

FRIENDS OF PORTADOWN LIBRARY

To:

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Copies to Chief Librarian S.E.L.B and Portadown Librarian

6 December 2007

Dear Sirs,

I write in connection with the public consultation meeting to be held next Tuesday evening 11th December at the S.E L.B. Headquarters in the Mall, Armagh. As Chair of the Friends of Portadown Library I would have wished to take part, but unfortunately I have a prior engagement.

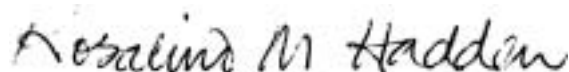
The Friends of Portadown Library have been in existence for several years. We have run, and are planning for the future, a number of events designed to support the excellent cross-community services which our Library provides.

We are an independent voluntary body of enthusiasts for libraries and books. We aim to help the Library staff attract users, with unusual events offering some social stimulus - for example, from our recent programme, a gardeners' advice session, a professional antiques valuation, short morning workshops for children, a gala literary evening focusing on three famous poets with local connections, and a pre-Christmas entertainment with the latest Bard of Armagh. In all these of course we depend very much on any accommodation and staffing help which the Library itself can offer.

We believe that books and reading - and nowadays also computer communication - are of essential and inestimable value in our community, both now and for the future. We should be most unhappy to hear of budget reductions which would impose further financial constraints in an environment which is already so very tight for funds.

Were I present I should speak most strongly on the Library Services' behalf.

Yours sincerely,



Miss K.M.Hadden M.A.