

Funder: Arts Council England

Reference: INV-00786891

Title: The role of the Public Library in Combating Misinformation and Disinformation: a Review

Data Dictionary Overview

This document provides a data dictionary for the following deposited dataset:

1. Questionnaire data for 372* public library staff in England. The Questionnaire consisted of five sections: respondent (library staff) demographics; members of the public that respondents (library) staff interact with; respondent (library staff) mis/disinformation practices; respondent (library staff) mis/disinformation capacity and challenges; and respondent (library staff) mis/disinformation perspectives.

*Note. Whilst 375 consented, 372 completed.

1. Data dictionary: questionnaire

File reference: ACE MIDI dataset (provided in csv, xlsx, and spss formats).

This data was obtained via questionnaire.

Label	Description
Q1	Consent to take part in study. I consent I do not consent
Q2	What is your main public library role (please select one)? Head of Service Senior management Library manager Principal Librarian Librarian Library Assistant Other (please specify)
Q3	How long have you worked in public libraries? 0-5 years 6-10 years 11+ years
Q4	What is your geographical location (i.e., main work location/user catchment)? Urban Rural Mobile

Q5	<p>What is your highest level of educational qualification?</p> <p>School FE College University Undergraduate University Postgraduate</p>
Q6	<p>Are you a member of the Chartered Institute of Information Professionals?</p> <p>No Student Member Standard Member ACLIP Member MCLIP Member FCLIP Member</p>
Q7	<p>Have you had any mis/disinformation specific training?</p> <p>No Not Sure Yes</p>
Q8	<p>Please (if answered yes to Q7) could you provide some details of the mis/disinformation training that you have had (provider, type/content).</p> <p>[open question]</p>
Q9	<p>In your library role, is there any one group of users/members that you mostly interact with (e.g., children or adults)?</p> <p>No Yes</p>
Q10	<p>Please (if you answered yes to Q9) could you indicate the approximate age of the users/members that you mostly interact with.</p> <p>15 years or under 16-64 years 65 years and over Not Sure</p>
Q11	<p>Please (if you answered yes to question 9) could you indicate the approximate household social classification of the users/members that you mostly interact with (note. this is a general estimate for either the user/member or their household):</p> <p>High income household, senior professional (AB) Middle income household, professional (C1) or skilled manual occupations Low income household, unskilled (DE) manual occupations or unemployed Not Sure</p>
Q12	<p>What is your main form of interaction with library users/members?</p> <p>Enquiries desk Issues Desk Library Groups/Activities IT Support Other (please specify)</p>

Q13	<p>Does your library provide mis/disinformation guidelines and/or resources for the users/members that you interact with?</p> <p>No Not Sure Yes</p>
Q14	<p>Please (if answered yes to question 13) could you provide some details of the mis/disinformation guidelines and/or resources that are provided for your users/members.</p> <p>[open question]</p>
Q15	<p>Does your library have any partnerships or collaborations with other organisations to address mis/disinformation for your users/members?</p> <p>No Not Sure Yes</p>
Q16	<p>Please (if answered yes to Q15) could you provide some details (e.g.,organisation, type of partnership/collaboration).</p> <p>[open question]</p>
Q17	<p>In your library role, how often are you involved in activities to develop general media and information literacy skills in users/members for them to be able to independently identify mis/disinformation and reduce their individual susceptibility (i.e., boosting type activities)?</p> <p>1 never 2 rarely (yearly) 3 sometimes (monthly) 4 quite often (weekly) 5 very often (daily)</p>
Q18	<p>In your library role, how often are you involved in activities encouraging users/members to evaluate the accuracy of specific facts/information, and in relation, to behave responsibly with mis/disinformation (i.e., nudging type activities)?</p> <p>1 never 2 rarely (yearly) 3 sometimes (monthly) 4 quite often (weekly) 5 very often (daily)</p>
Q19	<p>In your library role, how often are you involved in activities correcting specific mis/disinformation (i.e., debunking type activities)?</p> <p>1 never 2 rarely (yearly) 3 sometimes (monthly) 4 quite often (weekly) 5 very often (daily)</p>
Q20	<p>In your library role, how often are you involved in restricting or removing access to mis/disinformation (i.e., regulatory type activities such as setting filters and/or removing items/material)?</p> <p>1 never 2 rarely (yearly) 3 sometimes (monthly)</p>

	<p>4 quite often (weekly) 5 very often (daily)</p>
Q21	<p>Could you share details of any practices within your library that you think have been particularly successful in addressing mis/disinformation in your community? [open question]</p>
Q22	<p>In my library work, I have sufficient time to address mis/disinformation.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q23	<p>In my library work, I have sufficient skills and training to address mis/disinformation.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q24	<p>In my library work, I have sufficient resources to address mis/disinformation.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q25	<p>In my library work, I have sufficient expertise and/or general knowledge to address a broad range of mis/disinformation topics.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q26	<p>In my library work, I have sufficient understanding of appropriate and effective methods of user/member engagement to address mis/disinformation.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q27	<p>In my library work, I have no concerns that my actions might be met with adverse user/member response when addressing mis/disinformation issues.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree</p>

	5 strongly agree
Q28	<p>In my library work, I have no concerns that false accusations (e.g., of bias) might be made against me by users/members or others when addressing mis/disinformation issues.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q29	<p>In my library work, I have no concern that my actions might be considered censorship when addressing mis/disinformation issues.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q30	<p>In my library work, I understand the limits of my role and have no concerns regarding library neutrality when addressing mis/disinformation issues.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q31	<p>In my library work, I have sufficient operational guidance that I can draw on to guide my mis/disinformation actions/decisions.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q32	<p>In my library work, I feel that I am successfully addressing mis/disinformation in my community.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree 4 agree 5 strongly agree</p>
Q33	<p>Are there any other mis/disinformation challenges that you encounter in your work not covered above (if so, please provide details)?</p> <p>[open question]</p>
Q34	<p>Mis/disinformation is a problem of functional media and information literacy skills (people's ability to access and use information).</p> <p>1 strongly disagree 2 disagree 3 neither agree nor disagree</p>

	<p>4 agree</p> <p>5 strongly agree</p>
Q35	<p>Mis/disinformation is a problem of critical media and information literacy skills (people's ability to critique information).</p> <p>1 strongly disagree</p> <p>2 disagree</p> <p>3 neither agree nor disagree</p> <p>4 agree</p> <p>5 strongly agree</p>
Q36	<p>Mis/disinformation is a problem of attitude/disposition (people's inclinations and behaviours).</p> <p>1 strongly disagree</p> <p>2 disagree</p> <p>3 neither agree nor disagree</p> <p>4 agree</p> <p>5 strongly agree</p>
Q37	<p>Public libraries should remain neutral when addressing mis/disinformation.</p> <p>1 strongly disagree</p> <p>2 disagree</p> <p>3 neither agree nor disagree</p> <p>4 agree</p> <p>5 strongly agree</p>
Q38	<p>In general, do you believe that public libraries should have a passive (non-intervention) or active (intervention) role in addressing mis/disinformation?</p> <p>Passive (non-intervention) Role</p> <p>Active (intervention) Role</p> <p>Other (please specify)</p>
Q39	<p>I believe that my library is doing all that it can do to address mis/disinformation in my community.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>
Q40	<p>Please (if answered yes to question 39) could you explain your answer.</p> <p>[open question]</p>
Q41	<p>Finally (and thank you so much for reaching this point), if there was one thing that could help you in your library work to address mis/disinformation in your community, what would it be?</p> <p>[open question]</p>