Survey of National Library Spaces and Services

Following on from CENL’s 2017 AGM[[1]](#footnote-1) and the keynote presentations, as well as the breakout session devoted to collection management, members concluded that a survey of library spaces, and the use of digital content within, would be beneficial to all. Data gathered by the CENL Secretariat will be used for analysis and to further discussion in the coming months with all CENL members. The full results of the survey are intended to be presented at CENL’s 2018 AGM.

All over the world we have seen the creation of new libraries during recent years, including new national library buildings that have been inaugurated or redesigned in Europe. The role of libraries and national libraries is changing and is in permanent transition. This process of transformation caused by the digital revolution and by changes within the economic and political environment has impacted library spaces, staffing and library services. To understand and to meet future needs of national libraries this survey aims to collect and analyse fundamental changes within national library spaces which have occurred over the last ten years.

The survey is structured in six chapters determined by the themes that were discussed during the 2017 AGM breakout session:

• The role of national libraries in collection management is changing – this affects library spaces

• National libraries are transforming from solely heritage institutions to also being leaders in digitisation

• Previously the role of digitisation was for preservation, but now there are new uses for our collections which include the combination of digital and heritage – how is this explored within national libraries?

• Staff development is key to the transformation of libraries – staff need to be integrated in the end to end process of digitisation and using that digital content, perhaps in physical and virtual exhibitions

• Skills and standards for digital content are needed for clarity of activity for researchers

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Answer |
| **Name of national library in full (in your own language and in anglicised form):** | Koninklijke Bibliotheek  National Library of the Netherlands |
| **Name of Director General with official title:** | Lily Knibbeler, Director General |
| **Main library address:** | P.O. Box 90407  2509 LK The Hague  The Netherlands |
| **Current logo as a .jpg:** | Netherlands |
| **Contact name, email and telephone for this survey:** | Lily Knibbeler  lily.knibbeler(at)kb.nl  +31 70 31 40 497 |

# Instructions

The CENL Secretariat has pre-completed as much information as possible within this survey. Please check the information already provided and augment or correct this as necessary. Where no information is yet provided, please supply answers in full. Do contact [cenl@bl.uk](mailto:cenl@bl.uk) with any difficulties.

# Chapter I: Scope and core functions of your national library

1. Please check all that apply.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| X | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ | ⭘ |
| National Library | University Library | Public Library | Research Library / Research Centre | National Archives | Legal deposit centre | Preservation centre | Museum | Other |

If other please specify:

1. Are you the only library with a national remit in your country? If no (eg. there is also a National Technical Library) please specify.

YES

1. What is the legal status of your library?

ZBO Zelfstandig Bestuursorgaan [Independent Governing Body]

1. **Which ministry oversees your library?**

Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

# Chapter II: Physical spaces

1. Do you have multiple library sites? If so, please provide address details of all library buildings, including storage.

NO

1. Please provide a brief summary of all functions contained within the national library.

In 2017

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| X | X | X | X | X |  | ⭘ | X | ⭘ | ⭘ |
| Reading Rooms | Lounge | Exhibition space | Conference Centre | Conservation Studio | Gallery | Concert Hall | Café / Restaurant | Commercial space / shop | Other |

If other please specify:

1. Please provide the total square meterage for each of the following functions within your library:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5.500 M2 | M2 | 280 M2 | 1780 M2 | 200 M2 | M2 | M2 | 570 M2 | M2 | M2 |
| Reading Rooms | Lounge | Exhibition space | Conference Centre | Conservation Studio | Gallery | Concert Hall | Café / Restaurant | Commercial space / shop | Other |

If other please specify:

1. What is the total size of all library buildings in square metres (includes storage areas)?

2017: 63.000

1. What is the size of library buildings open to the public in square metres?

2017: 14.000

1. Please provide .jpg images of your main public building(s) exterior



Exterior –

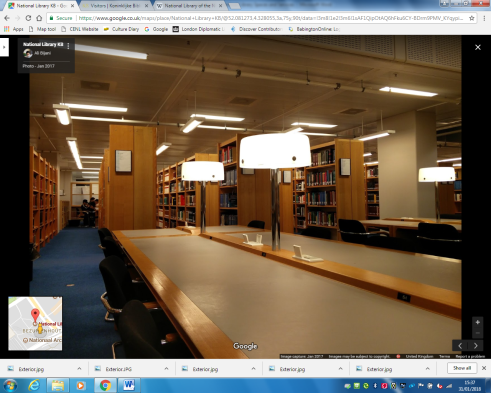
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Library_of_the_Netherlands>

https://www.kb.nl/organisatie/promotie-en-persmateriaal/fotos-kb-gebouw

1. If available, please provide .jpg images of all library sites described in question 5.

Answer

1. If available, please provide .jpg images of all library spaces described in question 6.

Reading Room –

[https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/National+Library+KB/](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/National+Library+KB/@52.081273,4.3280178,13a,54.2y/data=!3m8!1e2!3m6!1sAF1QipOtAQ6hFku6CY-BDrm9PMV_KYqypihpYC1DQvbr!2e10!3e12!6shttps:%2F%2Flh5.googleusercontent.com%2Fp%2FAF1QipOtAQ6hFku6CY-BDrm9PMV_KYqypihpYC1DQvbr%3Dw203-h152-k-no!7i4160!8i3120!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x2175c0085e28473b!8m2!3d52.0818543!4d4.327538)

1. Please provide simplified plans of your buildings, if possible in .jpg format (perhaps those used to guide visitors around your building).

https://www.kb.nl/en/visitors/address-and-directions

1. Please provide brief details on the history of your library buildings.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Answer |
| **Year (first) library building opened** | 1798 |
| **Architect of (first) library building** |  |
| **Year (current) library building opened** | 1982 |
| **Architect of (current) library building** | Arie Hagoort |
| **Any additional information. Eg length of build/cost of build/reason for build** | The KB building has a net floor area of ​​80,000 m2, of which 63.000 is in use by the KB: 34,000 m2 for the library (public areas and offices) and 29,000 m2 for storage. In addition to the KB, the Literary Museum / Children's Book Museum, the RKD Netherlands Institute for Art History and various larger and smaller institutions have their address here. |

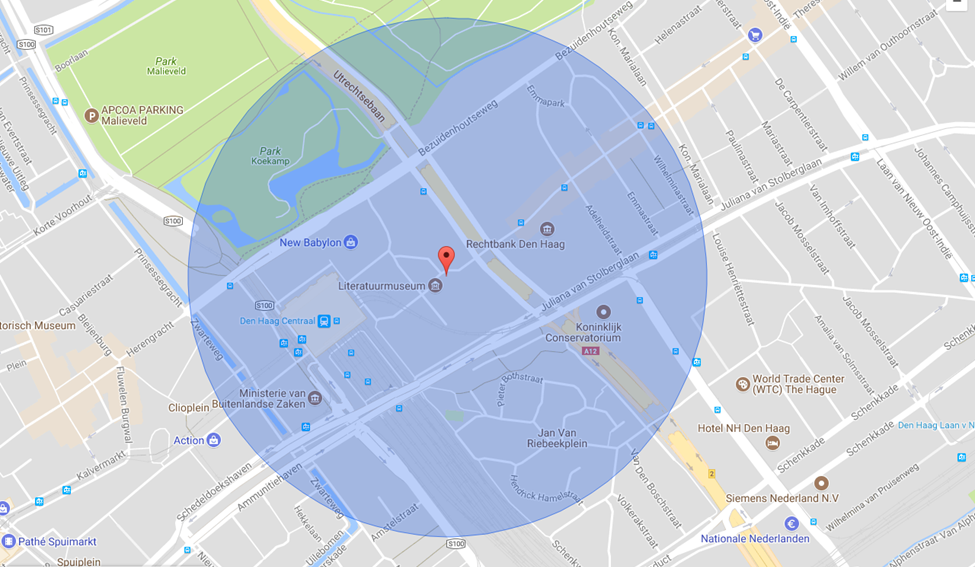
1. If available, please provide a short text on the milestones of the history of your library and/or provide a link to this information online. Please include any bibliographic information about publications about your library and links to these publications in your library catalogue or an aggregated catalogue.

# Chapter III: Location and Urban Spaces

1. Please describe the location of your national library buildings (eg. main building in capital city with close proximity to universities, storage buildings in rural area, located two hours by train from building in capital).

Next to The Hague Central Station, adjacent to the National Archives, close to several ministries, locations from University Leyden

1. CENL has provided a map of your headquarter location at the centre of a 500m radius – taken as a screenshot from Google maps. If this is not the correct location of your library building, please supply an alternative screen shot.



1. Please provide details of major governmental, cultural or significant institutions within this vicinity (within a 500m radius).

**See 15**

1. Please describe all the transport options for reaching each of your library buildings open to researchers and the public.

Trains, trams, busses from every Dutch location can reach the KB

# Chapter IV: Reading Rooms, collections and other interior library spaces

1. What is the total number of seats in all your reading rooms across all sites?

450

1. What is the total square meterage of all your reading rooms across all sites?

5.500

1. Please list your reading rooms (type, large, by collection) and individual capacity

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Reading Room Name | Collection type | Individual room seat capacity | Individual room square metres |
| General |  | 425 | 5.300 |
| Special Collections |  | 25 | 200 |
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1. Do users register to use your Reading Rooms? If so, how?

**NO**

1. Do users pay to use your Reading Rooms? If so, how much?

**NO**

1. How are your collections accessed within the Reading Rooms? Is collection material open access or called to order? Please describe.

**Most is from closed stacks and needs to be ordered (online).**

1. What is the average number of visits per day to your Reading Rooms?

400

1. What is the average number of visits per day to your library?

400

# Chapter V: Staffing

1. What is the number of staff employed by the library in total ?

2017: 415

1. What is the number of staff employed by the library in FTE ?

2017:

1. The keynote presentation may be accessed via <http://www.cenl.org/members/cenl-annual-general-meeting-2017-15-16-may-british-library-london/nggallery/page/1> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)