 to inspire our members to deliver transformational change in order to offer the best possible services supporting academic and scholarly endeavour

Mission

The Consortium will play a significant role in ensuring that academic library services within our region are well placed to maximise the opportunities of the present and respond to the challenges of the future

Strategic themes

Working together

Our aim is to develop shared services where the M25 Consortium is best placed to do so and can make a tangible difference.

- Information discovery
- Business continuity
- New projects

Inspiring our staff

Our aim is to provide a range of opportunities to maximise the potential of our staff by:

- Fostering the development and aspirations of Library Directors, Assistant Directors and senior library managers (including mentoring, buddying, networking opportunities)
- Delivering a professional development programme to all levels of staff, that is both responsive to the needs and anticipates the future challenges of our members
- Developing tools and opportunities for knowledge exchange and sharing

Enabling Strands

Effective communication

To engage members and raise awareness of benefits by using effective and appropriate communication

- Effective communication tools such as website, mailing lists, social media
- Marketing plan

Influencing through partnerships

To embrace opportunities to work in partnership

- Engage with other organisations and bodies (e.g. SCONUL, other regional consortia) to pilot initiatives and to increase weight of influence
- Develop a discourse with external organisations and bodies on behalf of our members (e.g. Jisc, publishers and suppliers)
- Support members through a targeted advocacy role

Sustainable infrastructure

To ensure the Consortium is well managed

- A Steering Group that provides leadership for the Consortium, ensures value for money for members and that meets the requirements of good governance (audit, financial and statutory)
- An efficient, effective and engaged support team

Implementation and monitoring

The Steering Group will publish an annual action plan after the next meeting following the AGM.

The Steering Group will monitor progress against agreed activities and formally report back to the membership via the Annual Report and AGM.

Items for the 2016-2017 Action Plan are likely to include:

- Development of an expertise database
 - Refresh of the Access and Borrowing scheme
 - Design/refresh of the website
 - Future of Search25
 - Briefing events for Directors/Associate Directors
 - Ongoing delivery of the cpd25 programme
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