

SDR 178/2012

23 October 2012

## The Youth Service in Wales, 2011-12

This Statistical Release presents detailed information about the statutory Youth Service in Wales for the year 2011-12.

### Background

The Youth Service in Wales is delivered through the 22 local authorities and the voluntary sector. The National Youth Service Strategy for Wales, which was launched in 2007, provides a vision for development of youth work in Wales. Youth Services provide a safe, social and informal learning environment to help young people learn about themselves, others and society through activities that combine enjoyment, challenge, learning and achievement. The Welsh Government is committed to supporting the development of informal learning and has provided financial support to Local Authorities via a series of grants to meet the needs of local young people between the ages of 11 and 25.

Knowledge and Analytical Services of the Welsh Government took on responsibility for the collection of data about the Youth Service in Wales in April 2007. The data collected informs the development and continuous improvement of the Youth Service, and enables practitioners to encourage participation. The quality of the data continues to develop, as centrally we improve the guidance and definitions used within the survey, and locally youth services refine their management systems and data. For this reason increases or decreases from year to year should be interpreted with caution. The known quality issues are highlighted in the Key Quality Information section. This includes two authorities who have been unable to supply current year data for a number of sections, and we have therefore brought forward their previous year's estimate in order to provide indicative totals for Wales as a whole.

### Key results for 2011-12 show:

- Over 120,000 young people were registered members of the statutory Youth Service in Wales. This figure represented 21 per cent of the population of 11 to 25 year olds in Wales.
- Around 13,400 young people received a nationally recognised accreditation during the year, representing 11 per cent of registered Youth Service members;
- At March 2012, there were 961 full-time equivalent (FTE) Youth Service management and delivery staff working across local authorities in Wales.
- 86 per cent of all Youth Service delivery staff held at least level 2 Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) professional qualifications. Of the staff without a level 2 or above JNC qualification, 49 per cent were in training.
- The total income for the Youth Service in 2011-12 was £44.1 million and the total spend by the Youth Service in Wales was £43.7 million
- The total spend by the Youth Service per head of population aged 11-19 years was £128.

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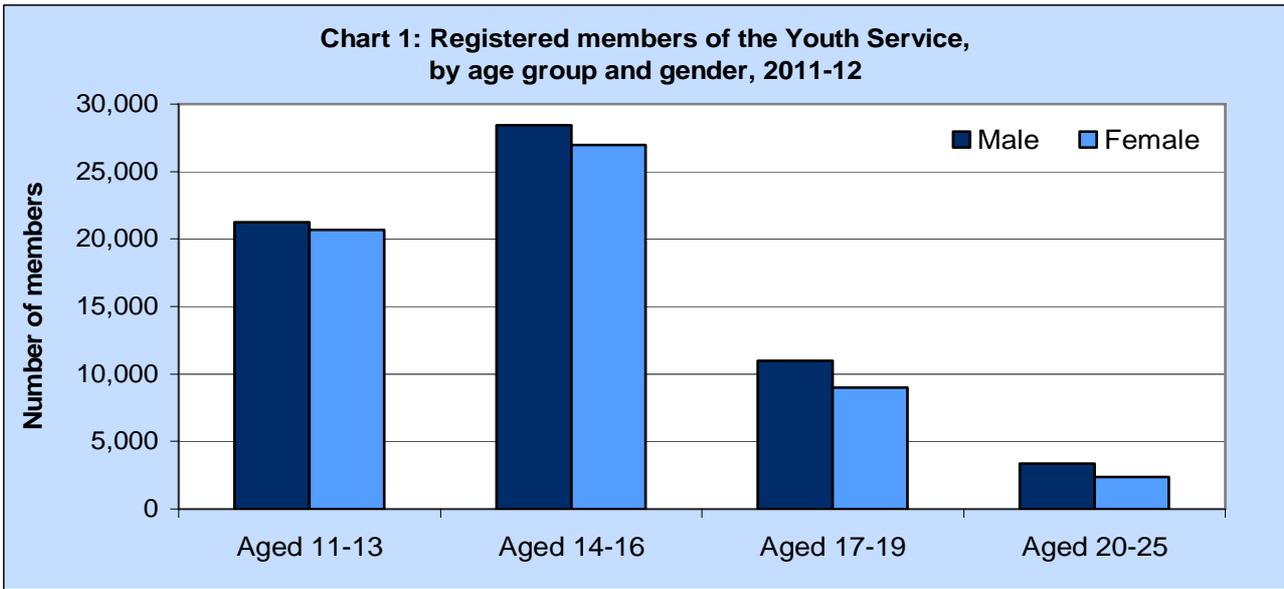
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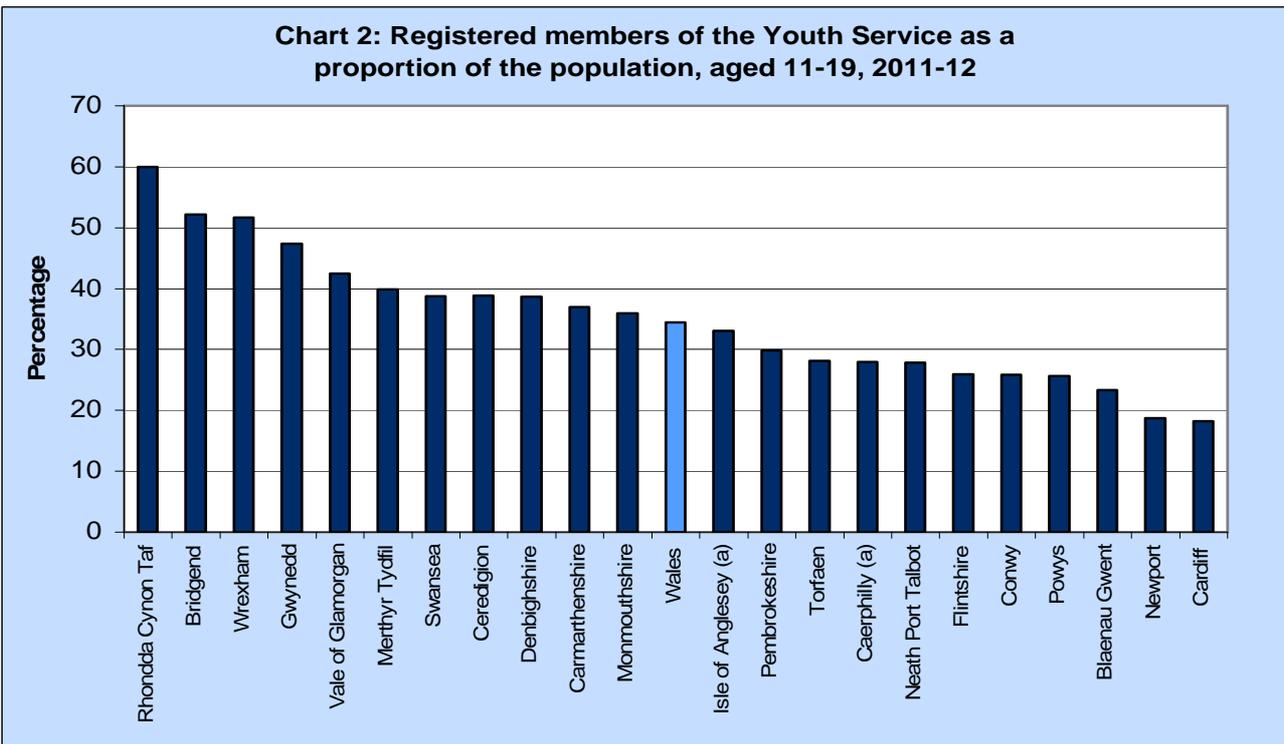
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**Registered members<sup>1</sup> of the Youth Service in Wales**

The 22 local authorities in Wales reported that 123,110 young people were registered members of the Youth Service in 2011-12, representing 21 per cent of the population of 11 to 25 year olds. This is an increase from 115,310 (19 per cent) in the previous year.



34 per cent of members were aged 11-13 years, 45 per cent were aged 14-16 years, 16 per cent were aged 17-19 and 5 per cent were aged 20-25. 52 per cent of the 123,110 were male and 48 per cent were female.



(a) 2011-12 data not supplied, therefore based on registered members in 2010-11

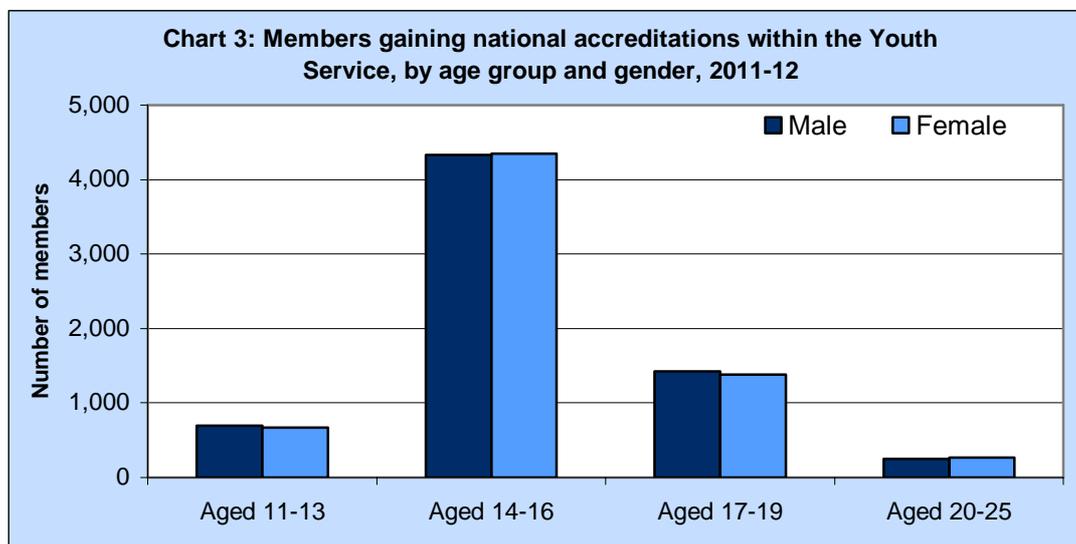
117,395 of these members were aged 11-19 years, representing 34 per cent of the 11-19 population. The proportions reported ranged from 60 per cent in Rhondda Cynon Taf to 18 per cent in Cardiff. More detailed information can be found in table 1.

<sup>1</sup> Young people registered on local authority Reach systems as active during the year (i.e. those for whom a name, address and date of birth was known).

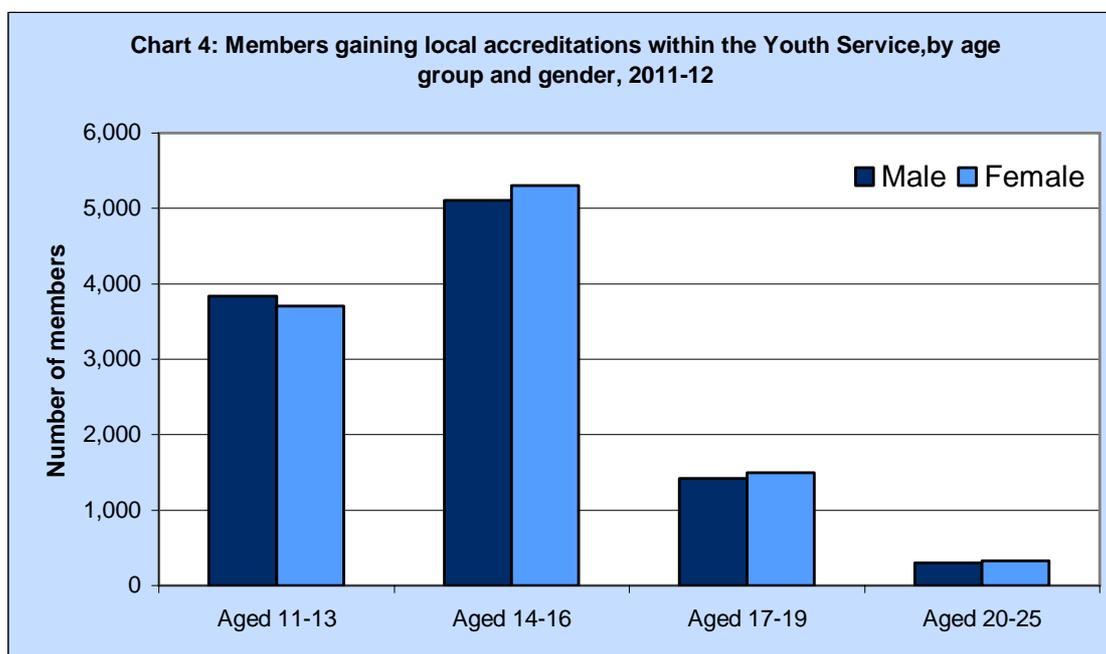
### Accreditation of statutory Youth Service members

The survey collects information on individuals gaining accreditations within the statutory Youth Service differentiated between national and locally recognised accreditations.

There were 13,376 young people who were reported as having gained a national accreditation in 2011-12 (11 per cent of all registered members). 21,500 young people (17 per cent of all registered members) were reported as having gained a local accreditation. (Note that a young person can gain both national and local accreditations.) More detailed information for individual authorities can be found in table 1.



Most young people gaining national accreditations were aged 14-16 (65 per cent). 10 per cent were aged 11-13, 21 per cent aged 17-19 and 4 per cent aged 20-25.



Most young people gaining local accreditations were aged 14-16 (48 per cent) and 11-13 (35 per cent). 14 per cent were aged 17-19 and 3 per cent aged 20-25.

### Contacts<sup>2</sup>

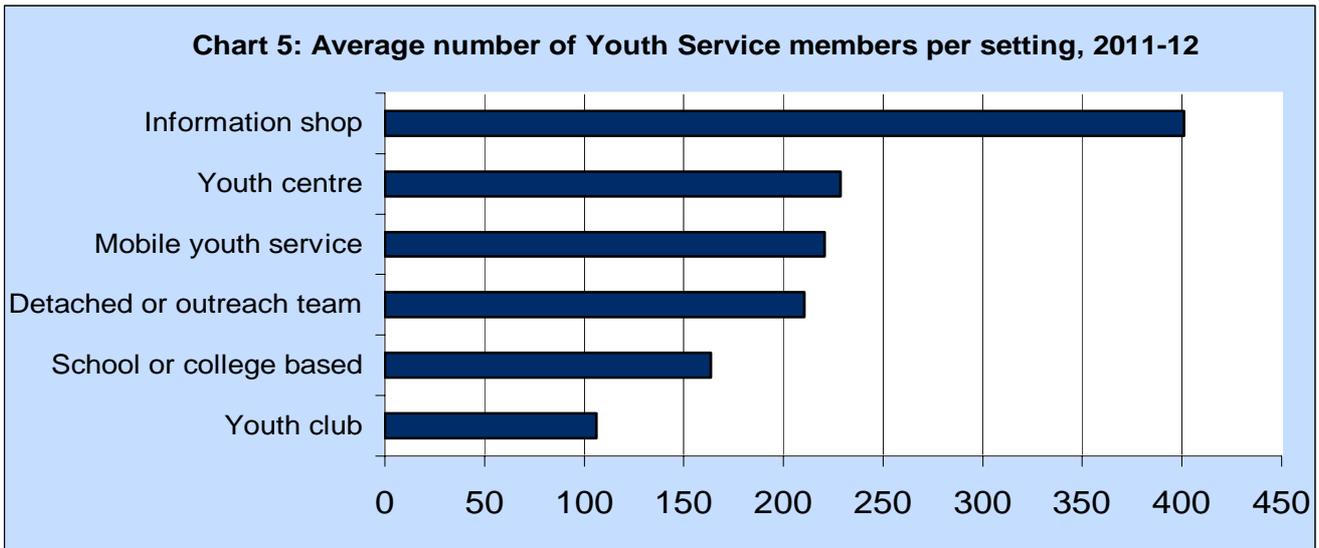
There were 1,586,174 contacts in Wales in 2011-12. The average number of contacts per member was 13.

<sup>1</sup> A contact is defined as a session covering up to 3 hours, allowing for 3 sessions to take place per day (morning/afternoon/evening). One contact is an individual attendance at one session.

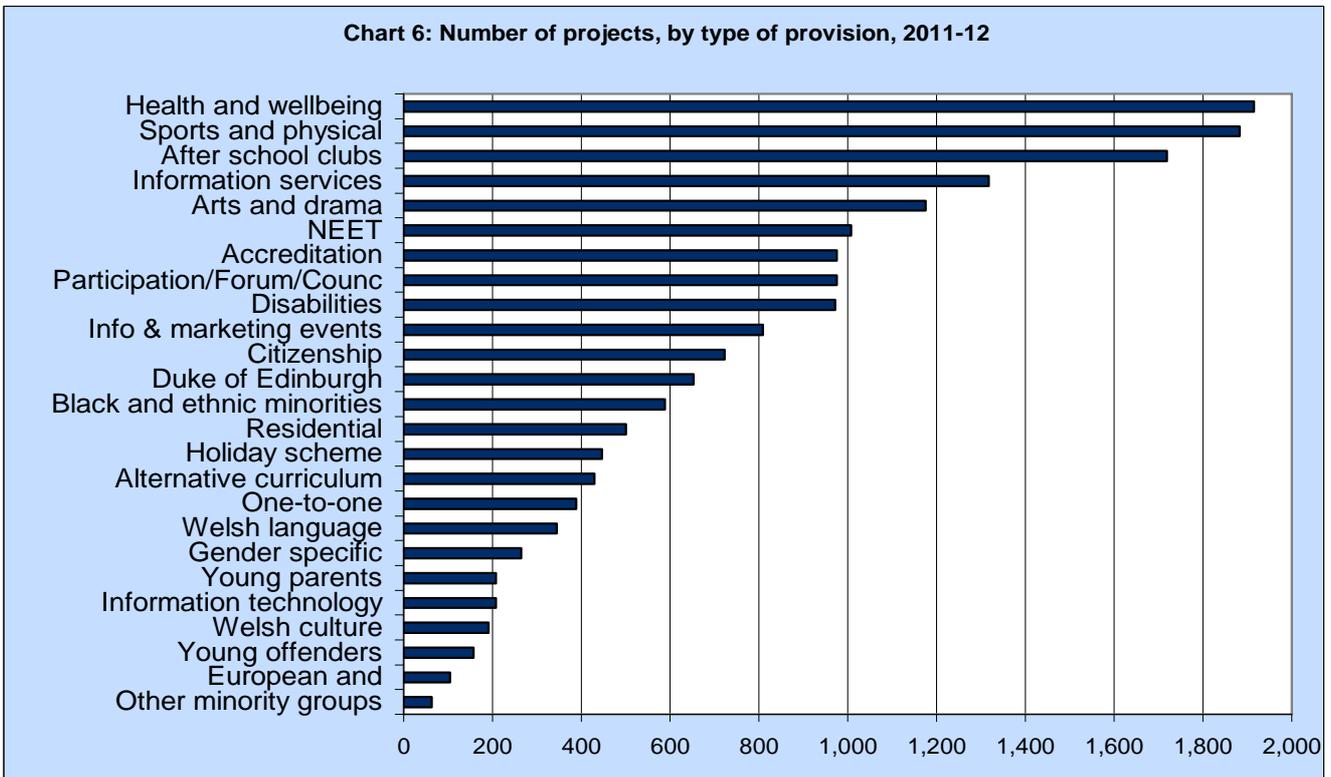
### Youth Service Projects

Local authorities provided information about the Youth Service projects that were running across Wales. These projects may be delivered by the local authority youth service alone, or in partnership with other statutory or voluntary bodies.

Most numerous in terms of settings were youth clubs with 477 across Wales, with over 50,600 registered members. The highest membership was through 233 youth centres with over 53,000 registered members. There were also close to 200 schools/college projects, with over 32,000 registered members, and 101 detached/outreach teams, with over 21,000 registered members. Note that there will be some overlap of membership, with members able to interact with each of the different settings, and for example with more than one youth club or centre.



Information shops had the highest number of members per setting, with an average of 401 registered members. Youth clubs had the lowest, with an average of 106 registered members.



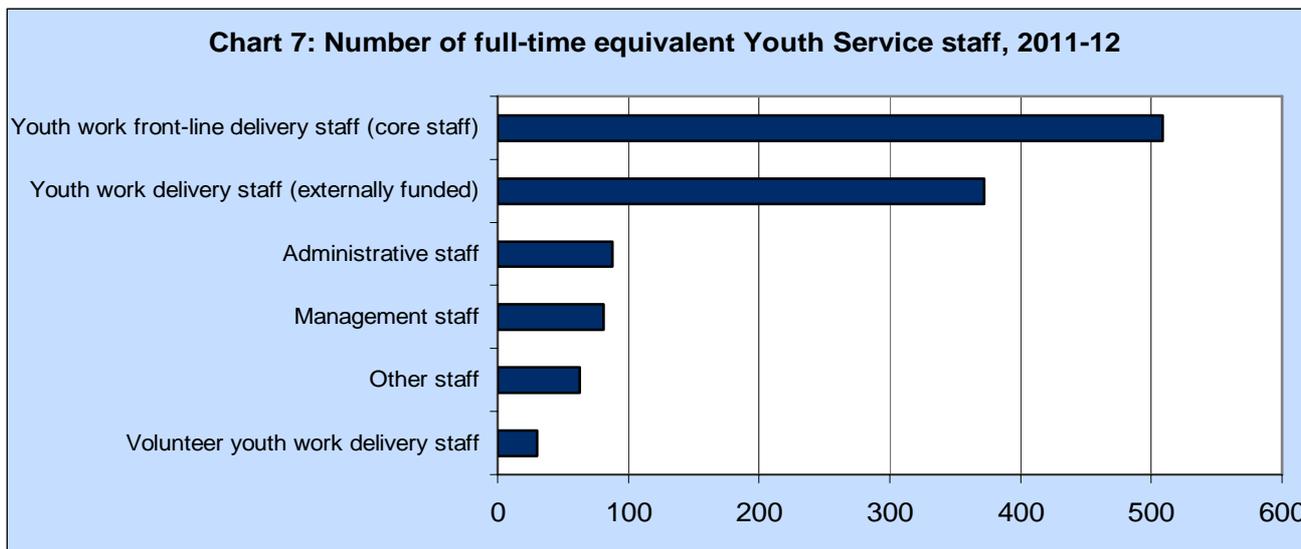
The type of provision offered by individual projects was also recorded, with projects recorded multiple times if relevant to more than one type of provision. For example the same project could be recorded within Arts and Drama, Welsh culture and Residential.

Health and Wellbeing (1,915) and Sports and Activity (1,883) recorded the highest number of projects and also the highest numbers of registered members attending (Sports and Activity at 30,735 and Health and Wellbeing at 29,919). (A registered membership is not applicable to Information Services). Note that there will be some overlap of membership, with members able to interact with more than one project.

### Youth Service Workforce

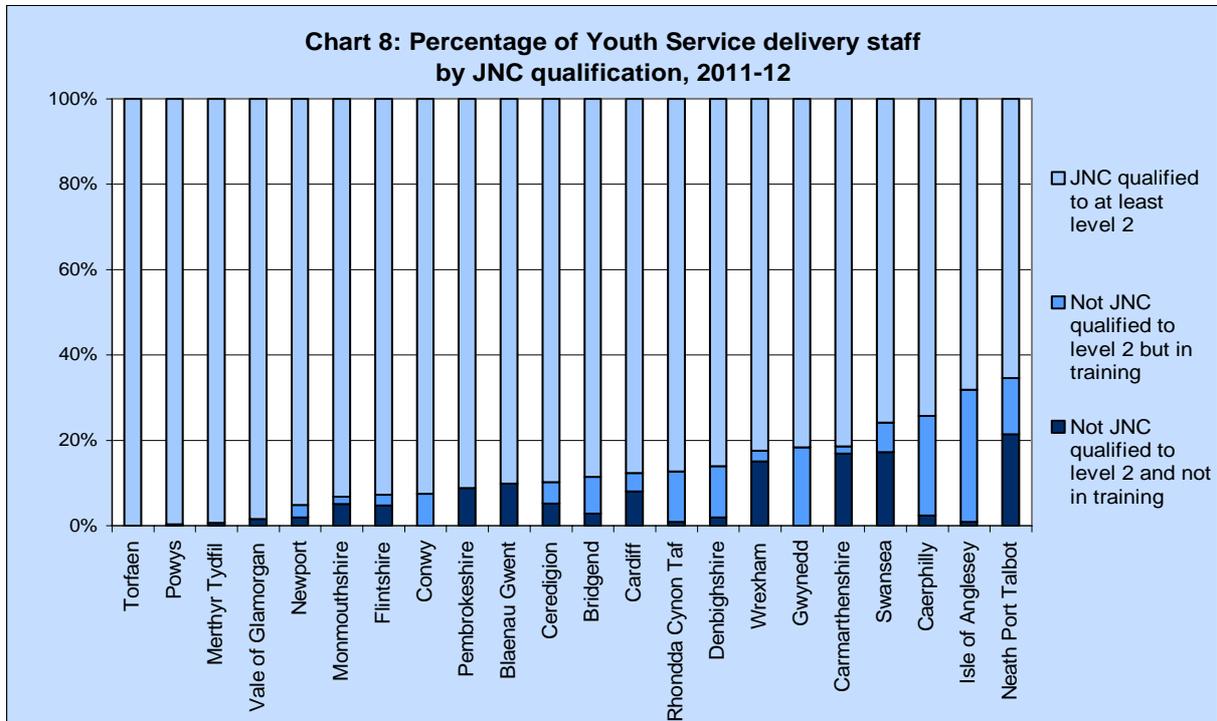
At March 2012, there were 961 full-time equivalent (FTE) Youth Service delivery staff working across local authorities in Wales. 8 per cent (81) of these FTE posts were management staff and 92 per cent (881) were youth work front-line staff (both core and externally funded). Compared with the previous year there was a decrease in management staff and core delivery staff and an increase in externally funded delivery staff.

There were a further 181 FTE administrative staff, volunteer youth work delivery staff and other staff, giving a total of 1,142 FTE staff in the Youth service in Wales at March 2012. This is an increase from the total of 1,129 (r) FTE staff at March 2011.



## Qualifications

In 2011-12, 86 per cent of all Youth Service delivery staff held at least level 2<sup>3</sup> Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) professional qualifications (the same as in 2010-11). Of those without a level 2 or above JNC qualification, 49 per cent were in training (48 per cent in 2010-11). More detailed information can be found in Table 2.



## Staff Ratios

The ratio of FTE management staff to FTE youth work delivery staff in Wales in 2011-12 was around 1:11.

The ratio of registered members aged 11-25 to FTE youth work delivery staff (excluding management staff) was 140 young people per worker in 2011-12. For the 11-19 population, the ratio was 133:1. (Note that these ratios reflect the total registered membership, and not attendance at sessions).

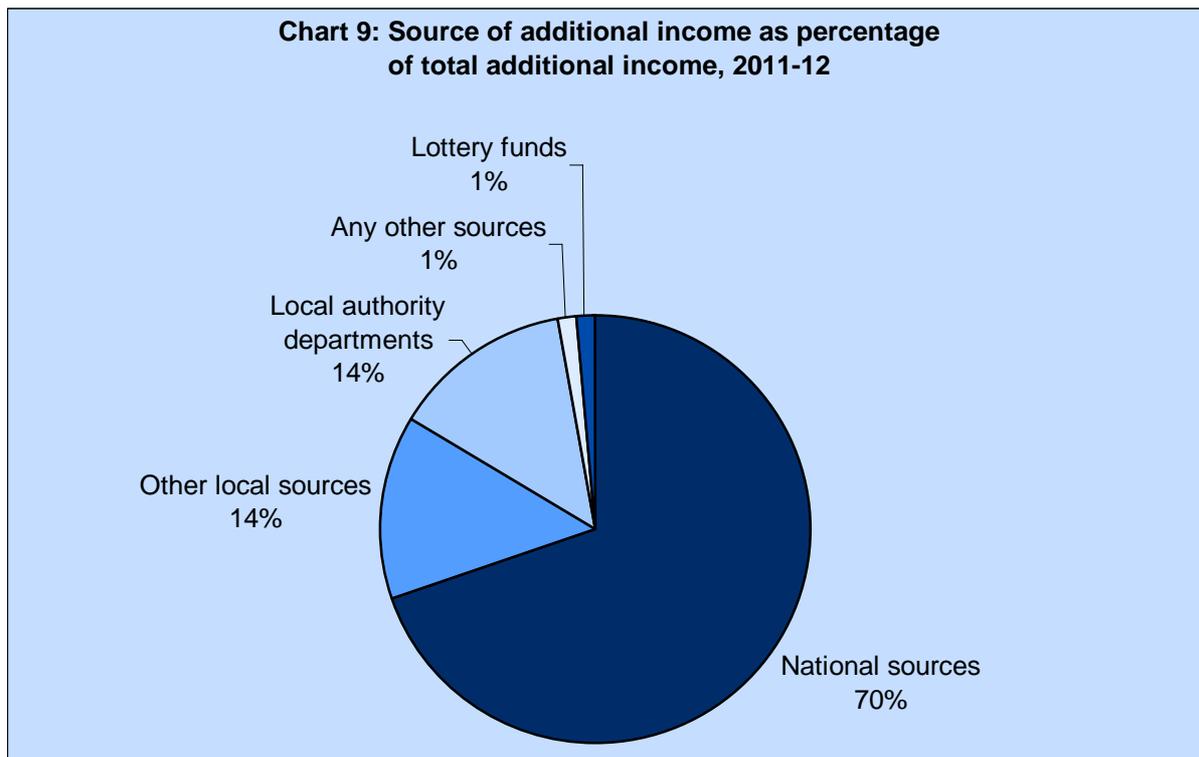
<sup>3</sup> Degree level, diploma, NOCN3, or any other qualification from JNC level 2 upwards.

## Youth Service Finance

### Income

The total income for the Youth Service in 2011-12 was £44.1 million, a decrease of 0.1 percent from £44.2 million (r) in the previous year. The total of core Youth Service budgets across Wales saw a larger decrease of 4 per cent to £23.3 million in 2011-12, from £24.3 million (r) in 2010-11.

The contribution made by core Youth Service budgets to the total Youth Service income across Wales varied between authorities, ranging from 93 per cent in Conwy to 21 per cent in Carmarthenshire.

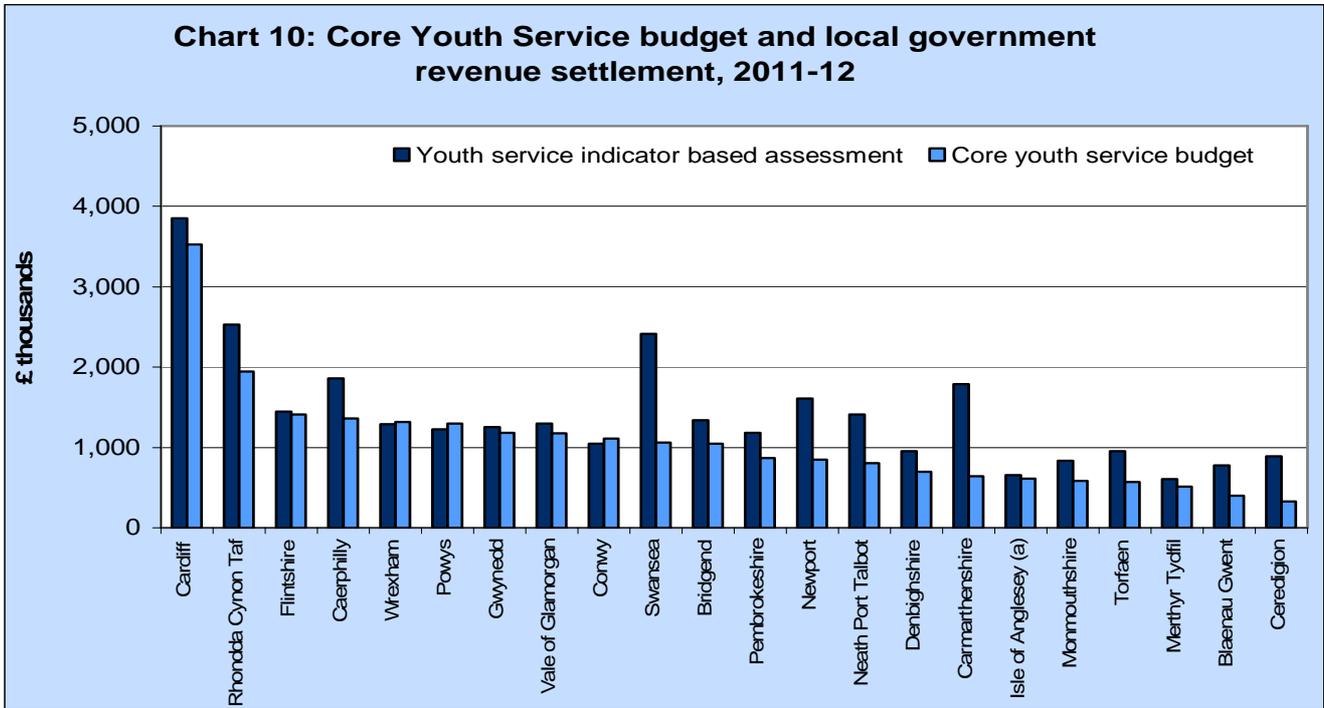


In addition to the core Youth Service budget, the total budget for the Youth Service in Wales for 2011-12 included income of £20.8 million from other sources, accounting for 47 per cent of the total income. 'National Sources' contributed the majority (£14.5 million or 70 per cent) of these funds, £5.6 million of which was provided by Cymorth.

Other important sources of additional income in 2010-11 were, European funding (£2.6 million), Communities First (£1.5 million), 14-19 Pathways (£0.5 million), and lottery funds (£0.3 million).

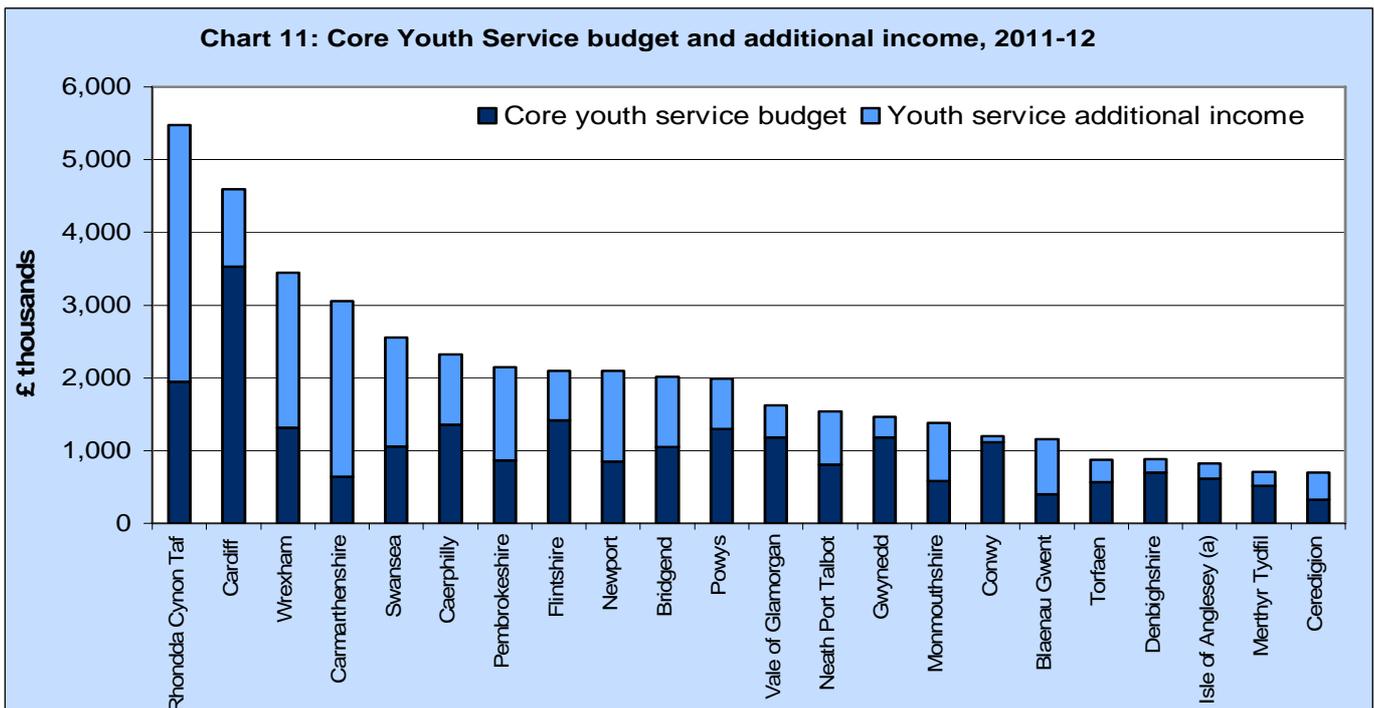
## Local Government Revenue Settlement

The Welsh local government revenue settlement includes an indicative figure for each local authority for the provision of the Youth Service in Wales. This indicative figure is based on population and other demographic variables. In 2011-12 the total core Youth Service budget represented 75 per cent of this allocation. More detailed information can be found in Table 3.



(a) 2011-12 data not supplied, therefore Core Youth Service budget figure based on 2010-11

Most local authorities had a core budget that was smaller than the revenue settlement indicative figure, and supplemented this core budget with income from other sources. The contributions of the core Youth Service budget and additional income from other sources in each local authority is shown in the graph below.



(a) 2011-12 data not supplied, therefore Core Youth Service budget and additional income figures based on 2010-11

## **Expenditure**

The total spend by the Youth Service in Wales in 2011-12 was £43.7 million, a decrease of 2 per cent from £44.6 million (r) in 2010-11. The expenditure ranged from £0.7 million in Merthyr Tydfil and Ceredigion, to £5.5 million in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

The majority of Youth Service spending in 2011-12 was on employees, at 67 per cent of all expenditure. 2 per cent of Youth Service expenditure across Wales went on staff training and development.

Of the remaining funds, 11 per cent were spent on resources and a further 8 per cent on accommodation.

The Youth Service in Wales gave grant aid of £0.75 million (2 per cent of the expenditure) to the voluntary sector in 2011-12. A further £1.7 million of grant aid to the voluntary sector came from the wider local authority budget and £0.1 million from in-kind support. This amounted to a contribution of £2.5 million in grant aid by local authorities to voluntary youth services in Wales during the year.

## **Spend per head of population**

In 2011-12, the total spend by the Youth Service per head of population aged 11-19 years was £128. The core Youth Service budget per head of population aged 11-19 years was £68. Full details can be seen in Table 4.

**Table 1: Youth Service Members 2011-12**

	11-25 year olds					11-19 year olds				
	Mid-year population estimate 2011	Number of individual members	Members as percentage of population	Members with national accreditations as percentage of total members	Members with local accreditations as percentage of total members	Mid-year population estimate 2011	Number of individual members	Members as percentage of population	Members with national accreditations as percentage of total members	Members with local accreditations as percentage of total members
Isle of Anglesey (a)	11,495	2,306	20	9	8	6,940	2,292	33	9	8
Gwynedd	24,521	6,501	27	9	8	13,296	6,298	47	9	7
Conwy	18,771	3,336	18	6	17	11,881	3,070	26	6	18
Denbighshire	16,665	4,068	24	10	56	10,491	4,052	39	10	56
Flintshire	27,453	4,428	16	6	0	16,775	4,352	26	6	0
Wrexham	24,321	7,792	32	4	8	14,184	7,328	52	4	8
Powys	22,209	4,430	20	12	12	14,488	3,708	26	15	15
Ceredigion	18,147	3,650	20	11	13	8,977	3,486	39	11	11
Pembrokeshire	21,431	4,140	19	14	5	13,517	4,030	30	14	5
Carmarthenshire	32,562	7,688	24	21	21	19,944	7,377	37	21	21
Swansea	50,173	10,328	21	5	40	26,147	10,145	39	5	40
Neath Port Talbot	24,754	4,327	17	19	5	14,983	4,172	28	19	5
Bridgend	25,039	8,313	33	6	2	15,183	7,929	52	6	2
Vale of Glamorgan	23,018	6,359	28	9	17	14,651	6,218	42	9	18
Rhondda Cynon Taf	45,171	15,732	35	18	19	25,974	15,568	60	18	19
Merthyr Tydfil	11,468	2,722	24	16	0	6,626	2,643	40	16	0
Caerphilly (a)	33,349	6,249	19	6	22	20,322	5,674	28	7	24
Blaenau Gwent	13,486	1,920	14	18	20	7,947	1,858	23	17	20
Torfaen	17,425	3,058	18	0	3	10,679	3,003	28	0	3
Monmouthshire	15,548	3,792	24	15	68	10,459	3,759	36	15	68
Newport	29,436	3,832	13	8	13	17,408	3,258	19	9	15
Cardiff	84,631	8,139	10	12	11	39,465	7,175	18	13	11
<b>Wales</b>	<b>591,073</b>	<b>123,110</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>340,337</b>	<b>117,395</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>

(a) 2011-12 data not supplied, therefore registered members and accreditations for Isle of Anglesey, and registered members for Caerphilly, based on 2010-11 data

**Table 2: Percentage of Staff with and without Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) Qualifications 2011-12**

	Qualified to at least JNC level 2	Not qualified to at least JNC level 2, but in training	Not qualified to at least JNC level 2, not in training
Isle of Anglesey	68	31	1
Gwynedd	82	18	0
Conwy	93	7	0
Denbighshire	86	12	2
Flintshire	93	3	5
Wrexham	82	2	15
Powys	100	0	0
Ceredigion	90	5	5
Pembrokeshire	91	0	9
Carmarthenshire	81	2	17
Swansea	76	7	17
Neath Port Talbot	65	13	21
Bridgend	89	9	3
Vale of Glamorgan	98	0	2
Rhondda Cynon Taf	87	12	1
Merthyr Tydfil	99	0	1
Caerphilly	74	23	2
Blaenau Gwent	90	0	10
Torfaen	100	0	0
Monmouthshire	93	2	5
Newport	95	3	2
Cardiff	88	4	8
<b>Wales</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

**Table 3: Local Government Revenue Settlement and Core Youth Service budget (a)**

	Revenue Settlement (£)			Core Budget (£)			Core Youth Service budget as a percentage of local government revenue settlement		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Isle of Anglesey	599,348	655,627	653,086	650,280	612,279	612,279 (b)	108	93	94 (b)
Gwynedd	1,066,757	1,182,431	1,250,353	1,363,514	1,064,696	1,180,490	128	90	94
Conwy	930,222	1,040,907	1,049,813	1,163,000	1,134,000	1,112,000	125	109	106
Denbighshire	847,406	949,339	955,375	696,862	719,083	701,539	82	76	73
Flintshire	1,298,318	1,442,173	1,442,566	1,362,207	1,242,523	1,412,422	105	86	98
Wrexham	1,119,426	1,252,727	1,288,862	1,286,194	1,281,568	1,315,254	115	102	102
Powys	1,083,521	1,209,893	1,223,625	1,504,613	1,525,404	1,298,891	139	126	106
Ceredigion	766,268	831,099	891,947	282,521	322,307	327,651	37	39	37
Pembrokeshire	1,052,223	1,171,500	1,182,392	885,478	908,892	865,677	84	78	73
Carmarthenshire	1,588,315	1,775,132	1,789,358	889,767	765,664	641,209	56	43	36
Swansea	2,116,195	2,343,132	2,414,556	1,097,700	1,185,800	1,058,500	52	51	44
Neath Port Talbot	1,281,158	1,416,418	1,410,685	849,498	839,529	807,046	66	59	57
Bridgend	1,205,077	1,342,986	1,341,148	876,439	1,074,435 (r)	1,045,091	73	80 (r)	78
Vale of Glamorgan	1,153,123	1,292,039	1,296,752	1,384,220	1,318,262	1,178,589	120	102	91
Rhondda Cynon Taf	2,264,272	2,492,535	2,527,218	1,926,795	2,018,519	1,943,165	85	81	77
Merthyr Tydfil	572,949	628,849	602,936	499,580	519,820	513,290	87	83	85
Caerphilly	1,679,675	1,863,993	1,859,759	1,240,000	1,321,427	1,358,518	74	71	73
Blaenau Gwent	719,429	786,441	773,749	448,564	481,320	398,415	62	61	51
Torfaen	884,873	978,753	953,039	558,229	582,580	569,922	63	60	60
Monmouthshire	757,596	847,858	835,196	579,642	548,173	582,000	77	65	70
Newport	1,422,719	1,592,776	1,609,421	1,059,881	928,407	847,588	74	58	53
Cardiff	3,314,156	3,694,990	3,855,984	3,544,827	3,908,468	3,526,465	107	106	91
<b>Wales</b>	<b>27,723,024</b>	<b>30,791,597</b>	<b>31,207,820</b>	<b>24,149,811</b>	<b>24,303,157 (r)</b>	<b>23,296,001</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>79 (r)</b>	<b>75</b>

(a) Improved definitions and validation processes have been applied to the collection of finance information for 2010-11 onwards, resulting in some discontinuity between that data and finance data for prior years.

(b) 2011-12 data not supplied, therefore core budget for Isle of Anglesey based on 2010-11 data.

**Table 4: Core Budget and Spend Per Head of Youth Population (a)**

	Core budget per youth population aged 11-25 per head (£)			Total spend per youth population aged 11-25 (£ per head)			Core budget per youth population aged 11-19 (£ per head)			Total spend per youth population aged 11-19 (£ per head)		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Isle of Anglesey (b)	55	52	53	83	78	72	87	84	88	132	125	119
Gwynedd	54	41	48	68	57	60	97	75	89	121	103	110
Conwy	64	63	59	82	77	64	96	96	94	123	117	102
Denbighshire	42	43	42	62	62	53	64	67	67	95	97	84
Flintshire	51	47	51	83	73	76	80	75	84	132	116	125
Wrexham	53	53	54	121	122	142	89	90	93	205	207	243
Powys	69	71	58	115	145	89	100	104	90	166	213	137
Ceredigion	15	17	18	30	36	39	29	33	36	57	73	78
Pembrokeshire	43	44	40	92	117	103	65	67	64	138	176	163
Carmarthenshire	28	24	20	90	93	85	44	38	32	142	148	138
Swansea	22	23	21	37	37	51	43	47	40	72	75	98
Neath Port Talbot	34	34	33	63	70	62	55	56	54	103	115	103
Bridgend	36	45	42	59	86 (r)	80	59	73	69	96	140 (r)	133
Vale of Glamorgan	58	56	51	86	80	71	92	89	80	135	127	111
Rhondda Cynon Taf	41	43	43	59	72	121	71	76	75	102	126	211
Merthyr Tydfil	45	48	45	88	77	60	76	81	77	148	132	104
Caerphilly	38	40	41	45	70	61	61	66	67	74	116	100
Blaenau Gwent	32	35	30	75	89	85	53	59	50	122	150	145
Torfaen	31	33	33	66	65	50	51	55	53	107	108	82
Monmouthshire	39	37	37	89	96	89	56	53	56	128	138	132
Newport	36	31	29	89	80	74	61	54	49	152	138	125
Cardiff	40	44	42	57	61	54	89	99	89	126	138	116
<b>Wales</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>128</b>

(a) Improved definitions and validation processes have been applied to the collection of finance information for 2010-11 onwards, resulting in some discontinuity between that data and finance data for prior years.

(b) 2011-12 data for Isle of Anglesey not supplied, therefore estimates based on 2010-11 data.

## Notes

### Policy/Operational context

This Statistical Release presents detailed information about the statutory Youth Service in Wales for the year 2011-12. The Release is produced annually with data collected as part of the Youth Service in Wales survey carried out each year amongst the 22 local authorities in Wales during late summer. The statistics are used within the Welsh Government, and by local government and practitioners to monitor trends in the membership, finance and staff of the Youth Service in Wales. The data collected informs the development and continuous improvement of the Youth Service, and enables practitioners to increase participation and support young people to overcome the barriers to learning, and realise their potential.

The National Youth Service Strategy for Wales, which was launched in 2007, provides a vision for development of youth work in Wales. A consultation on an updated strategy is expected to take place during 2013.

### Background

Prior to 2009-10, the collection and publication of statistics about the Youth Service in Wales was carried out by the Local Government Data Unit ~ Wales on behalf of the Welsh [Assembly] Government. On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010, responsibility for this work transferred to Knowledge and Analytical Services of the Welsh Government.

### Key Quality Information

The quality of the data collected through this survey continues to develop, as centrally we improve the guidance and definitions used within the survey, and locally youth services refine their management systems, which were purchased using funding from the Welsh Government revenue grant allocation for 2009/10, to ensure that all the data gathered for the audit is robust, current and accurate. Both of these issues impact upon the comparability of data from year to year.

For the 2011 and 2012 survey there has been a considerable amount of work on guidance and definitions to ensure a consistent approach between authorities, to clarify some known issues with earlier surveys, and to reflect current policy.

The data have not yet been assessed as National Statistics.

(r) indicates where data have been revised since the previous edition of the release

### Membership

From the 2010-11 survey onwards, local authorities were asked to only include young people registered on the Reach system as active during the year (i.e. those for whom a name, address and date of birth was known.) (Reach is the term used to measure the number of young people engaged from the youth population within a designated area/local authority.) In previous years some authorities may have additionally included anonymous members. Given this, and improvements to some authorities recording systems, it is not appropriate to compare this data on a like for like basis with earlier years.

Membership should be a count of individual young people and not involve any double counting (through an individual attending more than one type of provision.). Isle of Anglesey and Caerphilly were unable to supply membership estimates for 2011-12 and therefore we have brought forward their previous year estimates.

## Accreditations

The 2010-11 survey, for the first time, differentiated between young people who had received nationally and locally recognised accreditations:-

Nationally recognised accreditations are those successfully completed under nationally recognised programmes that are assessed and verified, for example: BELA; Agored Cymru/OCN; ASDAN; Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) and Personal Social Development (PSD).

Locally recognised awards are those successfully completed that are not part of the national programme and are assessed locally, for example: individual modules of DofE or PSD; Mayor's Awards; In-house Certification; Children/Youth University and John Muir Award.

Note that an individual may receive nationally and locally recognised accreditations and as such the data are not comparable with previous years, which was a count of all those with any accreditation.

Isle of Anglesey did not supply accreditation estimates for 2011-12 and therefore we have brought forward their previous year's estimates.

## Projects

In previous years there is thought to have been inconsistent interpretations in the recording of projects by local authorities, whereby some authorities may have counted projects in which a number of different activities were taking place as several projects, while others may have counted one project only in these circumstances. From the 2010-11 survey, the location or setting of projects (youth club etc.) has been separated from the type of provision (holiday scheme, Welsh language). Again, this change in the method of collection means that a direct comparison should not be made with previous years.

Note that the count of settings is not the total of projects, as there may be several projects running at each setting. Similarly, the type of provision information cannot be summed to give a total number of projects, as the same project can be multiple counted.

Isle of Anglesey did not supply project data for 2011-12 and therefore we have brought forward their previous year's estimates.

## Workforce

From the 2010-11 survey onwards the definition of Management staff has been clarified to be those with less than 10 per cent face-to-face contact with young people. There has also been a change in definition from

*"Youth work delivery staff – core and Youth work delivery staff – external"* to

*"Youth work front line staff – core and Youth work staff – externally funded"*

This has affected comparability of data with earlier years.

## Finance

Improved definitions and validation processes have been applied to the collection of finance information for 2010-11 onwards, resulting in some discontinuity between that data and finance data for prior years.

Isle of Anglesey did not supply finance data for 2011-12 and therefore we have estimates their data based on their previous year's estimates (excluding income and expenditure related to the WG capital grant, which does not apply in 2011-12).

**Other data sources**

The release includes population estimate data for 2007 to 2011 from Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Population Estimates (2001 onwards), by local authority and age, as available at October 2012. These may be subject to future revision in light of data from the 2011 Census of Population, and this will be reflected in future outputs.

Also included are 2007-08 to 2011-12 Welsh Local Government Revenue Settlement figures from "Green Book".

**Further information**

Further data is available through StatsWales or through the contact details shown at the front of this release.