CILIP, the UK’s Information and Library Association, is pleased to provide this briefing for National Executive Committee members and advisors to inform the development of manifesto commitments in the General Election.

Key commitments

CILIP is engaged with all political parties to secure the following key commitments:

**Ambition**
Empowering the public to take control of the information in their lives, helping to improve their life chances & supporting employment and social mobility

**Opportunity**
Unlocking the power of knowledge, information and data to drive Britain’s globally-competitive industry and enterprise in the 4th Industrial Revolution

**Fairness**
A strong, sustainable network of modern public, school, health and prison libraries offering access to skills, literacy and learning for all

Impact on key policy priorities

The UK workforce of c. 100,000 information professionals (including librarians, information and knowledge managers and data scientists) play a vital role in an open, inclusive society and an economy that works for everyone.

<table>
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<th>Priority policy areas</th>
<th>Impacts</th>
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<td>● Health &amp; social care</td>
<td>✓ Reduced risk</td>
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<td>● Learning</td>
<td>✓ Increased efficiency</td>
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<td>● Economy</td>
<td>✓ Better customer engagement</td>
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<td>● Community</td>
<td>✓ Greater transparency &amp; accountability</td>
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<td>● Digital</td>
<td>✓ Innovation and competitiveness</td>
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<td>✓ Enhanced productivity</td>
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Key facts and figures

- The UK has one of the world’s leading library and information sectors
- According to the ONS, 40% of UK businesses are engaged in knowledge & information-based services
- 35% of UK employment depends on knowledge-intensive services and activities
- There are approximately 32,000+ libraries and information service points UK-wide
- Information professionals are employed across 20+ industry sectors – public, private & Government
- Investment in information management is a key indicator for improved productivity

Information, knowledge and data are the fuel which will drive our social and economic future across the whole of the UK and in each of the devolved nations. CILIP is committed to putting information & library skills and professional values at the heart of an equal, democratic and prosperous society.

The CILIP Policy Unit is able to provide further information including tailored briefings and region-specific data. For further information, contact Nick Poole at nick.poole@cilip.org.uk.

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1 Business Register and Employment Survey 2015, ONS Crown Copyright
2 ‘Innovation, knowledge spending and productivity growth in the UK’ (Nesta, 2014)