

ANNUAL REVIEW 2026

Riverside Public Library - five branches, one year, for the library board

15 December 2026 · Sample data for the IGMD Phase 2 fixture - invented figures.

KEY FINDING

Visits rose in every month of 2026 compared with 2025, led by the reopened Eastside branch (up 31%).

Confidence 90% · Evidence: ev-visits, ev-branches

435,800

Visits

+9% on 2025

518,900

Loans

+4% on 2025

1,212

Programmes run

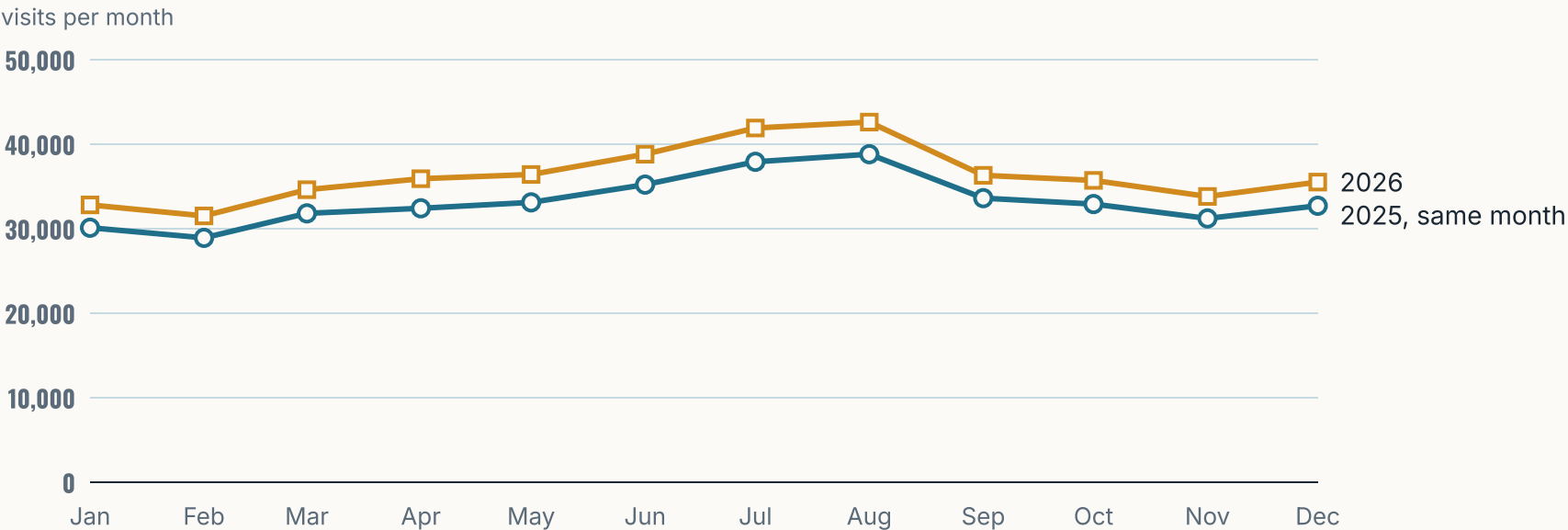
+11% on 2025

21,480

Members

+5% on 2025

Monthly visits, all branches



What changed this year

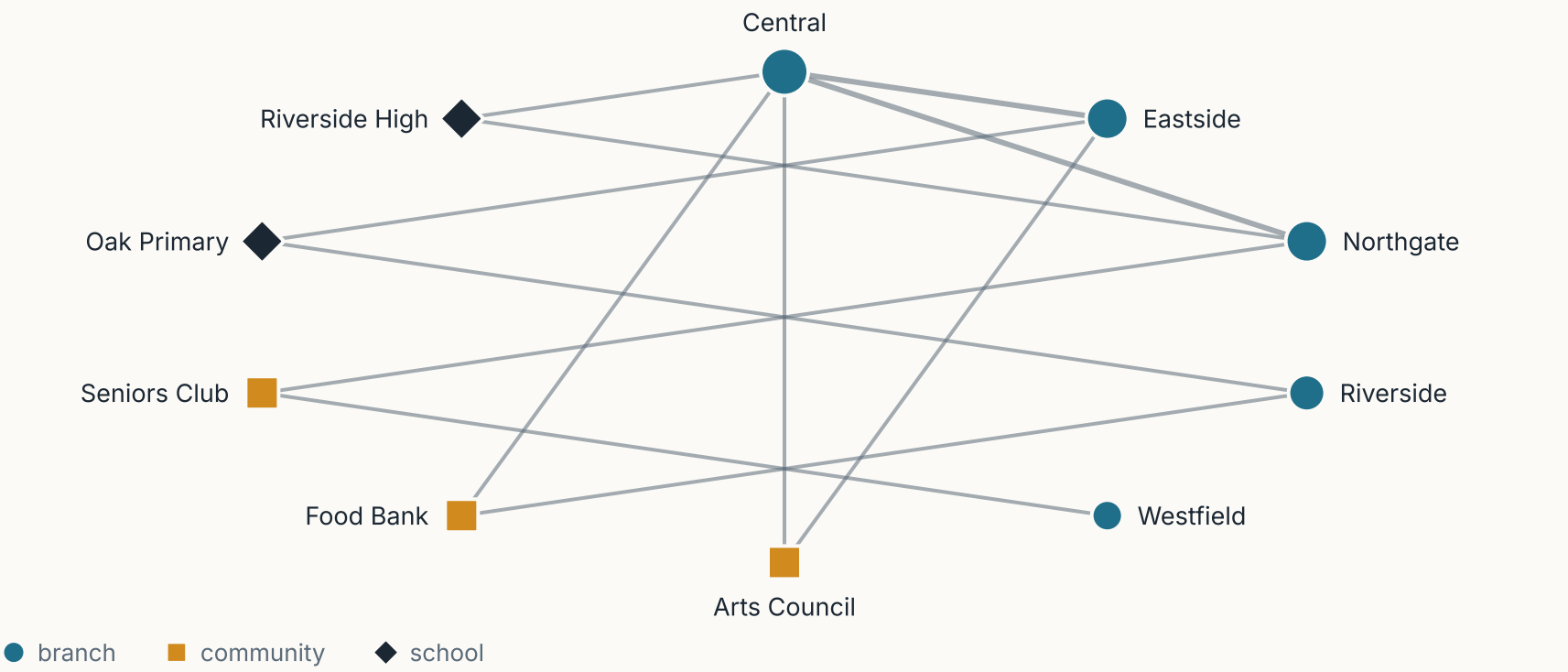
Eastside reopened in January after a year of refurbishment and immediately became the second-busiest branch. Its programme room hosted the comics workshops that ran from March, and its longer weekend hours drew families who had been travelling to Central.

The rest of the network grew modestly. Westfield was the only branch with fewer visits than in 2025, a small fall that tracks the closure of the shopping centre next door in the spring.

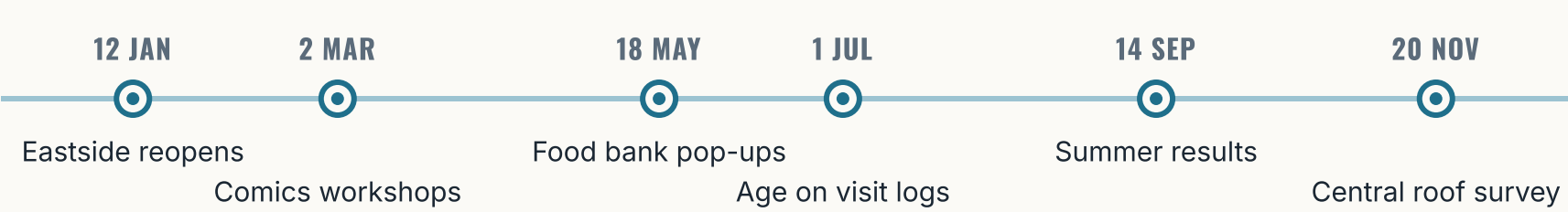
The five branches in 2026

Branch	Visits	Loans	Programmes	Cost per visit	Visits vs 2025
Central	142,300	168,200	402	\$5.82	4.1%
Eastside	98,600	121,400	318	\$6.40	31.2%
Northgate	87,400	104,900	241	\$6.95	5.8%
Riverside	64,900	76,300	156	\$7.31	2.4%
Westfield	42,600	48,100	95	\$8.12	-1.2%

Who the branches work with



The year in milestones



FINDING - TENTATIVE

The comics workshops probably drove the rise in teenage visits in the second half of the year.

Confidence 60% · Evidence: ev-teen



UNCERTAINTY

Visit logs only record age from July, so there is no 2025 figure to compare against; the link to the workshops is inferred from timing, not measured.

About: "The comics workshops probably drove the rise in teenage visits in the second half of the year." · confidence 60%



RECOMMENDED ACTION

Extend weekend opening at Eastside and Northgate in 2027, and repeat the comics workshops with age recorded from the first session so their effect can be measured.



WARNING

The November survey rated Central's roof as poor. Without repair before winter, Central may need to close for up to six weeks - it carries a third of all visits.

What the findings rest on

Visits rose in every month of 2026 compared with 2025, led by the reopened Eastside branch (up 31%).

ev-visits · annual.monthly_visits · 2 series, 24 points
ev-branches · annual.branches.rows · 5 rows

The comics workshops probably drove the rise in teenage visits in the second half of the year.

ev-teen · annual.teen_visits · age_logged_from: 2026-07; jul_dec_2026: 18,240; jul_dec_2025: not recorded

SOURCES & EVIDENCE

annual: data/annual-2026.json · sha256:bbf669368ec2...
Evidence: ev-visits = annual.monthly_visits; ev-branches = annual.branches.rows; ev-teen = annual.teen_visits; ev-roof = annual.roof_survey