



*In this edition of Qpredict newsletter:*

- How can Qpredict help you?
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- Enhancements to Qpredict
- The big library debate

## introduction

Since its launch in November 2010, Qpredict has captured the imagination and significant interest of numerous Councils and Library Services across the UK. A growing number of Councils are now benefiting from the highly flexible, accurate and easy to use website-based modelling tool for strategic, tactical and straight forward management planning purposes on a week to week basis. Many regional Council Library Services are taking advantage of the generous regional first year discount making Qpredict even more cost effective.

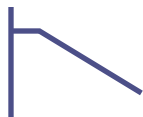
By Summer 2011 Qpredict customers will be benefiting from further enhancements including CSV data capture and manipulation, enabling the use of graphical reporting via Microsoft Excel for those who need it.

Following demonstrations of Qpredict at several recent regional SCL meetings the number of Council Library Services taking Qpredict on-board continues to grow making the potential for regional or national benchmarking a real possibility.

Don't forget if you are still undecided about subscribing to Qpredict and want to see the model in action, a free no obligation on-site or remote Web demonstration is only a phone call away.

## designed to make life easier for decision makers

What's the impact of reducing opening hours?



How many more or less staff do I need if I add or remove services?



What's the impact of introducing more community based services?



How can I quickly find out what capacity I have available?



How can I remodel my organisation quickly and effectively?



Qpredict, designed with libraries in mind, is a unique, intuitive, web-based application, helping you to quickly and accurately determine the impact of changes to your organisation with regards to staffing and other costs. It allows you to model various "what-ifs" and compare different tactical and/or strategic scenarios across multiple locations including tasks, times and volumes.

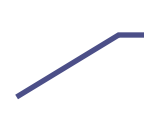
The application provides invaluable management and planning information when wanting to create multiple scenarios to determine the most effective way of working by establishing:

- ▶ how resources are being used now
- ▶ how resources can be better utilised
- ▶ levels of capacity and/or performance
- ▶ the impact of any changes
- ▶ any changes to budget
- ▶ evidential proof for any business case
- ▶ benefits realised post implementation

This effective tool will provide a robust evidence base, by which to communicate the change with staff, unions and finance.

It's a fact of life, especially in today's economic climate and operating within the public sector, that change will always be an issue. Reduce the need for debate and uncertainty by using a proven model to help determine the best outcomes for your organisation.

What budget saving will I make if I merge libraries?



How many staff will I need if I use more volunteers?



Finance want me to reduce my budget by 15%. How can I do that?



How do I justify my plans for change to management, staff and unions?



How can I measure performance easily and reliably?





*Qpredict is a web-based application so you don't need to install hardware software or have to rely on IT for support*

### FAQ:

How do I increase the hours for this branch and reduce the staff level?

#### Answer:

The base scenario confirms the number of staff at each branch is correct for the volume of work.

Amending the opening hours can very quickly confirm whether an increase or decrease in staff is required.

Creating a remodelling rule to show the impact of implementing self-service can demonstrate that extra opening hours could be managed with fewer staff.

The whole remodelling exercise can take less than 2 minutes and provides fully documented evidence that verifies the calculations.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.qpredict.com](http://www.qpredict.com)



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## councils sign up to Qpredict



Three Black-Country authorities purchased Qpredict last year and are using it to assist with some of the difficult budgetary decisions that now have to be made. Current customers include Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council, Sandwell Council Warwickshire County Council and Wolverhampton City.

Recently joining these Councils are Birmingham City, Wigan, Cheshire West and Chester and Essex County.

## Qpredict v2 enhancements

Version 2 of Qpredict is due for release this summer. The new version will see the introduction of a number of enhancements and functionality including:

- improved user experience
- backup and restore facility
- improved data entry
- enhanced reports
- full scenario management
- audit trails



## the big library debate

Central Bedfordshire Council are currently consulting with residents and encouraging them to take part in their 'Big Library Debate' which will help to shape the future of their service, making sure it meets the needs of future generations and that it offers best value for money.

As a Council they take the view that libraries are always at the heart of local communities and provide an invaluable gateway to information, learning, resources and socialising for all ages. They want to make sure that the service is appropriate for modern day living, is making the most of new technologies and want to ensure access for everyone.

Central Bedfordshire is asking residents about their views on libraries and the service they provide and how they would like to see them change. This could be in relation to the services they would like to see provided, how they can be run more efficiently or coming up with innovative ways of harnessing their full potential.

With other Councils going through similar processes, Library Services across the country will be reviewing their options as to how they could model their own services in the future. Qpredict can provide vital management information to assess the options available and help to determine the right way forward.