

## Key Data from East Midlands Regional Reading Group Project

When all 9 public library authorities in East Midlands signed up to the [Quality Framework for Progression](#) in April 2006, a range of information was collected to provide baseline evaluation and enable us to measure growth during the next 2 years of the project.

This information builds on the [East Midlands Reader Development Audit](#) in 2005, but provides more depth in terms of numbers, types, and range of reading groups across the East Midlands.

- The initial quantitative evaluation reveals that in March 2006 there were over 530 reading groups supported by public libraries in the East Midlands.
- This includes 75 groups for children and teenagers.
- The range covers reading groups for VIP readers, emergent readers, asylum seekers, prisoners, mental health service users, Punjabi speakers and ESOL classes.
- Reading groups meet in libraries, pubs, clubs, cafes, old people's homes, day centres, community halls, workplaces, schools and adult education centres.
- Several groups specialise in a particular genre or type of book, such as poetry, crime writing, classics, Quick Reads or books in translation.
- Groups are run in partnership with Help the Aged, Primary Care Trusts, Social Services, Youth Services, Further Education colleges, Skills for Life providers and local radio.

### Level of provision

- All 9 authorities are committed to the minimum level offer in 316 libraries in the East Midlands.
- 7 authorities are committed to the medium level in 216 libraries
- 3 authorities are committed to the enhanced level in 91 libraries