#### **General Information**

### LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICE PERFORMANCE

The Welsh Government has now published its annual **Local Authority Services Performance 2012–13 Report** (January 2014). This document is the third annual report, which highlights the performance of Local Authorities and other public services, using a preselected suite of measures.

The data sets are compared on an all-Wales basis (22 authorities) and rated in accordance to levels of performance achieved, or response from surveys, using the following key:

Performance in bottom quarter

Performance between top and bottom quarter

Performance in top quarter

Ranking (e.g. 1<sup>st</sup> = Best in Wales to 22<sup>nd</sup> = Worst)

Across Wales, there are many nationally prescribed (Welsh Government) performance measures for Local Authorities, plus there are many more measures established through service benchmarking clubs, and National surveys.

The Local Authority Services Performance 2012–13 Report only reports on a limited number of measures, pre-selected by the Welsh Government for key services, in order to report to and stimulate citizen engagement, raising awareness of such information, and to signpost the public/reader to further reading/engagement with much more performance information and statistics on public services.

The majority of this information is not new and has been included in the Council's Annual Performance Report 2012/13 and reported to Council on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013.

In the latest document, the Minister for Local Government and Government Business **Lesley Griffiths**, stated; "The combination of challenging financial circumstances and increasing demand for many of the key services Authorities provide, make more important than ever the need to focus on improving performance".

The following information refers to an extract from the 2012/13 report namely, **Section 4 – Summary of Results** (page 6) for reference only. Followed by an extract specifically for Caerphilly, with supplementary (contextual) information as reported for 2012/13 and where available, a comparator with the 2011/12 results previously reported:

Further information on the full report can be obtained from:

LocalGovernmentSettlement@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Tel: 029 2082 6292

Website: http://wales.gov.uk

# 4. Summary of Results

## Summary of Local Authority Performance, 2012–13

	Social care			Education		Leisure and Culture			
Local Authority (Geographic Order)	Delayed transfers of care	Percentage of formerly Looked After Children known to be in education, training or employment at 19	Percentage of Looked After Children with three or more placements	Percentage of pupils aged 15 achieving a Level 2 threshold inclusive	Attendance	Free Swims	Public Library Visit	Households with dependent children accepted as homeless	
Isle of Anglesey									
Gwynedd									
Conwy									
Denbighshire									
Flintshire									
Wrexham									
Powys									
Ceredigion									
Pembrokeshire	***********								
Carmarthenshire									
Swansea									
Neath Port Talbot									
Bridgend									
The Vale of Glamorgan									
Cardiff									
Rhondda Cynon Taf									
Merthyr Tydfil									
Caerphilly									
Blaenau Gwent									
Torfaen									
Monmouthshire									
Newport									

Cont'd

Housing		Environment		Transport	Community safety	Well being			
Rate of Additional Affordable Housing Units delivered	Empty dwellings returned to use	Disabled Facilities Grant	Recycling	Fly Tipping	Road condition	Percentage of respondents who felt safe after dark	who are	Adults meeting physical activity guidelines	Adults drinking above guidelines
				*					
	*								

<sup>\*</sup> Data not available.

### **Education and Culture**

	Educ	Culture	
	Percentage of pupils aged 15 achieving a Level 2 threshold inclusive	Attendance	Public Library Visit
Isle of Anglesey			
Gwynedd			
Conwy			
Denbighshire			
Flintshire			
Wrexham			
Powys			
Ceredigion			
Pembrokeshire			
Carmarthenshire			
Swansea			
Neath Port Talbot			
Bridgend			
The Vale of Glamorgan			
Cardiff			
Rhondda Cynon Taf			
Merthyr Tydfil			
Caerphilly			
Blaenau Gwent			
Torfaen			
Monmouthshire			
Newport			

In relation to Education, the 12/13 financial year figures included in the report are for the 11/12 academic year.

Caerphilly	% of pupils aged 15 achieving a level 2 threshold inclusive (GCSE A*-C)	% Attendance (Secondary Schools)	Public Library Visits per 1,000 population	
2012/13	45.1 (19 <sup>th</sup> )	91.7 (19 <sup>th</sup> )	5012 (17 <sup>th</sup> )	
All Wales Av.	50.7	92.1	5968	
2011/12	43.3 (Unknown Ranking)	90.7 (19 <sup>th</sup> )	4652 (17 <sup>th</sup> )	

 Percentage of pupils aged 15 achieving a Level 2 threshold including a GCSE in English or Welsh first language and mathematics [this measure became part of the National Strategic Indicator set (NSI) in 2012/13].

After a 2% fall reported in 2011/12, there was a 2% rise reported in 2012/13.

The Level 2 inclusive is regarded as "the gold standard" measure of achievement at the end of compulsory education. It is one of the component measures that feature in the banding of secondary schools.

In a report, to Cabinet Report 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014 and Education for life scrutiny committee - 14th January 2014 it was reported: The proportion of pupils achieving the Level 2 threshold inclusive of English/Welsh first language and mathematics has improved across Caerphilly from 45.1% in 2012 to 46.3% in 2013. This places Caerphilly joint 19th in Wales for this indicator, slightly higher than the LA's \*FSM ranking of 21st.

### 2. Attendance in Secondary Schools

Caerphilly has shown a consistent improvement in secondary school attendance over the past 4 years. Gradually rising from 90.3% back in 2008/09 to 91.7% for the academic year 2011/12 (as reported in 2012/13).

All 14 secondary schools in Caerphilly (100%) matched or exceeded their attendance levels from the previous year.

The Welsh Government (WG) target is 93%.

### 3. Public Library Visits

The Council's Library Service has seen a period of ongoing improvements in visits since 2010-11 following a number of years of significant investment in its building stock and site presentation. The Authority, though still in the lower quartile for Wales, has improved markedly from a low base and the Library Service anticipates to improve further by some 7-9% in 2013-14 based on present levels of visitor activity and the opening of a new Library in Caerphilly town centre, relocation of Newbridge Library to the Memo site and reopening of the facility in Aberbargoed.

2012/13 data shows an improvement and the year-on-year performance variance between 2011/12 and 2012/13 is in part attributed to the opening of libraries in Abercarn, Risca & Bargoed. The 2012/13 result includes the first year that Risca and Bargoed libraries would have reported a full years data set. Abercarn opened in May 2012.

Also, electronic counters have been placed in two libraries that were unable to have them before.

<sup>\*</sup>FSM - Free school meals.

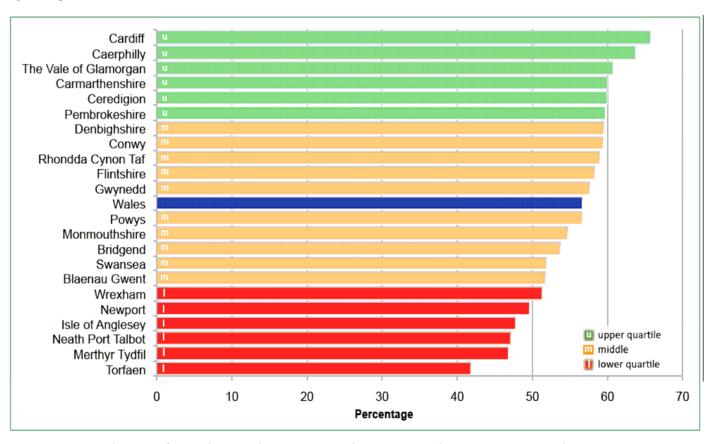
The report details Revenue Outturn Expenditure per pupil achieving the level (L4+) at KS2. Caerphilly is placed within the below average spend quadrant with average achievement. Interestingly, some other local authorities in similar socio-economic circumstances e.g. Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr, RCT, Neath Port Talbot recorded above average spend with below average achievement.

The report also details Revenue Outturn Expenditure per head on Libraries, Culture, Heritage, Sport and Recreation and visits to Public Libraries per 1,000 head of population. Caerphilly is placed within the above average spend quadrant with below average number of visits to public libraries.

Also included in the Welsh Government's report for 2012/13 are some results from The National Survey for Wales. An important result to note (see Figure 2 below) is 'the percentage of respondents who felt their council provides a high quality service'

Caerphilly was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest scoring authority in Wales, with Cardiff being the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Figure 2: The percentage of respondents who felt their council provides a high quality service



Source: National Survey for Wales, April 2012 to March 2013, sample size 14,400 people

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25<sup>th</sup> March 2014.