

# Press release

For immediate release

## Success story continues

The success story of the Somerset-led LibrariesWest Consortium continues today with the announcement that two more local authorities have joined its ranks.

The Borough of Poole and Dorset County Council library authorities have become part of the consortium, alongside those of Somerset, Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire councils.

The new Consortium will deliver new and improved services and deliver value for money for all the Authorities. Having more authorities on board gives the consortium more buying power and access to increased collections.

David Hall, Cabinet Member for Libraries said: "I am delighted that Dorset County Council and Borough of Poole have decided to join the long established LibrariesWest Consortium.

"This makes a strong consortium even stronger. It also means we can improve the services we offer to the public while at the same time bringing down costs."

The first task of the expanded LibrariesWest Consortium has been to award a contract for the supply of a Library Management System to leading system supplier SirsiDynix, which should 'go live' during Spring 2016.

Library customers from 7 Authorities will then be able to enjoy the benefits of a coast to coast West Country Library Service using the same library card to borrow and return items in over 140 libraries stretching from Porlock to Poole,

[WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK](http://WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK)



Bristol to Bridport. Customers will be able to search and reserve items via a shared web catalogue of nearly 3 million items.

Somerset remains the Lead Authority and provides IT system and other essential support services to the Consortium members.

Barbara Pacut, Vice President EMEA Sales & Operations at Sirsi Dynix said: “We really look forward to working with LibrariesWest, one of the UK’s leading library consortia. We know that this partnership will enable us to make a real difference to library customers in the region.”

## **Ends**

For further information, please contact the Press Office on 01823 355020 or email [pressoffice@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@somerset.gov.uk)

## **Notes to Editors**

- **About SirsiDynix** - SirsiDynix connects people with knowledge at more than 23,000 libraries around the world. Through library management technology and search and discovery tools, libraries using SirsiDynix technology bring relevant resources and the power of knowledge to their users and communities. SirsiDynix technology is architected to be open, scalable, and robust, offering a complete out-of-the-box solution and unparalleled flexibility through APIs and web services. Complemented by the most experienced training, consulting, and support staff in the industry, SirsiDynix helps libraries create tomorrow’s libraries, today. To find out more, visit [www.sirsidynix.com](http://www.sirsidynix.com).

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