

SDR 181/2013

13 November 2013

Youth Service in Wales, 2012-13

This Statistical Release presents detailed information about the statutory Youth Service in Wales for the year 2012-13.

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 2010. 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.

Key results for 2012-13 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 13,200 young people received a nationally recognised accreditation during the year, representing 11 per cent of registered Youth Service members;
- At March 2013, there were 836 full-time equivalent (FTE) Youth Service management and delivery staff working across local authorities in Wales.
- 87 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, 44 per cent were in training.
- The total income and expenditure for the Youth Service in 2012-13 was around £42 million
- The total spend by the Youth Service per head of population aged 11-19 years was £126.

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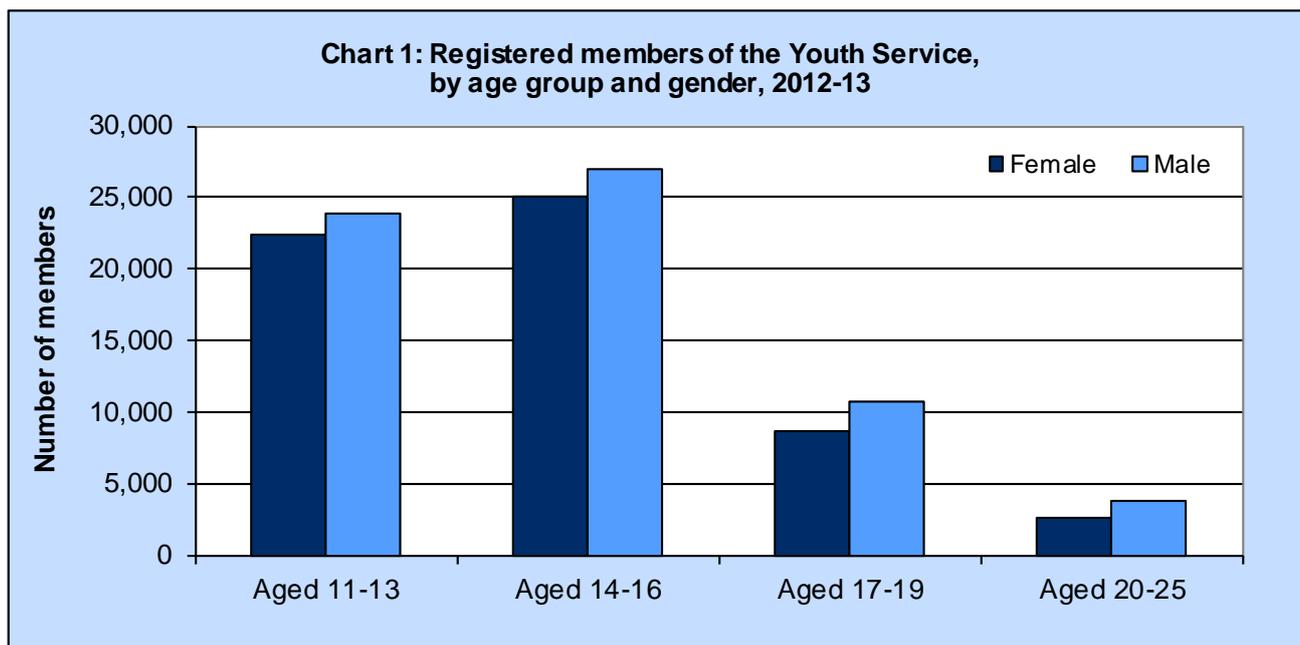
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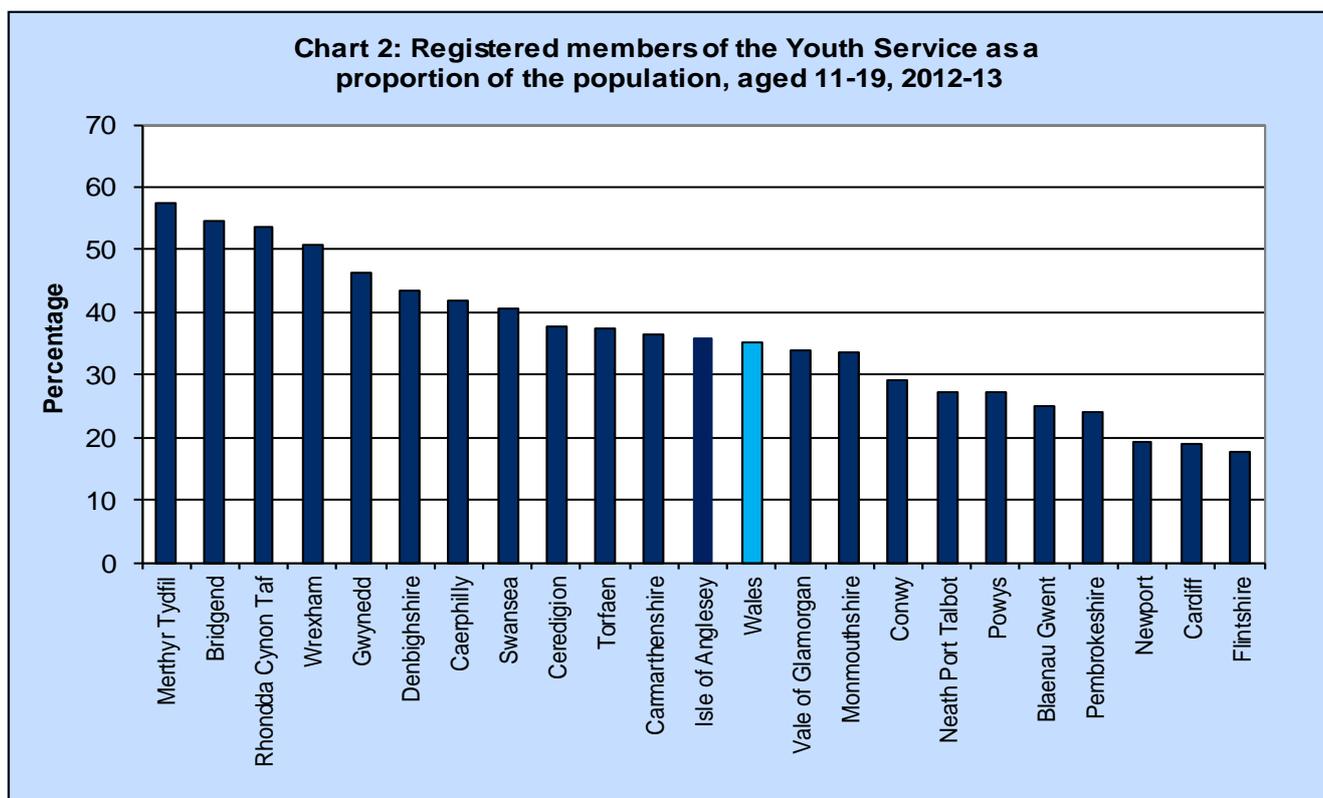
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Registered members¹ of the Youth Service in Wales

The 22 local authorities in Wales reported that 123,980 young people were registered members of the Youth Service in 2012-13, representing 21 per cent of the population of 11 to 25 year olds. This is around the same level as in the previous year (123,110 or 21 per cent).



37 per cent of members were aged 11-13 years, 42 per cent were aged 14-16 years, 16 per cent were aged 17-19 and 5 per cent were aged 20-25. 53 per cent of the 123,980 were male and 47 per cent were female.



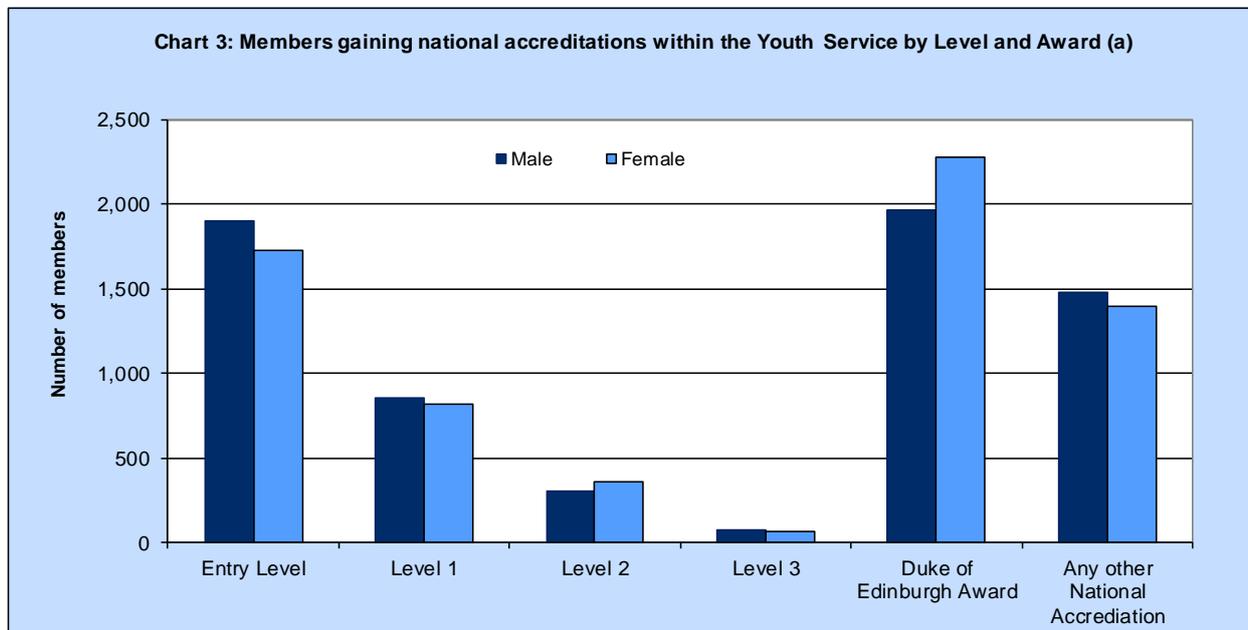
117,580 of these members were aged 11-19 years, representing 35 per cent of the 11-19 population. The proportions reported ranged from 57 per cent in Merthyr Tydfil to 18 per cent in Flintshire. More detailed information can be found in table 1.

¹ 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

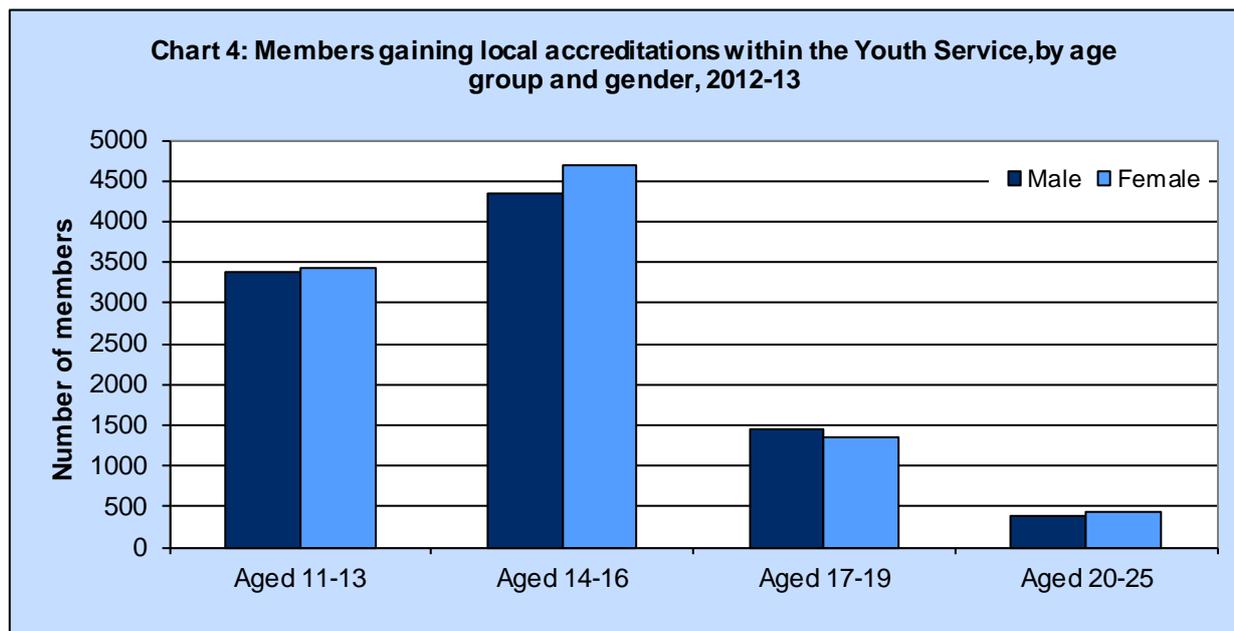
The survey collects information on individuals gaining accreditations within the statutory Youth Service differentiated between national and locally recognised accreditations.

There were 13,240 young people who were reported as having gained a national accreditation in 2012-13 (11 per cent of all registered members). 19,470 young people (16 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.



(a) 3 local authorities were unable to provide a full breakdown of accreditations by Level, and have therefore included all such accreditations within the “Any other National Accreditation” category. Therefore the data attributed to Entry Level, Level 1 to 3 and Duke Of Edinburgh Awards are an undercount.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards accounted for at least a third of all National Accreditations. Entry level accreditations were the next most prevalent.

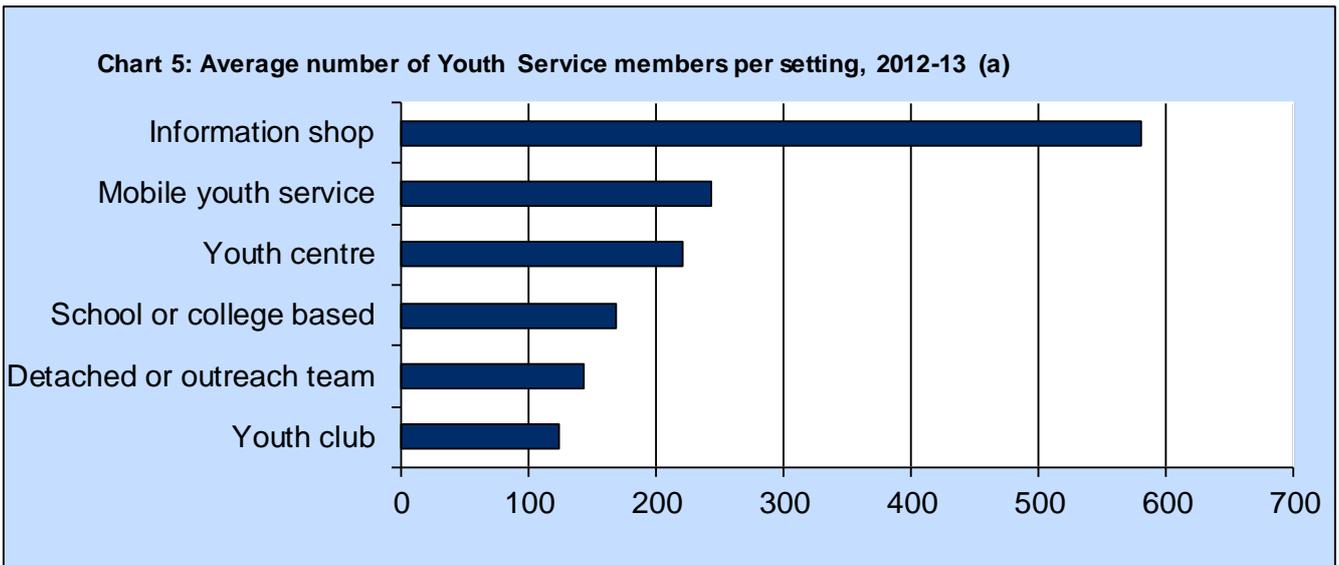


Most young people gaining local accreditations were aged 14-16 (46 per cent) and 11-13 (35 per cent). 14 per cent were aged 17-19 and 4 per cent aged 20-25.

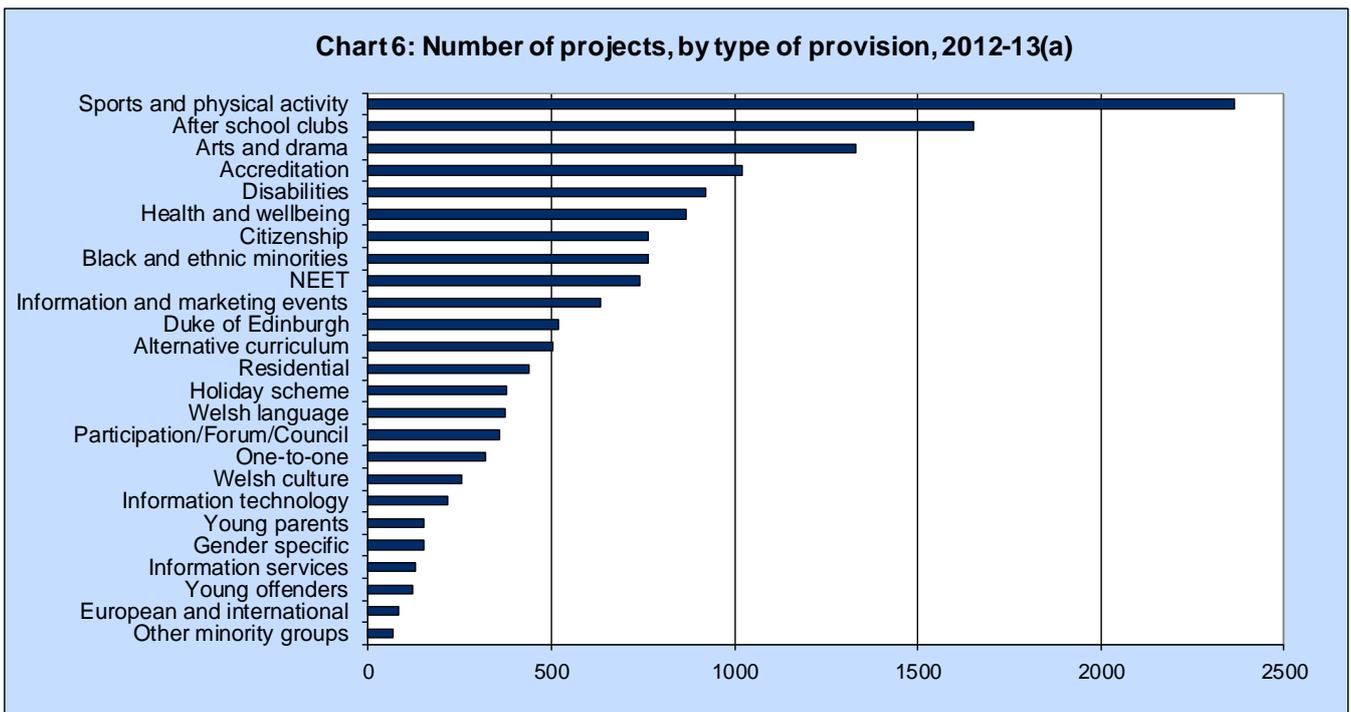
Youth Service Projects

21 of the 22 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, and with the highest membership were youth clubs (over 400), followed by youth centres (over 200), both with registered membership of over 50,000. There are around 200 schools and college projects with over 33,000 registered members in total, and around 140 detached/outreach teams with over 19,500 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 581 registered members. Youth clubs had the lowest, with an average of 123 registered members.



(a) Data in respect of 21 of 22 local authorities in Wales.

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.

Most numerous in terms of projects were Sports and Activity projects with over 2,300 in Wales, and After School Clubs (over 1,600). Health and Wellbeing projects had the highest registered membership at over 39,000, followed by Sports and Activity projects (over 37,000). (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.

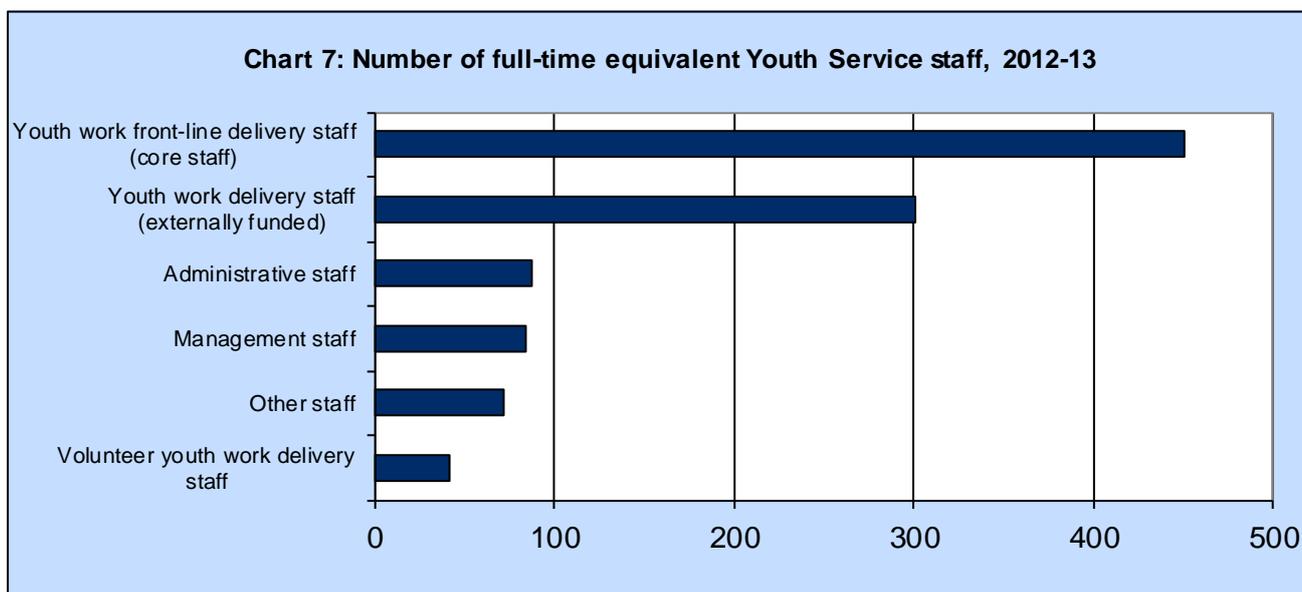
Contacts²

There were over 1,600,000 contacts in Wales in 2012-13. The average number of contacts per member was 13.

Youth Service Workforce

At March 2013, there were 836 full-time equivalent (FTE) Youth Service delivery staff working across local authorities in Wales. 10 per cent (84) of these FTE posts were management staff and 90 per cent (752) were youth work front-line staff (both core and externally funded). Compared with the previous year there was a slight increase in management staff (from 81 to 84) but decreases to both core and externally funded delivery staff.

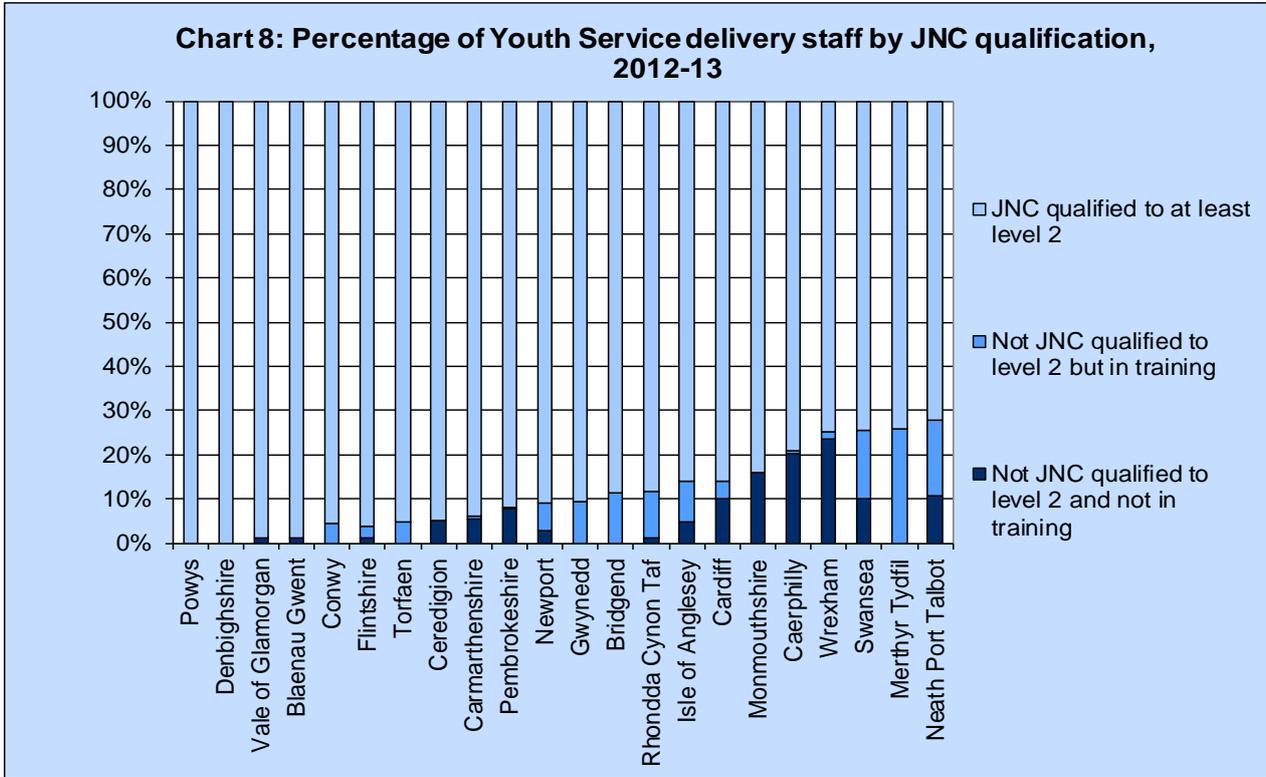
There were a further 41 FTE volunteer youth work delivery staff, and 160 FTE administrative and other staff giving a total of 1,037 FTE staff in the Youth service in Wales at March 2013. This is a 9 per cent decrease from the total of 1,142 FTE staff at March 2012.



² 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.

Qualifications

In 2012-13, 87 per cent of all Youth Service delivery staff held at least level 2³ Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) professional qualifications (86 per cent in 2011-12). Of those without a level 2 or above JNC qualification, 44 per cent were in training (49 per cent in 2011-12). 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 2012-13 was around 1:9.

The ratio of registered members aged 11-25 to FTE youth work delivery staff (excluding management staff) was 165 young people per worker in 2012-13. For the 11-19 population, the ratio was 156:1. (Note that these ratios reflect the total registered membership and not attendance at sessions).

³ Degree level, diploma, NOCN3, or any other qualification from JNC level 2 upwards.

Youth Service Finance

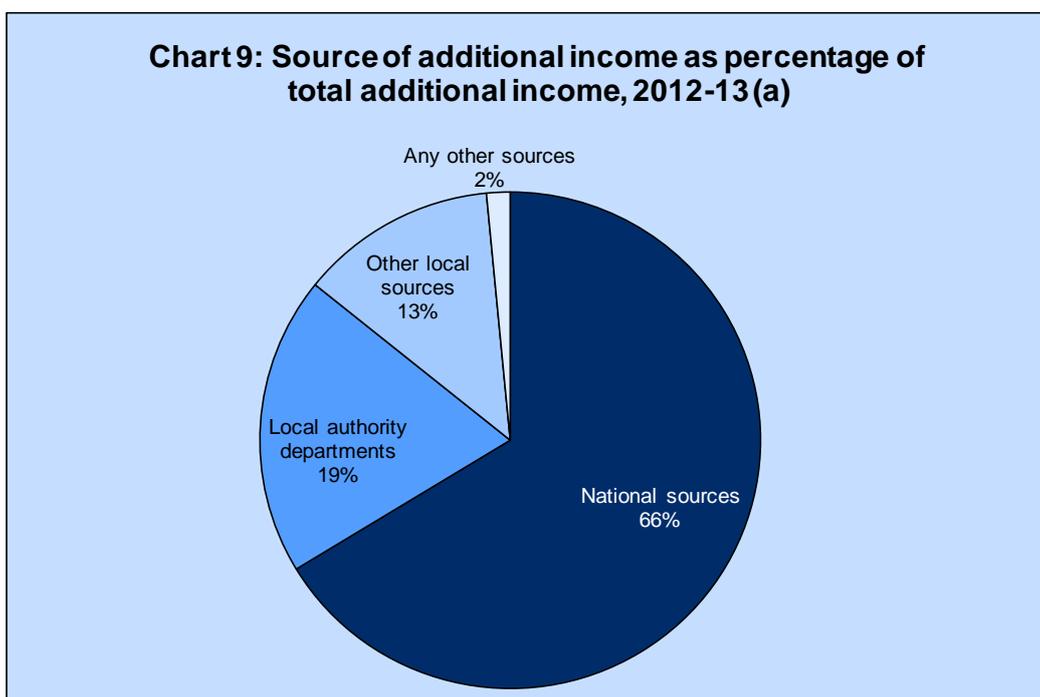
21 of the 22 local authorities provided information about youth service finance.

Income

The total income for the Youth Service in 2012-13, for the 21 authorities who returned data, was £41.7 million. In comparison with 2011-12, on a directly equivalent basis, this represents a decrease of 4 per cent.

The total of core Youth Service budgets for the 21 authorities increased by 1 per cent to £23.0 million in 2012-13.

The contribution made by core Youth Service budgets to the total Youth Service income across Wales varied between authorities, ranging from 89 per cent in Conwy to 23 per cent in Carmarthenshire.



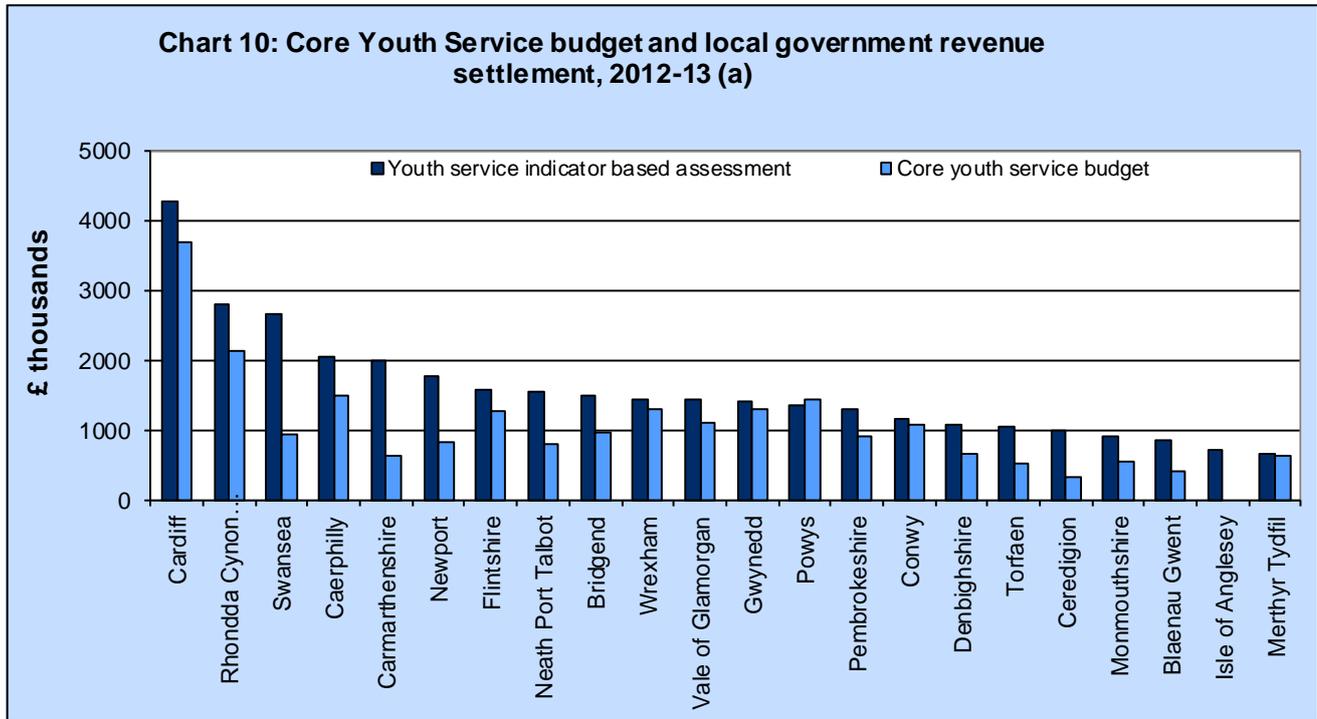
(a) Data in respect of 21 of 22 local authorities in Wales.

In addition to the core Youth Service budget, the total budget for the Youth Service in Wales for 2012-13 (for the 21 authorities) included income of £18.7 million from other sources, accounting for 45 per cent of the total income. 'National Sources' contributed the majority (£12.3 million or 66 per cent) of these funds, £4.1 million of which was provided by Cymorth.

Other important sources of additional income in 2012-13 were, European funding (£2.0 million), Communities First (£1.0 million) and 14-19 Pathways (£0.5 million).

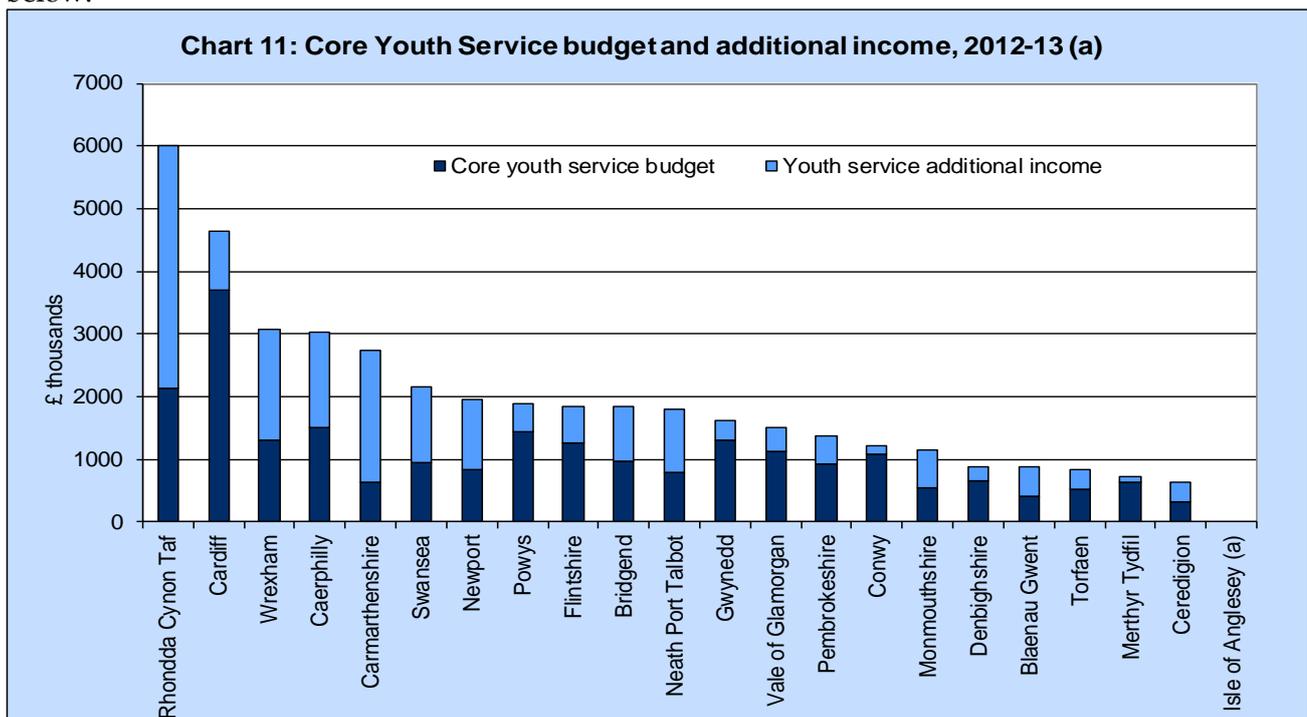
Local Government Revenue Settlement

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 2012-13 the total core Youth Service budget represented 68 per cent of this allocation (based on 21 authorities) More detailed information can be found in Table 3.



(a) No Core youth service budget data for Isle of Anglesey

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) No data for Isle of Anglesey.

Expenditure

The total spend by the Youth Service in Wales in 2012-13, by the 21 authorities who returned data was £42.1 million. In comparison with 2011-12, on a directly equivalent basis, this represents a decrease of 2 per cent. Expenditure ranged from £0.6 million in Ceredigion and Merthyr Tydfil, to £6.0 million in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

The majority of spending was on employees, at 67 per cent of all expenditure. The remaining expenditure included 10 per cent on resources, 8 per cent on accommodation, 1.5 per cent on staff training and development and 1 per cent on capital expenditure.

A further 1 per cent of expenditure was grant aid from the youth service to the voluntary sector. Including contributions from the wider local authority budget, local authorities provided over £2 million in grant aid to voluntary youth services in Wales during the year.

Spend per head of population

In 2012-13, the total spend by the Youth Service per head of population aged 11-19 years was £126. The core Youth Service budget per head of population aged 11-19 years was £69. Full details can be seen in Table 4.

Table 1: Youth Service Members 2012-13

	11-25 year olds					11-19 year olds		
	Mid-year population estimate 2012	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 2012	Number of individual members	Members as percentage of population
Isle of Anglesey	11,337	2,507	22	8	18	6,760	2,410	36
Gwynedd	24,984	6,465	26	10	14	13,266	6,144	46
Conwy	18,673	3,606	19	6	6	11,704	3,397	29
Denbighshire	16,485	4,550	28	14	56	10,205	4,444	44
Flintshire	27,115	2,969	11	10	0	16,394	2,893	18
Wrexham	24,149	7,707	32	3	17	14,042	7,128	51
Powys	21,894	4,442	20	2	13	14,088	3,811	27
Ceredigion	19,167	3,652	19	19	22	9,217	3,474	38
Pembrokeshire	21,452	3,329	16	14	10	13,300	3,203	24
Carmarthenshire	32,342	7,552	23	22	1	19,632	7,160	36
Swansea	50,581	10,773	21	3	16	26,112	10,582	41
Neath Port Talbot	24,366	4,542	19	24	3	14,817	4,050	27
Bridgend	24,827	8,691	35	1	3	14,973	8,178	55
Vale of Glamorgan	22,604	5,273	23	5	22	14,279	4,845	34
Rhondda Cynon Taf	45,477	14,024	31	21	20	25,752	13,806	54
Merthyr Tydfil	11,114	3,724	34	16	1	6,417	3,689	57
Caerphilly	32,994	8,816	27	1	13	19,966	8,376	42
Blaenau Gwent	13,301	1,954	15	18	32	7,698	1,923	25
Torfaen	17,231	4,051	24	2	4	10,472	3,931	38
Monmouthshire	15,498	3,501	23	25	72	10,292	3,439	33
Newport	29,237	3,509	12	11	11	17,083	3,293	19
Cardiff	85,252	8,342	10	11	15	39,164	7,406	19
Wales	590,080	123,979	21	11	16	335,633	117,582	35

Table 2: Percentage of Staff with and without Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) Qualifications 2012-13

	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	86	9	5
Gwynedd	91	9	0
Conwy	98	5	0
Denbighshire	100	0	0
Flintshire	96	3	1
Wrexham	75	2	24
Powys	100	0	0
Ceredigion	95	0	5
Pembrokeshire	92	0	8
Carmarthenshire	94	1	5
Swansea	75	15	10
Neath Port Talbot	72	17	11
Bridgend	89	11	0
Vale of Glamorgan	99	0	1
Rhondda Cynon Taf	88	11	1
Merthyr Tydfil	74	26	0
Caerphilly	79	1	20
Blaenau Gwent	99	0	1
Torfaen	95	5	0
Monmouthshire	84	0	16
Newport	91	6	3
Cardiff	86	4	10
Wales	87	6	7

Table 3: Local Government Revenue Settlement and Core Youth Service budget

	Revenue Settlement (£)			Core Budget (£)			Core Youth Service budget as a percentage of local government revenue settlement		
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2010-11	2011-12 (a)	2012-13 (a)	2010-11	2011-12 (a)	2012-13 (a)
Isle of Anglesey	655,627	653,086	721,086	612,279	612,279	..	93	94	..
Gwynedd	1,182,431	1,250,353	1,399,238	1,064,696	1,180,490	1,306,166	90	94	93
Conwy	1,040,907	1,049,813	1,150,538	1,134,000	1,112,000	1,088,000	109	106	95
Denbighshire	949,339	955,375	1,064,899	719,083	701,539	661,325	76	73	62
Flintshire	1,442,173	1,442,566	1,590,457	1,242,523	1,412,422	1,265,461	86	98	80
Wrexham	1,252,727	1,288,862	1,439,519	1,281,568	1,315,254	1,311,115	102	102	91
Powys	1,209,893	1,223,625	1,349,114	1,525,404	1,298,891	1,433,589	126	106	106
Ceredigion	831,099	891,947	992,384	322,307	327,651	326,417	39	37	33
Pembrokeshire	1,171,500	1,182,392	1,311,953	908,892	865,677	911,662	78	73	69
Carmarthenshire	1,775,132	1,789,358	1,991,680	765,664	641,209	634,060	43	36	32
Swansea	2,343,132	2,414,556	2,666,181	1,185,800	1,058,500	951,300	51	44	36
Neath Port Talbot	1,416,418	1,410,685	1,554,333	839,529	807,046	787,428	59	57	51
Bridgend	1,342,986	1,341,148	1,498,783	1,074,435	1,045,091	959,240	80	78	64
Vale of Glamorgan	1,292,039	1,296,752	1,435,692	1,318,262	1,178,589	1,113,873	102	91	78
Rhondda Cynon Taf	2,492,535	2,527,218	2,785,296	2,018,519	1,943,165	2,123,767	81	77	76
Merthyr Tydfil	628,849	602,936	655,850	519,820	513,290	628,550	83	85	96
Caerphilly	1,863,993	1,859,759	2,055,335	1,321,427	1,358,518	1,506,742	71	73	73
Blaenau Gwent	786,441	773,749	844,712	481,320	398,415	404,890	61	51	48
Torfaen	978,753	953,039	1,038,832	582,580	569,922	515,726	60	60	50
Monmouthshire	847,858	835,196	922,799	548,173	582,000	541,000	65	70	59
Newport	1,592,776	1,609,421	1,762,060	928,407	847,588	835,281	58	53	47
Cardiff	3,694,990	3,855,984	4,274,786	3,908,468	3,526,465	3,696,684	106	91	86
Wales	30,791,597	31,207,820	34,505,527	24,303,157	23,296,001	..	79	75	..
Wales less Isle of Anglesey	30,135,970	30,554,733	33,784,441	23,690,878	22,683,722	23,002,276	79	74	68

(a) Isle of Anglesey core budget data not available for 2011-12 or 2012-13. Data for 2010-11 used for 2011-12. No data included for 2012-13.

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)		
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Isle of Anglesey (a)	52	53	..	78	72	..	84	88	..	125	119	..
Gwynedd	41	48	52	57	60	65	75	89	98	103	110	123
Conwy	63	59	58	77	64	60	96	94	93	117	102	95
Denbighshire	43	42	40	62	53	53	67	67	65	97	84	86
Flintshire	47	51	47	73	76	68	75	84	77	116	125	112
Wrexham	53	54	54	122	142	127	90	93	93	207	243	218
Powys	71	58	65	145	89	88	104	90	102	213	137	136
Ceredigion	17	18	17	36	39	33	33	36	35	73	78	68
Pembrokeshire	44	40	42	117	103	65	67	64	69	176	163	104
Carmarthenshire	24	20	20	93	85	78	38	32	32	148	138	129
Swansea	23	21	19	37	51	43	47	40	36	75	98	83
Neath Port Talbot	34	33	32	70	62	74	56	54	53	115	103	121
Bridgend	45	42	39	86	80	74	73	69	64	140	133	123
Vale of Glamorgan	56	51	49	80	71	66	89	80	78	127	111	105
Rhondda Cynon Taf	43	43	47	72	121	132	76	75	82	126	211	233
Merthyr Tydfil	48	45	57	77	60	61	81	77	98	132	104	106
Caerphilly	40	41	19	70	61	92	66	67	31	116	100	152
Blaenau Gwent	35	30	30	89	85	88	59	50	53	150	145	151
Torfaen	33	33	30	65	50	48	55	53	49	108	82	79
Monmouthshire	37	37	35	96	89	91	53	56	53	138	132	136
Newport	31	29	29	80	74	73	54	49	49	138	125	125
Cardiff	44	42	43	61	54	54	99	89	94	138	116	118
Wales (b)	41	39	39	75	74	71	71	68	69	130	128	126

(a) Isle of Anglesey data not available for 2011-12 or 2012-13. Data for 2010-11 used for 2011-12. No data included for 2012-13.

(b) Wales average is calculated excluding Isle of Anglesey

Notes

Policy/Operational context

This Statistical Release presents detailed information about the statutory Youth Service in Wales for the year 2012-13. 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 "[A new vision for a National Youth Work Strategy](#)" took place during Summer 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 1st 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.

Since 2011 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.)

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.

In previous years information on accreditations has been collected by broad age group. For the 2012-13 survey local accreditations continue to be collected on this basis, but national accreditations are now collected by level or award.

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 2012-13 and therefore data are only in respect of 21 of the 22 authorities.

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 2012-13 and 2011-12. For 2011-12 we have included estimated data based on their 2010-11 data (excluding income and expenditure related to the WG capital

grant, which did not apply in 2011-12). We have not been able to include an estimate for 2012-13 and therefore data are only in respect of 21 of the 22 authorities

Other data sources

The release includes population estimate data for 2010 to 2012 from Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Population Estimates by local authority and age, as available at November 2013.

Also included are 2010-11 to 2012-13 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.