



Enquire Librarian Training Manual

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Course Objectives

This course is designed for library staff that will be taking part in Enquire or staffing a local authority local service.

Please note that the OCLC Support desk will not assist with queries arising from this training manual unless the caller has attended the training course.

By the end of the course you should be able to

- Chat with patrons, through picking up a question, answering and closing it.
- Follow-up outside of the chat session.
- Perform review and admin functions within your user id.

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OCLC believe the information presented in this document is accurate at the time of production. However the information is subject to change and OCLC cannot accept responsibility for any errors that may appear in the document.

QuestionPoint™

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1. Introduction

1.1 What is Enquire

Enquire is a subscription service and formerly one of a trio of People's Network services originally commissioned by the Museums Libraries and Archives Council (MLA¹) in 2003. It provides a high quality public library reference service, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, using OCLC's QuestionPoint² software.

This service is achieved through joint service delivery across participating libraries in England and Scotland combined with participation in OCLC's 24/7 Reference Cooperative that secures coverage from US partners.

As the service is supported by 1,400 libraries worldwide, there is always someone on hand to answer your users' questions in the hours when your library staff or UK staff are not available.

Enquire is staffed by subscribing libraries in the UK Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm, and on Saturday mornings. After these times the service is staffed by our cooperative colleagues predominantly in the US (these are both cooperative libraries and also OCLC employed Back-up staff who assist at peak times). Enquire is staffed all day every day, including all major holidays where we still receive questions.

Through innovative uses of the software, additional added value local services can also be created. Communications directors are taking opportunities to answer internal staff queries and concerns. Chief Executives from Luton and Somerset have taken part in one or more chat sessions with their citizens. A Bristol Councillor has conducted a chat session during Local Democracy week. Somerset, as well as engaging with Councillors, have also held chat sessions with an Environmental expert for schools to attend about recycling. Other possibilities include homework help services, opportunities to chat with an author or sessions that engage with specific interest communities such as those researching their family history.

All training course manuals are made available on the 'Enquire for Staff' website³ and may be viewed online or downloaded by customers wishing to have current manuals for modules they use. Additional short information guides can be found on the Enquire for staff website

¹ <http://www.mla.gov.uk> & <http://www.peoplesnetwork.gov.uk>

² <http://www.questionpoint.org>

³ <http://www.oclc.org/support/services/enquire.en.html>

2. The Basics: Quality, customer service and procedure

2.1 *Etiquette*

Before delving too much into the product, some time should be spent looking at the etiquette of chat. It isn't any different in terms of customer service, but there are some methods that can be used to help you have a more confident session:

- Chat in short sentences.
- If the question is a tough one, explain to the patron that it might take a while to answer, and offer to get back to them later via email if that is easier for them.
- Set users at ease with phrases like 'that's an interesting question', although over doing this can appear insincere; also try to work the customer's name into the conversation to make the service more personal.
- Ask for the client's approval if appropriate 'I'd like to look at this further and get back to you via email. Is that OK with you?'
- Keep users interested by offering relevant websites to look at whilst you do further research.
- Another method of keeping the user engaged is to tell them what sources you are searching and why.
- If you have had technical problems or require more time to find the answer tell the user politely and send a follow up email as soon as possible with the answer.
- Before closing, ask the patron if the question has been answered ("Does this completely answer your question?")
- Close each session politely and definitively e.g. Thank you for using the service...'

For further reference: 24/7 Policies, section 4.1, General Chat Guidelines:

<http://wiki.questionpoint.org/247-Policies#41GeneralChatGuidelines>

2.2 Customer Service

Good service in, Good Service Out:

The importance of the reference interview cannot be stressed enough. This is especially true if the question will be coded for follow up, a good reference interview is really essential, and it helps establish communication with the patron. We have some good reference interview guidelines in the Policies (<http://wiki.questionpoint.org/247-Policies#42ReferenceInterview>) and Best Practices (<http://wiki.questionpoint.org/247-Best-Practices#ReferenceInterview/ResourceSelection>).

Examples of quality and customer service are

Matching

Take the tone of your interaction from the tone of the patron, i.e. level of formality or personalisation, or if you are not sure be slightly more formal. Take charge, but only within the bounds of your confidence, Enquire is not advocating the use of emoticons and text-speak.

Depth of Response

How much of a 'reference interview' is to be conducted; will they want short or long answers; how much help to be given when questions are received outside the scope? The reference interview will assist you in getting these answers. The reference interview will also help identify the timescales you have to respond.

How much time should be given to a transaction?

There is no predetermined length for a chat session. The average session time is 16 minutes, although it can be much less, and if you are very engaged with the question or patron it can take significantly more. Use your own judgement as to when you think the question can be wound down. Use closed questions that require a yes or no "Does this answer your question?"

Local questions

Many patrons use Enquire to get local answers. This is acceptable and if the patron's local library authority participates in Enquire there is no reason why they cannot be helped. Through use of the policy pages (see Section 4.2) you should be able to assist them. It is also useful to remember that when you are not on duty, other libraries in both the UK and US will be answering your patron's questions.

Signposting

As professionals you may not always be able to provide the answer, although you will be able to signpost them, that is provide them with details of where they can find the answer. For instance: financial assistance can be found through the Citizens Advice Bureau; and health assistance can be found through NHS Direct. If you are unable to help, you will know someone that can.

Customers are the arbiter of quality, you need to keep them not lose them to ensure you establish credibility not just for Enquire, but for our local authorities and public libraries.

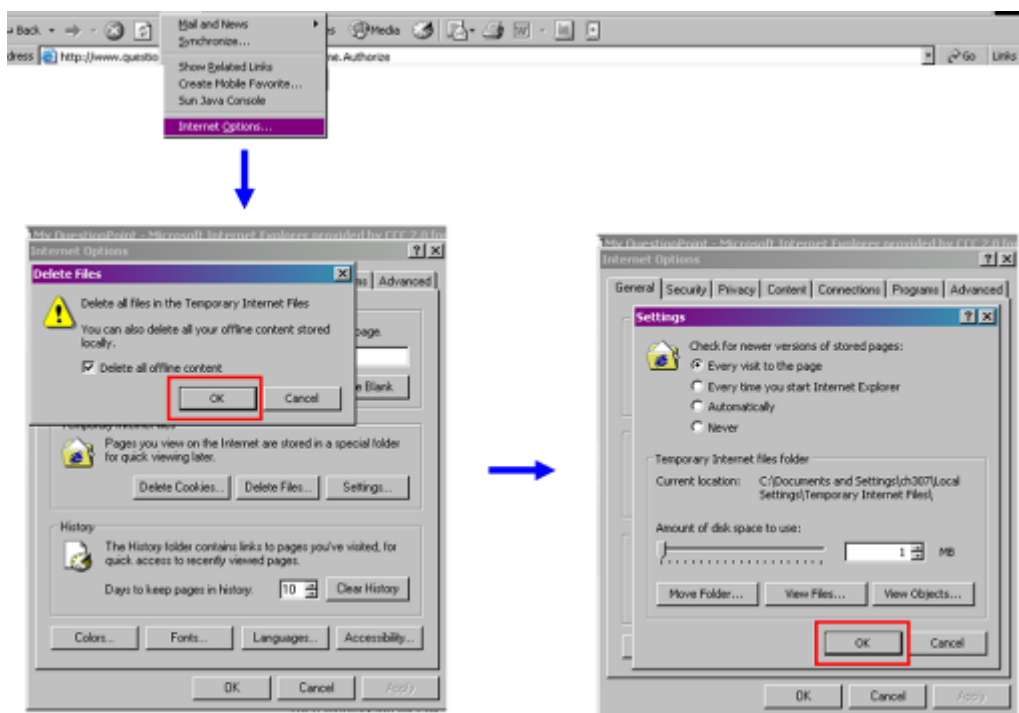
2.3.2 Checking your pc settings

Next check your pc settings. This is important as it is the settings that enable the automatic refresh of the chat between yourself and the patron. If these settings are not changed responses will not come through from the patron. If you forget to do this before launching chat, don't worry you can do this when you are in chat.

On your browser menu bar (not the software) click:

- Tools
- Internet Options
- In the Temporary files areas:
 - Delete your cached pages
 - Click on 'Settings' and change the radio button from the default of 'automatically' to the option 'every visit to the page'
- Click Okay and continue logging into QuestionPoint

See below for an example of what to do.



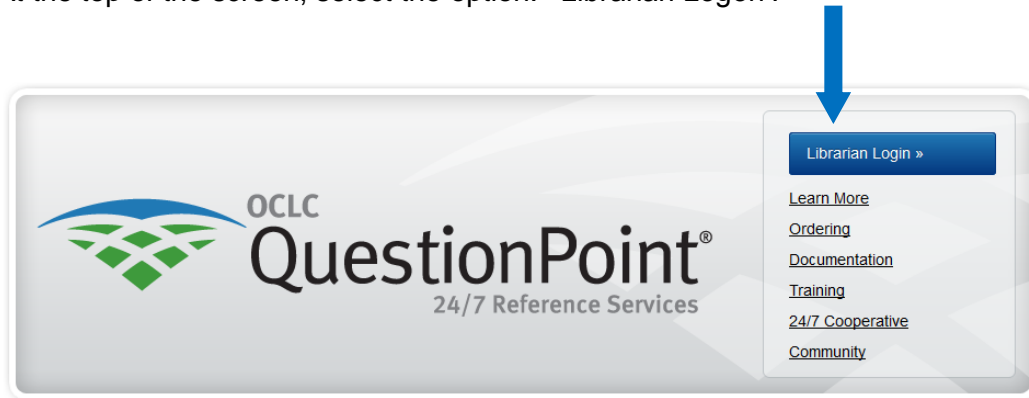
Once all this is checked, you are ready to log into QuestionPoint.

3. QuestionPoint software

3.1 Logging into QuestionPoint

To log on to the librarian side of the software, go to: <http://www.questionpoint.org>


At the top of the screen, select the option: 'Librarian Logon'.



To log in you will need the 6-digit User ID and password provided. This 6 digit User ID is emailed when a new account is set up. Local Administrators will have a 9 digit User ID for setting new accounts and running reports, this will start 100XXXXXX.

Authorization:

[Library patrons click here to log in](#)

Language: ✗ 

User ID: ✓

Password: ✓

Forgot your password? [Click Here](#)

✓

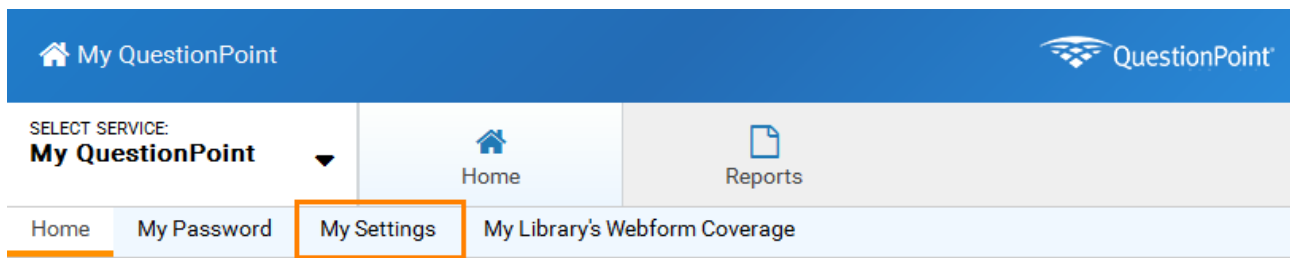
If you cannot remember your password, use the "Forgot your password? Click Here" option under the Password cell, your login details will be emailed to you. If you still have problems, contact Support⁴

The password will initially be the first 20 characters (including full stops and the '@') of your email address. When entering your password, you can either cut and paste your email address as detailed in the User ID email, or just keep typing until the cursor stops; there is no need to count the characters. The password is however case sensitive.

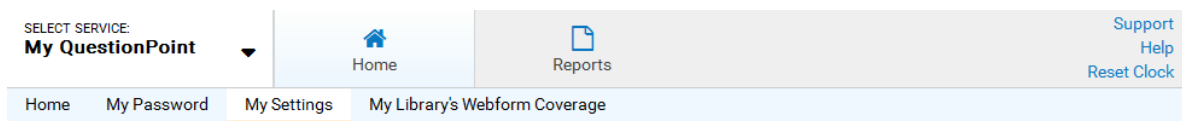
The first time you login, you will then be prompted to re-type the password and select your own unique password.

⁴ support-uk@oclc.org or tel +44 (0)114 267 7502 / 0845 267 7502

3.2 Change the session timeout



From your 'My QuestionPoint' home page click on "Settings", this is the 3rd option on the red menu bar.



View/Change My Settings

Account Privileges:	
Account Type	Librarian
Institution Report	None
Profile	Approve Profile
Ask A Librarian	Ask Administrator
Knowledge Base	Edit/Delete KB - Enquire staff pages KB Edit/Delete KB - QP Global Reference Network KB

Current Settings	
Name:	<input type="text" value="Jo"/>
E-mail address:	<input type="text" value="jo.john@oclc.org"/>
Truncate questions in lists:	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Truncate after:	<input type="text" value="0"/> (0-999) Characters
Session time-out period:	<input type="radio"/> 30 minutes <input type="radio"/> 1 hour <input type="radio"/> 2 hours <input checked="" type="radio"/> 4 hours

Save

Check your name and email details are correct. The change you need to make is to the timeout period, this should be changed to 2 hours.

Once done, click on **Save**

This should not require changing again.

3.3 Homepage: Overview

The screenshot shows the QuestionPoint homepage. At the top, there's a blue header with 'My QuestionPoint' and 'QuestionPoint' logos, and a green bar with 'Institution: OCLC (UK) Ltd (Enq-UK) (10837)'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links like 'Home', 'My Password', 'My Settings', and 'My Library's Webform Coverage'. The main content area is divided into three sections: 1. Left sidebar (labeled '1') containing 'My Questions', 'Question Lists', 'Quick Links', 'Knowledge Base', and 'Profile'. 2. Middle main content area (labeled '2') containing 'Institution Announcements (None)', 'QuestionPoint Announcements' (with a 'Scheduled Maintenance Complete for August 28' notice), and 'Subscription Group Announcements'. 3. Right sidebar (labeled '3') containing a language dropdown, 'Blog | Wiki', 'Documentation | Training', 'Feedback | Framebusters', and dropdown menus for '24/7 Reference Cooperative' and 'Membership Lists'.

The Home page screen is split into 3 areas:

1-Offline and Chat area

The left hand column is your main working column. It is where you launch chat from, pick up offline questions, edit your own settings, and access the knowledge base.

2-News / Announcements area

QuestionPoint post details of upcoming upgrades/installs and any other news relating the service, including a link to the Enquire Staff website. This information is detailed in the middle area of the screen

[This is also accessible by clicking on the Enquire logo at the top right – more information on this is detailed in section 3.3.1]

3-Information, Resources and Training area

The right hand column is the QuestionPoint Training area – you can view the standard QuestionPoint training materials here however, 'quick guides' and a manual specific to the Enquire service can be found at: <http://www.oclc.org/support/services/enquire.en.html>. The OCLC training materials are comprehensive and are both text based PDF guides and walk through animated guides (viewlets) which are thorough and well worth a look.

Documentation includes PDF guides and viewlets to take you through the various aspects of QuestionPoint, including Flash chat and the chat and referral processes

There are also links to:

- [QuestionPoint Policies](#) (see Section 2.2)
- [QuestionPoint Best Practices](#) (see Section 2.2)

3.3.1 Enquire for staff website:

<http://www.oclc.org/support/services/enquire.en.html> - is the main page for a raft of Enquire service information. It includes this manual and other training material. It is accessible from the The QuestionPoint logo at the top of the screen:

The screenshot shows the OCLC Support & Training website. At the top, there's a search bar and a 'Librarian's Toolbox' link. Below the navigation bar, the page is titled 'Enquire Support'. On the left, there's a sidebar with links like 'Support & Training home', 'Enquire', and 'Need assistance for Enquire?'. The main content area describes the Enquire service as a collaborative, real-time digital reference subscription service. It includes links to 'Contact OCLC Support', 'Enquire Rota', and 'Main OCLC Site'. There's also a section for 'Interesting Questions / Survey Comments'.

The website has links to the most recent training recordings and static PowerPoint presentations as well as the Enquire User Manual.

The Subscription form in 'Subscribers' Corner' and a button to contact UK Support.

3.4 The 'offline' area

The screenshot shows the 'My QuestionPoint' interface. The top bar includes the 'QuestionPoint' logo and the institution name 'OCLC (UK) Ltd (Eng-UK) (10837)'. The left sidebar has a 'My Questions' section with 'New: 0' and 'Active: 2', a 'Question Lists' section with 'New: 1', 'Unassigned: 1', 'Active: 3', and a 'Find ID:' field, and a 'Quick Links' section with links like 'ShiftPlanning: Time Clock', 'Launch Chat', 'Chat Monitoring Tool', and 'Chat Patron Practice Form'. The main content area is divided into three sections: 'Institution Announcements (None)', 'QuestionPoint Announcements' (with a 'Last Updated: 8/28/2015' date and a 'Scheduled Maintenance Complete for August 28' announcement), and 'Subscription Group Announcements' (with a 'Last Updated: May 2015' date and a 'Reporting Issues and Queries' section). The right sidebar contains a language dropdown set to 'English', a 'Blog | Wiki' link, a 'Documentation | Training' link, a 'Feedback | Framebusters' link, and two dropdown menus for '24/7 Reference Cooperative' and 'Membership Lists'.

3.4.1 Questions Lists / Ask Module

You are able to review your questions and those of your authority colleagues from the Question Lists / Ask Module. Referred service questions or questions taken offline are also listed here.

My questions – questions only you have answered.

Question Lists – all authority questions.

New questions – questions that have just come in and are currently being dealt with in chat, or that are referred, either via referral from the service, or where a patron has replied to an answer/further clarification request.

Unassigned – questions that may have been disconnected in the process of being picked up by your authority. If any questions appear here, you should check to see what action needs to be taken.

Active questions – questions that have not been 'closed'.

The screenshot shows the 'Ask' module interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'SELECT SERVICE: Ask' and a dropdown menu. Below this is a tabbed interface with 'Active', 'New', 'Pending', 'Referred', 'Answered', 'Closed', and 'All'. The 'Active' tab is selected. On the right, there are links for 'Support', 'Help', and 'Reset Clock'. Below the tabs, there's a search bar with 'Search: ' and a dropdown for 'by Keyword(s)'. A 'Q Advanced Search' button is also present. The main area shows a list of questions with columns for 'Sort by: ID | Received | Updated' and 'Limit to: All'. The list contains several entries, each with a question ID, a transcript snippet, and a status (e.g., 'Unassigned', 'Assigned to: Patron: Anonymous Patron').

You can also access the Question Lists via the **Ask** module heading in the drop down menu.

The screenshot shows the 'My QuestionPoint' dropdown menu. The menu is open, showing a list of options: 'Administration', 'Ask', 'Chat', 'Knowledge Base', 'Profile', and 'Reports'. The 'Ask' option is highlighted in blue. The background shows the 'My QuestionPoint' header and the 'SELECT SERVICE: My QuestionPoint' dropdown.

3.4.2 Question Lists

Click on “New” under the “Question List” heading; this takes you into another screen listing all the questions that have been asked by patrons and picked up or assigned to your authority.

Active
New
Pending
Referred
Answered
Closed
All

New Questions

Refresh List

Sort by: ID | Received | Updated

10815653: Chat Transcript: My account says that it is linked to 'Hack David Lovatt'. Who is he and whatdoes that meme an?

Received: 21:37:49 2015/10/10 (GMT +0100) Updated: 10:40:13 2015/10/12 (GMT +0100)

10804689: test for descriptive codes and header training information

Received: 14:22:28 2015/10/07 (GMT +0100) Updated: 12:25:34 2015/10/08 (GMT +0100)

-- Select Action --

Here you see a list of all the questions by category:

Active – questions for follow up / awaiting further information.

New – new questions just come in.

Pending – questions requiring action (referred questions will show here as well as in New).

Answered – if you have completed the question you can automatically set the question status to ‘Answered’.

Closed – when no further action needs to be taken.

There are also symbols to the left of the transcripts showing the status of the question:

10817377: Chat Transcript: Is there any materi

Received: 23:44:53 2015/10/11 (GMT +0100) U

10816954: Chat Transcript

Received: 19:48:16 2015/10/11 (GMT +0100) U

10816306: Chat Transcript: Your description of

Received: 09:49:40 2015/10/11 (GMT +0100) U

10815653: Chat Transcript: My account says tl

Received: 21:37:49 2015/10/10 (GMT +0

10814758: Chat Transcript: Are you able to loc

know the full name of the author, but the surna

Received: 13:19:37 2015/10/10 (GMT +0100) U

10814730: Chat Transcript

Received: 13:08:19 2015/10/10 (GMT +0100) U




10814660: Chat Transcript: title

Received: 12:01:16 2015/10/10 (GMT +0100) U

10814605: Chat Transcript: Hi...I have asked fo

Received: 10:59:50 2015/10/10 (GMT +0100) U

These symbols are explained below:

Question list	Statuses included	Description of list
New	New ?	Questions that need action by you or your library
Pending	Pending 	Questions that need action by someone outside your library: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A patron whom your library asked to clarify a question, or • A library or expert to whom your library referred a question for an answer
Answered	Answered 	Questions for which an answer has been sent to the patron.
Closed	Closed 	Questions that a librarian or patron has closed
Active	New Pending Answered	A combined list of all the questions in the New, Pending, and Answered question lists
Referred	New Pending Answered (Referred questions only)	A combined list of those questions in the New, Pending, and Answered question lists that were referred for an answer by your library or to your library The list includes questions referred: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By your library to another library in your group, to the Global Network, or to a subject-matter expert • To your library by another library in your group or by the Global Network

3.4.2.1 New Questions area

You will need to open a question from the 'New' questions area if one of the following has happened:

- You are on shift and a general question that was referred back to Enquire overnight by the US for additional answering.
- You are not on shift, you may have a new question referred as it is very local and requires specialist knowledge.
- You have completed a chat session and need to undertake further research and get back to the patron.
- The patron has asked for a response via email.

For points 1 & 2, your authority will receive a daily email containing all referred questions information from OCLC Support:

Example of the emails that are sent daily to the Enquire list for libraries to action as appropriate:

Enquire: Librarian Training Notes

From: support-uk@oclc.org
Sent: 08 October 2015 08:27
To: 'pn-enquire-l@oclc.org'
Subject: Enquire referred questions and [rota](#) reminder Thursday 8 October 2015

Good morning,

There are no referred questions this morning from Enquire to your libraries, but please continue to check your local 'New' Question Lists for any that have come back to you directly as these are your citizens wanting assistance:

My Questions	
New: 0	Active: 15
Question Lists	
New: 1	Unassigned: 1
Active: 238	

The rota for the rest of this week and next week are shown below. If you have any queries, please contact [Support](#).

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
08-Oct	09-Oct	10-Oct
AM	AM	
Cornwall	Staffordshire	Newcastle 9.45-12.15 (24/7)
Surrey	Westminster	
PM	PM	
Essex	Bradford	
Kensington & Chelsea	Nottinghamshire	

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12-Oct	13-Oct	14-Oct	15-Oct	16-Oct	17-Oct
AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	
Kent	Essex	Norfolk	Cornwall	Windsor & Maidenhead	Newcastle 9.45-12.15 (24/7)
Lancashire	Sandwell 9:30-1:30	Kent	Surrey	Nottinghamshire	
		Nottingham City			
PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	
Bolton	Newcastle	Hertfordshire	Bromley	Southwark	
Oxfordshire	Norfolk	Leeds	Halton	Nottinghamshire	

Best wishes,
Jo

Enquire Customer feedback 2015:

- "I love this concept! I've never heard of it before today! I've talked to two librarians today and they were both great and a lot of help! It's great to exchange thoughts, opinions, questions and answers!.."
- "A really useful service at 22.00 hrs."
- "I was very quickly answered and referred to my local library with a promise of contact directly. Great service"

Jo John


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Clicking on a question in the 'New' questions list will open up a question. This will be displayed as below and shows all the details of the transcript.

 10824225: Chat Transcript: Do you hold old school Photographs for St Saviours Primary from 1958 to 1965 and also Sir Robert Bellarmine from 1965 to 1969. Can I view these at the Mitchell.

Received: 19:34:20 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Updated: 08:57:47 2015/10/14 (GMT +0100)

Enquire: Librarian Training Notes

Answer	Reject Assignment	Add Note	Add Descriptive Codes
Change Patron E-mail	-- Refer To --	-- Move To --	

Question Detail

Patron: [REDACTED]

Assigned: UK Support (19) [icon]

Status: 19:34:20 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100)

Wait Time: 95

Session Time: 590

Language: English

Referred to:	Glasgow Life Recall	Assigned:	Unassigned Send Message to Librarian
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Question: [10824225] Chat Transcript: Do you hold old school Photographs for St Saviours Primary from 1958 to 1965 and also Sir Robert Bellarmine from 1965 to 1969. Can I view these at the Mitchell.

Patron Institution: Enquire

IP Address: 86.5.176.167

Referer: http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/libraries/the-mitchell-library/archives/Pages/home.aspx

Browser/OS: Mozilla/5.0 (iPhone; CPU iPhone OS 8_0 like Mac OS X) AppleWebKit/600.1.4 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/8.0 Mobile/12A365 Safari/600.1.4

Cobrowse: No

Category: ENQUIRE_UK

zip code: [REDACTED]

Question History

Patron: 19:34:20 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Chat Transcript: Do you hold old school Photographs for St Saviours Primary from 1958 to 1965 and also Sir Robert Bellarmine from 1965 to 1969. Can I view these at the Mitchell.

Librarian 1: 19:34:21 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Note: Patron's screen name [REDACTED]

Librarian 1: 19:35:56 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Librarian [REDACTED] has joined the session.

Librarian 1: 19:36:13 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Hi, I'm a librarian in Washington state (U.S.). I help out when your librarians are busy. Reading your question now...

Librarian 1: 19:37:12 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Unfortunately, your librarians are not online right now. Would you like for me to forward your question to them for follow up via email?

Patron: 19:37:17 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Thank you

Patron: 19:37:46 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Yes thank you

Librarian 1: 19:38:07 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Are you referring to the Mitchell Library?

Patron: 19:38:55 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Yes the Mitchell Library in Glasgow

Librarian 1: 19:39:23 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Thank you, let me just check to make sure they are connected with this service. I'll be just a moment.

Librarian 1: 19:42:22 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) I'm not finding that information in the Policy Page, unfortunately. But, I'll go ahead and forward this. You will hear from someone either from the Mitchell Library or Enquire soon.

Librarian 1: 19:42:44 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Thank you for using this service today! I'm sorry I couldn't be of direct assistance.

Patron: 19:43:04 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Thank you Karen.

Librarian 1: 19:43:30 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) You're welcome! Goodbye for now.

Patron: 19:43:51 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) No problem thanks.

Patron: 19:44:07 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Patron ended chat session.

Librarian 1: 19:44:13 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Note: Set Resolution: Followup By Patron's Library

Librarian 1: 19:44:38 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100) Note: Mitchell Library in Glasgow.

Librarian 2: 08:57:47 2015/10/14 (GMT +0100) Referred from: Enquire(10836) by: UK Support(100284857) to institution: Glasgow Life(12598)
Reason: Referred Local Query.

Answer	Reject Assignment	Add Note	Add Descriptive Codes
Change Patron E-mail			

Question Detail

Answer	Reject Assignment	Add Note	Add Descriptive Codes
Change Patron E-mail	-- Refer To --	-- Move To --	

Question Detail

Patron: [REDACTED]

Assigned: UK Support (19) [icon]

Status: 19:34:20 2015/10/13 (GMT +0100)

Wait Time: 95

Session Time: 590

Language: English

Referred to:	Glasgow Life Recall	Assigned:	Unassigned Send Message to Librarian
--------------	------------------------	-----------	---

Question: [10824225] Chat Transcript: Do you hold old school Photographs for St Saviours Primary from 1958 to 1965 and also Sir Robert Bellarmine from 1965 to 1969. Can I view these at the Mitchell.

Patron Institution: Enquire

IP Address: 86.5.176.167

Referer: http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/libraries/the-mitchell-library/archives/Pages/home.aspx

Browser/OS: Mozilla/5.0 (iPhone; CPU iPhone OS 8_0 like Mac OS X) AppleWebKit/600.1.4 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/8.0 Mobile/12A365 Safari/600.1.4

Cobrowse: No

Category: ENQUIRE_UK

zip code: [REDACTED]

This shows details **about** the question:

Patron - Contact details – such as name and email where given. Section 5 details how to deal with anonymous patrons.⁵

⁵ For this manual an OCLC alias account has been used. No data protection rights have been violated.

Wait Time – How long did a patron wait before being picked up (in this case 60 seconds).

Session Time – Shows how long the chat session was in progress (in this case 2940 seconds / 49 minutes).

Referred to: Shows which library authority picked up the question.

Question – the full initial question.

Referer: Shows the URL the patron accessed the service through.

Zip code – the first 3 digits of a postcode. This information is kept for library reporting purposes. It also provides a useful tool to see where a customer's local library authority is. In this instance, the customer is in CB3 which is in Cambridge.

Section 5 will cover how to answer a question 'offline' in more detail.

To show briefly, click on 'Answer'

Answer Question

Question: [10824225] Chat Transcript: Do you hold old school Photographs for St Saviours Primary from 1958 to 1965 and also Sir Robert Bellarmine from 1965 to 1969. Can I view these at the Mitchell. [\[Full Question View\]](#)

to: [Redacted]

Answer:

Quick Tip: Please note: When adding scripted messages that will be used primarily in chat sessions, large fonts and/or colors are not recommended, as patron interface display may be affected.

Quick Tip: Default line spacing for this editor is enter key=a paragraph break (double spaced). Using enter key will end any title formatting. To create a single spaced break use Shift+enter keys. This will continue any title formatting on the previous line.

File size limit is 5 MB. Total attachment size cannot exceed 12 MB.

Attachment 1: Browse... No file selected.

Attachment 2: Browse... No file selected.

Attachment 3: Browse... No file selected.

There are several ways to send an answer, for Enquire we use:

Send Answer – this sends the answer to the patron and sets the question status to 'answered'. You can add two attachments to the reply.

Request Clarification – this sends your message asking for more information to the patron and sets the question status to 'pending'.

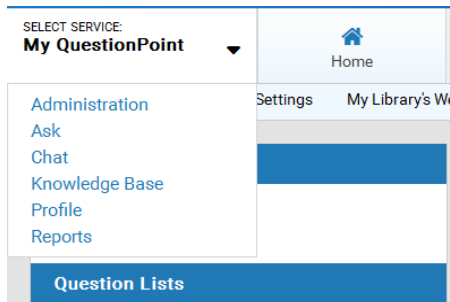
Save Draft – this allows you to start an answer, but you will need to complete it for it to be sent to the patron.

Attachments can also be sent with any response.

3.5 Scripts

Scripts can be a very useful part of the chat session, allowing you to use time saving pre-determined scripts to save you typing, these can be a welcome or a session ending, they can be standard ways to ask for additional information or clarification, or to set users at ease. Scripts can be added, edited and deleted

From the QuestionPoint homepage select 'Ask', from the drop down menu.



Select settings

 A screenshot of the QuestionPoint 'Institution's Scripts' page. The page has a blue header with 'My QuestionPoint' and 'QuestionPoint' logos. Below the header, there is a navigation bar with tabs: My Addresses, My Scripts, My URL Scripts, Institution's Scripts (selected), Institution's URL Scripts, Shared Scripts, and Shared URL Scripts. The 'Institution's Scripts' tab is active, showing a form to 'Add New Script'. The form includes a 'Script Name' field, a 'Script Text' field with a rich text editor, and a 'Show/Hide Tooltip' checkbox. To the right of the form, there are two 'Quick Tip' boxes. Below the form, there is a table titled 'View/Update Scripts' with columns 'Name' and 'Text'. The table contains several rows of scripts, each with 'Remove' and 'Edit' buttons.

Name	Text
Enquire referred questions - non subscriber	I'm sorry, but your library no longer participates in the Enquire service. Please can you contact them directly advising you tried to have the query answered via Enquire but this was no longer possible.
Offensive / Abusive	The question you have asked has been deemed inappropriate or abusive and therefore cannot be answered.
PC Problems	I am having intermittent problems with my pc, can we take this offline to email? If this is okay with you, please type your email address and I will re-establish contact via email. This will help me answer your question without losing you.
Test script	To check the status of your account and view books on loan, due dates and to see if any money is owed on your account log in to your library account using your ID number: http://193.1.100.111/TalisPrism/accessAccount.do?sessionId=1B50CDE31BFAC9D905B14A7E46183E61.worker17 If you need to pay a fine please call 061 202166 to discuss payment or alternatively drop in to the library and speak to a staff member at the information desk.
What r u looking for?	If you could please give me an idea of what the information is for, I can better determine the resources to use to answer your question more quickly.
Where have you looked?	Could you please let me know where you have looked for this information so far? This will help me not to duplicate what you have already found.

There are two types of script: **Institution Scripts** and **My Scripts**, the procedure for editing etc is the same for both.

Institution Scripts – should be set by the authority administrator and should reflect how you wish to say standard phrases.

My Scripts – you can add your own to help you when you are on duty.

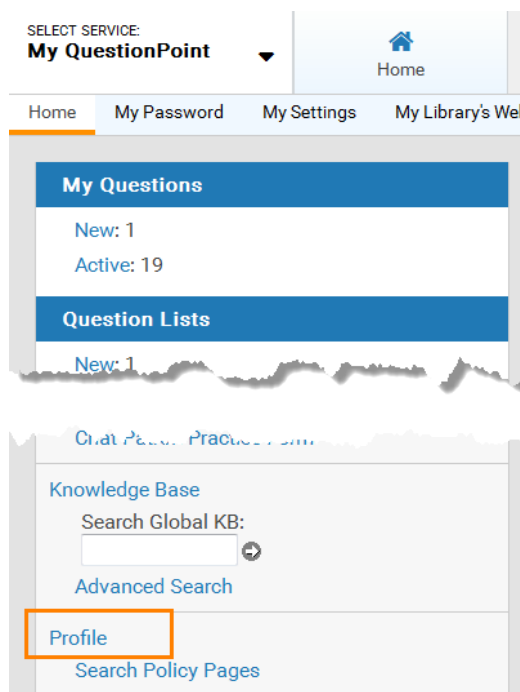
To add a script, select either **Institution Scripts** or **My Scripts**

Give the script a short name in **Script Name**, then add the full text in the **Script Text** box. When you are happy with the wording, click on Add. It will show in the **My Scripts** column when in a chat session.

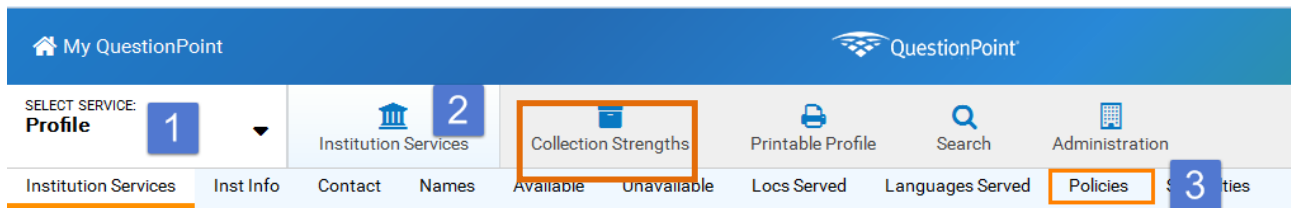
3.6 Policy Pages

Policy pages for your library can be created and edited to help other libraries in the Enquire service, or the 24/7 Reference Cooperative, assist your users when you are not online. For instance, if you staff one day per month, that is 6 days per year, so other libraries could be helping your library users for 359 days per year. Policy pages make the patron experience as seamless as we can make it, and provide the information we need to deep link into library information.

Policy Pages can be edited with your Standard User login, or an Authority Administrator login. From the QuestionPoint user homepage, select **"Profile"**



In the next screen select **"Policies"**



Edit the form with as much information as you can, as this will not only assist your UK colleagues when dealing with local questions, it is absolutely vital to enquiries picked up by the out of hours US partners (24/7 Reference Cooperative and Backup Staff).

The screenshot shows the 'Policy Edit Page' in QuestionPoint. The top navigation bar includes 'My QuestionPoint' and 'QuestionPoint'. Below this, there are several tabs: 'Profile', 'Institution Services', 'Collection Strengths', 'Printable Profile', 'Search', and 'Administration'. The 'Policies' tab is highlighted with a red box and a red number '3'. The 'Collection Strengths' tab is also highlighted with a red box and a red number '2'. The 'Profile' tab is highlighted with a red box and a red number '1'.

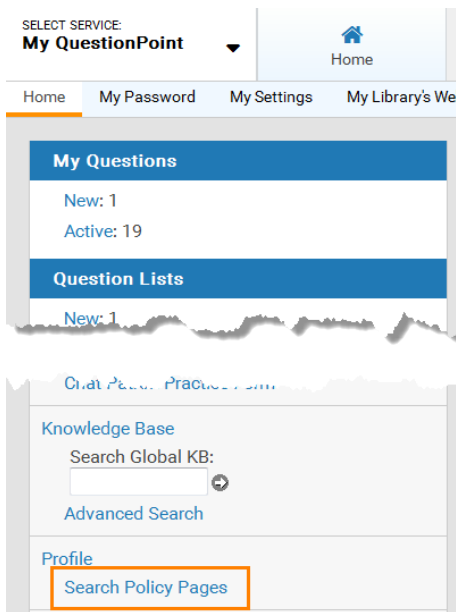
The main content area is titled 'The Answers People' and contains the following information:

- Alerts:** Sunday, 11th October through Thursday, 22nd October: Due to maintenance, the library catalogue will be unavailable. It will not be possible for customers or library staff to search the catalogue, place reservations or manage accounts including renewing books online. Customers can renew books during this period by calling 0845 6037628, visiting any Essex library or by you marking any chat for follow-up. PLEASE ASK CUSTOMER FOR THEIR LIBRARY CARD NUMBER AND NAME. New users will not be able to use the library computers or wi-fi. eBook and eAudio customers will be able to access OverDrive but BorrowBox customers will only have access if they use the app. Libraries will be open and customers can borrow and return resources.
- Library Home Page URL (Do not include html in this field):** <http://www.essex.gov.uk/libraries>
- Home Page Instructions:** The Answers People is the central enquiry service for Essex Libraries. Essex Libraries Business Information Service provides business information resources to support proposed, new and established businesses in the county.
- Parent Institution:**
- Catalog URL (Do not include html in this field):** <http://essexlibraries.essexcc.gov.uk/vs/Vubis.csp>
- Catalog Instructions:** Essex Libraries share the online catalogue with Southend Libraries and Thurrock Libraries. eBooks and eAudio: We subscribe to two eBook and audio eBook suppliers: OverDrive, OneClickdigital and BorrowBox (formerly Bolinda) and accessing these holdings from the website and not the catalogue is preferable. The catalogue also includes the holdings of the Performing Arts service: playsets, orchestral sets and choral sets. Interested organisations should phone Performing Arts directly on 0333 0138949 Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm to arrange for borrowing sets. There is an annual membership fee and a charge for supplying performance sets. ICE (Inclusive Communication Essex) provides communication training and resources to families and to carers of children and adults with learning disabilities. Resources, including inclusive communication equipment, are available to borrow from Essex Libraries. Search the library catalogue using the search term 'inclusive communication resources'.

You can add text, or URLs, whichever you feel will require the least amount of updating.

On the following page are a few examples of Library Policy Pages:

When updating your own policy pages you can view others by selecting the 'Search Policy Pages' option from the homepage:



Search for "Bolton"

The screenshot shows the 'QuestionPoint | Profile' page for Bolton Libraries. At the top, there's a table of policy page sections, with the first row highlighted by a blue box and a '1' in a blue square. Below this is a 'Search Policies' section with a 'Group Policy Page' dropdown set to 'Bolton Libraries (Enq-UK)' and a 'Submit' button. Below the search form, there's a 'Bolton Libraries (Enq-UK)' section with a '2' in a blue square. This section contains various links and information, including 'Library Home Page URL', 'Catalog URL', 'Policy Page Email Contact', 'Database Access for Coop Librarians', 'Hours', 'Location', 'Available Technology and Equipment', 'Wifi Access?', 'Databases', and 'e-Books'. A '3' in a blue square is placed next to the 'Hours' section.

Policy Page Email Contact	Phone	Hours	Location	Available Technology and Equipment	Wifi Access?
Databases	e-Books	Library Card Policies	Loan Periods/Returns	Renewals	Late Fees
Interlibrary Loan	Library programs, events, services	Meeting Rooms			

Search Policies

Group Policy Page: **Bolton Libraries (Enq-UK)** [Submit]

Bolton Libraries (Enq-UK)

Library Home Page URL: <http://www.boltonlams.co.uk/>

Catalog URL: <https://bolton.spydus.co.uk>

Policy Page Email Contact: [Redacted]

Database Access for Coop Librarians (library card etc.): NOTE: These URLs, usernames, and/or passwords must not be shared with patrons (see Databases field for student/faculty/staff access info): The last 8 characters on the card: ignore letters BTP at the beginning. The final character may be an x; the rest are numbers.

Phone: 01204 332853 for AskBoltonLibraries Enquiry Service.

Hours:
See [this link](#) for details of all branches and their opening times. The Central Library's hours are: Monday 0815 - 1930 Tuesday 0815 - 1930 Wednesday 0930 - 1730 Thursday 0815 - 1930 Friday 0815 - 1730 Saturday 0900 - 1700 Sunday 1000 - 1600 A limited service, with no reference function, is available between 0815 and 0900 on weekdays (except Wednesdays).

Location:
See link above for locations of all branches. The Central Library is in Bolton town centre, near the Town Hall. Its address is Central Library, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, BL1 1SE.

Available Technology and Equipment:
People's Network Computers with Internet access. Library catalogues. Printing, scanning and Fax facilities.

Wifi Access?:
The Central Library has Wifi access. Ask a member of staff for registration and log in details.

Databases:
See [this link](#) for resources accessible by users off-site. Password-protected or IP-controlled access is available to several resources on library sites, including British Standards online, Oxford Reference Suite, Encyclopedia Britannica, NewsBank, Issues Online, Ancestry, FindMyPast, FAME, MINT and Which?

e-Books:
To use the eBooks service you need to: Be a member of Bolton Libraries - Anyone who lives, works or studies in Bolton can join the library online Have a library card number - this can be found on the front or back of your library card underneath a barcode or if you have smart card your number will be handwritten on the back of your card. Know your PIN -Your PIN is the first four digits of your Date of Birth unless you have changed it. So if you were born on 5 March 1970, your PIN would be 0503 Check your device is compatible. A list of compatible devices is available on the FAQ page. Only readers that support the use of Digital Rights Management (DRM) in either ePub or PDF format can view our eBooks. To find out if your device is compatible with Adobe Digital Editions click

1. Shows the Policy Page sections that have been completed, these are also hotlinks to the section.
2. Shows who to contact to alert them there are policy page issues.
3. Shows a completed section with text and hyperlinks.

Search for “Norfolk”

QuestionPoint | Profile

Policy Page Email Contact	Phone	Hours	Location	Wifi Access?	Databases
e-Books	Library Card Policies	Loan Periods/Returns	Renewals	Holds	Late Fees

1

Search Policies

Group Policy Page	Enquire staff pages
Group Member Policies	Norfolk Library & Info Service (Enq-UK) <input type="button" value="Submit"/>

Norfolk Library & Info Service (Enq-UK) 2

Alerts: askus@norfolk.gov.uk The Information Team

Library Home Page URL: http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/index.htm
http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/index.htm

Catalog URL: <https://norfolk.spl.co.uk/cgi-bin/spyds.exe/MSGTRN/OPAC/HOME?HOMEPRMS=GENPARAMS>

Policy Page Email Contact: askus@norfolk.gov.uk

Database Access for Coop Librarians (library card etc.): NOTE: These URLs, usernames, and/or passwords must not be shared with patrons (see Databases field for student/faculty/staff access info):

Phone: http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/Your_Local_Library/index.htm

Hours: 3
Each of our libraries have differing opening hours. Details can be found here
http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/Your_Local_Library/index.htm

Location:
We have 46 static library points - details of location for each can be found at the following URL http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/Your_Local_Library/index.htm

Wifi Access?:
We now have free public Wifi access at all of our libraries. The network will show on your list of available networks as NCC_Library_Wifi. When you have linked to the network, you will need to log on using your library membership number and PIN in order to browse the Internet. Logging on implies acceptance of the Norfolk County Council Terms and Conditions.

Databases:
See list of databases here: <http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/librariesfindit>

Lancashire

QuestionPoint | Profile

Policy Page Email Contact	Phone	Hours	Location	Available Technology and Equipment	Wifi Access?
Databases	e-Books	Tech Assistance	Library Card Policies	Loan Periods/Returns	Loan Limits
Renewals	Holds	Late Fees	Interlibrary Loan	Library programs, events, services	Meeting Rooms
Summer Reading Programs/Lists	Other Policies				

Search Policies

Group Policy Page	Enquire staff pages
Group Member Policies	Lancashire Libraries <input type="button" value="Submit"/>

Lancashire Libraries

Alerts: Lancashire libraries general email is library@lancashire.gov.uk The phone number is 03001236703 Please ask enquirers to give their 14 digit library card number if they have problems with accounts, reservations, overdues etc. Lancashire library cards start 20119. Several other library services in the Lancashire area have different numbers which can't be used to access our online services.

Library Home Page URL: <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries>

Parent Institution: <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk>

Catalog URL: <http://capitadiscovery.co.uk/lancashire/searchhelp> <http://www.slideshare.net/LCLIS/lancashire-library-catalogue>

Policy Page Email Contact: [REDACTED]

Guest Login/PIN for Coop Librarians:

Bolton Header – all these headings relate to completed sections and they are also hotlinks

Policy Page Email Contact	Phone	Hours	Location	Available Technology and Equipment	Wifi Access?
Databases	e-Books	Library Card Policies	Loan Periods/Returns	Renewals	Late Fees
Interlibrary Loan	Library programs, events, services	Meeting Rooms			

Norfolk Header – all these headings relate to completed sections and they are also hotlinks

Policy Page Email Contact	Phone	Hours	Location	Wifi Access?	Databases
e-Books	Library Card Policies	Loan Periods/Returns	Renewals	Holds	Late Fees

Lancashire Header – all these headings relate to completed sections and they are also hotlinks

Policy Page Email Contact	Phone	Hours	Location	Available Technology and Equipment	Wifi Access?
Databases	e-Books	Tech Assistance	Library Card Policies	Loan Periods/Returns	Loan Limits
Renewals	Holds	Late Fees	Interlibrary Loan	Library programs, events, services	Meeting Rooms
Summer Reading Programs/Lists	Other Policies				

3.7 Support and help

There are online resources that can help you during your session:

- There is the Staff website <http://enquire-uk.oclc.org> containing help guides, hints and tips
- The Enquire mailing list (if you are subscribed to it) can be used to broadcast a tricky question. This can be used not just for Enquire, but any question you may have received on the reference desk. Why not pool the resources of the Enquire staff to get a rounded answer. If you are not on the listserv, let Support know and you can be added. The email address to send questions to is pn-enquire-l@oclc.org

If you are unable to find the answer online, or need immediate assistance then please contact Support:

- support-uk@oclc.org
- Tel: +44 (0)114 267 7502 / 0845 267 7502

4. Let's get chatting

In this section we'll look at how the patron/customer accesses the service and what their view will be. We'll then concentrate on the librarian functions.

Here's a quick checklist of things to remember when conducting a chat session:

- Never forget the reference interview – the same principles that apply to physical, email or telephone reference still apply here. Always try to ascertain the level of response, where they have been before and what they want it for.
- Be confident to multitask – you'll need to be able to cope with opening multiple internet sessions to find information.
- Have a positive service attitude and willingness to help.
- Be mindful of colleagues that may want to contact you during a session (Instant Message).
- If you want time to think about a response, then take it offline.
- Use the Policy Pages.
- *Stay calm and have fun!*

4.1 Patron/Customer Access:

To get a better feel for how you can help the customer, be a patron:

- Know your way around the patron's form.
- Know how pages are displayed.
- Look at the difference 'preferences' that are available in a session for different formatting.

The service can be accessed by your own specific Enquire URL, or Bookmark Your Library, for Bookmark Your Library the patron will need to validate their postcode.

Chat with a librarian - live. 24x7

The Ask a Librarian service is powered by Enquire - a collaboration of libraries in the UK and US.
You can chat with a librarian in real time or can email your questions and simply wait for the answer.

In order to use the ask a librarian service, you need to enter your postcode below.

SUBMIT

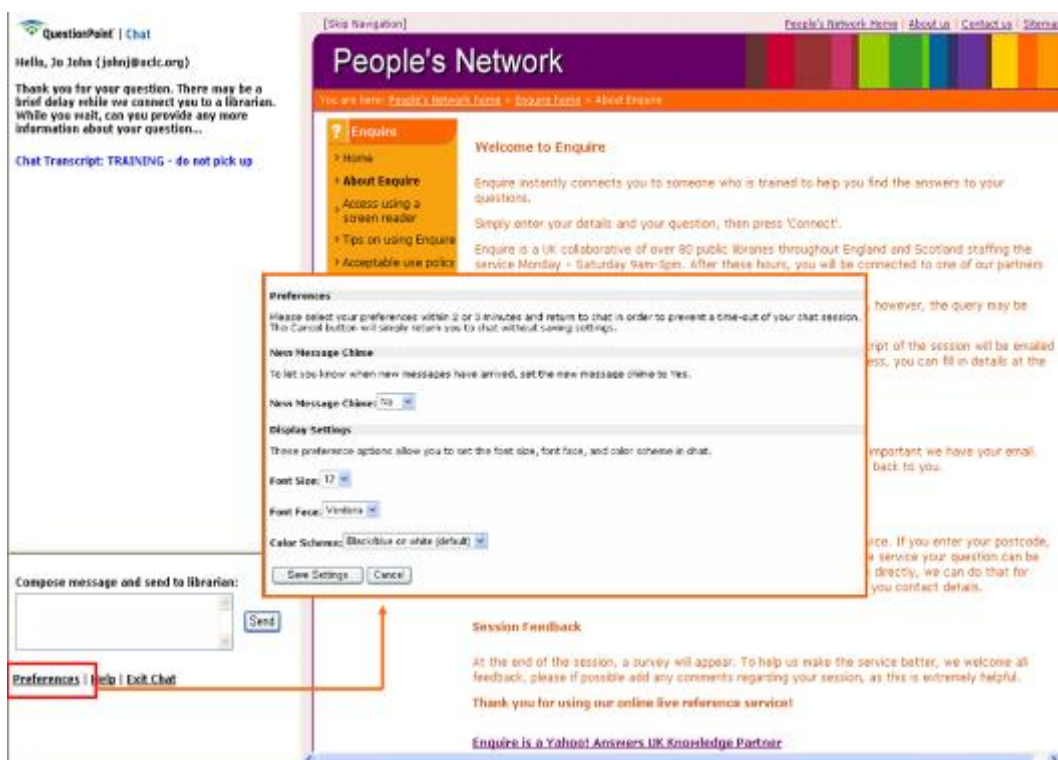
Ask a Librarian

?

Your Question/Message

4.1.1 Patron/Customer preference options

In the chat form the patron is able to change their viewing preferences.



4.2 Librarian access

Log into your QuestionPoint account as we described in Section 3.

The screenshot shows the QuestionPoint dashboard. On the left, under 'Quick Links', the 'Launch Chat' button is highlighted with an orange box. The main content area displays 'QuestionPoint Announcements' and 'Subscription Group Announcements'. The right sidebar contains links for 'Blog | Wiki', 'Documentation | Training', 'Feedback | Framebusters', '24/7 Reference Cooperative', and 'Membership Lists'.

From the Offline area, click **Launch Chat**.

4.2.1 Selecting queues

Select the queues you will be monitoring:

For standard Enquire chat- **all boxes should be checked**. It is a requirement to participate in the 24/7 Reference Cooperative.

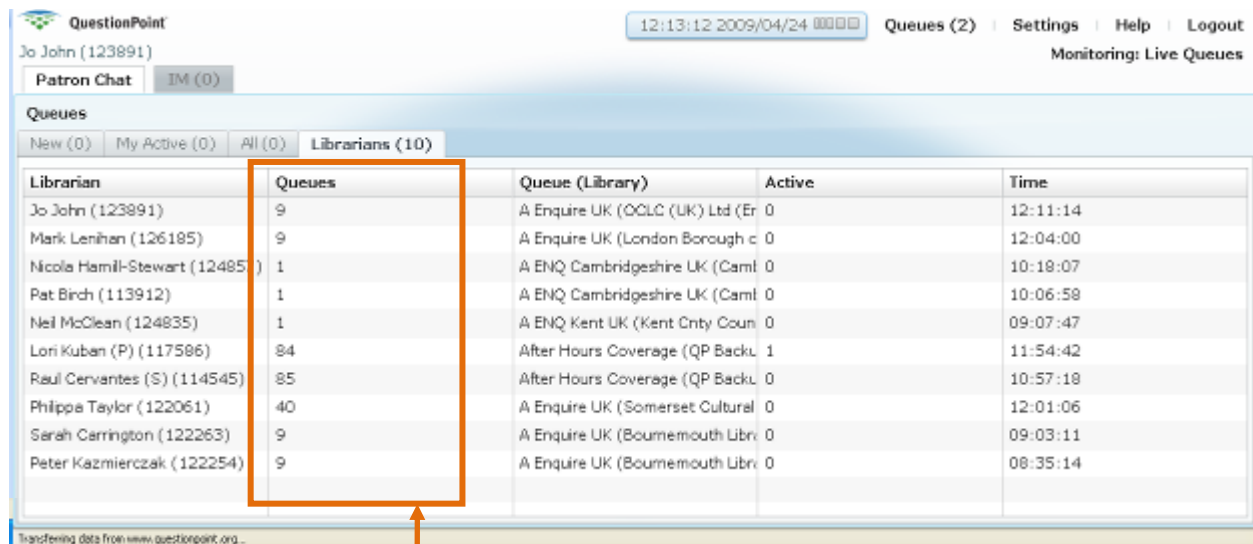
For local services – your local service will be your Primary Queue. When monitoring local chat only the Primary Queue should be selected.

The 'Select Queue' dialog box contains the following text: "Select queues to monitor and click 'Save'. To monitor your Primary Queue with no potential rollup delay in your chat monitor, you must check your Primary Queue box even if it is also part of another line item." Below this is a table with a 'Queue' column and checkboxes. The '24/7 Reference: Public Cooperative' row is highlighted in blue. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for 'Monitor 'Practice Queue' Only' and a 'Save' button.

	Queue
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Primary Queue: A Enquire UK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BME Queues: A Barnsley UK, A ENQ Bookmark, A ENQ Cornwall UK, A ENQ Donca
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cooperative Queues: Enquire, A ENQ Doncaster UK, AQ Essex UK, A ENQ Halton I
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	24/7 Reference: Public Cooperative
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monitor 'Practice Queue' Only

4.2.2 Checking who is monitoring the shift

Once monitoring the live queues, you can click on the **Librarians** tab to see who else is monitoring the shift with you. This will list who is from a UK Enquire library and who is from the US 24/7 Reference Cooperative libraries and also OCLC Backup staff, and how you can also see whether your fellow Enquire librarians are in session with you, or just monitoring a local service.



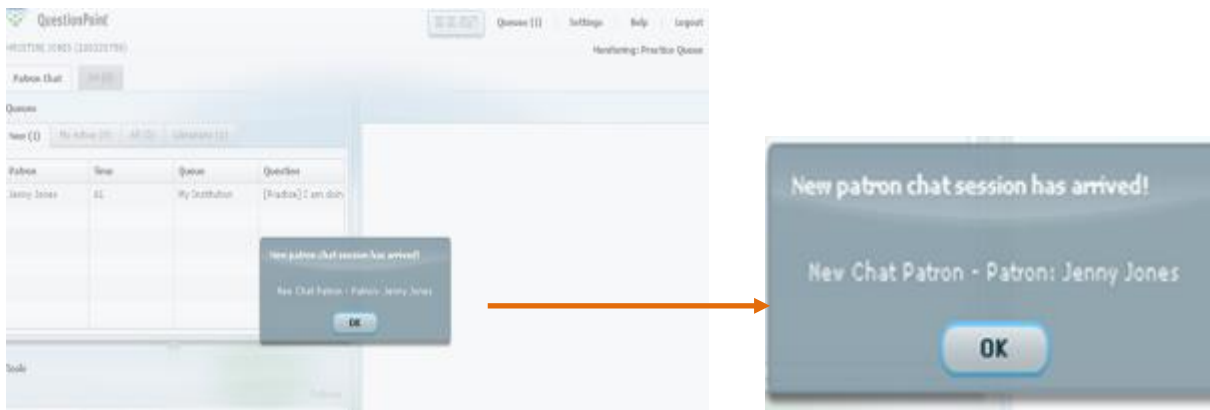
Librarian	Queues	Queue (Library)	Active	Time
Jo John (123891)	9	A Enquire UK (OCLC (UK) Ltd (En	0	12:11:14
Mark Lenihan (126185)	9	A Enquire UK (London Borough c	0	12:04:00
Nicola Hamill-Stewart (12485)	1	A ENQ Cambridgeshire UK (Caml	0	10:18:07
Pat Birch (113912)	1	A ENQ Cambridgeshire UK (Caml	0	10:06:58
Neil McClean (124835)	1	A ENQ Kent UK (Kent Cnty Coun	0	09:07:47
Lori Kuban (P) (117586)	84	After Hours Coverage (QP Backu	1	11:54:42
Raul Cervantes (S) (114545)	85	After Hours Coverage (QP Backu	0	10:57:18
Philippa Taylor (122061)	40	A Enquire UK (Somerset Cultural	0	12:01:06
Sarah Carrington (122263)	9	A Enquire UK (Bournemouth Libr	0	09:03:11
Peter Kazmierczak (122254)	9	A Enquire UK (Bournemouth Libr	0	08:35:14

What do all of the Queue numbers mean:

- **1 or 2 queues** means that the staff are monitoring **only** their local service and will not see Enquire questions.
- **>2 <40 queues** mean that the staff are monitoring the Enquire service, it is very important to select both queues as shown in Section 4.2.1.
- **40+ queues** means these staff are not only monitoring Enquire, but also the **24/7 Reference Cooperative** on their shift, as per our obligation for 24/7 provision for Enquire.
- **80+ queues** these are the OCLC Backup staff, who monitor all 24/7 Reference Cooperative queues. The Backup staff are Enquire's last resort to pick up a question and should not be relied on to pick up the Enquire questions, they are our responsibility in the first instance.

4.2.3 How a new session arrives

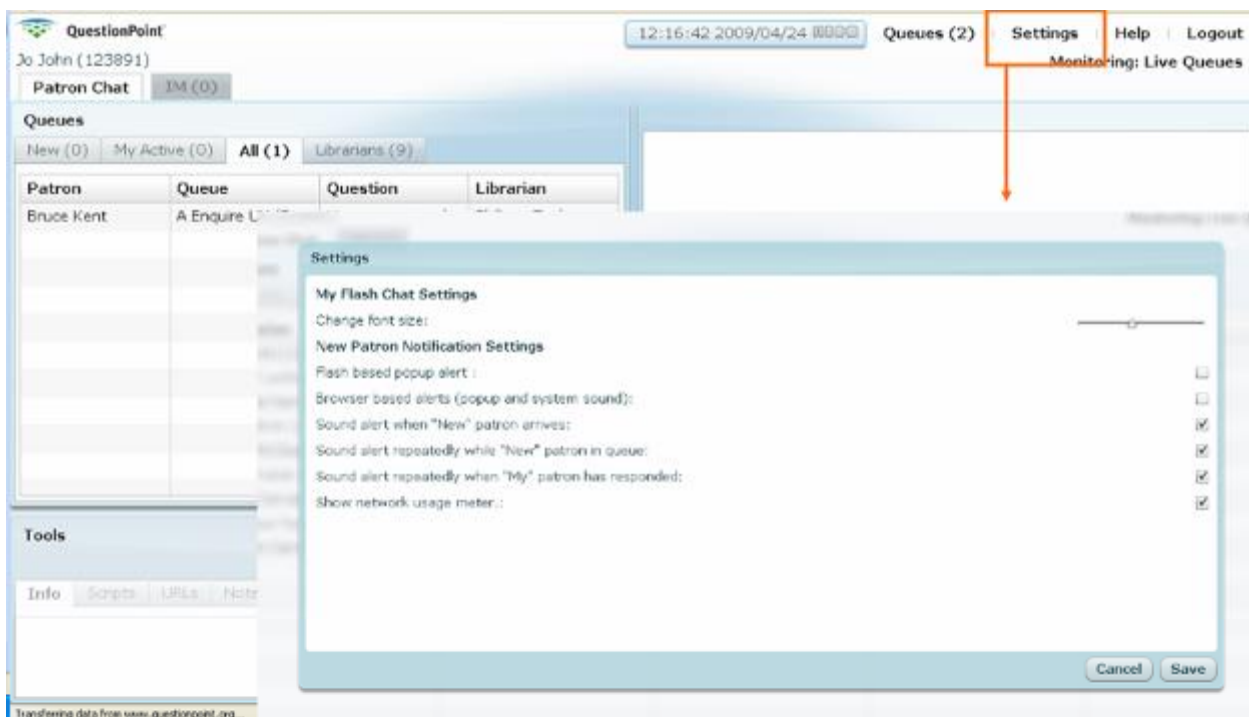
When a new chat session comes in a pop up alert is displayed on your screen. This will happen even if you are currently in a chat session. This is so that you are aware another session has come in. For the first 40 seconds, only Enquire librarians will see the new Enquire patrons. These patrons should be picked up right away otherwise the question is opened up to the wider 24/7 Cooperative. The Cooperative and Back-up staff have been asked to wait over 60 seconds before picking up a question.



HINT : When you log into chat, if you are unable to pick up a question and the pop up box does not go away, check your pc settings. This is often an indication that the Internet Tools Setting has not been set to 'every visit to the page'.

4.2.4 Changing your alert and screen preferences

Change the way you are alerted to a new session. You can change your settings to remove a pop up alert and just have an audible alert. This may mean you are able to select a question more quickly.



Moving the screen boxes around to suit your working style:

QuestionPoint
UK Support (100284857)

11:31:13 2015/09/28 (GMT +0100) Queues (4) Settings Help Logout
Monitoring: Live Queues

Patron Chat IM (0)

Queues
New (0) My Active (1) All (0) Librarians (18)

Patron	Time	Patron's Last Message
() Library Patron	11:30:46 2015/09/28 (GMT +0100)	

Tools
Library Patron
Info Scripts URLs Notes

Question: [10773001] Qwidget: test question: for an anonymous transcript
Patron: Library Patron (No e-mail provided)
Patron's Library: Bookmark Your Library
Queue: A ENG Bookmark
Referer: http://bookmarkyourlibrary.org.uk/index.php?page=ask-a-question
Browser/OS: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64 AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/45.0.2454.101 Safari/537.36
Cobrowse: No

Library Patron:
Question: Qwidget: test question: for an anonymous transcript
Jo (training/admin): Note: Patron's screen name: Library Patron
Jo (training/admin): Librarian 'Jo (training/admin)' has joined the session.

Transfer End Session

QuestionPoint
UK Support (100284857)

11:32:03 2015/09/28 (GMT +0100) Queues (4) Settings Help Logout
Monitoring: Live Queues

Patron Chat IM (0)

Queues
New (0) My Active (1) All (0) Librarians (17)

Patron	Time	Patron's Last Message
() Library Patron	11:30:46 2015/09/28 (GMT +0100)	

Tools
Library Patron
Info Scripts URLs Notes

(20) Patron Library

- 24/7 Welcome
- Anonymous patron - get details
- Books or articles or online
- Deadline?
- Enquire Welcome
- Have you looked already?
- Library doesn't participate in Enquire
- More specific
- PC problems
- Shall I do more research?
- Stage 1 process for rude or abusive patrons
- Stage 2 process for rude or abusive patrons
- Welcome and busy
- What is the info for?

(33) My Library

- 1. Enquire welcome
- GM: Which Library do you use
- JO: come back with question
- JO: sorry been so long
- click here script
- 118118 / AQA
- Birmingham Libraries script
- Enquire referred questions - non subscriber
- Good Question
- Just a moment
- More detail
- More specific
- Non-subscribing
- Offensive / Abusive

Library Patron:
Question: Qwidget: test question: for an anonymous transcript
Jo (training/admin): Note: Patron's screen name: Library Patron
Jo (training/admin): Librarian 'Jo (training/admin)' has joined the session.

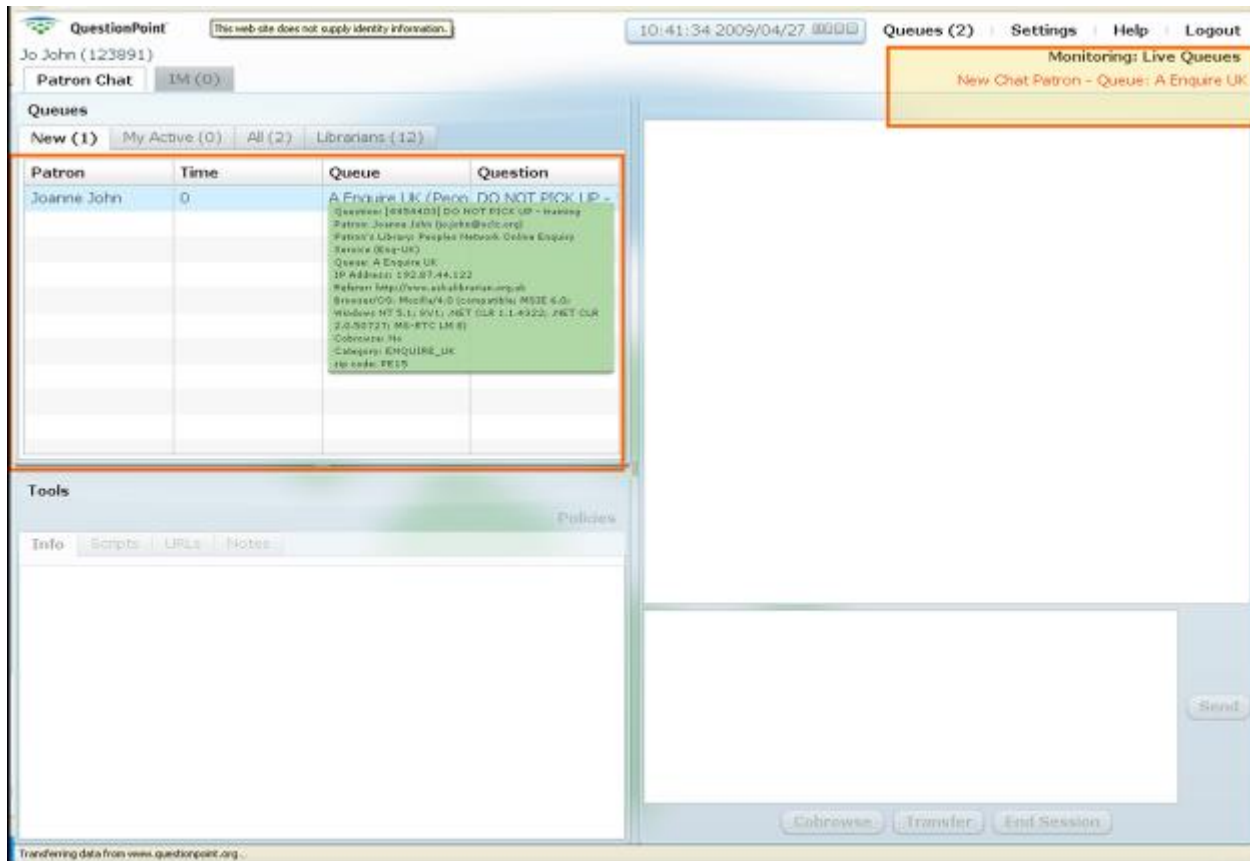
Transfer End Session

4.3 The librarian chat screen – Patron Chat tab

An overview of all the areas of the chat screen is detailed in this section and the processes associated with them. Click on the Patron Chat tab.

4.3.1 The New tab

This is where new chat sessions will come in.



Once a new chat session arrives.

At the top right of the screen you will see a short pop up display showing the Queue the patron is coming in from. This could be Enquire, it could be a local queue where the staff are not logged in and it rolls up to Enquire, or it could detail one of the thousands of 24/7 Cooperative libraries (if you are monitoring the 24/7 Cooperative).

When a question comes in, the details appear:

Patron - this will show the patron name if provided; or say anonymous if a name has not been provided.

Time - this is the time elapsed, the total time (in seconds) that the patron has been waiting.

Queue - advises which queue the patron is coming in from.

Question - this will show the full details of the question. to see the whole question hover over it with the mouse **do not click unless you are picking it up**.

NOTE: Hitting the Enter key will send information to the customer. As discussed in the etiquette section, chat in short sentences, and use ellipses (...) to advise more information is coming...

4.3.2 Picking up a question – Chat Tools including anonymous patrons.

The rest of the screen becomes visible, once a question is picked up. Now you can access all of the tools to make the chat session a success. You will also notice that your session has moved from the **New** tab to the **My Active** tab, where more of the screen is available to you, as shown in the information below.

4.3.2.1 The Info tab

The screenshot shows the QuestionPoint interface. At the top, there's a header with the time '10:41:44 2009/04/27' and navigation links: 'Queues (2)', 'Settings', 'Help', and 'Logout'. Below this, the user 'Jo John (123891)' is logged in. The main area is divided into several sections:

- Patron Chat:** A tab labeled 'IM (0)'.
- Queues:** A section with tabs for 'New (0)', 'My Active (1)', 'All (2)', and 'Librarians (12)'. The 'My Active' tab is selected, showing a table with one entry:

Patron	Time	Patron's Last Message
() Joanne John	10:41:33 2009/04/27	
- Tools:** A section with tabs for 'Info', 'Scripts', 'URLs', and 'Notes'. The 'Info' tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. It displays the following information:
 - Question: [4434405] DO NOT PICK UP - training
 - Patron: Joanne John (jo.john@oclc.org)
 - Patron's Library: Peoples Network Online Enquiry Service (Enq-UK)
 - Queue: A Enquire UK
 - IP Address: 192.87.44.122
 - Referer: http://www.askalibrarian.org.uk
 - Browser/OS: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 6.0; Windows NT 5.1; SV1; .NET CLR 1.1.4322; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; MS-RTC LM 8)
 - Cobrowse: Yes
 - Category: ENQUIRE_UK
 - zip code: PE15
- Policies:** A section on the right side of the 'Tools' area.
- Chat Area:** A large text box on the right for the chat session, with a 'Send' button.
- Buttons:** At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Cobrowse', 'Transfer', and 'End Session'.

This tab provides you with information about the customer:

It provides **Patron** information, their name and email address if provided (for anonymous patrons see 4.3.2.2 Anonymous patrons – how do they get the transcript?).

The **Queue** details of how they have accessed the service.

The **Referer** shows the path they took to access Enquire – it could be the People's Network url, the Ask A Librarian url, or a local url; all are clues to where the question comes in from and if clarification is required.

The **zip code** shows the patrons location. In Section 3 we covered the importance of the postcode and how it helps with not only library statistics, but gives a clue as to the customer's whereabouts should they require local information.

4.3.2.2 Anonymous patrons – how do they get the transcript?

Anonymous Patrons can still receive an email of their transcript, however you must advise them of this.

In the chat “Info” tab, you will see that (No e-mail provided) this is an anonymous patron.

Tools
Library Patron Policies

Info Scripts URLs Notes

Question: [10818070] Qwidget: test question for an anonymous patron
 Patron: Library Patron (No e-mail provided)
 Patron's Library: Bookmark Your Library
 Queue: A ENQ Bookmark
 Referer: http://bookmarkyourlibrary.org.uk/index.php?page=ask-a-question
 Browser/OS: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/45.0.2454.101 Safari/537.36
 Cobrowse: No

You can create a new script for this as some libraries have already. See 3.5 Scripts on how to create a new script. An example of a script is shown below.

Tools
Library Patron Policies

Scripts Info URLs Notes

(20) Patron Library

- Welcome and busy
- What is the info for?
- Yahoo! Answers closing signature
- 1. Hello
- 2. Which library authority do you belong to?
- 3. Signposting for non-subscribing library
- 4. signposting for subscribing library
- 5. Goodbye

(23) My Library

- 1. Enquire welcome
- 2. Where have you looked
- 3. 118118 / AQA
- 4. Still searching, OK to hold?
- 5. Still searching - no email provided
- 6. Anonymous ending
- Weather (test #2)
- Weather (test)

Thank you for using Enquire. You'll be able to email yourself a copy of the transcript at the end of this session as you didn't enter an email address. We don't keep this information.

We would also be grateful if you can complete the short online survey that pops up when the session ends.

>>

When the patron clicks on the Qwidget “Email session transcript” they can enter their email in a box. For the full form when the session ends an email box is on the page the patron sees.

In order to use the ask a lib...

Ask a Librarian
Your session has ended. select from the option(s)

Email session transcript
OK

The page at www.questionpoint.org says:

Enter your email address

OK Cancel

4.3.2.3 The Scripts tab

QuestionPoint
Jo John (123891)
Patron Chat IM (0)

Queues
New (0) My Active (1) All (2) Librarians (12)

Patron	Time	Patron's Last Message
() Joanne John	10:41:33 2009/04/27	

Tools
Joanne John Policies

Info Scripts URLs Notes

(22) Patron Library

- Books or articles or online
- Deadline?
- Enquire Welcome
- Have you looked already?
- More specific
- Offensive or abusive
- Please you you explain...

(26) My Library

- Clarification
- Good Question
- Hold
- I'm about to send you a webpage
- Just a moment
- More detail

Please can you explain...

>>

Colourwise Transfer End Session

The scripts tab allows you to access pre-configured scripts that can make sending quick statements to the customer easier. Scripts can be edited which will allow you to personalise them to fit the situation.

Scroll down the list of scripts and when you find one you wish to use click on it:

The script will populate in the box below – see in the example above the ‘Clarification’ example, when clicked on, the text “Please you you explain....” becomes available. This also includes a typing error to be corrected, but you can edit it to say “Please can you explain a little more...” etc and then click on the >> to send it over to the typing area.

4.3.2.4 The Notes tab

The screenshot displays the QuestionPoint interface. At the top, the header shows 'QuestionPoint' and a timestamp '10:42:54 2009/04/27'. Below the header, there are tabs for 'Patron Chat' and 'IM (0)'. The main area is divided into two sections. On the left, under 'Queues', there is a table with columns 'Patron', 'Time', and 'Patron's Last Message'. The table contains one entry for 'Joanne John' at '10:41:33 2009/04/27'. Below the table, there is a 'Tools' section with tabs for 'Info', 'Scripts', 'URLs', and 'Notes'. The 'Notes' tab is selected, showing a text area for adding a 'librarian only note' and a 'Send' button. On the right, there is a chat window for 'Joanne John' showing a transcript of the session. The transcript includes a question about training, a note about the patron's screen name, and a request for an explanation. At the bottom of the chat window, there are buttons for 'CoBrowse', 'Transfer', and 'End Session'.

Patron	Time	Patron's Last Message
() Joanne John	10:41:33 2009/04/27	

Question: Chat Transcript: DO NOT PICK UP - training
 Jo: Note: Patron's screen name: Joanne John
 Jo: Librarian 'Jo' has joined the session.
 Jo: Note: this is a training question only
 Jo: Please can you explain...

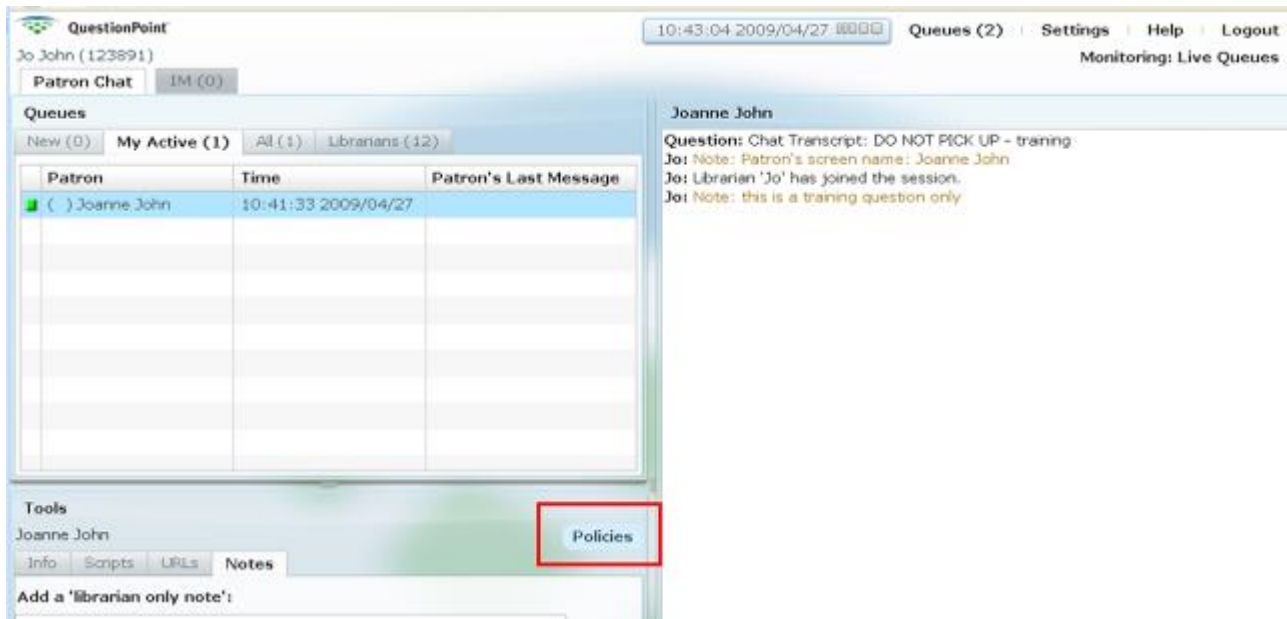
You can use the notes tab to write any information about the transcript in progress. These notes are librarian only notes and are not visible to the patron.

Here you can add information as follows:

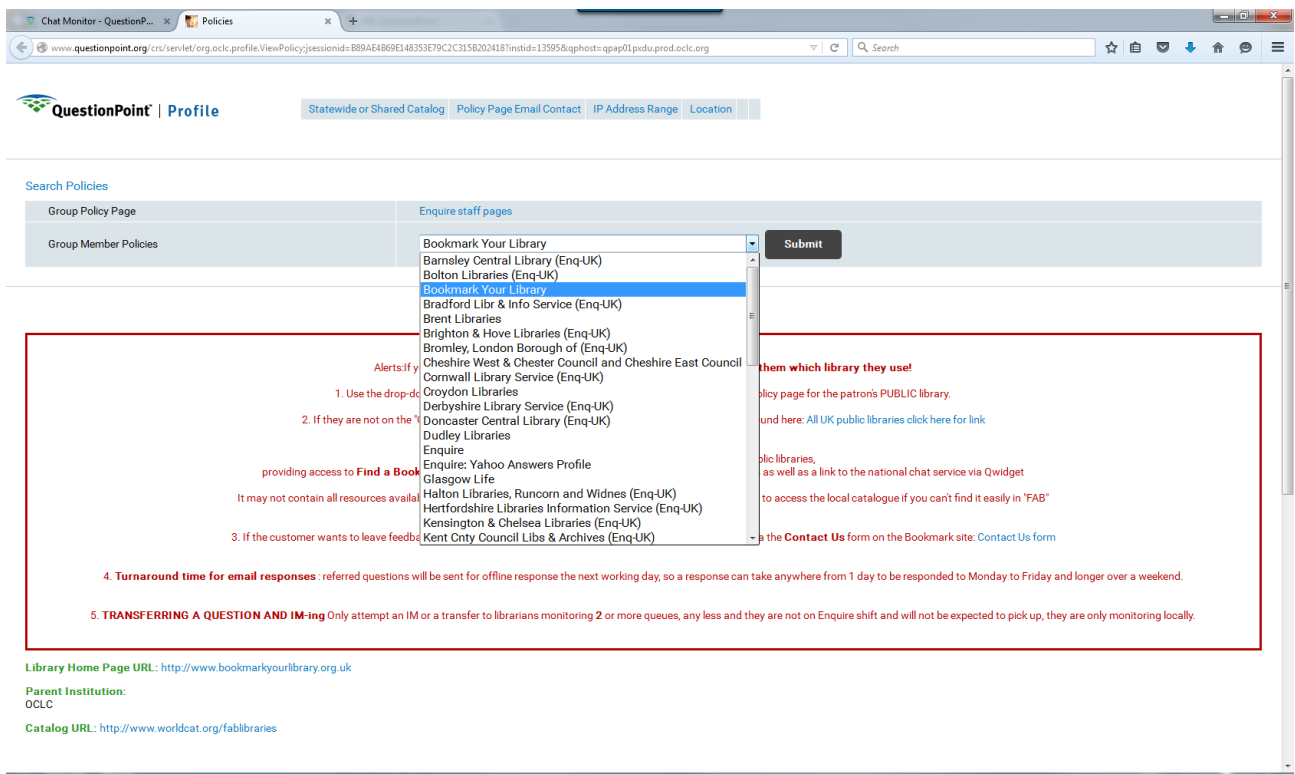
- If you are taking the question 'offline' you may want to make a note of due date, or any reference material you immediately thought of may be useful.
- If the session is a rude or inappropriate question, as well as ending the session promptly you may also want to add a note.

4.3.2.5 Policies

Using the Policy Pages in chat



You will find using the Policy pages for local information useful when in chat, as it allows you to deep link directly into local information. Policy pages are available only for subscribing libraries⁶. Clicking on the word **Policies** opens a new browser window outside of the chat session:



From the drop down menu, select the participating library authority you are looking for and click on **Submit**.

⁶ A list of current subscribers can be found here: <http://www.oclc.org/support/services/enquire.en.html>

The authority's details will appear as below, enabling you to review information and deep link as necessary.

	Statewide or Shared Catalog	Policy Page Email Contact	Phone	Hours	Location	Available Technology and Equipment
	Wifi Access?	Databases	e-Books	Tutoring/Homework Assistance	Library Card Policies	Access Policies and Reciprocal Arrangements
	Loan Periods/Returns	Loan Limits	Renewals	Holds	Late Fees	Interlibrary Loan
	Obituaries/Local History	Community referral Information	Library programs, events, services	Meeting Rooms	Summer Reading Programs/Lists	

Search Policies

Group Policy Page	Enquire staff pages
Group Member Policies	<input type="text" value="Nottingham City Libraries (Enq-UK)"/> <input type="button" value="Submit"/>

Nottingham City Libraries (Enq-UK)

Library Home Page URL: <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/article/22851/Libraries>

The library service in the City of Nottingham is provided by Nottingham City Council

PLEASE NOTE that NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL and NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL are 2 separate library authorities with a shared catalogue and membership but differing policies

Parent Institution:

Nottingham City Library & Information Service is provided by Nottingham City Council <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1>

Catalog URL: https://emlib.ent.sirsiidynix.net.uk/client/en_GB/nottcity/

Statewide or Shared Catalog:

The library catalog is a joint catalog for Nottingham City Libraries and Nottinghamshire County Libraries; items appearing on the catalog are available to members of either library service.

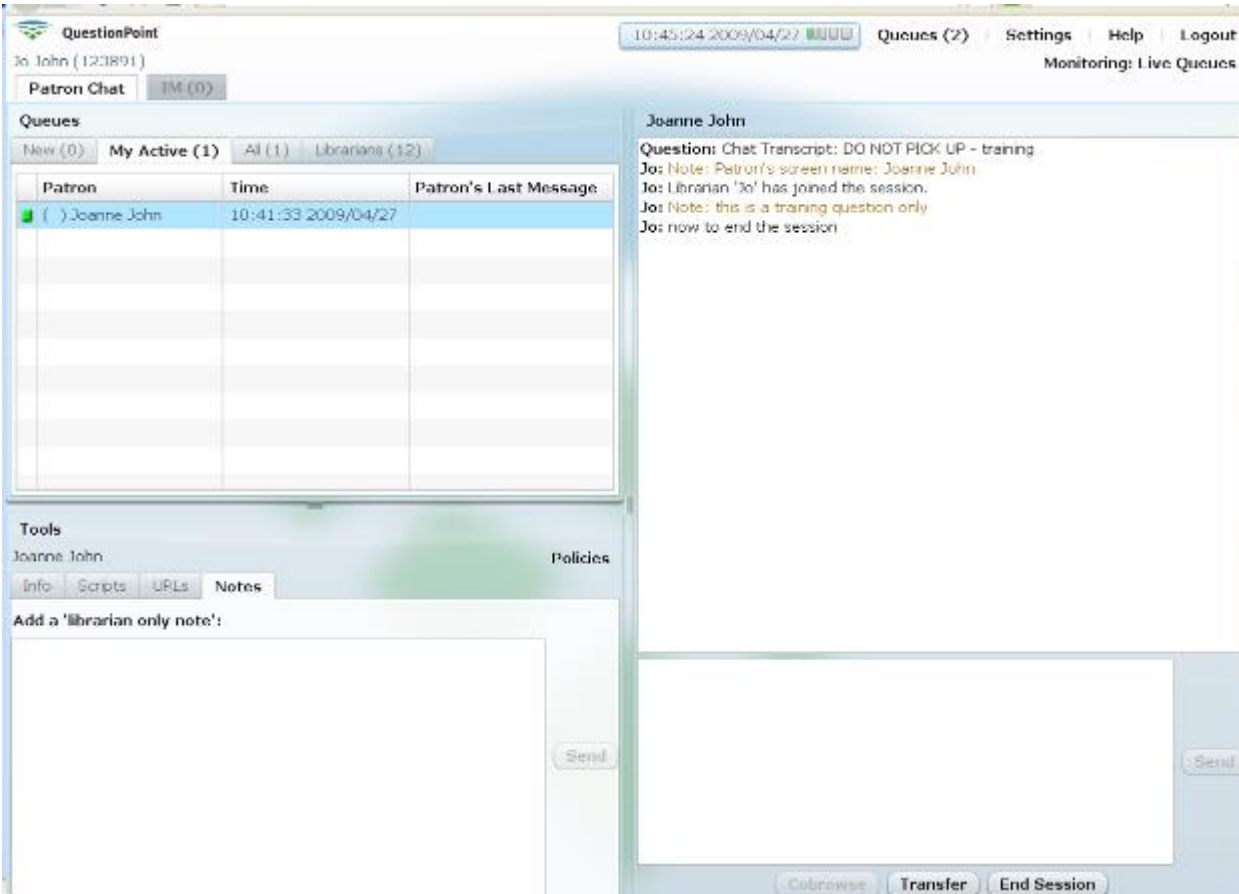
Policy Page Email Contact: nicola.holmes@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Database Access for Coop Librarians (library card etc.): **NOTE: These URLs, usernames, and/or passwords must not be shared with patrons (see Databases field for student/faculty/staff access info):**
Example number = D20123456 ; all library membership numbers start with the letter D followed by 8 numerical digits. The first numerical digit will be either 0, 2 or 3.

Guest Login/PIN for Coop Librarians:

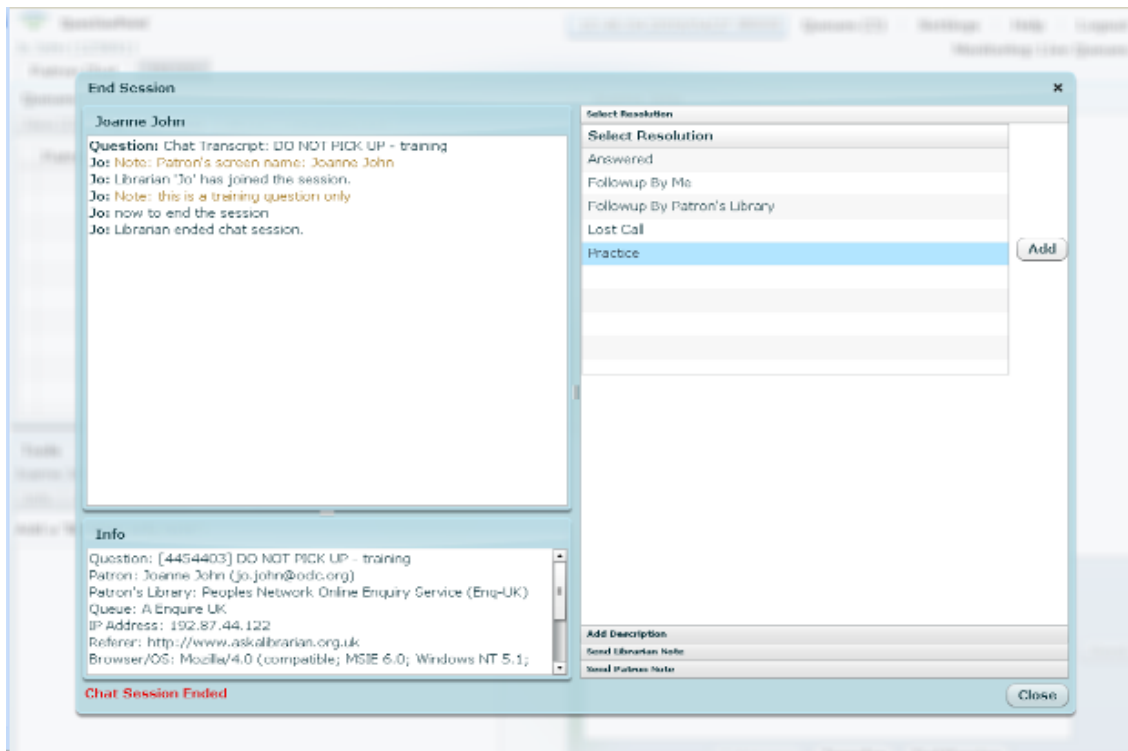
PIN not required for online database access; library system PIN chosen by library user at registration.

4.3.2.6 Ending a session



The screenshot shows the QuestionPoint interface during a chat session. The top bar indicates the user is logged in as 'Jo John (123891)' and shows the time as 10:43:24 on 2009/04/27. The 'Queues' section on the left shows a list of active sessions, with one session for 'Joanne John' at 10:41:33. The 'Tools' section on the right includes tabs for 'Info', 'Scripts', 'URLs', and 'Notes'. The 'Notes' tab is selected, showing a text area for adding a 'librarian only note'. The 'Queues' section also displays a chat transcript for the session with Joanne John, showing messages from the librarian and the patron.

When you have come to the end of your chat session, click on the **End Session** button. Here you must select a closing **resolution** for the chat session.



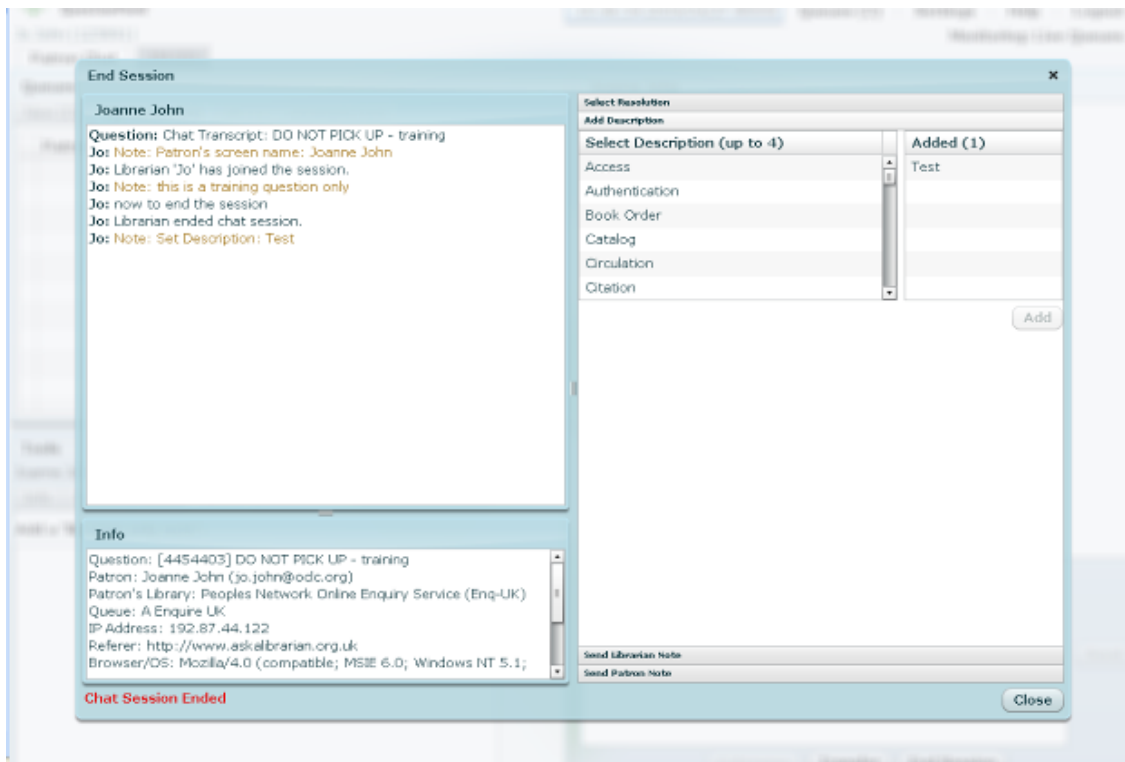
Resolution codes quantify how the question was left:

Answered – The question was answered in full with no follow up required at the moment, although the patron can come back to you later.

Follow up by me – you have agreed to take this offline and get back with an email response later.

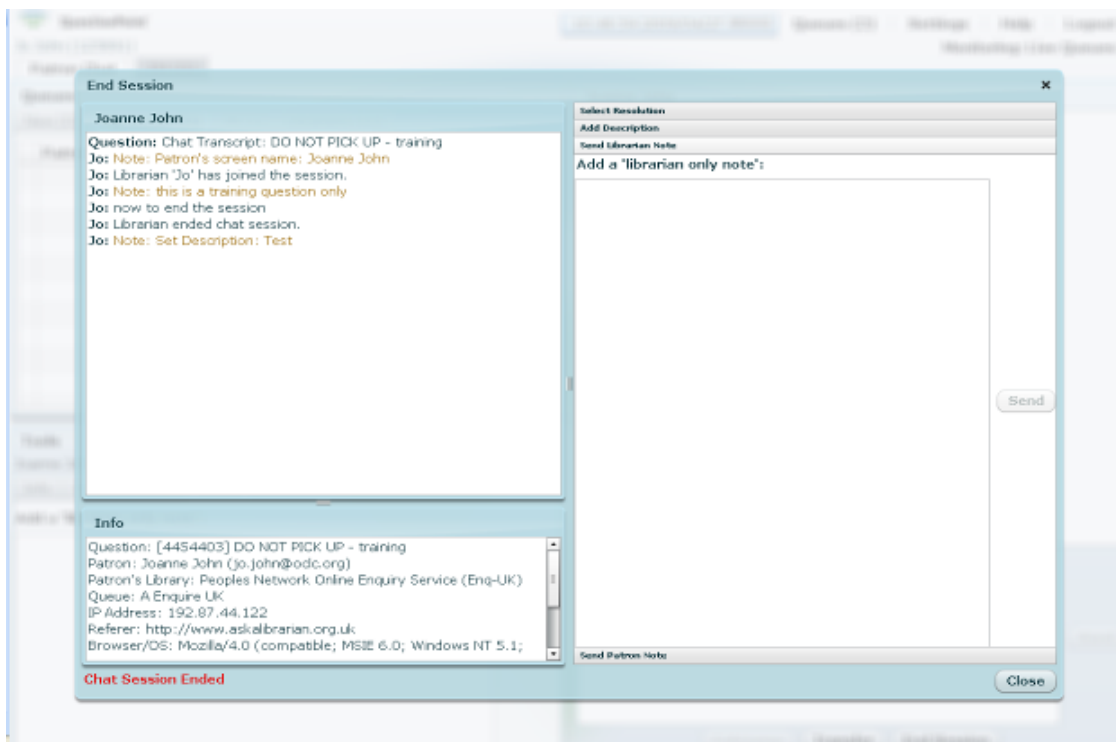
Follow up by Patron's Library – sends the question back to OCLC Support to forward on to the patrons library. If you are participating in the 24/7 Reference Co-op, it will go back to the relevant institution for local follow up.

Practice – use this code for any test or demonstration question. These are not then recorded in the statistics.

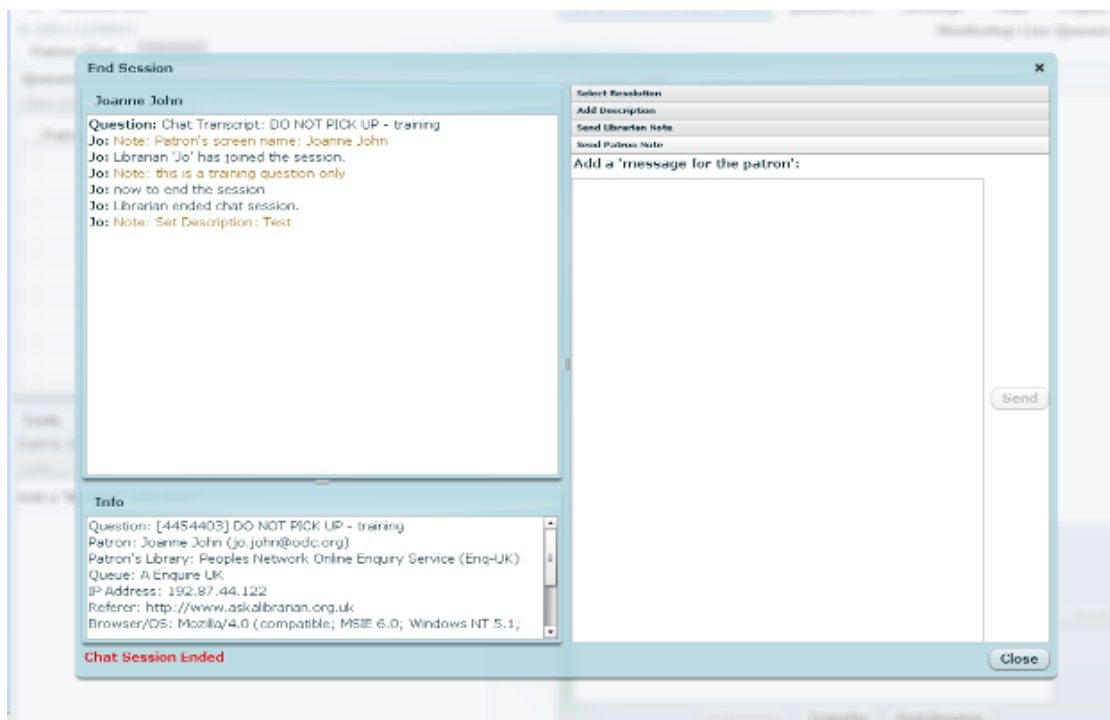


Once a resolution code has been accepted you are able to select **descriptive codes** to identify what the question was about (up to 4 can be selected). For Enquire these are not necessary, but feel free to use them if you wish.

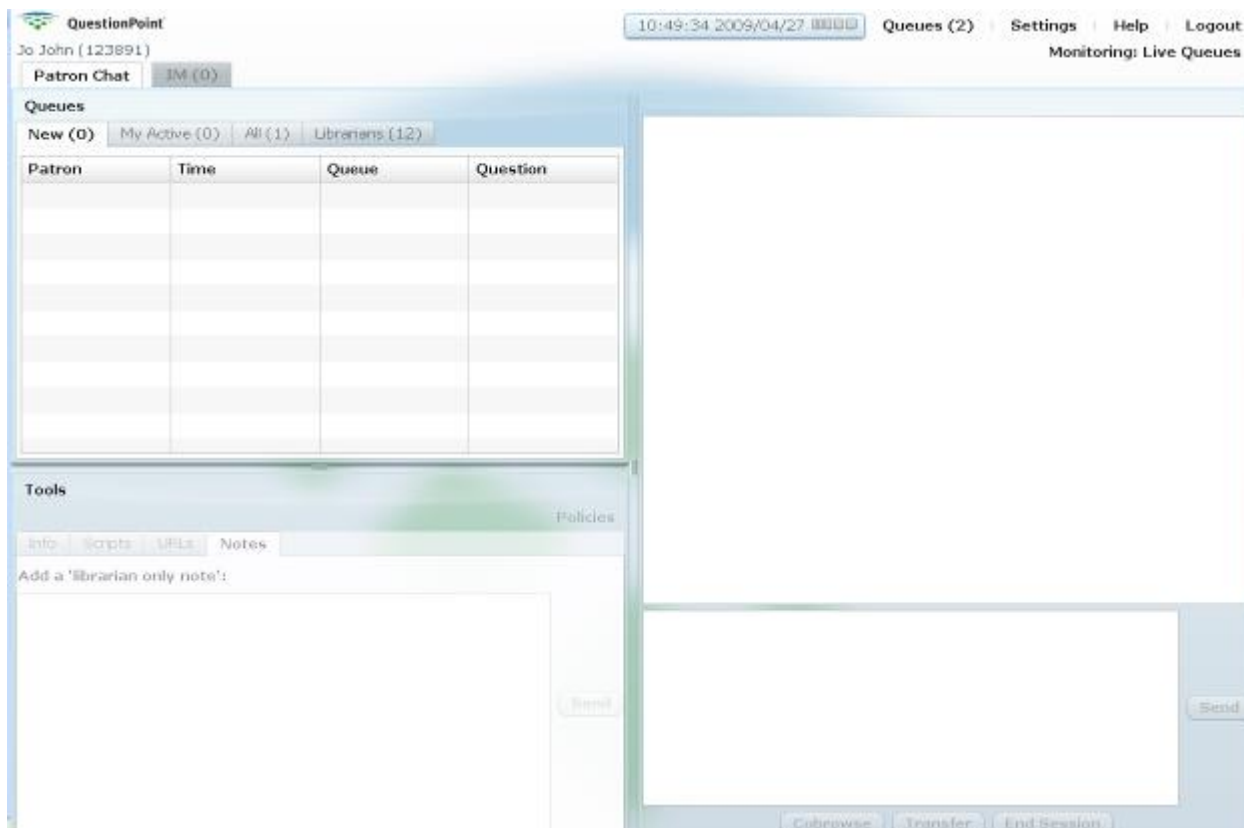
You can also add an additional **librarian note** at this time. This note is only visible to library staff and not to the patron, so if a session has abruptly ended you may want to add a note to this effect.



As well as a librarian note, this is your final chance to provide information to the patron. You can add a message to be sent to the patron in the **'Send Patron Note'** box.



Once you have completed these steps (although you are only required to add a resolution code), click on **Close** to end the chat session. As soon as you click on **Close** the information in the chat transcript and any message you add here is emailed to the patron. You will then return to the 'New' patron area to await another question.



4.4 The librarian chat screen – IM tab

This tab allows you to contact colleagues through **Instant Messaging**. This can be used for a variety of reasons:

- You may need to log off.
- You may wish to transfer a question to someone.
- You may wish to say 'hello, that should have been my question'.

4.4.1 Sending an IM to a colleague

To send an instant message, click on the **IM** tab, then select the librarian you want to IM by clicking on their name. As with chat, type your message in the box and send.

The screenshot shows the QuestionPoint interface with the IM tab selected. The top navigation bar includes 'Queues (2)', 'Settings', 'Help', and 'Logout'. The main area is divided into two sections: a list of librarians and an active IM session window.

Librarian	Queues	Queue (Library)	Active	Time
Linda Denney (B,P) (114)	168	A After Hours Coverage	3	12:59:34 (GMT +0100)
Stephanie Coates (1189)	1	A Brighton-Hove (Brightc	0	13:11:53 (GMT +0100)
Edward DeButts (10198)	47	A C. Rappahannock VA (1	12:57:27 (GMT +0100)
Page-Lane Pamela (140)	1	A ENQ Cornwall UK (Corr	0	10:56:25 (GMT +0100)
Lesley Tomlinson (14536)	1	A ENQ Doncaster UK (Do	0	13:06:17 (GMT +0100)
Margaret Brockman (129	54	A ENQ Kent UK (Kent Cnl	0	08:44:16 (GMT +0100)
Neil McClean (124835)	1	A ENQ Kent UK (Kent Cnl	0	13:19:55 (GMT +0100)
Catharine (129773)	1	A ENQ Norfolk UK (Norfol	0	09:07:15 (GMT +0100)
Joanne Lane (133705)	1	A ENQ Nottinghamshire	0	09:20:46 (GMT +0100)
Alaine Allen (133706)	1	A ENQ Nottinghamshire	0	09:03:17 (GMT +0100)
UK Support (100284857)	22	A Enquire UK (Enquire)	1	13:39:24 (GMT +0100)
Heather Memess (13484)	52	A Enquire UK (Hertfords)	1	13:10:21 (GMT +0100)
Terry Heath (139878)	49	A Enquire UK (Staffordsh	0	09:06:11 (GMT +0100)
Cher Grazier (119616)	48	A MD PUBLIC (WORCEST	0	13:00:30 (GMT +0100)

Below the list is a section titled 'My Active IM Sessions' with a table showing the current IM session with 'UK Support (100284857)'.

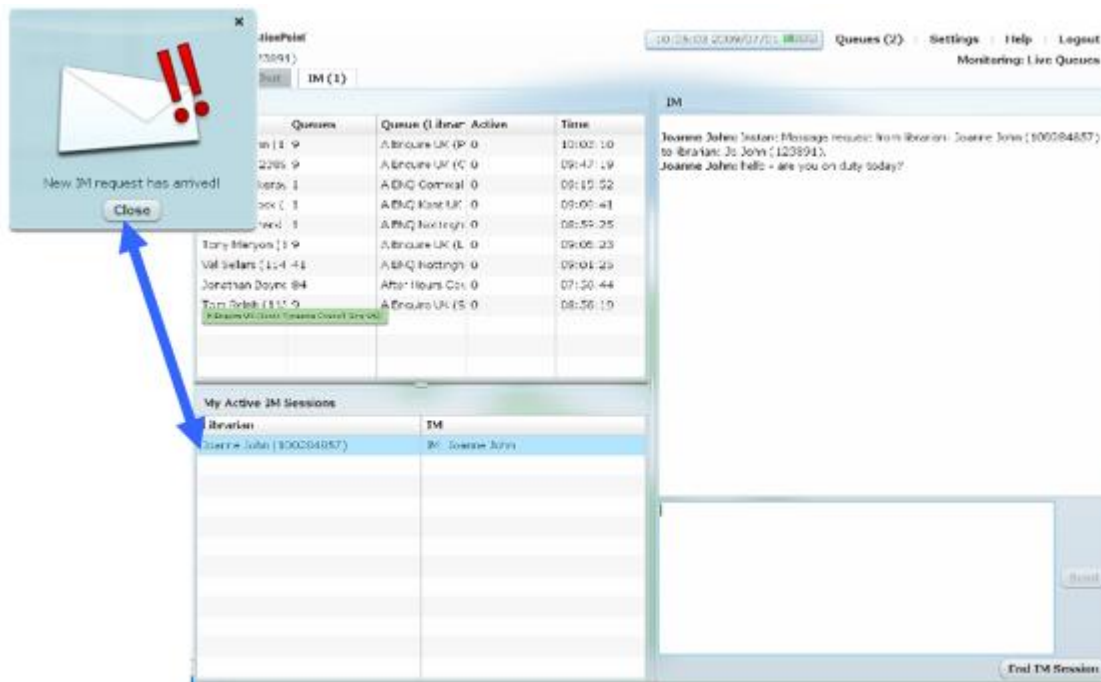
The right-hand side of the interface shows the IM chat window with a text input box and a 'Send' button. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'End IM Session'.

4.4.2 Receiving and ending an IM from a colleague

An alert pops up when you receive an IM and you are unable to do anything in the chat window until you click on **close**.

Click on the IM tab which now reads IM (1). Click on the name of the person who has sent you the instant message. Type your reply in the box and send.

To end an IM session, click on **End IM Session** and return to the Chat tab to wait for a new question.

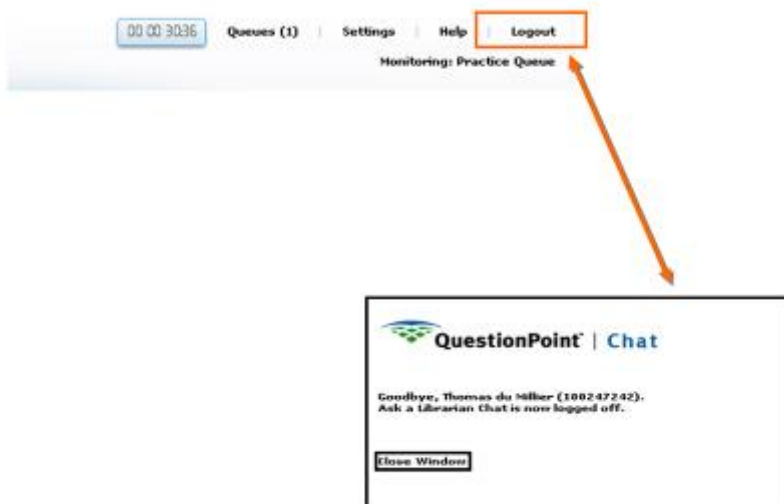


4.5 Closing your chat screen and QuestionPoint

The way in which you end your time on shift is important. If you log out incorrectly you will still show as logged in and the 24/7 Cooperative may assume you are still staffing and will not pick up questions that come via Enquire swiftly enough.

Ending the chat session:

- At the top right of the chat screen, click on the **Logout** button.
- The screen will close and another will replace it. This screen advises you that your chat session is now logged off and the **close window** button should be clicked.
- You will be back at the QuestionPoint homepage to continue with offline work.



To log out of QuestionPoint completely at the top right of the homepage, click on **Exit**. This will log you out of QuestionPoint.

5. Answering Questions Offline

Offline questions are questions that are no longer in the chat session, but require further contact with the patron:

These can be chat sessions you have set for further follow up via **Follow up by me**.

Referred shift or local questions as part of Enquire follow up.

5.1 Answering questions / Follow up chat sessions

From your **Homepage**, click on **New** under **Question Lists**. The list of questions question to be answered will be displayed:

The screenshot shows the 'New Questions' interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'SELECT SERVICE: Ask' and tabs for 'Questions', 'My Questions', 'Add Question', 'Review Transcripts', 'Service History', and 'Settings'. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with 'Active', 'New' (selected), 'Pending', 'Referred', 'Answered', 'Closed', and 'All'. A search bar is on the right with 'Search: ' and 'by Keyword(s)'. A 'Refresh List' button is on the left, and 'Records 1 - 1 of 1' is on the right. The main area shows a table with one question: '10804689: test for descriptive codes and header training information'. It includes details like 'Received: 14:22:28 2015/10/07 (GMT +0100)', 'Updated: 12:25:34 2015/10/08 (GMT +0100)', 'Assigned to: UK Support', and 'Patron: Walk Up'. There are also buttons for 'Select Action' and 'Assign to: Unassigned'.

Clicking on the question opens the detailed transcript:

The screenshot shows the detailed transcript for question 10804689. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'SELECT SERVICE: Ask' and tabs for 'Questions', 'My Questions', 'Add Question', 'Review Transcripts', 'Service History', and 'Settings'. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with 'Active', 'New', 'Pending', 'Referred', 'Answered', 'Closed', and 'All'. A yellow banner at the top says 'Patron email is blank'. Below this is a 'Full Question' section with a 'Return to List' button and a 'Print View' button. The main area has buttons for 'Answer', 'Reject Assignment', 'Add Note', and 'Add Descriptive Codes'. There are also dropdowns for 'Change Patron E-mail', 'Refer To', and 'Move To'. The 'Question Detail' section shows 'Patron: Walk Up', 'Assigned: UK Support (20)', 'Language: English', 'Question: [10804689] test for descriptive codes and header training information', and 'Patron Institution: Enquire'. The 'Question History' section shows a list of events: 'Patron: 14:22:28 2015/10/07 (GMT +0100) test for descriptive codes and header training information', 'Librarian 1: 08:20:22 2015/10/08 (GMT +0100) Note: Please can you leave this question for PPT screenshot purposes.', 'Librarian 1: 12:18:37 2015/10/08 (GMT +0100) Referred from: Enquire(10836) by: UK Support(100284857) to institution: Enquire: Yahoo Answers Profile(13215) Reason: As a test', and 'Librarian 2: 12:25:34 2015/10/08 (GMT +0100) Rejected by institution:13215.'

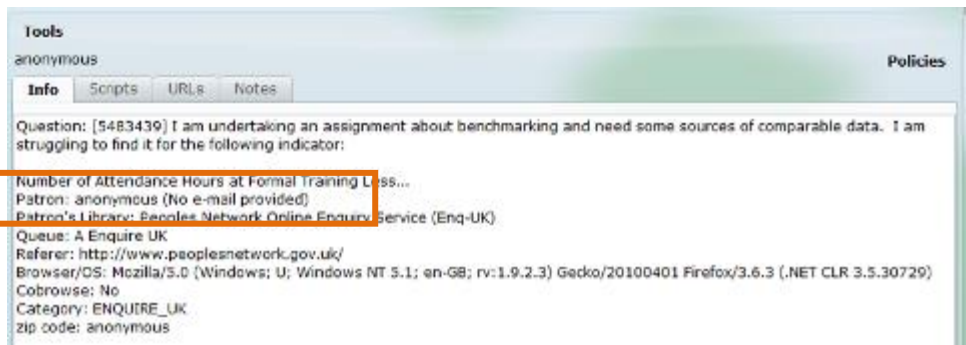
Select a question and click on **'Answer'**. The Answer Question screen opens:

- **Send Answer** – this sends the answer to the customer and sets the question status to ‘answered’. Scripts can be used if you want to. Attachments can also be added to the reply.
- **Request Clarification** – this sends a message asking for more information to the customer. The question status is set to ‘pending’.
- **Send Message** – do not use this.
- **Save Draft** – saves your reply as a draft for editing and completion later.

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5.2 Replying to anonymous sessions

When an anonymous chat session is picked up, you see at the bottom left of the chat screen that no details have been provided: **Patron: anonymous (No e-mail provided)**



This will remind you during the session to ask for contact details if you reach agreement to take the question offline and answer the question later.

When accessing the question from the Question List, you are immediately alerted by the additional

header message: **! Patron email is blank**

In the example below the patron has provided their email address within the chat transcript. To add the email to the question detail;

- highlight and copy the email from the transcript
- then
- click on the button **Change Patron E-mail**.

! Patron email is blank

Full Question [Return to List](#)

[Answer](#)
[Reject Assignment](#)
[Add Note](#)
[Add Descriptive Codes](#)

[Change Patron E-mail](#)
[-- Refer To --](#)
[-- Move To --](#)

Question Detail

Patron:	Walk Up	Status:	?
Assigned:	UK Support (20)	Received:	14:22:28 2015/10/07 (GMT+0100)
Language:	English		
Question:	[10804689] test for descriptive codes and header training information		
Patron Institution:	Enquire		

Question History

Patron: 14:22:28 2015/10/07 (GMT+0100)	test for descriptive codes and header training information
Librarian 1: 08:20:22 2015/10/08 (GMT+0100)	Note: Please can you leave this question for PPT screenshot purposes.
Librarian 1: 12:18:37 2015/10/08 (GMT+0100)	Referred from: Enquire(10836) by: UK Support(100284857) to institution: Enquire: Yahoo Answers Profile(13215) Reason: As a test
Librarian 2: 12:25:34 2015/10/08 (GMT+0100)	Rejected by institution: 13215.

[Answer](#)
[Reject Assignment](#)
[Add Note](#)
[Add Descriptive Codes](#)

[Change Patron E-mail](#)

A new screen will appear, where you can paste the new email address into **New Email Address** and then reconfirm it in **Re-enter New Email Address**.

In the **Old Question** area, change the radio button from **'Leave unchanged'** which is the default to **'Delete'**. What this does is completely replaces the question adding in the new information i.e. the email address. The association between old and new is held in the system, so if the patron replies to the original question, although it is deleted it will appear in the new overwritten question.

[Cancel](#) [Change Patron E-mail](#)

Question: **[10804689]** test for descriptive codes and header training information [\[Full Question View\]](#)

Use this page to change the patron e-mail address for this question. This page creates a copy of the question with a new patron e-mail address and Question ID. Be sure that the new address is the correct one for the patron who asked the question.

<p>Old Patron Information:</p> <p>New E-mail Address:</p> <p>Re-enter New E-mail Address:</p> <p>New Patron Name: (Optional, used for new accounts)</p> <p>Old Question:</p> <p>Reason for change: (optional):</p>	<p>Walk Up</p> <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">enter the email address from your transcript here</div> <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">repeat above</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p> <input type="radio"/> Leave unchanged <input checked="" type="radio"/> Delete <input type="radio"/> Close Question </p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>This must be put to delete to enable only 'one' session to remain. Both the new and deleted transcripts will stay linked even though it is deleted.</p> </div>
--	---

[Cancel](#) [Change Patron E-mail](#)

Adding a reason for changing the email address is optional.

Once all the changes have been made click on the **Change Patron Email** button. The screen will then return to the question showing the overwritten detail.

If the patron wishes to remaining anonymous this isn't a problem (unless they need an offline response) the patron can email themselves the transcript at the end of the chat session (see below). This additional email information is not stored in QuestionPoint. You might want to advise an anonymous customer that they can email the transcript to themselves after the session has ended.

QuestionPoint | Chat

Goodbye, anonymous.

The current Chat session has ended. Thank you for using the Ask a Librarian Chat service.

Send the chat transcript to yourself by entering an e-mail address below and clicking send.

E-mail address:

Please take a moment to fill out a survey at: [Chat Survey](#)

Chat Session Transcript:

Chat Transcript: Hello, can you help me find a service centre for Howard Gem rotavators?

[Librarian 15:22:45]: Librarian 'Administrator' has joined the session.

[Librarian 15:23:03]: Hello, welcome to Enquire.

[Librarian 15:23:44]: I notice that you haven't given any postcode or contact information. To find your nearest service centre, could you please let me know whereabouts you are?

[anonymous 15:24:43]: Oops, sorry about that, I'm in March, Cambs

[anonymous 15:24:55]: my email address is: jo.ohn@oclc.org

[Librarian 15:25:07]: okay, thanks for that I'll

[People's Network Home](#) | [About us](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Sitemap](#)

People's Network

You are here: [People's Network Home](#) > [Enquire](#) > [Enquire](#)

Enquire

[Home](#)

[Acceptable use policy](#)

Discover

[Read](#)

Welcome to Enquire

Enquire instantly connects you to someone who is trained to help you find the answers to your questions.

Simply enter your details and your question, then press 'Connect'.

Enquire is a UK collaborative of over 80 public libraries throughout England and Scotland staffing the service Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm. After these hours, you will be connected to one of our partners in the USA.

If you have a local question, we will in most cases be able to help you, however, the query may be referred back to us to follow up the next working day.

At the end of your session, if you've entered an email address a transcript of the session will be emailed to you (including links). If you have elected not to enter an email address, you can fill in details at the end to send the session to yourself.

Why should I enter my email?

If we need to conduct further research and get back to you later, it is important we have your email. You can choose to remain anonymous, but an email answer will not get back to you.

Why do I need to enter my postcode?

Not all library authorities in England and Scotland participate in the service. If you enter your postcode, we can see which authority you belong to, and if they participate in the service your question can be forwarded directly to them so there is no need for you to contact them directly, we can do that for you. If your authority does not participate, we will only be able to give you contact details.

5.3 Example of a question answered offline

This is a polite, good quality offline reply.

Question History:

Patron: Chat Transcript: Hi,

Realise you probably get annoying questions like this all time but I am trying to track down a book I read when I was younger (maybe about 10-11). I think it was called "she was a witch" or something similar. I can't remember the author and Google isn't throwing anything up for the title. I borrowed the book from a Glasgow City Library (Rutherglen) which is now under South Lanarkshire Authority but cannot find anything in their catalogues.

The book was set in the late eighteenth century and was told from the perspective of a young girl whose mother was accused of being a witch because she wanted to learn medicine and had progressive views of politics (I remember her mother amending the title of rights of man to 'and women' as a scene in the novel.) Bizarrely, I remember the epigraph was "of shade and sunshine for each hour see the measure made and wonder not if life consists of sunshine and of shade-inscription on sundial of (mother's name) herb garden".

I am beginning to think I've made it up so I would be really grateful if anyone has ever heard of it?

Thanks, Mxxxxx

Librarian : Librarian '24/7 Cooperative librarian' has joined the session.

Librarian : Hi! I am a librarian in the State of Tennessee and I will be assisting you today. Your librarians have asked our librarians to staff this 24-hour service when they are unavailable. I am reading your question right now to see how I can help you.

Librarian : I would be happy to forward your request on to a librarian from your library. They will get back with you via e-mail. Will that work?

Patron: Well, I'm in Edinburgh now so it would probably be best if it was a librarian at Rutherglen library in Glasgow as that's where I got the book?

Librarian : I understand. They will contact that library if they need to. I'm not sure what their policies are on book searches, but I'm sure they would be glad to take a look.

Patron: That would be great thanks!

Librarian : You're welcome! If you need further assistance, please feel free to contact us again. Thank you for using Ask A Librarian. Goodbye!

Librarian : Librarian ended chat session.

Librarian : Hi Mxxx,

My name is Bxxx and I am a librarian in the Mitchell Library. Your enquiry has been referred to us.

The book you describe is by Roger J Green and the title is indeed "She was a Witch". I have searched Glasgow Libraries' catalogue and this book is not in stock. I have also searched Edinburgh Libraries catalogue and they do not hold any copies either. I can also confirm it is no longer available in any of South Lanarkshire libraries.

I suspect it is now out of print as there is no link to purchase it from the author's website <http://www.rogerjgreen.net/books.htm#she>. However there are used copies for sale here <http://www.amazon.co.uk/She-Was-Witch-Roger->

Green/dp/0192716603/ref=sr_1_14?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1270803757&sr=1-14. The listing for the new copy appears to be an error as the book it was published in 1992 - just a description of the condition of the book.

I know how frustrating it is to be unable to find a book you remember from childhood, but you haven't made it up!

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Kind regards,

Bxxx

6. Social Networking

As well as accessible via the Enquire services link, Enquire is also present in the social networking and community sites. This is to gain both visibility and to actively demonstrate libraries are a valuable repository of information to those disengaged and lapsed users.

6.1 Yahoo!Answers

Enquire service has become a Knowledge Partner in Yahoo! Answers. In doing so, it brings the service to a point of need, and demonstrates the value of libraries to a web audience.

