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Customer service excellence II

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Customer Service Excellence Workshop

Graham Stone, The University of Bolton Bev Acreman, Taylor & Francis







Customer Service Excellence Workshop

- Aim of workshop
- Survey details
- Charter Mark
- Feedback
- Discussion







Aim of today's Workshop

- To discuss the problems in the communication chain between publishers and libraries and what we should do to eliminate them
 - Results of two anonymous surveys for librarians and publishers
- Introduce the idea of Charter Mark as a way to improve quality
- To report back from this workshop in a future issue of Serials







Survey Details

Survey mailed March 2007 to various listservs

Total Respondents – 218

69% Librarians

31% Publishers

Who were they?

Librarians – Good spread of library sizes

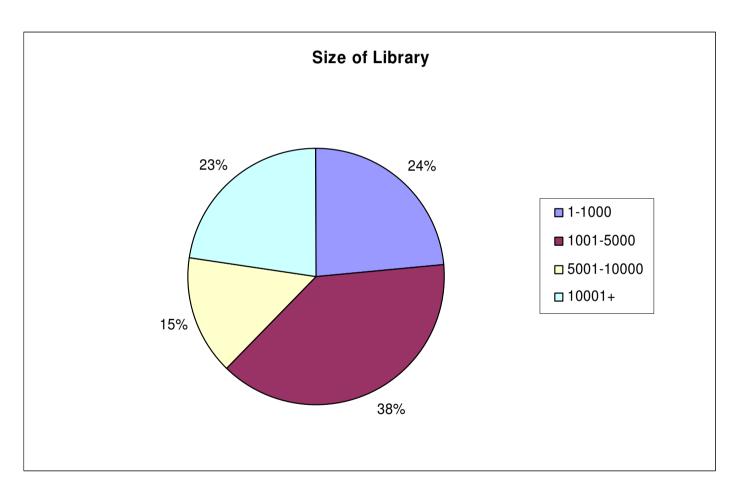
Publishers – mostly those with less than 100 journals (a key problem area in our workshop last year); 30% with 500+ journals







Survey Details

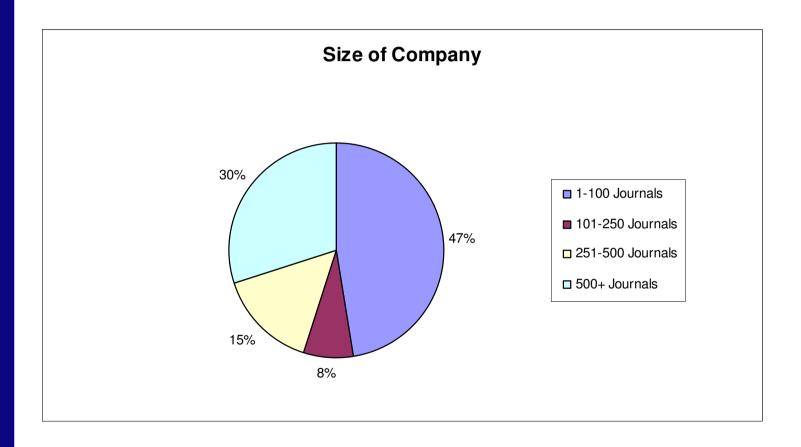








Survey Details









About the Survey

- Last year we asked about specific problem areas
- This year was more a general request for feedback using ideas the Charter Mark
- Similar issues were raised in responses







Charter Mark























Charter Mark

- Criterion 1 Set standards and perform well
- Criterion 2 Actively engage with your customers, partners and staff
- Criterion 3 Be fair and accessible to everyone and promote choice
- Criterion 4 Continuously develop and improve
- Criterion 5 Use your resources effectively and imaginatively
- Criterion 6 Contribute to improving opportunities and quality of life in the communities you serve







Charter Mark

- Criterion 1 Set standards and perform well
- Criterion 2 Actively engage with your customers, partners and staff
- Criterion 3 Be fair and accessible to everyone and promote choice
- Criterion 4 Continuously develop and improve







Criterion 1 Set standards and perform well

- You need to show that your organisation:
 - sets clear service and performance standards by consulting customers
 - meets those standards
 - monitors and reviews performance against standards and publishes the results
 - designs, puts into practice and monitors standards with as little unnecessary paperwork and administration as possible







 How important are the following to you (split by library size)

mai publishers	have performance Very Unimportant	Quite Unimportant	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Quite	Very Important	Response Total
1-1,000	0%	17%	30%	30%	22%	23
1,001-5,000	5%	28%	25%	28%	15%	40
5,001-10,000	6%	12%	25%	38%	19%	16
10,001+	13%	22%	13%	22%	30%	23
All Libraries	6%	22%	24%	28%	21%	102







 How important are the following to you (split by library size)

That publishers consult their customers so that they can improve their services						
	Very Unimportant	Quite Unimportant	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Quite Important	Very Important	Response Total
1-1,000	0%	21%	0%	46%	33%	24
1,001-5,000	20%	12%	2%	30%	35%	40
5,001-10,000	19%	19%	0%	25%	38%	16
10,001+	9%	22%	0%	22%	48%	23
All Libraries	13%	17%	1%	31%	38%	103







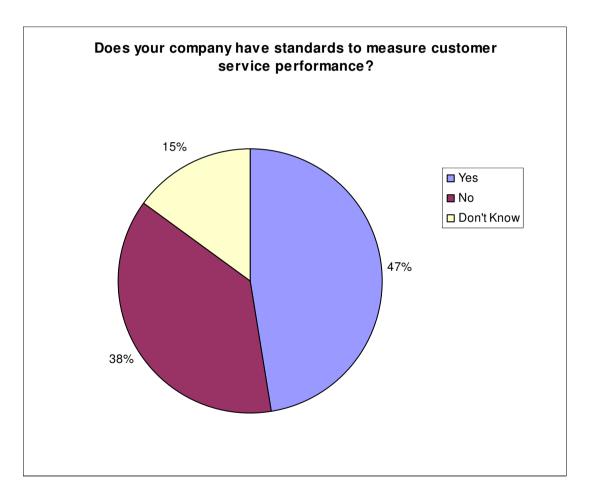
 How important are the following to you (split by library size)

That publishers	at publishers follow up queries to ensure their customers are satisfied					
	Very Unimportant	Quite Unimportant	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Quite Important	Very Important	Response Total
1-1,000	17%	4%	0%	21%	58%	24
1,001-5,000	30%	5%	2%	8%	55%	40
5,001-10,000	38%	0%	0%	6%	56%	16
10,001+	17%	13%	0%	9%	61%	23
All Libraries	25%	6%	1%	11%	57%	103













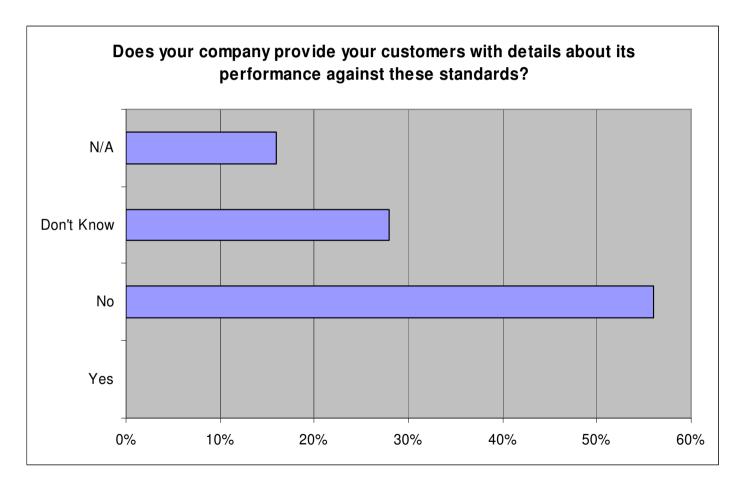








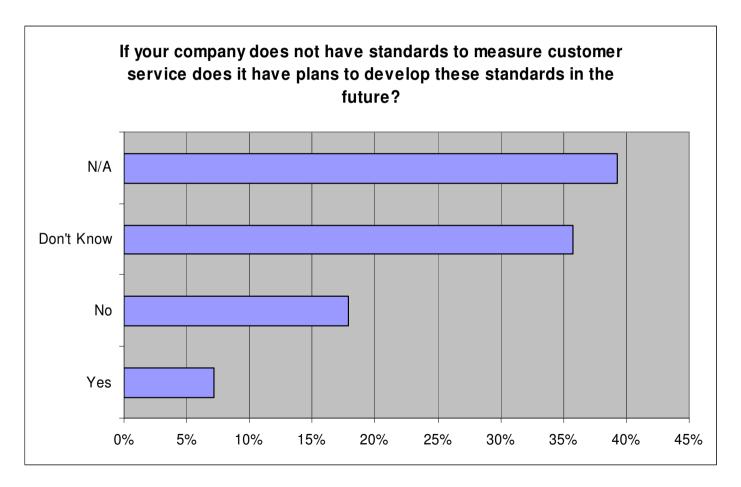


















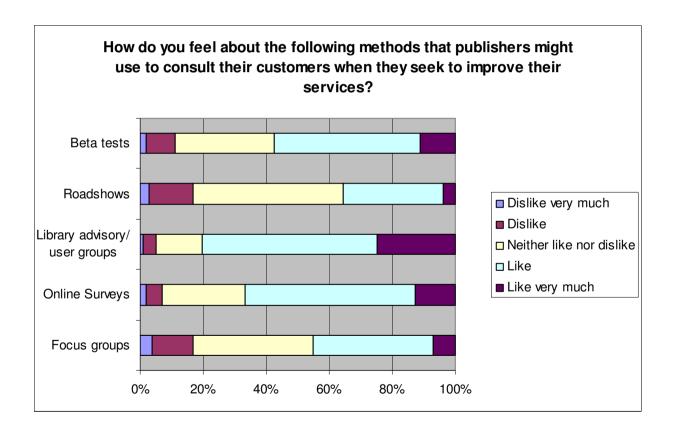
Criterion 2 Actively engage with your customers, partners and staff

- You need to show that your organisation:
 - actively works with (engages with) customers, partners and staff to make sure it delivers highquality services
 - consults and involves present and potential customers of public services, partners and staff
 - is open, and communicates clearly and effectively in plain language and in a number of different ways
 - provides full information about services, their cost and how well they perform





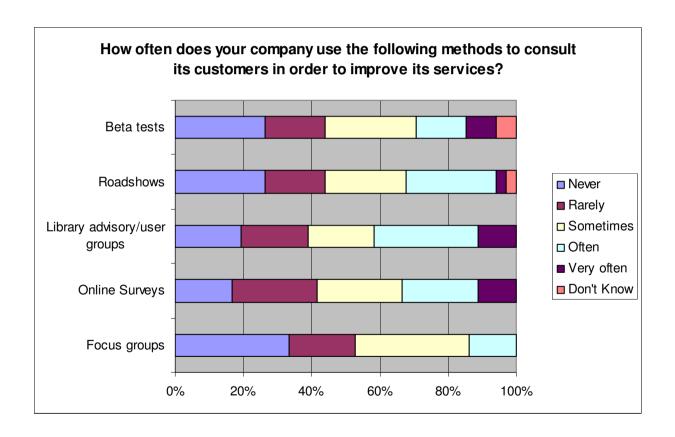


















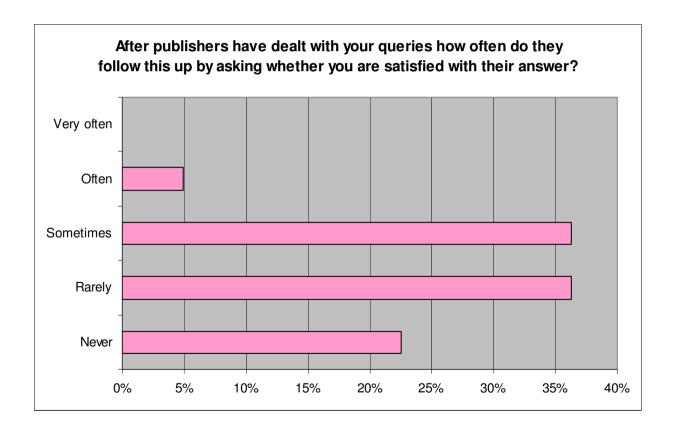
Criterion 3 Be fair and accessible to everyone and promote choice

- You need to show that your organisation:
 - makes services easily available to everyone who needs them, offering choice wherever you can
 - treats everybody fairly in access to services and service delivery, and pays particular attention to people with special needs





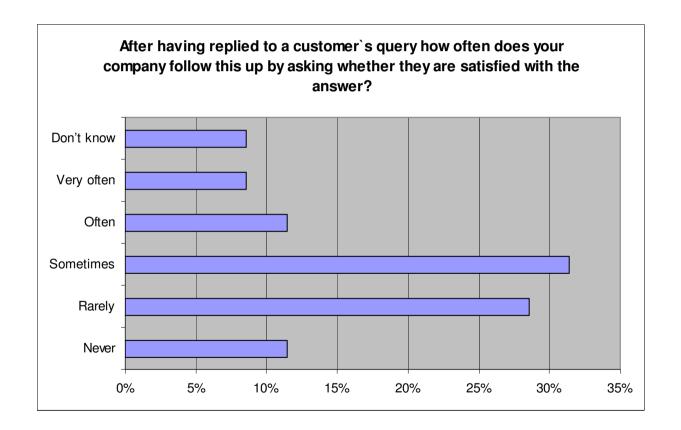


















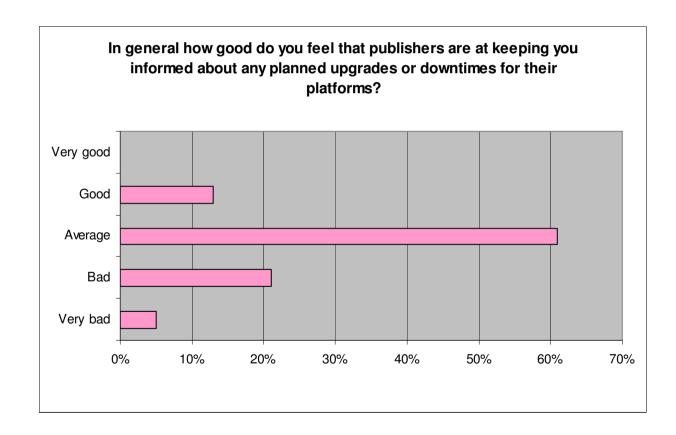
Criterion 4 Continuously develop and improve

- You need to show that your organisation:
 - always looks for ways to improve services and facilities, particularly when using technology
 - puts things right quickly and effectively
 - learns from, and improves as a result of, complaints, compliments and suggestions
 - has a clear, well-publicised and easy-to-use complaints procedure, with the opportunity for independent review wherever possible





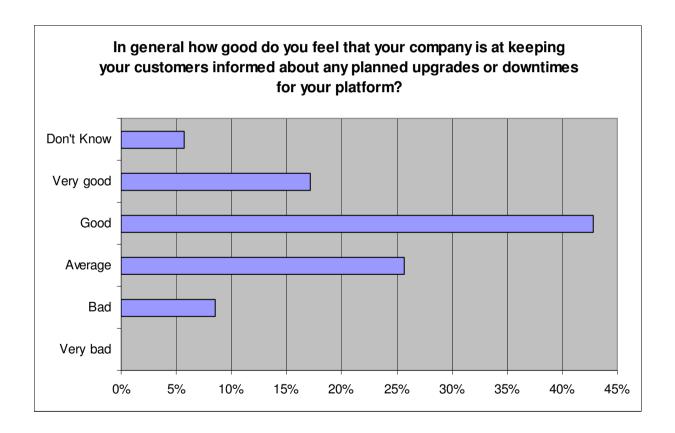


















Librarians: Most valuable aspect of Customer Service that Publishers have introduced in the last five years

(all responses with more than one respondent)		
Active participation in blogs and listservs	3	6%
Admin Sites on ejournals platforms	6	11%
Dedicated Online Support departments	3	6%
Email notifications of changes	11	21%
More outreach to customers	2	4%
Named Contacts	4	8%
Regular Newsletters	4	8%
Reliability of Platforms/Better notice of downtime	2	4%
Up to date & Useful Websites	5	9%
Usage Stats	6	11%
Nothing at all/ha ha ha/Don't know	7	13%
Total	53	100%







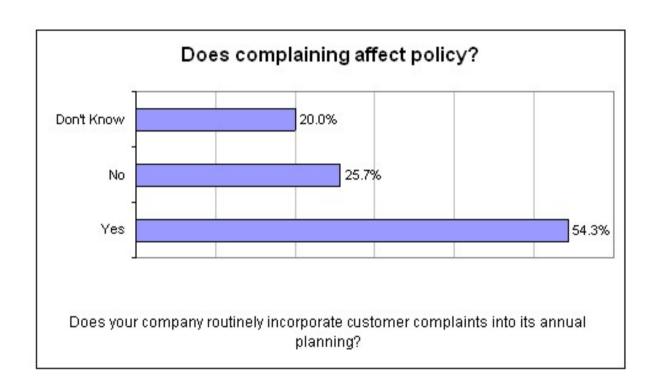
Publishers: Most valuable aspect of Customer Service that you have introduced in the last five years

Key Account Managers	1	7%
Investment in better systems	1	7%
Online Support Desk	2	14%
24-hour turnaround on enquiries	3	21%
Flexibility in approach	1	7%
Direct Mail to product managers	1	7%
Outsourced Distribution	1	7%
Investment in staff	3	21%
More outreach to customers	1	7%
Total	14	100%















What to do...

- Ensure your website is completely up to date

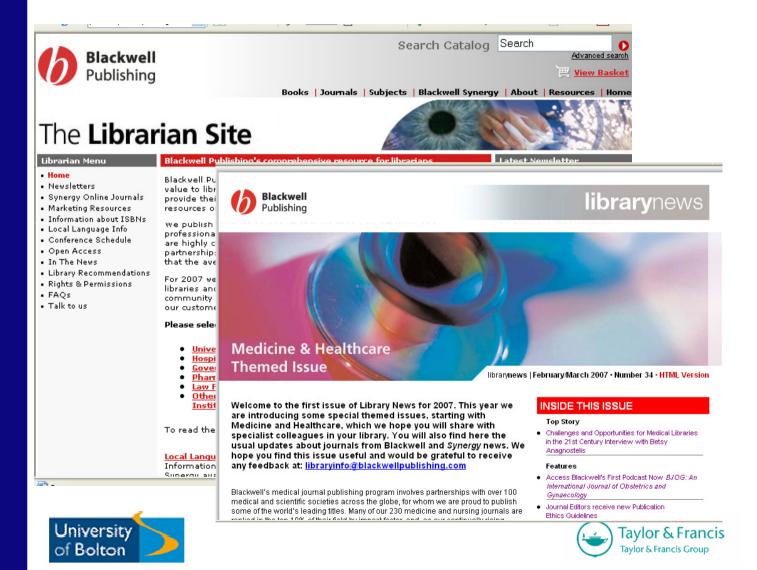
 including plenty of Help and FAQ links –
 this is where librarians will go first
- Produce Library Newsletters if you don't already
- Engage with the discussion lists
- No anonymous customer service responses named contacts are key
- (8 respondents couldn't think of a thing we had improved – including "ha ha ha" as a response)





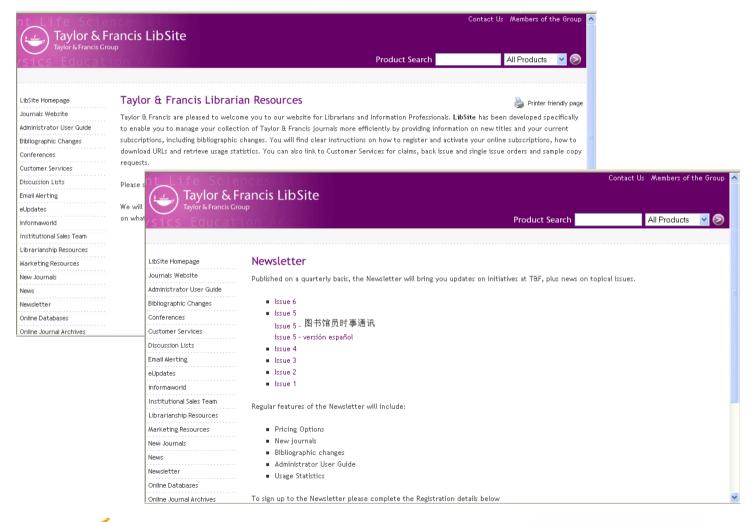


Library Sites/Newsletters





Library Sites/Newsletters









Critical Communication Plan

Not needed for *all* announcements, but for Critical Communications use the following mix:

- Agents for including in their newsletters (not completely reliable according to respondents last year)
- Email Lists of your own customers (build a list if you don't already have one)
- Listservs lis-e-journals, liblicense, serialst
- Notices on online site
- Librarians Newsletter
- Update your website



