

Litchfield Council - Library Relocation Survey

Location			Survey Respondent No.s	Respondents that are current library users		Relocation Supported		
				Female	Male	Yes	No	Don't Care
Humpty Doo Waste TS			256	40	23	86	95	75
Howard Springs Waste TS			158	25	4	74	56	28
Taminmin Library			58	45	13	6	46	6

Frequent Comments:

**Support move**

Will allow improved access and range of programs.

Parking will be easier.

More convenient.

Where is the current library?

Would be closer to home.

**Against move**



We might lose valued programs eg Intergenerational, story time.

Like the vibe of current library.





How much extra will it cost.





Live nearby and value proximity.



Build a new library in HD

PROS	CONS
<p> <b>Hui Ment Khoo</b> The Best Choice for Accessibility and Community Inclusion</p> <p>The Taminmin Community Library plays a vital role in providing resources and services to residents, but its current location within Taminmin College presents several challenges. Moving the library to Coolalinga would be the best choice to improve parking availability, accessibility, and community engagement. Relocating the library would also help it function as a true community space rather than a school facility while eliminating disturbances caused by school activities.</p> <p>One of the biggest concerns with the current library location is the limited parking space. As it is situated within the school grounds, parking is often crowded, especially during school hours and events. This makes it difficult for the general public to visit without facing inconvenience.</p> <p>In contrast, Coolalinga offers a better infrastructure for visitors, with larger and more accessible parking areas. Many residents already frequent Coolalinga for shopping and other services, making the library more convenient to access. Relocating to this area would encourage more people to visit the library, as they can easily combine their library trips with other errands.</p>	<p> <b>Jane Alexandra</b> Please keep it in Humpty Doo. Coolalinga is pretty close to Palmerston resources. To move the library close to the Palmerston orbit makes no sense. Such a move would discriminate against the growing Humpty Doo community and outlying rural areas who use Humpty Doo as the nearest point for schools, shopping, medical, post etc. Libraries are an important community resource.</p>

PROS	CONS
<p>Currently, the Taminmin Community Library is physically attached to Taminmin College, making it feel more like a school library rather than a public space. While students benefit from the library's resources, the broader community may feel hesitant to visit due to the strong association with the school.</p> <p>Moving the library to Coolalinga would reinforce its identity as a public facility that welcomes everyone. A separate location would allow the library to operate as an inclusive community hub rather than an extension of the school. This change would encourage more people, including seniors, parents with young children, and professionals, to use the library without feeling like they are intruding on a school environment.</p> <p>Another major issue with the current location is noise pollution. Since the library is within a school, it is often affected by the sounds of students during recess, lunch breaks, and class transitions. The noise can disrupt library users who seek a quiet place for reading, studying, or working.</p> <p>Moving the library to Coolalinga would create a more peaceful and focused environment. Without the background noise of school activities, visitors could enjoy a more relaxing and productive library experience. This would particularly benefit students, remote workers, and researchers who rely on the library for concentration.</p> <p>Relocating the Taminmin Community Library to Coolalinga is the best choice for the community. It would provide better parking and accessibility, create a stronger sense of belonging for all residents, and eliminate the disruptions caused by school noise. By making this move, the library would become a true community space where people of all ages can gather, learn, and connect in a more welcoming and convenient environment.</p>	

PROS	CONS
<p> <b>Mary Ann</b> We should use taxpayer money wisely by relocating the library to Coolalinga Shopping Centre, where it will be more accessible and convenient for the community. The current location has limited parking, making it difficult for families, elderly residents, and people with mobility challenges to visit. Moving it to Coolalinga ensures better access, maximizes the use of existing infrastructure, and encourages more people to engage with library services while combining trips with shopping and other errands. A well-placed library benefits more residents and makes better use of public funds.</p>	<p> <b>Imogen Edmunds</b> Please keep Taminmin Library at Taminmin High School. It's such a fabulous rural space for a library for rural people. I can see that there would be many advantages to Coolalinga but, as many have said already, Humpty Doo is quintessentially rural, Coolalinga is only 15 minutes from Palmerston library and becoming an outpost of Palmerston more and more with each development.</p> <p>The staff of Taminmin Library are exceptional. I'm sure they would make a library work very well in Coolalinga. But, I feel that their skills in showing genuine care and interest to all that visit the library (in particular seniors and mothers with young children) would be lost in a larger busy library and those patrons that need the one on one assistance and small group activities and would no longer feel included.</p>
<p> <b>Yoke Yoong Yong</b> I completely agree with this suggestion to relocate the library to Coolalinga Shopping Centre. This move would bring great convenience to everyone, whether for active or quiet moments. It would allow us to combine grocery shopping with a peaceful visit to the library, where we can enjoy a moment of tranquility. It would also create opportunities for social connection—sharing a coffee and catching up with friends. With ample parking and many other stores nearby, it truly is an ideal location.</p>	<p> <b>Peg E Smith</b> Coolalinga is pretty much South Palmo. I think it should stay in Humpty Doo otherwise people from Darwin River/Berry Springs etc have a long drive to access the facility</p> <p>There is a massive library only 5–10 minutes down the road in Palmo</p>

PROS	CONS
<p> <b>Katie Town</b> The current arrangement is well past due for review and action from Council. While staff have done an exceptional job adapting to challenging circumstances - Patrons are inhibited from using the facility due to the frequent lock downs at the school, parking is limited and the size and nature of the facility does not reflect community expectations of a modern, accessible library facility. One look at previous Council meeting agendas reveal a shocking lack of action to support staff who are frequently identifying serious safety concerns.</p>	<p> <b>Bec Earle</b> Both size and accessibility have and are great I feel. I cannot see one issue. Please do not move to coolalinga. Keeping rural activities rural help so many mums, dads and carers feel comfortable and able to come. Coolalinga you will loose us and a lot of families that have attended every week for nearly 18 months. Babies and toddlers love interacting with the taminmin kids also!  Cooli is too close to Palmerston and have enough services for families!!!  👩🏻‍❤️👶</p>
<p> <b>WanHua Giang</b> I strongly support the proposal to relocate the Taminmin Community Library to the Coolalinga Shopping Centre. Reasons are simple.</p> <p>First, the current library location is shared with Taminin School, which creates challenges in terms of space and accessibility. During school break times, the influx of students often makes the library overcrowded and noisy, detracting from its primary purpose as a quiet, welcoming space for all community members. While I understand and appreciate the library's role in serving Taminmin students, the current space is inadequate to comfortably accommodate both the school and the wider community simultaneously. Relocating to a larger space within the Coolalinga Shopping Centre would provide a more pleasant and productive environment for all users.</p> <p>Second, the Coolalinga Shopping Centre offers a convenient and accessible location. As a central hub for the region, it naturally attracts a greater volume of people, making the library more readily available to a wider demographic. This increased visibility and accessibility would undoubtedly boost library usage and promote literacy within the community.</p>	<p> <b>Megs Kelly</b> I believe the library should stay where it is for now. A lot of students use this after school. If it were to move, I think it should still stay in Humpty Doo. The library is also near the shops, near the bus exchange &amp; near the hostel. All within walking distance of Humpty Doo facilities.  Coolalinga Shopping centre is not ideal. As it would encourage kids to attend the "shops" after or possibly during school hours. Also giving the excuse that they are there "for the library"  Maybe future planning on a new place with building and having the council together, within Humpty Doo.</p>

PROS	CONS
<p>Relocating the Taminmin Community Library to the Coolalinga Shopping Centre offers a practical solution to the existing challenges of overcrowding and accessibility. It provides a more suitable environment for both the community and Taminmin School students, while also increasing overall library usage.</p>	
<p> <b>Trisha Kelly</b> What an awesome idea!</p> <p>Something for the whole Litchfield community to access utilise and enjoy (The parents of Humpty Doo children who get to use the library currently could still keep going to the school library so nothing would change there !</p> <p>Also great for the business community as well.</p> <p>Everyone wins !</p>	<p> <b>Joy Wood</b> 2 years ago, <b>Taminmin Community Library</b> offered after school ukulele lessons, that were open to adults, as well as children, with instruments provided. I attended, along with other adults of various ages, and children from pre-school to late high school. It was great learning this new skill alongside children... we were all simply beginners, our ages were irrelevant, we could laugh at each others' mistakes and encourage each other to try again.</p> <p>At the end of the course we did a performance (reasonably well) and I still play (even better) today.</p> <p>Some of those I met during the course, are now among my closest friends. I am extremely grateful that <b>Carol Hobson</b> and the wonderful library staff facilitated this amazing learning opportunity, which could not have occurred if the library was not part of the school. 🎵🎸</p>

**PROS**



**Cathryn Joy**

I believe this is a fantastic opportunity for the Litchfield community. Coolalinga is a central location for most residents, and having access to a library within the shopping centre would provide a safe and accessible environment for families like mine. As someone who raised children in a rural area, I never considered attending the Taminmin College library due to accessibility restrictions. This initiative will create opportunities for community groups to come together that are currently unable to do so.

**CONS**



**Joy Wood**

Please don't take our library away from our community!

For over 40 years I have been using Taminmin Community Library. I've borrowed books, tapes, CDs, used the computers, done photocopying and participated in many other activities, including nursery time, story time, workshops and Senior's sessions.

The size and accessibility of Taminmin Community Library is perfectly fine for my needs. Taminmin is far more central and accessible to the majority of Litchfield residents than Coolalinga.

It is always easy to find a close parking spot (not so in shopping centres), which is important for those with mobility issues.

Having a toilet so close is also a bonus.

The inter-generational activities such as Pre-school Buddies and the Seniors vs Students programs are very important. Not all seniors have grandchildren nearby and not all school children have grandparents on hand, so these sessions fill an extremely valuable function, and result in sharing of information and knowledge that is beneficial to young and older alike.








Visiting the recent display of art done by special needs students and attending the Alice in Wonderland performance of the students last year, were "normal". On occasions, the hospitality class provides morning tea or takes tea / coffee orders, which assists their learning and benefits patrons as well.







These interactions would not continue if the library moved to Coolalinga.


The "feel" is different... at the school, it is welcoming and accepted as a place to learn and share knowledge. If it's recess, kids will often greet visitors, and have a quick chat. Shopping centres on the other hand, are simply there to attract customers in order to "make money".

I am against any move that will incur additional costs, when the existing facility serves us well.

It is easy to visit **Taminmin Community Library**. If the library was moved to Coolalinga, it means sadly, that I'd be unlikely to continue attending the many sessions that I enjoy at present and have done in the past.

PROS	CONS
<p> <b>Terrance Chou</b> Location, location, location. My family thinks it is a great idea to move it to the Coolaling shopping centre. We hardly go to the Taminmin library due to the location. We go to the Coolalinga shopping centre often and it would be great to see a library there. But as a rate payer we do need to see the costing though and weight out the cost and benefits.</p>	<p> <b>Wietske Bruinsma</b> I've attended nursery time and story time at <b>Taminmin Community Library</b> with my two sons. For them the key interactions were with the high school students and seeing what the school environment is like, in addition to using the library. Parents also go from the Humpty Doo child health nurse clinic to the library.</p> <p>The hospitality class takes coffee orders from the community to practice their service skills. It is a unique set up that caters to all ages and is central in the Litchfield shire. From Coolalinga Palmerston library is only ten minutes away and affected residents can use their library cards over there.</p> <p> <b>Cat Hart</b> <b>Wietske Bruinsma</b> I agree, while yes it is small and could do with upsizing I don't think coolalinga shops is the place for it. Taminmin is unique in that it still holds that friendly local community space as a library.</p>
<p> <b>Veronica Hodges</b> Great idea and much more central for all especially disabled to access.</p>	<p> <b>Suzy Ly</b> The current location makes sense as it's catering for children community from Adelaide river/ marrakai. Berry springs Southport etc . Having it in coolalinga doesn't make sense as others have said Palmerston is 10 minutes away. The story time/nursery time is great. Seeing what a big school is etc is also great for children</p>
<p> <b>Linda Broad</b> Coolalinga would mean easier access for those unsure of using the school site</p>	<p> <b>Lana Ballin</b> I have benefited greatly from involvement with all the activities for Seniors that Taminmin Community Library currently offers especially those that include interaction with the Students of Taminmin College and Humpty Doo Preschool. It would be so sad if this was to stop. School budgets could have difficulty funding transport for these activities to continue. I would prefer that the library continues in its present location.</p>

PROS	CONS
<p> <b>Cass Griffiths</b> What a wonderful idea!! The centre needs to be more community focused and this would be a great idea! Rivers are moving out and that space would be perfect. Best of luck with it all.</p>	<p> <b>Nicky Clark</b> Keep it in Humpty Doo. coolalinga is not more central to most Rural people. might as well go to Palmersro then. Keep working and concentrating and budgeting for the master plan on the land opposite woollies and Humpty Doo will become an amazing hub for everybody 🙌🙌</p>
<p> <b>Jayno Drew</b> Coolalinga centre is very central for all and a large space would be great</p>	<p> <b>Fiona Minter</b> Sadly if it were to be moved from Taminmin HS to Coolalinga it would signal the end of our 'Big Buddy' program that is a joint project run between the library, our senior citizens and the preschoolers at Humpty Doo Primary School. It is such a lovely, rewarding experience for all involved it would be a shame to lose it.</p>
<p> <b>Rachel Griffen</b> I think it's a great idea as there's not a lot for children to do at coolalinga in the afternoon. A productive space there could be an asset</p>	<p> <b>Bec Earle</b> Also - the team at taminmin library - are just fantastic. Feels like a small supportive family. Everything from help with - books, computers, family life, entertaining a busy toddler, creating amazing spaces for people to share! Helpful in every way possible!!  Thanks taminmin community library team! We love you!  This I'm sure will change, if moved to a bigger space.</p>




PROS	CONS
 <p><b>Maysie Ci</b> I agree that the school has to have its own library and council to set up a new library. I've been in the library during school time, too much noise during school recess and after school. I guess Taminmin students need their own space and for the residents we want to enjoy quiet time in the library. Also too packed to share a small library with students and residents</p>	 <p><b>Clare Maree</b> I live in the Coolalinga area, so I use the Palmerston library but I am concerned about the impact on rates. A proposed move should be costed so we have so real data before making a decision. Obviously there will need to be some changes as the area grows.</p>
 <p><b>Vincent He</b> As someone who's lived in the Litchfield area for 13 years, I've experienced firsthand the challenges of accessing our current library facility at Taminmin College. While I appreciate the history and sentiment attached to the current location, I believe this move represents a positive step forward for our growing community.</p> <p>The benefits of this relocation are substantial for all of us. Firstly, the accessibility will be dramatically improved—no more navigating around school schedules or dealing with limited parking during school events. Secondly, the larger space will allow for expanded collections and community programmes that our current facility simply cannot accommodate. And thirdly, the central location at Coolalinga means most of us won't need to drive as far, saving time and fuel while making library services more accessible to those who rely on public transport. As someone who often combines errands to save time, having the library in the same precinct as our shopping would be wonderfully convenient.</p>	 <p><b>Brad George</b> There are locations in Humpty Doo other than the school where the library could operate from. Centralising everything in Coolalinga has had a negative impact on commerce and services south of Coolalinga. Moving the library another 10km's north is a removal of service that will never get returned to Humpty Doo.</p>





PROS	CONS
<p>Most importantly, the relocation aligns with three key priorities outlined in the Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2025 ( <a href="https://litchfield.nt.gov.au/.../Draft%20Litchfield...">https://litchfield.nt.gov.au/.../Draft%20Litchfield...</a> ): (a) maintaining community infrastructure that fosters connection among residents, (b) ensuring community facilities meet required standards, and (c) supporting the development of Holtze/Kowandi. The relocation to Coolalinga also constitutes a strategic investment that is central to the Council's long-term vision for the progressive development of northern Litchfield, particularly the emerging communities of Holtze and Kowandi. By establishing a modern library within the Coolalinga hub, the Council is proactively creating essential infrastructure and fostering community connection in this rapidly growing area. Furthermore, this move offers considerable benefits to residents of Howard Springs, another key part of the Litchfield Council area, by providing them with a more conveniently located and enhanced library service compared to the current facility.</p> <p>I understand many people are concerned about losing the special connection with Taminmin College and the intergenerational programmes, and I share that sentiment—those programmes are valuable! However, I believe these activities could continue through scheduled visits. Others have mentioned Coolalinga's proximity to Palmerston, but that's perhaps why this location makes sense—it creates a more balanced distribution of services across our region rather than forcing southern Litchfield residents to drive all the way to Palmerston. As for concerns about cost, surely a purpose-built modern facility would require less maintenance and provide better value in the long term.</p>	




PROS	CONS
<p>Looking ahead, the relocation of our library from its current location near Humpty Doo to the Coolalinga Shopping Centre represents a significant step towards achieving the Litchfield Council's long-term goals. This move directly supports the Council's priority of maintaining community infrastructure that fosters connection among residents by placing the library in a central, easily accessible location. Furthermore, the larger, purpose-built facility will ensure our community facility meets required standards for a modern library service. Strategically positioned in Coolalinga, this development also aligns with the Council's aim of supporting the development of northern Litchfield areas, particularly Holtze and Kowandi, by providing a key amenity for this growing population. For local residents, this translates into tangible benefits such as dramatically improved accessibility, a larger space for expanded collections and community programmes, and the convenience of a central location within the Coolalinga precinct, ultimately enhancing the quality of life for everyone in the Litchfield area.</p>	
	<div data-bbox="1244 813 1300 867" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Justine Johnson</b> Please keep it in Humpty Doo. We are regular visitors and have been the whole time living in Humpty for 20years. We loved story time and the sing songs And now I still visit for my reads. Coolalinga feels like I may as well go to palmerston library as it's only another 5mins I'm surprised that there has been feedback to say it's not accessible or location issue as it's in the hub of Humpty Doo.</p>

PROS	CONS
	<div data-bbox="1244 362 1306 415" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Laura Tune</b> Taminmin would be the only school that doesn't have its own library. I heard about this move years ago- excellent it is still on the cards. The current programs could still be run- either from the school- or at the new location- transporting the kids. Would also allow for Taminmin to have the space that best suits the students, and be staffed by educated/trained staff. Win win I say! Ps. Maybe across the road from the Woolworths complex- a purpose build building could be built..... I expect coolalinga central would be super expensive and their management isn't very flexible.</p>
	<div data-bbox="1244 881 1306 935" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Sarah Taylor</b> Move it across the road to the Village Green. Utilise the hall that is there and make it an air conditioned space that is still central to both schools and communities that are further out. This way Taminmin can shut the gates to help prevent some of the truanting and antisocial behaviour. They could have standing excursion in enrolment and install a crossing out the front. There is already parking options there.</p>

PROS	CONS
	<div data-bbox="1244 358 1300 415"></div> <p><b>Sally McDonnell</b> There needs to be a library in Humpty Doo, I have found this an essential facility especially for people wanting to connect with other locals in the area ie seniors and young familys. Having it in Coolalinga will make it un accessible for some. Can there be another library built in Humpty Doo as part of the future planning proposals ? This is what contributes to a healthy community. Please dont take things away from Humpty Doo !</p>
	<div data-bbox="1244 695 1300 751"></div> <p><b>Michelle Franklin</b> I don't like this plan. If you're going to spend money, put it into the existing library and make it into what we need. Maybe have a separate area for kids versus the public if that's the problem, but I've never seen any issue with sharing. If people want a bigger more public library without the kids, palmerston is just up the road. I use both, but I prefer the Humpty Doo one, especially on weekends when I don't want to drive so far. No need to duplicate what we already have in Palmerston and lose our local library in the process.</p>
	<div data-bbox="1244 1079 1300 1136"></div> <p><b>Shirley Preston</b> I like the current location - I can always get a close car park, I like that there is interaction between library users and the school students. The size and facilities are fine for my needs. I would not go so often if it was at Coolalinga Central.</p>

PROS	CONS
	<p> <b>Ainsley Devery Puckridge</b> Humpty doo and surrounding rural areas are growing, moving the library takes away resources from close by Danila Dilba, Ironbark, and school kids that don't have access to great internet reception at home, as well as providing a quiet and easy access for parents with bubs and prams. A good handful of residents from Palmerston already drive to Coolalinga central for Kmart, people living in Coolalinga have easy access and options to both Humpty doo and Palmerston library. The salvos that used to be in Humpty shopping village was moved to Coolalinga for space and a growing population, and look at where that's gone 🏡 it needs an update and there is room there for making it bigger, no need to move it</p>
	<p> <b>Jacinda Lee</b> We love it being so close to home, lots of close parking, the kids go play in the play ground after it &amp; the skate Park. Coolalinga is a growing area and would be practical &amp; more people would probably use it which would make it busier. We enjoy it exactly how it is and avoid palmy as it's too busy when events are on. This library has most beautiful staff. ❤️ we love it how it is but would still go if it moved.</p>
	<p> <b>Maerwen Taylor</b> I love the Library where it is.Its wonderful having the interaction with the students. People from Palmerston actual come for the Seniors events because of its uniqueness. What are the costs for moving and the costs for rent these are things that need to be disclosed to residents. Coolalinga as site was discussed by previous Council.</p>

PROS	CONS
	 <p><b>Jeananne Baker</b> I love the Taminmin Library right where it is. Close enough for the oldies to travel to on Friday's. It's a safe place unlike shopping centres. Great for all the schools close by, all walking distance. It would be very sad to see it go.</p>
	 <p><b>Karen Duminski</b> Shopping centres are not appropriate places for libraries. How will the rent costs be covered? Not by ratepayers I hope. Many shops have closed down due to high rent costs.</p>
	 <p><b>Leonie Brown</b> I find the current location very convenient for after school visits with my son from Humpty Doo Primary School and an easy Saturday trip.. I would definately utilise the library far less if it were in Coolalinga as it would be an out of the way trip.</p>
	 <p><b>Ben Dethmore</b> My concern is what would this relocation cost? Palmerston library is 15 minutes away. I also don't believe a shopping hub is the best place for a library. Please keep Rural Rural.</p>

PROS	CONS
	 <p><b>Mark NT</b> I'd imagine the rent of that space will be significantly more than the current location. Are you able to advise the ratepayers of the cost and expected increase of rates to cover this?</p>
	 <p><b>Courtney Forsyth</b> Renting would be a burden and more than what I'm assuming would be paid now</p>
	 <p><b>Josephine Johns</b> Please don't move the <b>Taminmin Community Library</b>, I have been using it for the last 20yrs, the staff are fantastic and the location good. I would not drive further to Coolalinga. Not liking this idea at all. Jo</p>