



Vale of Glamorgan

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment review

2011-12



Completed in partnership with the Children & Young People's Partnership and the Family Information Service

Contents

Contents	Page no
1 Introduction	4
1.1 Aims & Objectives	4
1.2 Childcare Sufficiency Duty	5
1.3 Refresh 2011-12	5
2 Demographic Data	6
2.1 review of the population	6
2.2 Review on accommodation/housing patterns	6 - 7
2.3 Impact on Childcare	7 - 8
3 Employment Data	9 - 10
4 Supply Data	11
4.1 Introduction	11 - 12
4.2 Number of Registered Providers	12 - 14
4.3 Number of registered places	15 - 19
4.4 Number of unregistered providers and places	20 - 23
4.5 Number of children per place	23 - 25
4.6 Vacancies	25 - 28
4.7 Fees	29 - 30
4.8 Welsh Language	30 - 31
4.9 Disability	31 - 33
4.10 Quality	33 - 34
4.11 Free part time education places for 3 – 4 year olds	34 -39

4.12 Flying Start	39 - 40
4.13 Conclusions	40 -42
5 Other Demand Data	43
5.1 Number of enquiries to the FIS	43
5.2 On-line enquiries	43
5.3 Type of enquirer	44
5.4 Childcare information requested	44 - 45
5.5 Specific requirements	45 - 46
5.6 Welsh medium provision	46
5.7 Reason for enquiry	46
5.8 Enquiry source	47
5.9 Ward where enquiry lives	47 - 48
5.10 Feedback from enquirers who have contact the FIS	49
5.11 Ability to access childcare	49 - 50
5.12 Conclusions	51 - 52
6 Addressing ‘significant areas for improvement’ highlighted in report cards	53
7 Gap Analysis	54
7.1 Refresh on gaps identified in CSA full report 2010-11	54
7.2 Update on the wards with lowest number of childcare places	54 – 55
7.3 Focus group sessions	55 – 57
7.4 Recommendations	57
7.5 Reducing the gaps	57 - 58
8 Action Plan 2011-12	59
9 Appendices	60
Appendix 1 Updated Action Plan	61 - 73

Introduction

The Vale of Glamorgan Council carried out its second full Childcare Sufficiency Assessment in 2010 to meet the duties under the Childcare Act 2006. This required every local authority to ensure there is sufficient childcare to enable parents to work or undertake education or training in order to make the transition to work.

A full sufficiency assessment is required every three years with annual updates to set out how local authorities are responding to the findings of their childcare sufficiency assessments and working to meet the sufficiency duty.

1.1 Aims and Objectives

Sufficient childcare, in Section 6 of the 2006 Act, is defined as ‘sufficient to meet the requirements of parents in [the local authority’s] area who require childcare in order to enable them –

- a To take up, or remain in, work, or
- b To undertake education or training which could reasonably be expected to assist them to obtain work.

In determining whether provision of childcare is sufficient a local authority:

- a Must have regards to the needs of parents in their area for-
 - The provision of childcare in respect of which the childcare element of the working tax credit is payable, and
 - The provision of childcare which is suitable for disabled children
 - The provision of childcare involving the use of the Welsh language.

1.2 The Childcare Sufficiency Duty

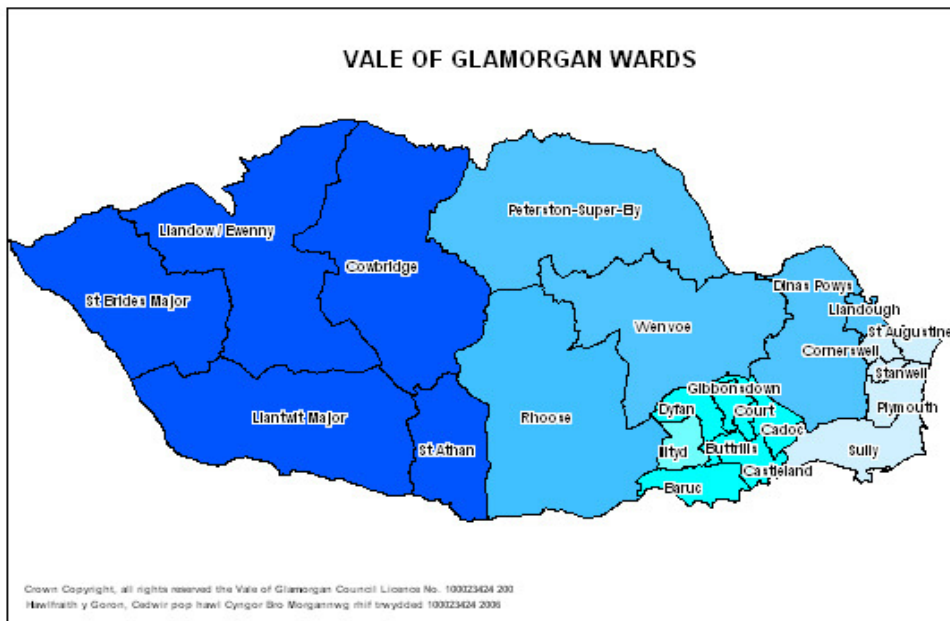
The sufficiency data relates to the formal childcare sector, in particular registered day care or sessional care offered by childminders, day nurseries, pre school playgroups, out of school childcare and maintained school nursery classes offering the free flexible entitlement.

1.3 Refresh 2011-12

This annual refresh will look at:

- demographic data (demand for childcare, review accommodation/housing patterns),
- employment data (review employment patterns for impact on the demand for childcare),
- supply of childcare,
- demand data (information that FIS may collect, any consultations that have been undertaken),
- addressing 'significant areas for improvement' highlighted in report cards,
- gap analysis
- action plan

Demographic Data



2.1 review of the population

Based on the latest revised mid year estimate (August 2010), the population of the Vale is **124,976** and is expected to continue rising by approximately 1% each year. The estimated number of households in the Vale is **53,784** (2010 estimate); however, this is expected to continue to grow to more than **61,000** households by 2021.

The age profile of the Vale's population is also expected to change; the number of children (age 0-14) is forecast to rise by 8% from 22,500 in 2008 to 24,350 in 2021 (or 10% to 24,650 in 2026).

2.2 Review on accommodation/housing patterns

The full Childcare Sufficiency Assessment carried out in 2010, highlighted that during 2011 - 2026 there will be around 8 – 9,000 residential units being built in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The bigger builds will concentrate on land North of the railway line in Rhose Point where it is estimated 600 residential units will be built over the next 5 years and on the Waterfront

Development in Barry some 2,000 residential units will be built over the next 15 years (both subject to demand).

There are likely to be other large sites for development but at the present time these have not been determined but will be consulted on via the Deposit Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan which it is anticipated will be the subject of public consultation in summer 2011.

During 2011-12, the Planning and Transportation Department within the Vale of Glamorgan Council are currently consulting on the Vale of Glamorgan Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) 2011 -2026. The 6 week public consultation runs from 20th February to 5pm on 2nd April 2012. The Deposit LDP can be viewed on the Council's web site via the following link:

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp

The Deposit LDP identifies a dwelling requirement of 9950 dwellings during the Plan period (Policy SP3 refers). However, the Deposit Plan includes a 10 % margin for flexibility and actually allocates land for 10945 dwellings (Policy MG2 refers).

There are 3 strategic housing sites in the Plan as follows:

- 1) Phase 2 Barry Waterfront – 2000 dwellings
- 2) Land at Higher End, St. Athan (part of St. Athan Strategic Opportunity Area) – 280 dwellings
- 3) at Church Farm, St. Athan (part of St. Athan Strategic Opportunity Area) – 250 dwellings.

In addition, Policy MG 2 allocates a number of sizeable residential allocations e.g. Land to the north of Waycock Cross, Barry (500 dwellings), Land at Fort road, Lavernock (450 dwellings), Land to the north of the railway line, Rhooose (680),

2.3 Impact on Childcare

With the 3 strategic housing sites in the plan at present, this is likely to have an impact on the current childcare available in the areas specified particularly with the Barry Waterfront

development (Castleland Ward). This area has already been identified as having a shortfall of childcare and as part of the Barry Waterfront regeneration project, a new Primary School has also been in the planning. A new 210 place primary school with a 32 place nursery (16 AM and 16 PM) is being planned. However the timescale for completion of the school is vague as it depends upon housing completions and the build programme has not yet been confirmed. At present it is estimated that the school will open in 2018 but will depend entirely upon the rate at which houses are completed.

At Weycock cross, (Illtyd ward) there are 500 dwellings due to be built over the next couple of years. Illtyd currently has 318 childcare places and when comparing this data with the CSA in January 2011, only Illtyd ward remains as one of the wards with the highest number of places. Having said this, expansion of childcare places will need to be taken into consideration over the next year or so when building work on new dwellings take place.

In Lavernock, Penarth (Plymouth ward) there are 450 dwellings due to be built over the next couple of years. Plymouth ward currently has a good mix of childminders, breakfast clubs, daycare, holiday care and afterschool clubs which provides 282 childcare places. Again as above, consideration for extending childcare places over the next year or so will need to take places prior to building work on new dwellings taking place.

In Rhose Point, Rhose (Rhouse ward) there are plans to develop 680 dwellings along land to the north of the railway line. There are currently 254 childcare places available via childminders, playgroup and 1 daycare setting (which also provides out of school childcare before and after school) which has stayed fairly stable over the past year. However, with the plans to develop 680 dwellings, it is anticipated that a number of new childcare will need to be created in order to meet parent's needs.

Employment Data

During July 2010 - June 2011, there were 58,500 persons (75.3%) aged 16-64 in the Vale of Glamorgan who were economically active. The Wales average was 1,376,500 (72.6%).

There were 53,100 persons (68.2%) aged 16-64 in employment in the Vale of Glamorgan, with the Welsh average being 1,256,000 persons (68.2%)[source: Nomis]. The unemployment rate for this period was down and the fall occurred mainly among people aged from 16 to 24 [ONS: Summary of labour market statistics published on 15 June 2011]. Currently, all available employment data is at a population level and cannot be broken down to households with children.

As suggested above, approximately 5,000 people returned or gained employment in the Vale of Glamorgan last year. This increase in employment did not illustrate any additional demand for childcare places last year. FIS reported that the percentage of requests for childcare information has remained the same over the last 2 years at 58% of all requests.

The most common reason for people contacting the FIS was for socialisation purposes. Figure 22 on page 47 compares the top 20 reasons with the previous years reasons. The 2 years follow a fairly similar pattern with the exceptions of: 'holiday activities', where 102 enquiries were received compared with 31 in the previous year; 'moving into the area', where 89 enquiries were received compared with 53 in the previous year; and 'returning to work', where 74 enquiries were received compared with 118 in the previous year

However, with the expansion of the Flying Start programme in the Vale of Glamorgan, the additional expansion areas for childcare have been agreed using the income benefit data provided and cross referenced with local data on Free School Meals, Child Disability Index, Child Protection and Child in Need figures, together with identification of area of dense social housing and high level of private rented property supported by housing benefit claims.

Elements within the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's) with the highest proportion of families claiming Income support with children 0 – 3 years will be identifiable via postcodes as priority areas. Where evidence suggests significant need but less densely populated these will be flagged as 'referral areas' and relevant families will be referred on at point of entry with midwifery/health visiting. Further information on the Flying Start childcare expansion can be found in section 9 – Flying Start Childcare Expansion points 9.3 – 9.6

Analysis of Supply Data

4.1 Introduction

This analysis of the supply of childcare is based on data held by the Vale of Glamorgan's Family Information Service (FIS). It shows data relating to childcare provision registered with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW). Parents are able to claim help towards childcare costs by using registered or approved childcare. It will also look at unregistered childcare that takes place for less than two hours.

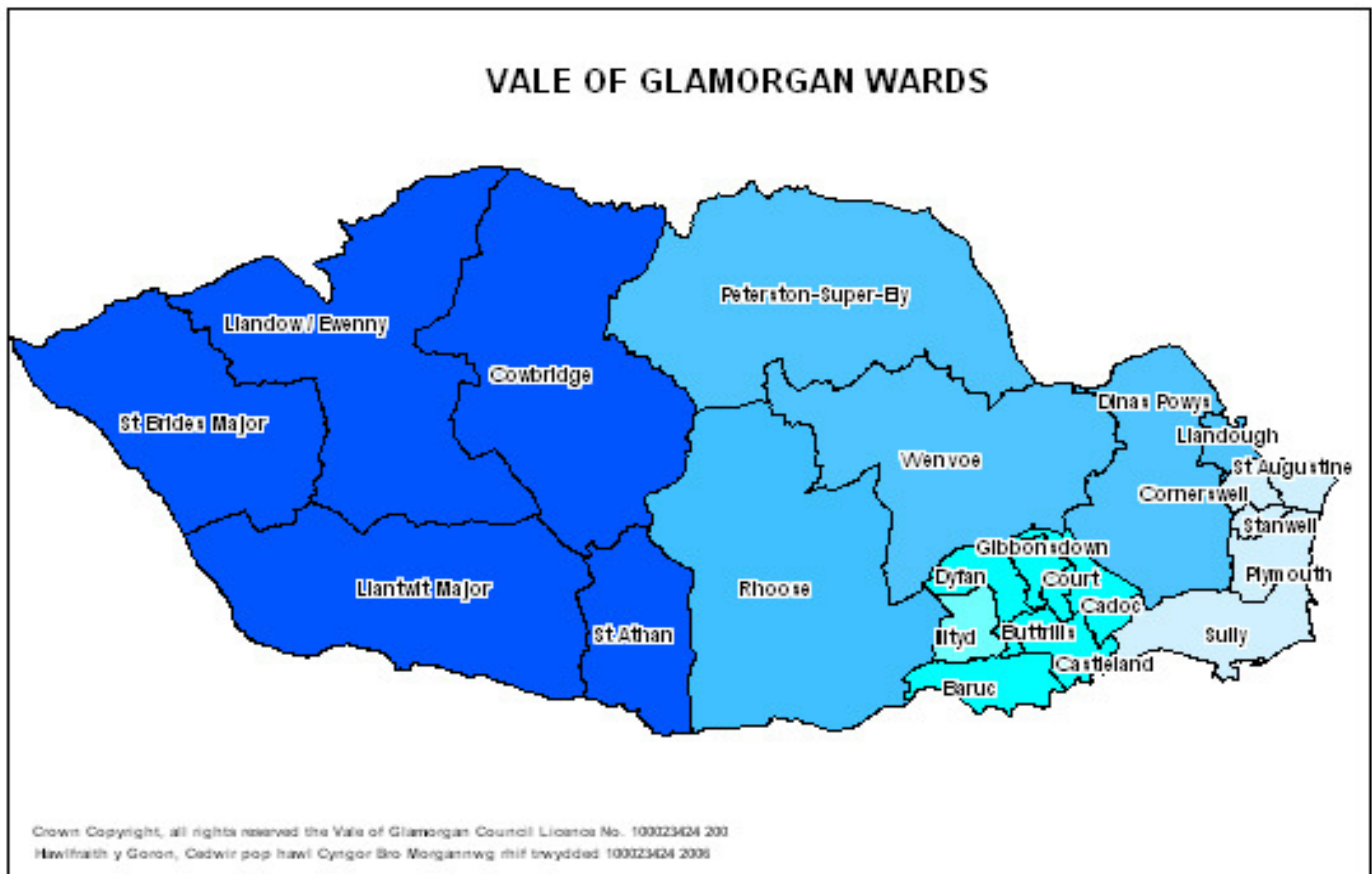
A full analysis of childcare supply took place for the CSA in January 2011. Therefore, this report will concentrate on the changes in supply over the past year. The analysis will show that there has been an overall increase of **136** registered childcare places, which is mainly due to a new day nursery opening, accommodating **161** childcare places. The geographical gaps identified in the CSA in January 2011 remain largely the same, with Castleland, Dyfan and Llandow/Ewenny wards having the fewest number of childcare places. For this reason, a full analysis of supply is not needed. The analysis will focus on the following:

- Number of registered providers - Section 4.2
- Number of registered places – overall, gains and losses, by ward – Section 4.3
- Number of unregistered providers and places – Section 4.4
- Number of children per place – Section 4.5
- Vacancies – Section 4.6
- Fees – Section 4.7
- Welsh language – Section 4.8
- Disability – Section 4.9
- Quality – Section 4.10
- Free part time education places for 3-4 year olds – Section 4.11
- Flying Start – Section 4.12
- Conclusions – Section 4.13

Data is presented for the Vale of Glamorgan Council as a whole and for electoral wards – please see figure 1.

Section 4.13 consolidates all of these findings and presents key conclusions.

Figure 1: Wards in the Vale of Glamorgan



4.2 Number of Registered Providers

As of March 2012, there are a total of **293** childcare settings registered with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales, in the Vale of Glamorgan. All of these settings qualify for the childcare element of Working Tax Credit.

The CSSIW use the following headings to categorise childcare settings: full day care, childminding, sessional care, out of school care and crèche. When using these categories, the number of registered providers decreases to **268**. This is due to the amalgamation of separate clubs, for example, an after school club, breakfast club and holiday care scheme

are grouped and counted as out of school care. Using the CSSIW categories, the number of providers in each category is as follows:

- 5 crèche (2%)
- 18 full day care (7%)
- 27 sessional care (10%)
- 24 out of school care (9%)
- 194 childminders (72%)

The database used by the Vale Family Information Service allows for the recording of childcare settings in more detail. For example an out of school club may run a breakfast, after school and holiday care scheme, all providing a different number of places, different opening hours, vacancies etc. Therefore, they are recorded separately. For a more accurate picture of childcare, the settings have been broken down as follows and will be used throughout the report:

- Childminders
- Day nurseries
- Breakfast clubs
- After school clubs
- Holiday care schemes
- Playgroups
- Cylchoedd Meithrin
- Crèche

293 registered childcare settings can be broken down as follows:

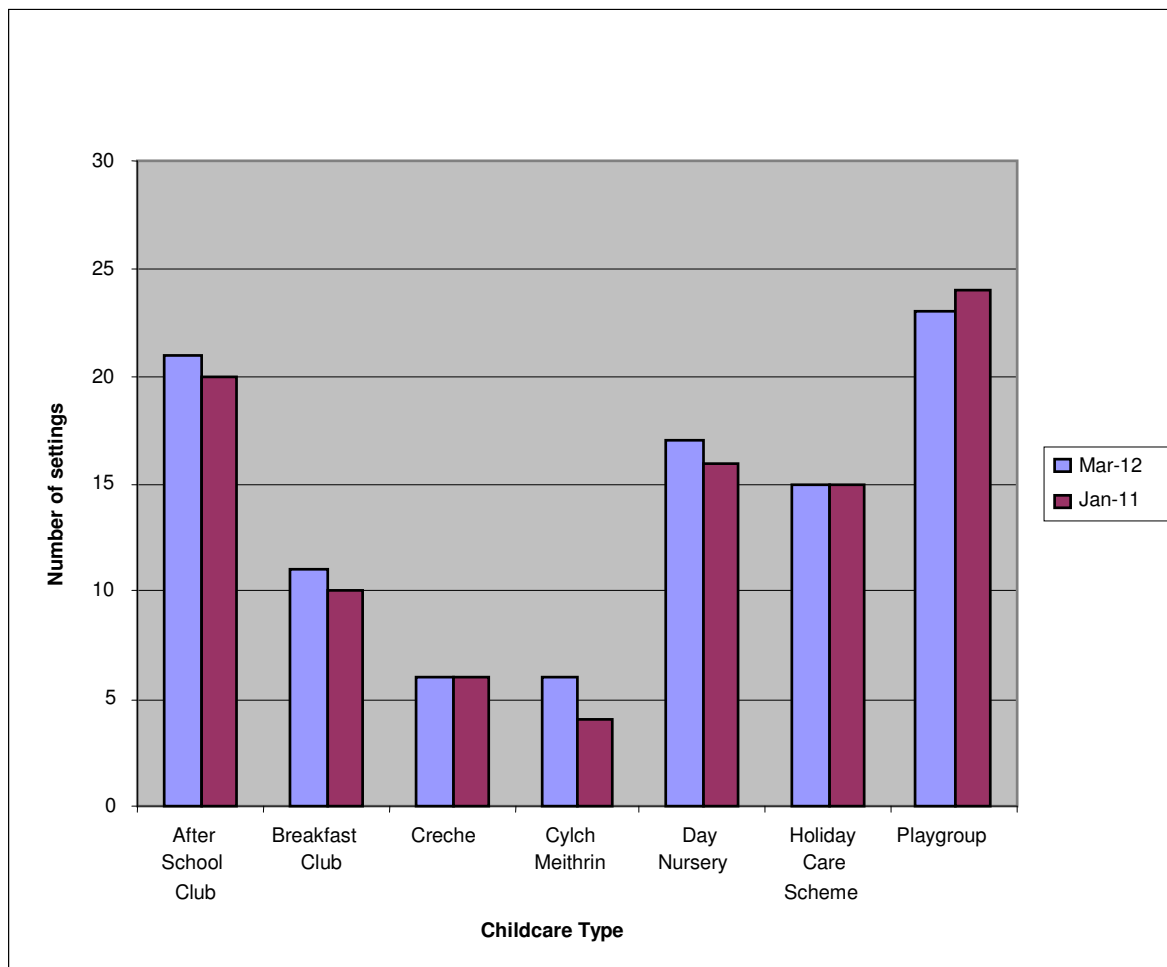
- 194 Childminders
- 17 Day nurseries
- 11 Breakfast clubs
- 21 After school clubs
- 15 Holiday care schemes
- 23 Playgroups
- 6 Cylch Meithrin
- 6 Crèche

There are also 4 Approved Home Childcarers, registered under the Childcare at Home Approval Scheme, where children are looked after in the child's home. Parents are able to use the childcare element of Working Tax Credit to help pay for this childcare. 1 is based in Cadoc, 1 in Dinas Powys, 1 in Stanwell and 1 in Sully. Currently, this is the only information held on the approved home childcarers.

When comparing this data with data from the CSA in January 2011, there has been an overall loss of 2 registered providers. Figure 2 shows the number of registered childcare providers by childcare type. Childminders have been left off this graph as their numbers are so high.

Numbers of breakfast and after school clubs, Cylchoedd Meithrin and day nurseries have increased. Whereas playgroups have decreased by 1 and childminders have decreased by 8. For full details see the section 'Gains and losses'.

Figure 2 Number of registered childcare providers by childcare type in January 2011 and March 2012

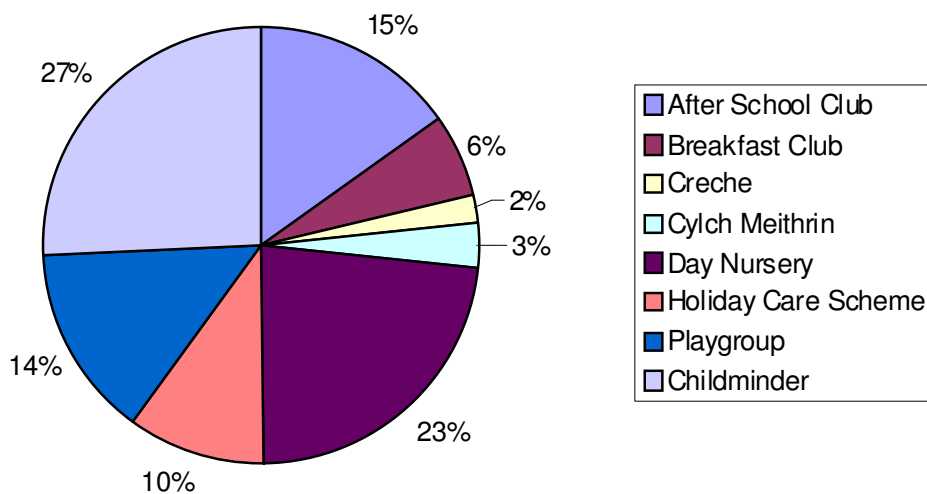


4.3 Number of registered places

As of March 2012, there are a total of **4,252** registered childcare places in the Vale of Glamorgan. Therefore, **4,252** childcare places are eligible for parents to claim the childcare element of Working Tax Credit. These include:

- Childminders 1,093 places (26%)
- After school clubs 651 places (15%)
- Breakfast clubs 260 places (6%)
- Holiday care schemes 441 places (10%)
- Day nurseries 979 places (23%)
- Playgroups 606 places (14%)
- Cylchoedd Meithrin 138 places (3%)
- Crèches 84 places (2%)

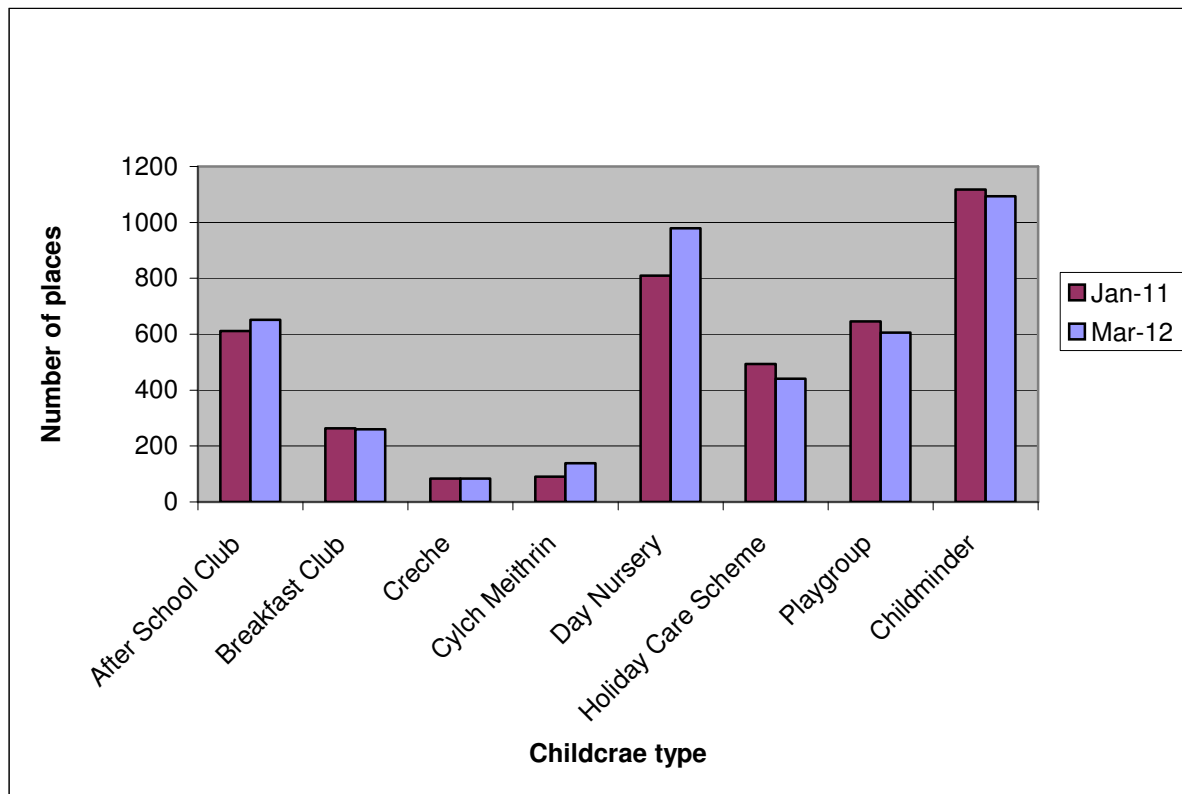
Figure 3 Percentage of childcare places by childcare type



There has been an overall increase of **136** registered childcare places (3.3%) since January 2011.

Figure 4 shows that the number of registered places has increased in after school clubs, Cylchoedd Meithrin and day nurseries. Whereas, the number of places in holiday care schemes, playgroups and with childminders have all decreased.

Figure 4 Number of registered childcare places by childcare type in January 2011 and March 2012



Gains and losses

Since the CSA in January 2011, there has been an overall increase of **136** registered childcare places, which are broken down as follows:

- An increase in 2 Cylchoedd Meithrin and 48 childcare places
- An increase in 1 day nursery and 161 childcare places
- An increase in 1 after school club and 40 childcare places
- An increase in 1 breakfast club but a loss of 3 childcare places
- A loss of 53 childcare places in holiday care schemes
- A loss of 8 childminders and 25 childcare places
- A loss of 1 playgroup and 40 childcare places

These are broken down as follows:

Childminders

- **20** new childminders have registered and **28** childminders have de-registered since January 2011. This is a loss of 8 childminders and 25 childcare places:
- An overall increase of **3** childminders in Cadoc (Barry), 2 in Illtyd (Barry), 1 in Peterston-super-Ely, and 1 in St Athan.
- An overall loss of 1 childminder in Alexandra, 1 in Plymouth, 2 in Stanwell (all in Penarth), 1 in Baruc, 1 in Buttrills, 1 in Castleland, 3 in Dyfan (all in Barry), 1 in Dinas Powys, 1 in St Bride's Major, 2 in Sully and 1 in Wenvoe.

Day nurseries

- There has been an increase of **161** childcare places. This is due to a new bilingual day nursery registering, in Cowbridge, called St Aubin Cowbridge Nursery.

Crèche

- There has been no change.

Sessional Care

- There has been an overall increase of **12** childcare places in sessional care:
- An increase of **48** new childcare places in Cylchoedd Meithrin, as Cylch Meithrin Llanilltud Fawr in Llantwit Major and Cylch Meithrin Camau Cyntaf in Buttrills (Barry) has become registered. 1 Cylch Meithrin has also moved from Buttrills to Dyfan ward, which accounts for a transition of 24 places.
- 1 playgroup, Building Blocks, has closed in the Illtyd ward, resulting in a loss of **36** childcare places.

Out of school care

- There has been an overall loss of **16** childcare places in out of school settings:
- 1 after school club has registered in Llantwit Major, called Bramble Hedge – Llanilltud Fawr. This has created **16** new childcare places. 1 after school club has registered in Cowbridge called Simply Out of School Cowbridge, creating **40** childcare places.
- 1 breakfast club has set up in Court in Barry, attached to Kiddiewinkles playgroup, which has created **20** new places and Passport to Play Day Nursery in Rhoose has extended to include a breakfast club.

- 1 holiday care scheme has registered in St Augustine's ward, Penarth called Westbourne School Holiday Club, which has created **12** new places. As above, Passport to Play Day Nursery has extended to offer a holiday care scheme for older children, which has created 12 childcare places.
- Joe's Club Out of School & Holiday Care Scheme, which ran a breakfast and after school club in Dinas Powys, has closed, resulting in a loss of **52** places.
- 2 holiday care schemes have closed: Celebrate the Children UK Summer Camp in Peterston-super-Ely, resulting in a loss of **35** childcare places and Little Fish Fun Club in Llandow/Ewenny, resulting in a loss of **30** places.

Number of registered places by ward

Figure 5 shows that the number of places is not evenly distributed across the County. Wards with the highest number of childcare places are:

- Buttrills (**364** places)
- Cowbridge (**361** places)
- Illtyd (**318** places)

When comparing this data with the CSA in January 2011, only Illtyd ward remains as one of the wards with the highest number of places. Both Buttrills and Cowbridge have seen an increase in childcare places.

Wards with the lowest number of places are:

- Llandow/Ewenny (**37** places), (**69** places in January 2011)
- Castleland (**42** places), (**43** places in January 2011)
- Dyfan (**48** places), (**43** places in January 2011)

The last column of figure 5 illustrates the variations in the number of places since January 2011. Those in green indicate wards where the number of places has increased and those in red, with a minus figure, indicate those wards where the number of places has decreased. Both Castleland and Dyfan wards remain to have the fewest number of childcare places. Whereas Llandow/Ewenny has lost **32** childcare places due to the closure of a holiday care scheme. Court ward, which was also one of the lowest in January 2011, has seen an increase of **16** childcare places and now has **80** childcare places.

There are only 4 wards where the number of childcare places varies by **50** places or more:

- Cowbridge has seen an increase in **207** childcare places, mainly due to a new day nursery being set up with **161** places and an after school club being set up.
- Buttrills has seen an increase in 91 childcare places, mainly due to an out of school club (Les Tous Grande) relocating from Illtyd to Buttrills ward.
- Baruc has lost **63** childcare places due to a breakfast and afterschool club closing.
- Dinas Powys has lost **44** childcare places due to St Joe's Club Out of School and Holiday Care Scheme closing.

Every ward has some form of childcare.

Figure 5 Number of registered childcare places by ward and type of childcare

Ward	After school club	Breakfast club	Holiday care schemes	Childminder	Day nursery	Crèche	Playgroup	Cylch Meithrin	Total	Variations from Jan 2011
Penarth	106	48	117	129	312	20	44	18	794	10
Cornerswell	24	16	30	61		20			151	4
St. Augustine's			12	32	82		24	18	168	20
Stanwell	50		50	24	49		20		193	-4
Plymouth	32	32	25	12	181				282	-10
Barry	170	102	204	461	161	52	230	72	1,439	0
Baruc	56	56	38	41	60		28		279	-63
Buttrills	26	46	76	86		28	54	48	364	91
Cadoc				67		24	28		119	-18
Castleland				42					42	-3
Court	16			24			40		80	16
Dyfan				24				24	48	5
Gibbonsdown	32		24	44	46		56		202	3
Illtyd	40		66	133	55		24		318	-18
Cowbridge	40			67	206		24	24	361	207
Llandow/Eweny				9			28		37	-32
Llantwit Major	40			123	42		42	24	271	37
St. Athan				39		12	30		81	3
St. Bride's Major	48	32					54		134	-6
Rhose	67		12	78	67		30		254	-2
Dinas Powys	48	24		54			30		156	-44
Llandough	24			16	33				73	0
Peterston-super-Ely	78	30	78	24	25		32		267	-53
Sully	30	24	30	51	77		32		244	-9
Wenvoe				36	56		30		122	6

4.4 Number of unregistered providers and places

There has been a significant decrease in the number of unregistered childcare providers and places since January 2011. There are now **17** providers and **333** childcare places, which is reduction of **252** places:

- 1 out of school club, including a breakfast, after school and holiday club closed in Corneswell, Penarth, called Penarth Stay and Play. This is a loss of 150 places.
- 1 after school club in Llancafarn has closed.
- 1 Cylch Meithrin closed in Rhose called Cylch Meithrin y Rhws and 1 Cylch Meithrin became registered with CSSIW.
- 1 holiday care scheme in Castleland has opened, called Bramble Hedge Hullabaloo. The number of places available is unknown.
- 1 playgroup closed in Baruc, called Barry Island Playgroup, with a loss of 30 places.
- 1 playgroup in St Athan registered with the Family Information Service. However the number of childcare places available is unknown.

Figure 6 shows the number of unregistered childcare places by ward and care scheme. On a positive note, new childcare places have been created in Court, Gibbonsdown and Llandow/Ewenny, all of which have a low number of registered childcare places.

Figure 6 Number of unregistered childcare places by ward and childcare type

Ward	After school club	Breakfast club	Holiday care	Crèche	Playgroup	Cylch Meithrin	Total
Corneswell	30						30
Plymouth		73					73
Buttrills	30						30
Castleland	20						20
Court			24				24
Gibbonsdown	30			12			42
Dinas Powys						24	24
Llandow/Ewenny	24	16					40
Llantwit Major	20						20
Wenvoe	30						30
Total	184	89	24	12		24	333

Community Focused Schools Grant

The Community Focused Schools (CFS) Grant has helped to set up, or continue out of school childcare clubs in the Vale. A number of these are not registered with CSSIW and take place for under 2 hours. The Grant has created 785 additional childcare places and 478 children have attended. The age range of children benefiting from the grant is 2yrs to 16yrs and many were set up to make childcare more affordable.

The grant supported 2 holiday schemes for children with disabilities and 105 children attended. One was specifically for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

2 Welsh medium Cylchoedd Meithrin have also been supported to increase their spaces.

Open access playschemes

The Vale of Glamorgan Play Development Team run a number of open access playschemes during the school holidays and after school. These are run on an open access basis and are not registered with the CSSIW. Therefore, they have not been included in the figures for unregistered childcare. They cater for children age 5-14 years and are detailed below:

After school open access playschemes

There are 3 open access play ranger playschemes, which are attached to schools and take place after school for under 2 hours. They compliment the registered childcare provision, as they are all located in wards where there is a lack of childcare provision. There are a total of 208 places with a staffing ratio of 1 to 13. This is broken down as follows:

- St Athan Primary School (St Athan ward) 75 Places with approx 60 children attending each session.
- Cadoxton Primary School (Cadoc ward) 52 places with approx. 20 children attending each session. 255 children registered to attend and 15 had specific requirements.
- Holton Primary School (Castleland ward) 65 places with approx. 40 children attending each session. 113 children registered to attend and 15 had specific requirements.

There are also 2 open access playschemes that take place on Saturdays:

- Barry Island Primary School (Baruc ward) 66 places with approx 25 attending each session. 62 children registered to attend and 1 had specific requirements.
- Penarth Leisure Centre, (Cornerswell ward, Penarth) 66 places with approx 25 attending each session. 37 children registered to attend and 1 had specific requirements.

Holiday playschemes

There were 4 open access holiday playschemes that took place for 1 week each during the school summer holidays 2011. They ran from 10am – 12 noon and from 1pm - 3pm. A total of 554 children registered on the playschemes. These figures include 28 disabled children. They were held in the following schools:

- Palmerston Primary School (Cadoc ward, Barry)
- Llanilltud Fawr Primary School (Llantwit Major ward)
- Gladstone Primary School (Buttrills ward, Barry)
- Barry Island Primary School (Baruc ward, Barry)

Holiday Play Ranger Schemes

There were 8 play ranger playschemes that also took place during the school summer holidays 2011. These take place outdoors in local parks. A total of 181 children registered on these schemes. They were well distributed throughout the Vale and took place in many areas whether there are no holiday care schemes. They were located in the following wards:

- 1 in Llantwit Major
- 1 in Rhoose
- 1 in Buttrills (Barry)
- 2 in Cadoc (Barry)
- 1 in Gibbonsdown (Barry)
- 1 in Castleland (Barry)
- 1 In St Athan

The newly appointed Play Aloud Team, funded via the Big lottery, ran provision in the following areas over the summer holidays 2011:

- Dinas Powys
- Penarth
- Sully

266 children were registered on the Play Aloud schemes.

Disability Sport and Play

During October Half Term 2011, a Disability Sport and Play Week took place and was run by the Vale of Glamorgan Council Disability Sport Officer and Play Development Officer. This was funded by Community Focused Schools Childcare Grant. The scheme ran in Ysgol Erw'r Delyn from Monday to Wednesday for 5 hours a day and Barry Leisure Centre on Thursday and Friday for 3 hours a day. **33** disabled children aged 6 – 21 years attended.

On the 20 and 21 December, the Christmas Extravaganza event took place, organised by the Disability Sport Development Officer and the Play Development Officer. **23** children age 6-21 years attended for 5 hours each day. It took place at Cadoxton Primary School Sports Hall (Cadoc ward).

In February Half Term 2012, 2 football sessions took place, for 2 hours each, in Cadoxton Primary School Sports Hall. **12** children attended and the sessions were lead by Coaches from Dinas Powys Football Club. The Disability Sport Wales Development Officer organised the sessions.

Teenschemes

The teenschemes are set up for young people age 11 to 25 years to attend during the school summer holidays. These are inclusive schemes and many children with disabilities attend.

4.5 Number of children per place

Figure 7 shows the number of registered places available and the total number of children age 0-14 years in each ward (*).

There is variation between wards. Some have a higher number of children per place than others, which possibly suggests a shortfall in supply in that ward. The wards with the highest number of children per place are listed below:

- Dyfan (18 children per place)
- Castleland (23)
- Court (13)
- Cadoc (18)
- Llandow/Ewenny (12)
- St Athan (12)

Dyfan, Castleland and Llandow/Ewenny also have the lowest number of childcare places in the Vale, suggesting a shortfall in childcare.

Most of the numbers in each ward remain the same as in January 2011, suggesting that the gaps in the childcare market remain.

Figure 7 Number of children per place for children age 0-14 years

Ward	Number of children	Number of places	Number of children per place
Penarth	3,737	794	5
Cornerswell	938	151	6
St. Augustine's	960	168	6
Stanwell	929	193	5
Plymouth	910	282	3
Barry	10,062	1439	7
Baruc	1,103	279	4
Buttrills	1,187	364	3
Cadoc	2,112	119	18
Castleland	953	42	23
Court	1,018	80	13

Dyfan	883	48	18
Gibbonsdown	1,291	202	6
Illtyd	1,515	318	5
Cowbridge	894	361	2
Llandow/Ewen ny	455	37	12
Llantwit Major	1,876	271	7
St. Athan	961	81	12
St. Bride's Major	330	134	2
Rhosee	1,245	254	5
Dinas Powys	1,184	156	8
Llandough	316	73	4
Peterston- super-Ely	401	267	2
Sully	681	244	3
Wenvoe	370	122	3
Total	22,512	4233	5

*Note: Source - ONS - 2010 Ward Population Estimates for England and Wales, mid-2010 (experimental statistics)

4.6 Vacancies

Please note that this data represents a snapshot in time during the week of the 19 March 2012 and is dependent on providers reporting their vacancies to the FIS. Vacancy levels are constantly changing within settings. As holiday care schemes were not taking place during this time, their details have not been included.

Figure 8 shows there are a total of **867** reported vacancies across the Vale. This represents an average of 23% of childcare vacancies. It should be noted that this provides only a snapshot in time and relies on providers reporting their vacancies to the Family Information Service.

The highest numbers of vacancies are available with childminders (347), who also have the highest average vacancy rate (32%). All childcare settings apart from crèches report a vacancy rate of 13% or more.

Figure 8 Overview of reported vacancies in the Vale

Indicator	After school club	Breakfast club	Childminder	Day nursery	Crèche	Playgroup	Cylch Meithrin	Vale Totals
Total number of vacancies	161	67	347	181	0	93	18	867
Total number of places	651	260	1093	979	84	606	138	3811
Vacancy rate	25%	26%	32%	18%	0%	15%	13%	23%

When comparing data with the data captured in October 2010, the vacancy rates for all childcare types, apart from childminders, have increased. See figure 9 for more details. The largest increase in vacancies is in after school clubs and Cylch Meithrin.

Figure 9 Percentage of vacancies in October 2010 and March 2012 by childcare type



Vacancies by ward

Figure 10 shows that the highest numbers of vacancies are located in the following wards:

- Cowbridge (87 vacancies)
- Rhoose (73)
- Illtyd (72)

The numbers of vacancies in Cowbridge have increased quite significantly since October 2010. This is due to a new day nursery being set up in Cowbridge.

The lowest numbers of vacancies are in:

- Llandow / Ewenny (0 vacancies)
- Llandough (5 vacancies)
- St Bride's Major (7 vacancies)
- Plymouth, Penarth (10 vacancies)
- Dyfan (11 vacancies)
- Castleland (14 vacancies)

These figures are similar to October 2010.

When looking in further detail at full day care, childminders have vacancies in every ward apart from St Bride's Major, Plymouth, Dyfan and Llandow/Ewenny. There are also no day nurseries in these wards, suggesting a shortage of full day care in these areas. The wards where there are a high number of childminder vacancies are Llantwit Major (43), Illtyd (48) and Buttrills (33). This suggests an over saturation of childminders in these areas.

The highest number of vacancies in day nurseries is in Cowbridge (70), followed by Sully (35).

When looking at out of school care, specifically after school and breakfast clubs, the wards with the highest number of vacancies are Baruc (36) and Peterston super-Ely (46).

When looking at sessional care, the majority of vacancies are in Barry (65%) and specifically in Court and Illtyd wards. There are also 18 vacancies in playgroups in Sully.

Figure 10 Number of vacancies by ward and type of provider

Ward	Pre-school club	Breakfast club	Childminder	Day nursery	Crèche	Playgroup	Cylch Meithrin	Total
Penarth	58	15	44	17		9	1	144
Cornerswell	8	8	11		0			27
St. Augustine's			17	14		4	1	36
Stanwell	20		16			5		41
Plymouth	0	7	0	3				10
Barry	54	30	159	11		63	3	320
Baruc	18	18	23	0		0		59
Buttrills	10	12	30		0	0		52
Cadoc			18		0	5		23
Castleland			14					14
Court	8		11			24		43
Dyfan	8						3	11
Gibbonsdown	10		15	11		10		46
Illyd	0		48	0		24		72
Cowbridge	0		17	70			0	87
Llandow/Ewenny	0					0		0
Llantwit Major	5		43	2		0	14	64
St. Athan			21					21
St. Bride's Major	0	7				0		7
Rhose	26	0	21	26		0		73
Dinas Powys	17	0	4			0		21
Llandough	0		5	0				5
Sully	0	0	8	35		18		61
Peterston-super-Ely	31	15	10	0		0		56
Wenvoe			15	20		3		38
Total	191	67	347	181	0	93	18	867

4.7 Fees

Comparisons with national averages

Figure 11 shows the average fees for 25 hours care (15 hours in an out of school club and in sessional care) in the Vale of Glamorgan compared to Wales averages.

The average rate for all types of childcare in the Vale is above the national average. The greatest difference is in day nurseries, where the average fee for 25 hours care, in the Vale is £118.62 compared to £92.35 in Wales. This is the most expensive form of childcare. Day nurseries in the Vale charge £4.00 per hour, compared with £3.16 in Wales. Out of school clubs, which include breakfast, after school and holiday care schemes, do not differ significantly from the national average.

The national average for sessional care is unknown. However, this is the cheapest form of childcare in the Vale.

Figure 11: Comparisons in fees

Area	Out of school club	Nursery	Childminder	Sessional care
Vale of Glamorgan*	£41.45	£118.62	£105.21	£38.65
Wales**	£40.05	£92.35	£92.96	Not recorded

* Source: Vale of Glamorgan FIS

** Source: Daycare Trust Childcare Costs Survey 2012

When comparing fees with data collated in January 2011, there has been a small increase in fees for all childcare types. See figure 12 for details. The largest increase has been in out of school care, which has increased by 35p and the smallest increase has been childminders, which has increased by 4p.

Figure 12 Comparison in fees over 2 years

Year	Out of school club	Nursery	Childminder	Sessional care
Jan 2011	£2.96	£4.00	£4.20	£2.45
Mar 2012	£3.31	£4.16	£4.24	£2.56

Due to only small changes in the average fees for childcare, since the last CSA was carried out, it is felt that there is no need for a full review of fees in each ward in the Vale.

4.8 Welsh language

Figure 13 shows that only **17** registered childcare settings (6%) use a significant amount of Welsh and class themselves as either Welsh medium, Bilingual, or English and Welsh medium settings. This data is reliant on providers letting the FIS know the language they use in their setting.

Figure 13 Number of registered childcare settings by language used in setting

English medium	Predominantly English with some use of Welsh	English and Welsh medium	Bilingual	Welsh medium
152	124	9	2	6
52%	42%	3%	1%	2%

Figure 14 shows that where the language of the setting is known, over half of all registered places (2205, 51%) are in settings where the language is predominantly English with some use of Welsh. 39% of places (**1701**) are in English medium settings. Only 10% of places are in settings where Welsh is used a significant amount (**408** places). However, this number has more than doubled since January 2011, where only 164 places used a significant amount of Welsh.

This is due to a new day nursery being set up in Cowbridge, which has **161** childcare places and is classed as an English and Welsh medium setting. There are also **2** new Cylchoedd Meithrin – **1** in Llantwit Major and **1** in Buttrills (Barry), both with **24** places

each. Therefore, the number of Welsh places in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Buttrills (Barry), has significantly increased.

There are no childcare settings that have de-registered since January 2011, where a significant amount of Welsh is used.

Figure 14: Number of registered childcare places by language used in setting

Year	English medium	Predominantly English with some use of Welsh	English and Welsh medium	Bilingual	Welsh medium	Total places
Mar 2012	1701	2205	220	24	164	4314
Jan 2011	1760	2033	9	39	116	3957

It is important to note that there are also 2 Welsh medium, unregistered after school clubs with **60** childcare places and 1 unregistered Welsh Medium Cylch Meithrin with **24** childcare places.

4.9 Disability

Holiday provision for children with disabilities

There is now only 1 registered setting that cares solely for children with disabilities. This is located in Cornerswell ward (Penarth) and caters for **30** children age 4-14 years, who attend Ashgrove School. It is open for the first 2 weeks in the summer holidays. 1 holiday care scheme, caring for children with autism, in Peterston-super-Ely, de-registered.

As mentioned in the previous section on unregistered childcare, several disability sport and play provisions have taken place during the school holidays for children age 6-21yrs:

- **33** children with disabilities attended the Disability Sport and Play Week, during October Half Term 2011. The scheme ran for a week in Ysgol Erw'r Delyn for 5 hours a day and Barry Leisure Centre for 3 hours a day, for children age 6-21 years.

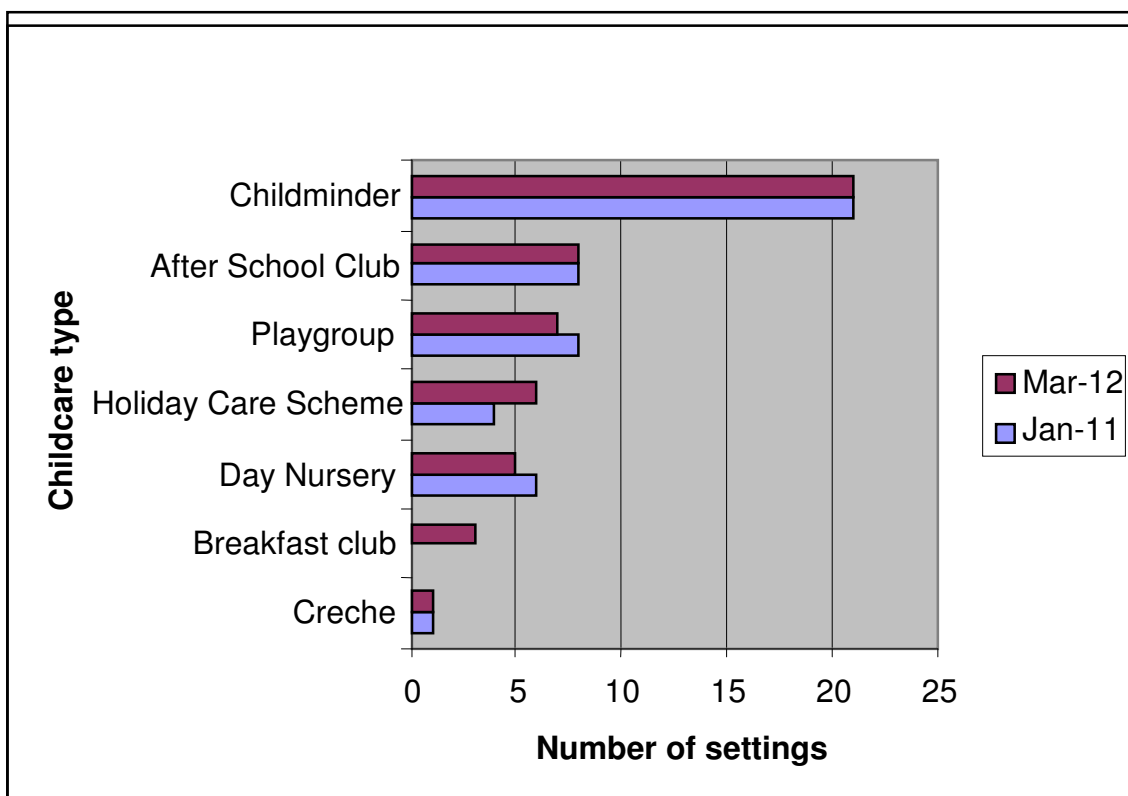
- **23** children with disabilities attended the 2 day Christmas Extravaganza at Cadoxton Primary School.
- **12** children with disabilities attended the football sessions held in Cadoxton Primary School during February Half Term 2012.

Number of settings currently looking after a child with a disability

Figure 15 shows that 53 registered childcare settings currently look after a child with a disability or special need. This is an increase of 2 registered settings from January 2011.

Almost half of all settings are childminders. There are no registered Cylchoedd Meithrin that currently care for a child with a disability. There has not been much change in numbers since January 2011.

Figure 15: Number of registered childcare settings that care for a child with a disability or special need over 2 years

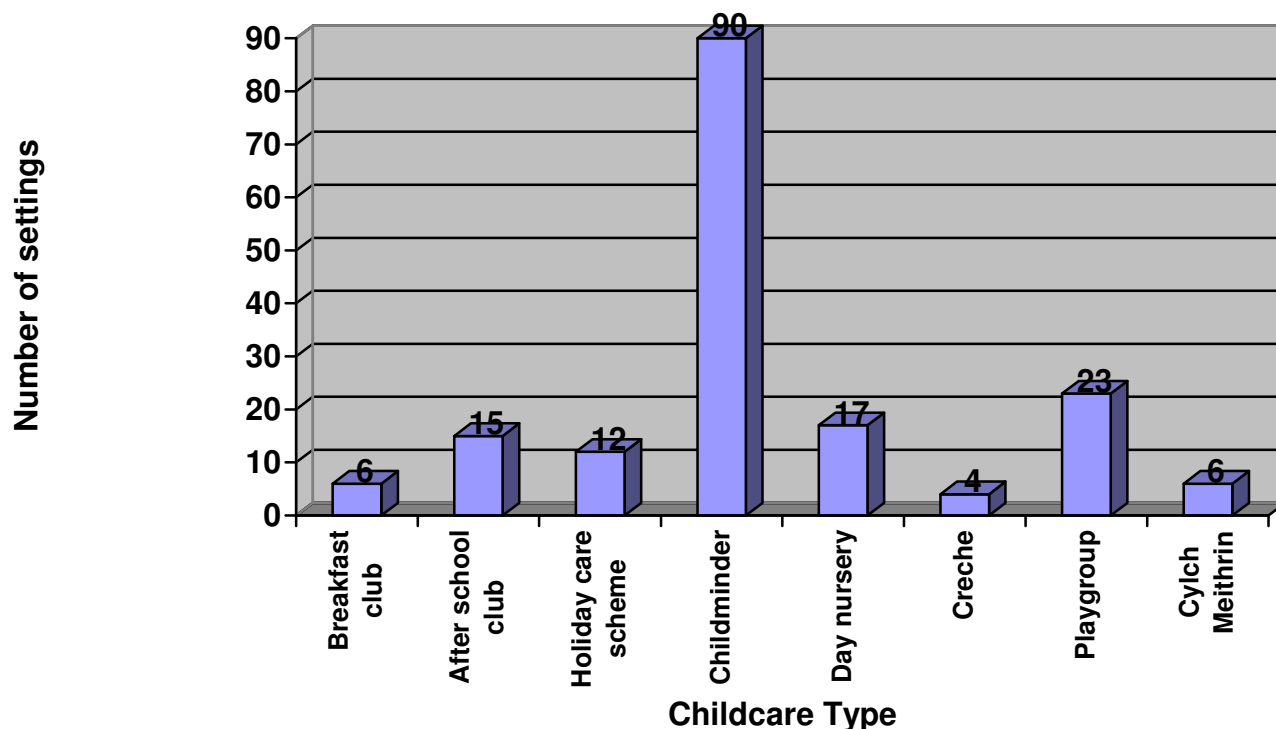


Number of childcare settings who are able to cater for children with disabilities

178 registered childcare settings say they can cater for children with a disability or special need. This is 61% of all registered settings. Figure 16 breaks down the number by type of

childcare. 100% of day nurseries, playgroups and Cylchoedd Meithrin can cater for children with disabilities. Whereas 46% of childminders, 71% of after school clubs, 55% of breakfast clubs, 67% of crèches and 80% of holiday care schemes are able to. These numbers remain largely the same as data in January 2011.

Figure 16 Number of childcare settings that can cater for children with a disability or special need by childcare type



Childcare providers are now asked what areas of experience they have in special needs and the level of experience i.e. Basic, Confident, Trained. The highest numbers of providers have experience of caring for children with behavior, emotional and social difficulties (146 providers, 46%), followed by speech, language and communication difficulties, and allergies. The lowest number of providers has experience of chronic illness and mental health.

4.10 Quality

There are many quality assurance schemes that childcare providers can work towards and achieve. In the Vale of Glamorgan, 16 childcare settings have said that they are quality assured. Please note that this data relies on childcare settings providing this information to FIS. **Figure 17** shows the quality assurance scheme and the number of childcare providers

who have achieved the scheme. The childcare providers who are quality assured are fairly evenly distributed across the Vale of Glamorgan.

Figure 17 Number of childcare providers who have achieved a quality assurance scheme

Quality assurance scheme	Number of providers who achieved award	Ward
NCMA Quality Assurance	7	St Augustines Illtyd Rhoose Dinas Powys x2 Court Wenvoe
Wales Preschool Providers Quality Assurance	7	Llandough Llantwit Major Peterston-super-Ely Court St Athan Gibbonsdown x 2
Cynllun Y Cylch Rhagorol	1	Cowbridge
Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Club	1	Gibbonsdown

4.11 Free part time education places for 3-4 year olds

Description of data used

The Council is the Admissions authority for all maintained Community Nursery Schools and Nursery Classes in Community Schools.

Children are entitled to a part-time nursery place from the start of the term following their third birthday. This will be offered as either a morning or afternoon session. Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, places will be allocated applying the authority's recognised admission criteria. The authority adopts a mixed economy approach with places also available at non-maintained registered provider

settings subject to eligibility criteria. Children in the Vale of Glamorgan are able to access free part time nursery education within a reasonable distance of their home address with demand being fully met. The authority regularly reviews birth and related data to ensure the sufficiency of nursery places for the 3 and 4 year old population of the vale of Glamorgan.

Places by type of setting

Information provided by the LEA in the Vale of Glamorgan Council indicates that there are **2,622** nursery places available for 3 and 4 year olds as at September 2010. This is an increase of **46** places from the previous year, due to an increase in places in Romily Primary School in Illtyd ward, Barry. This is broken down into **2,392** places at schools (including community schools, church schools and welsh schools) and **230** places available to registered non-maintained settings. For the academic year 2010/11 in total **2124** places were provided to eligible 3 and 4 year old children whose parents required a nursery place. This is a take up figure of 81% compared to the number of available places, which is a 3% increase in take up from the previous year.

Figure 18 shows the individual breakdown and take up of places at schools and funded playgroups for the academic year 2010/11. Those highlighted in green have seen an increase in take up from 2009/10, those in red have seen a decrease in take up and those in black have remained the same. The highest take up of school places was in the Llantwit area (95%) and the lowest take up was in Cowbridge (62%). These wards have remained the same from the previous year.

Less than half the numbers of places available in funded playgroups were taken up (42%).

Unfortunately data is unavailable as to the profile of children taking up a place, the ward where the children live and whether they take up a place in the ward where they live.

New developments in Welsh Medium Education

Two new Welsh medium primary schools have been established in Barry and Llantwit Major in September 2011, due to an increase in demand for Welsh medium education in these areas. This will increase provision by **60** nursery places, **30** places each, for 2011/12 data.

The two new Welsh medium primary schools will cater for children from 3-11 and the nursery element will be three and four year old children. Both schools currently have a nursery and a reception intake that will be built up as the year groups develop.

Details are:

Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg

Colcot Road

Barry

CF62 8YU

Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant

Ham Lane East

Llantwit Major

CF61 1TQ

Figure 18: Take up of places at schools and funded playgroups for the academic year 2010/11

<u>Vale of Glamorgan - Number of Nursery Places</u>			
	No of places available at Sept 2010	Take up of places at September 2010	Take up of places April 2011
<u>Part-Time Equivalent Places</u>			
<u>SCHOOLS</u>			
BARRY AREA			
All Saints C/W Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	56	30	44
Barry Island Primary	66	30	43
Cadoxton Nursery	100	53	100
Colcot Primary	54	30	50
Gladstone Primary	62	68	68
High Street Primary	72	17	37
Holton Primary	74	43	56
Jenner Park Primary	58	27	48
Oakfield Primary	82	21	31
Palmerston Primary	56	26	49
Romilly Primary	120	77	129
St Helen's RC Infant - VOLUNTARY AIDED	46	44	50
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	52	39	58
Ysgol Sant Baruc	48	36	59
Ysgol Sant Curig	76	61	104
Sub-Total	1022	602	926
COWBRIDGE AREA			
Llanfair Primary	52	13	23
Llangan Primary	34	18	24
Llansannor - VOLUNTARY AIDED	68	31	31
Pendoylan C/W Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	42	24	24
Peterstone	56	22	40

Y Bont Faen Primary	52	38	50
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	52	24	29
Sub-Total	356	170	221
LLANTWIT AREA			
Eagleswell Primary	52	28	45
Llanilltud Fawr Primary	62	41	58
Rhws Primary	78	47	79
St Athan Primary	52	21	46
St Illtyd Primary	66	44	69
Sub-Total	310	181	297
PENARTH AREA			
Albert Nursery Unit	72	35	72
Bute Cottage Nursery	80	80	80
Cogan Nursery	120	43	62
Dinas Powys Infant	72	53	82
Llandough Primary	60	22	30
St Andrew's C/W Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	40	29	29
St Joseph's RC Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	48	14	28
Sully Primary	68	44	55
Victoria Primary	68	60	80
Ysgol Pen y Garth	76	52	66
Sub-Total	704	432	584
OVERALL TOTAL	2392	1385	2028
<u>FUNDED PLAYGROUPS</u>			
BARRY AREA			
Wenvoe P/Group	30	11	13
COWBRIDGE AREA			
Abracadabra P/Group	32	8	16
Colwinston P/Group	24	11	17
Y Bont Faen C/Meithrin	24	0	11

LLANTWIT AREA			
Gillybeans	38		
St Bride's P/Group	24	19	22
St Donats P/Group	30	1	3
Swallow	0	1	1
Wick P/Group	28	1	13
OVERALL TOTAL	230	52	96

4.12 Flying Start

Description of data used

The Flying Start programme in the Vale of Glamorgan provides targeted support for children pre birth to their fourth birthday. Flying Start is primarily aimed at improving outcomes for children in areas of significant deprivation. In the long term, the programme aims to reduce the number of people with very poor skills and develop a more highly skilled economy.

Flying Start childcare in the Vale of Glamorgan offers parents a choice of

- English or Welsh settings
- Morning or afternoon sessions
- Playgroups or childminders

Flying Start children are entitled to free childcare of two and a half hours per day, five days per week, 42 weeks per annum. Because some schools are starting children at 3 years, rather than the term after their third birthday, where possible Flying Start are offering those children to start the free childcare at two years to ensure they get one full year of childcare in preparation for school.

Flying start has a Childminding Network. This has a NCMA Co-ordinator who supports and trains 15 childminders. These childminders are given additional development and training opportunities. They provide some sessional provision but also some 'special circumstances' provision. The 'special circumstances' provision may be for parents who are identified as needing support on a time limited and assessed need basis.

Profile of children taking up a place

From January 2011 to January 2012

- **298** children accessed a childcare place (86% take up)
- **18** BME children accessed childcare
- **152** children accessed childcare at any one time

Places by type of setting and ward

150 places are allocated to the following Flying Start settings:

- Red Robin Playgroup – 32 places (Court)
- Cylch Meithrin Pili Pala – 44 places (Buttrills)
- Butterflies Playgroup – 24 places (Buttrills)
- Gibbonsdown Playgroup – 30 places (Gibbonsdown)
- Kidszone Playgroup – 20 places (Court)
- 15 Registered childminders (2 in Buttrills, 3 in Cadoc, 3 in Court, 5 in Gibbonsdown, 1 in Illtyd and 1 in Wenvoe)

A total of **28,098** sessions took place during the year.

The take up in wards is difficult to measure because Flying Start does not actually fit into ward boundaries.

4.13 Conclusions

The number of registered childcare places in the Vale of Glamorgan has increased by 136 since January 2011.

Geographical gaps

The CSA in January 2011 identified the following wards as having the highest number of registered places: Illtyd (Barry), Baruc (Barry) and Pereston-super-Ely. This has slightly changed as places in Baruc and Peterston-super-Ely have decreased slightly.

Illtyd however, still has a high number of childcare places, along with Cowbridge, due to a new day nursery opening, and Buttrills. These 3 wards, as well as Plymouth and St Bride's Major have the lowest number of children per place and all, apart from St Bride's Major,

have the highest number of vacancies. This suggests a wealth of childcare available in these wards.

The wards with the lowest number of registered childcare places remain the same as in January 2011: Dyfan (Barry), Castleland (Barry) and Llandow/Ewenny. These wards also have the lowest number of vacancies and highest number of children per place, all of which suggest a lack of childcare in these wards

Type gaps

Childminders still to provide the highest number of childcare places (26%) and they cover all wards apart from St Bride's Major. However, places in day nurseries have increased and now account for 23% of all childcare places. Out of schools clubs, playgroups, Cylchoedd Meithrin and crèches account for a much smaller amount of childcare places.

The number of childcare places in settings where a significant amount of Welsh is used has more than doubled since January 2011, which is very encouraging and suggests that this gap is gradually narrowing. This is due to a new Welsh and English medium day nursery opening, as well as 2 new Cylchoedd Meithrin. 2 new Welsh medium primary schools also opened in September 2011.

Specific needs gaps

There is now only 1 registered childcare setting solely for children with disabilities, which is a holiday care scheme for children with Autism. Apart from this, the amount of childcare available for children with disabilities or special needs remains, on the whole, the same as in January 2011. This suggests that the gap in care for disabled children remains.

Income gaps

The number of childcare places eligible for parents to claim the childcare element of Working Tax Credit has increased by 136 childcare places. There are now 4,252 registered childcare places.

The overall cost of registered childcare provision has increased by 5% since January 2011, with the greatest increase being in out of school care (12%) and the smallest increase with childminders (1%).

Age gaps

Although the age groups of children have not been analysed in detail, the data shows that childcare for children age 0-4 years has increased due to a new nursery opening with 161 places. However, 25 childcare places have been lost due to 8 childminders de-registering. Childcare for children age 4-11 years has remained approximately the same, due to a slight increase in after school care and a slight decrease in holiday care.

Time gaps

The availability of flexible childcare and childcare available early and late has not been analysed for this report.

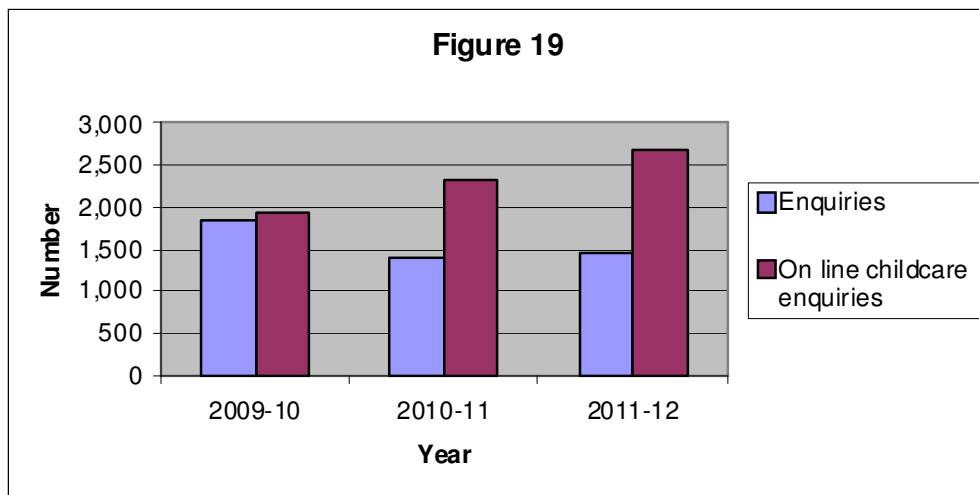
Other Demand Data

The following information is taken from the Family Information Service (FIS) database. It analyses the childcare enquiries the FIS has received in the last year from April 2011 to February 2012 and compares the data with the previous year.

5.1 Number of enquiries to the FIS

From April 2011 to Feb 2012, the FIS has received 1,459 direct enquiries, which is an average of **133** enquiries per month. This is an increase of 6.5% from the previous year where **1,402** enquiries were received. See figure 19.

Childcare enquiries are also carried out on-line and for the same time period **2,693** enquiries were made, which is an average of **245** per month. This is an increase of 16% from the previous year. See figure 19.

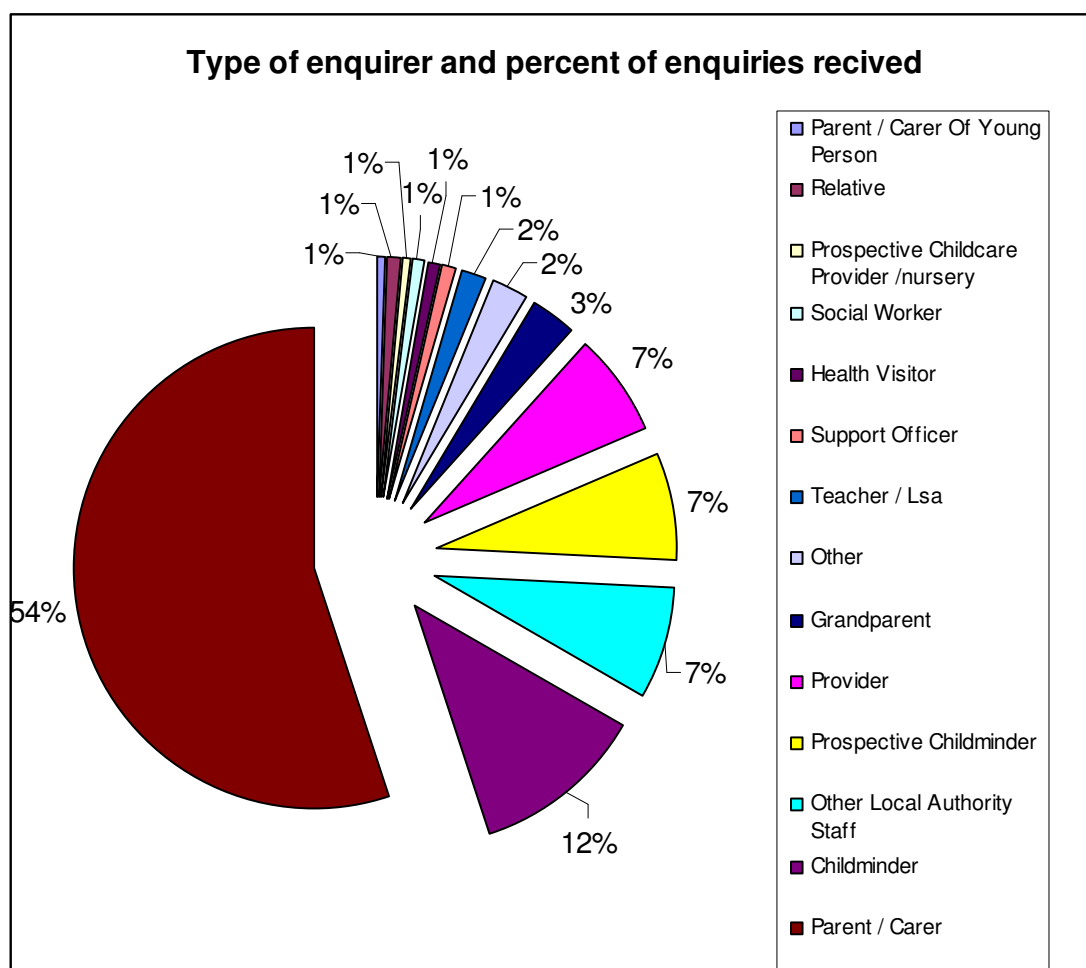


5.2 On-line enquiries

Apart from accounting for the number of hits to the on-line childcare database, the on-line enquiries cannot be analysed in detail. This is due to the external software limitations. Therefore, the following sections will only include the analysis of those enquiries made directly to the FIS via telephone, outreach, email and visit.

5.3 Type of enquirer

689 enquiries were from parents and carers, which accounts for 54% of all enquiries. 12% were from childminders wishing to update their details, or wanting information on training etc and 7% were from other local authority staff. What is surprising is an increase in enquiries from grandparents, which accounts for 3% of all enquiries (39) and 20 enquiries from teachers / LSAs (2%). See figure 20 below for a full breakdown.



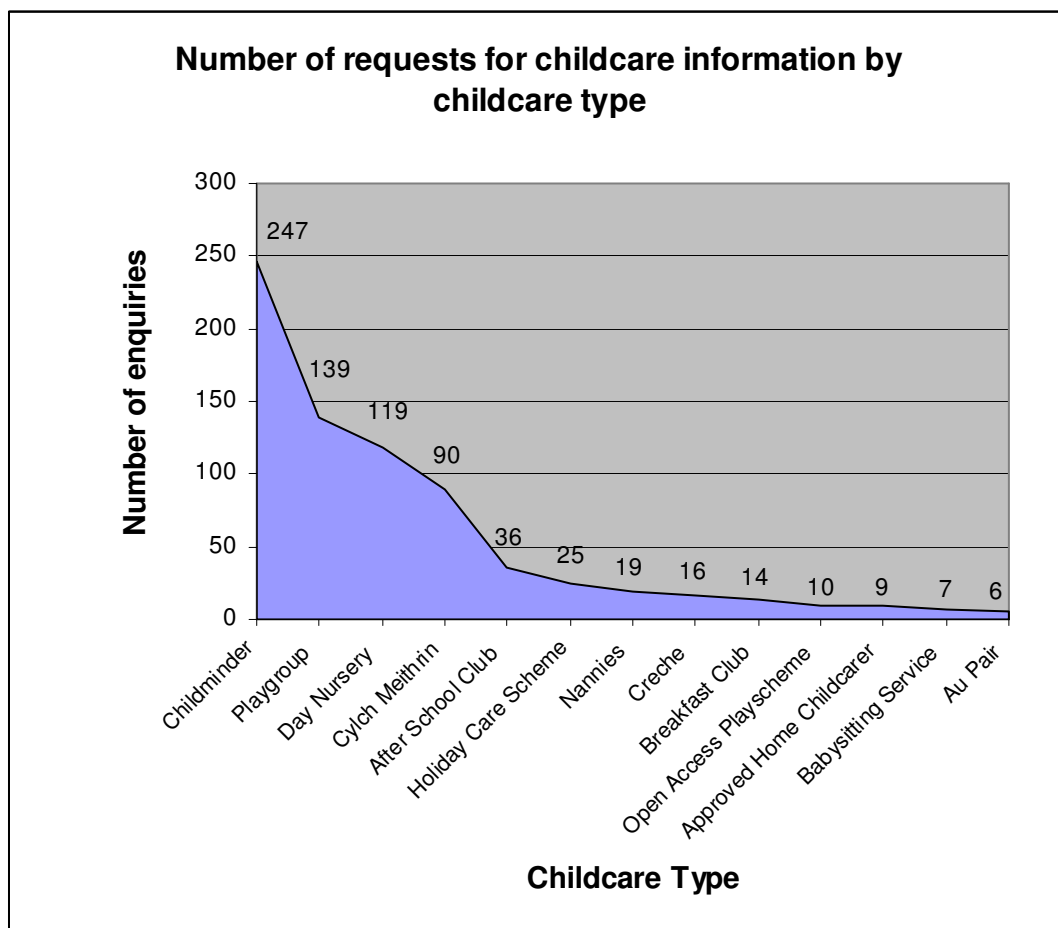
5.4 Childcare information requested

For the same time period, the service received 736 requests for information about childcare, which is 58% of all requests for information. This includes unregistered childcare such as nannies, approved childcarers and baby sitters. However, this doesn't take into account all 'quick' enquiries, where the details of the enquirer are not recorded fully on the database. Instead, the enquiry is just categorised under a certain heading, for example

‘signposting to school admissions’. With this taken into account, the percentage of requests for childcare would decrease.

The percentage of requests for childcare information has remained the same over the last 2 years at **58%** of all requests.

Figure 21 shows the number of requests for childcare by childcare type. The highest number of requests are for childminders (**247, 34%**), followed by playgroups (**139, 19%**). When making comparisons with the previous year, the main differences are the increase in requests for playgroups, which has increased by **4%** and Cylchoedd Meithrin which has increased by **3.5%**. The Childcare at Home Approval Scheme has also been introduced, which has resulted in 9 enquiries for approved home child carers.



5.5 Specific requirements

63 enquiries were received where the child has a specific requirement. This is 4.3% of all enquiries. This has increased from the previous year where 48 enquiries were received.

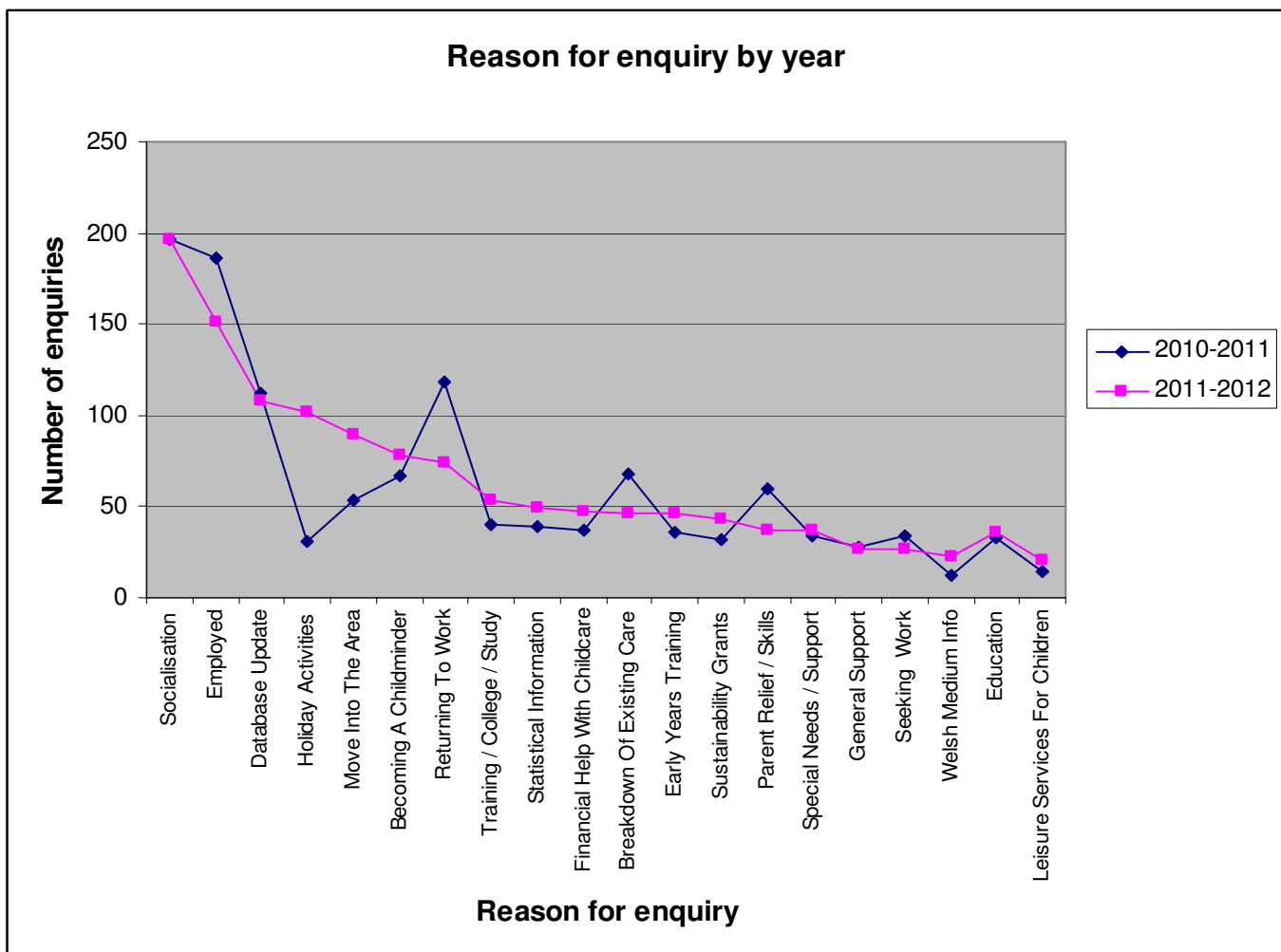
The most common requirement relates to 'behavioral, emotional and social difficulties' where 28 enquiries were received.

5.6 Welsh medium provision

23 enquiries for Welsh medium information have been received. The number has almost doubled since the previous year 2010 – 2011. When including requests for Cylchoedd Meithrin, the number increases to 113.

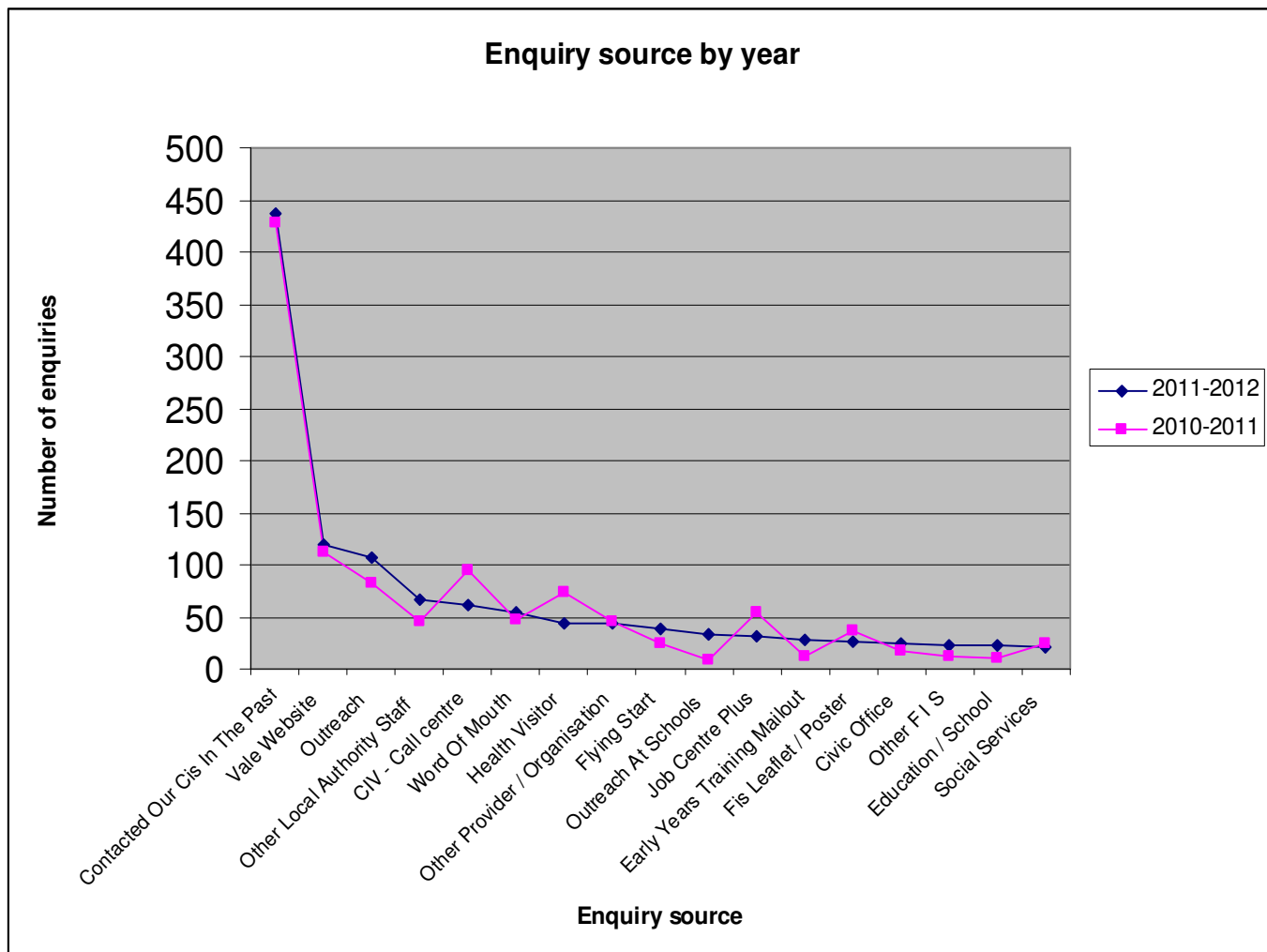
5.7 Reason for enquiry

The most common reason for people contacting the FIS was for socialisation purposes. Figure 22 compares the top 20 reasons with the previous years reasons. The 2 years follow a fairly similar pattern with the exceptions of: 'holiday activities', where 102 enquiries were received compared with 31 in the previous year; 'moving into the area', where 89 enquiries were received compared with 53 in the previous year; and 'returning to work', where 74 enquiries were received compared with 118 in the previous year.



5.8 Enquiry source

Figure 23 compares the most common sources of enquiries over the past 2 years. Both follow a similar pattern with the majority of enquirers having contacted the FIS in the past. The referrals that have decreased significantly from the previous year are: referrals from Contact OneVale, Health Visitors and Job Centre Plus. This indicates where FIS needs to target more marketing and outreach. However, there has also been an increase in referrals from the following: outreach, other local authority staff and outreach specifically at schools.



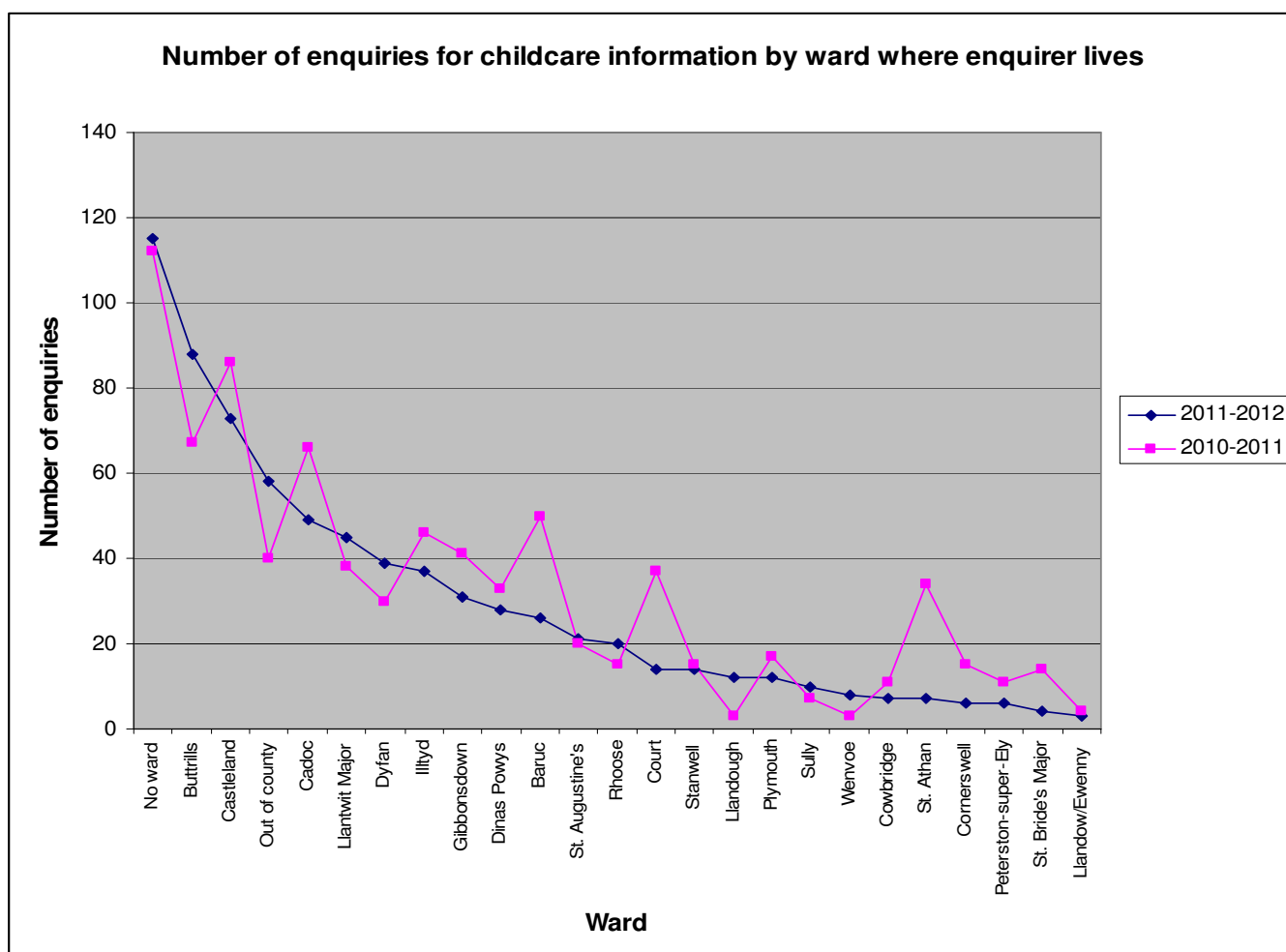
5.9 Ward where enquirer lives

Figure 24 compares the number of enquiries received, from people looking for childcare, and the ward they live, over the past 2 years. This indicates where the demand for childcare is. It also informs the FIS where more marketing of the service needs to take place.

The number of enquiries is not distributed evenly by ward. Unfortunately there were 115 enquiries where no ward was recorded. The highest number of enquiries were from people living in the Buttrills ward (88), followed by Castleland (73) and Cadoc (49).

When comparing numbers with the previous year, there is a large variation as to where the enquiries are coming from. The wards where there has been a significant decrease in the number of enquiries are: Cadoc, Baruc, Court and St Athan.

Only 12% of enquiries came from people living in the Western Vale and 14% from people living in Penarth, Dinas Powys, Sully and Llandough. This does not reflect the proportion of children living in the Western Vale (19%) and Penarth (16%), which suggests that the FIS needs to be promoted more in these areas.



5.10 Feedback from enquirers who have contact the FIS

The FIS gather feedback from people who have used the service to help develop the service in line with enquirer's needs and to help inform the CSA.

From April 2011 to February 2012, feedback was gained from **161** people who have used the service. This is a 66% response rate from those contacted, which is very positive.

5.11 Ability to access childcare

Of those people looking for childcare, 84% (119) of service users were able to access childcare as a result of contacting the service and 16% (22) were unable to. This has increased by 6% from the previous year. Figure 25 below gives information on the ability to access childcare.

Number of service users who were able to access childcare as a result of contacting the FIS

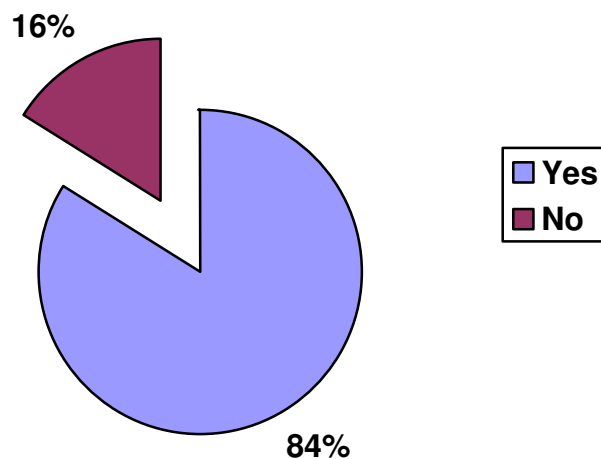


Figure 26 shows the most important factors to service users when choosing childcare. The most important factor is that childcare is close to home (47 responses, 37%). This was followed by cost (23 responses, 18%), childcare close to work (15 responses, 12%) and ability to pick up and drop off at school (14 responses, 11%).

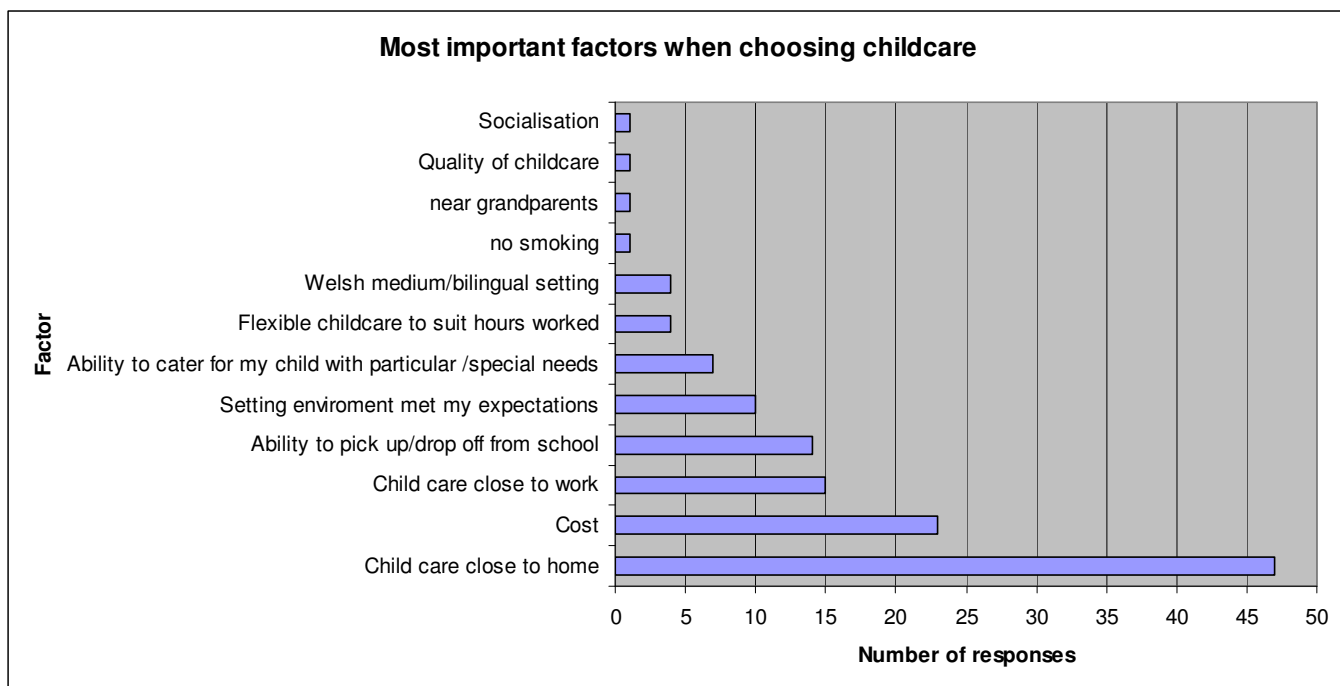
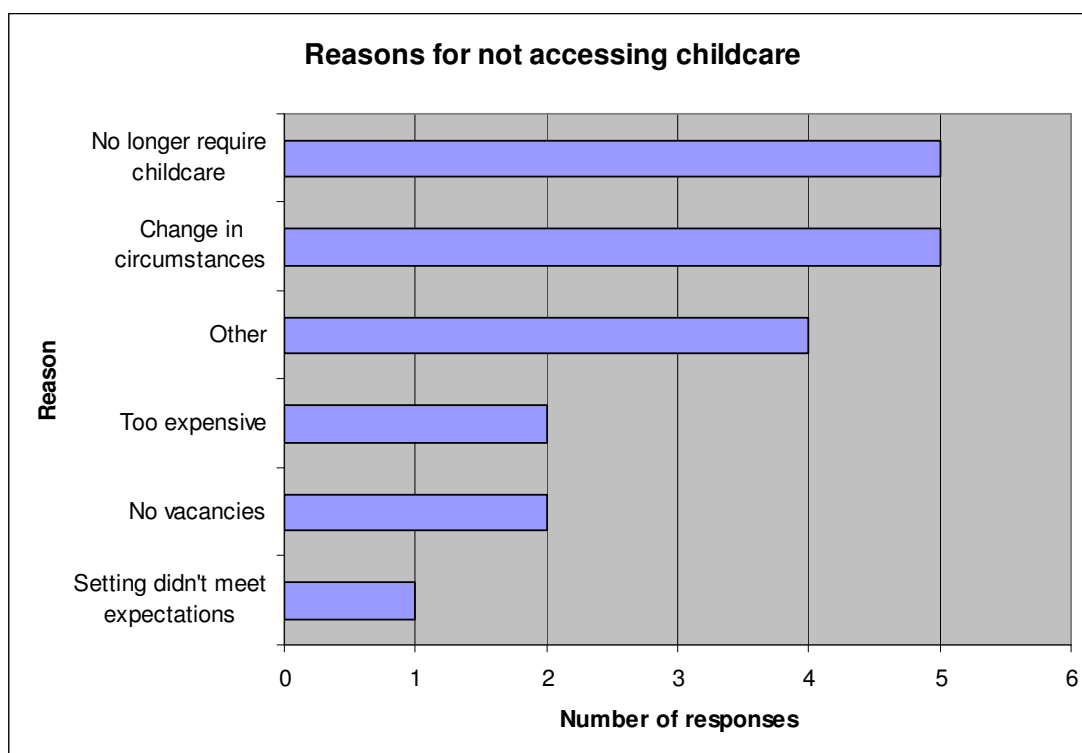


Figure 27 lists the reasons why some people did not access childcare. The majority of responses (14) were because service users either no longer required childcare, a change in circumstances or they said they hadn't looked into it yet. Only 2 service users said it was because it was too expensive, 2 people said there were no vacancies and 1 person said the setting environment didn't meet expectations.

As a result of this, it would be worth the FIS Officer leaving more time between the service user making their enquiry and when the FIS Officer contacts them for feedback, as many had not started looking for childcare.



- 98% of service users would recommend the service to other people and 2% didn't respond
- 95% received their information within 7 working days
- 7 people (3%) thought that the service could be improved. Reasons given: Better access to the website (2), expected more specific information (3), update system regularly as information was out of date (1), information not received on time (1)
- When asked what people valued most about the service, the most common responses were: very prompt (13), very efficient (7), email (7), having someone to speak to (6)

5.12 Conclusions

The FIS has seen an increase in enquiries to the service from 2010-2011, both directly to the service (6.5%) and on-line (16%). Over half of all requests for information were requests for childcare (58%) and this has remained the same over the past 2 years. Information on childminders is requested most often (34%), followed by playgroups, day nurseries and Cylch Meithrin. There has been an increase in the number of requests for playgroups and Cylch Meithrin, whereas requests for out of school clubs remain fairly low, with only 25 requests received for holiday care schemes. This may suggest that parents access this information from other sources such as schools.

Requests for Welsh medium information have almost doubled from the previous year, which is very positive. Plans are in place to create a web page dedicated to promoting raising children bilingually.

Enquiries from parents who have children with special needs have also increased by almost a third. The FIS has a lot more information regarding childcare for children with special needs and other information on financial help etc. It is hoped that enquiries will continue to increase when the Index for Children with Special and Particular Needs is re-launched in April 2012.

Almost half of all enquiries for childcare are from people living in Barry (49%) and enquiries from the Western Vale and Penarth have slightly decreased. However, there has been a rise in enquiries from outside the county, accounting for 8% of enquiries. Unfortunately, 155 enquiries were made where no ward was recorded. The FIS needs to target marketing at areas other than Barry.

Of those people who provided feedback, 84% were able to access suitable childcare, which has increased from the 2010-11. The most important factor was that childcare is close to home, followed by cost and childcare being close to work. There was a very small response as to why people were unable to access childcare and only 2 people said that it was because childcare was too expensive and 2 people said there were no vacancies.

Only 7 people thought that the service could be improved and suggestions included: better access to the website, more specific information and more up to date information.

Addressing 'significant areas for improvement' highlighted in report cards

Although the Vale of Glamorgan didn't receive any 'significant areas for improvement' within the Report Card there is always an opportunity for improvement when planning and developing good quality, affordable childcare.

With the expansion of the Flying Start programme, additional childcare will be sought to offer those children in areas of disadvantage good quality childcare to ensure that their needs are met so they reach their full potential. Therefore, working closely with the Flying Start team and other relevant partners to support the expansion will be vital. Further information on Flying Start expansion and Workforce Development can be found further on in this report.

An area in which the Vale of Glamorgan Family Information Service has been addressing is developing closer links with employers in the Vale of Glamorgan. Employer flyers and posters have been developed; letters have been sent to main employers and will be followed up with joint meetings with Chwarae Teg.

An Information stand at the Civic offices has also been booked for June 2012, to promote childcare vouchers, Working Tax Credit and the Family information Service.

Gap Analysis

7.1 Refresh on gaps identified in CSA full report 2010-11

There has been some new data provided for this refresh which certainly reinforces findings from the gap analysis in 2010-11. This data does highlight a series of questions around whether a potential gap in the childcare market still exists in some areas, whether there are changes in the income gap, etc.

In 2010-11, figures for number of places by ward with the least number of places are:

- Castleland **45**
- Dyfan **43**
- Court **64**
- Llandow/Ewenny **69**

During 2011-12 an existing Cylch Meithrin relocated into the Dyfan ward which has provided opportunities for parents within the surrounding areas to access this provision. The provision is registered for **24** places per session with around **48** children benefiting from the service. With some Community Focused Schools childcare grant funding, the Cylch was able to extend their provision by providing two additional afternoon sessions. It is anticipated that **20** additional childcare places will be created.

7.2 Update on the wards with lowest number of childcare places

Dyfan ward remains one of the wards with the lowest numbers of places. In March 2012 there were **48** childcare places against **43** places in January 2011. Flying Start has identified sections within the Dyfan ward for the expansion of childcare during 2013-14 so this area will be a target to increase the number of childcare places.

Castleland ward also remains one of the wards with the lowest numbers of places. In March 2012 there are **42** places against **43** places in January 2011. Again Flying Start has identified sections within Castleland ward for the expansion of childcare during 2012-13. Existing childcare will be targeted to look at the possibility of increasing childcare places and also looking at setting up new childcare within the area.

Again Llandow/Ewenny remain wards with the lowest numbers of places. In March 2012 there were 37 places against 69 places in January 2011. The drop in the places is due to closure of a holiday provision providing 2 weeks care during the summer holidays - 32 places were provided. From data produced by the FIS, almost half of all enquiries for childcare are from people living in Barry (49%) and enquiries from the Western Vale have slightly decreased over the past year. Having said this, more targeted work will be carried out in these specific areas to address the needs.

7.3 Focus group sessions

To further understand the childcare situation in the Vale a series of three focus groups were held with childminding networks and two with parents of children attending Welsh Ti a Fi sessions. The sessions with childminders took place in Barry, Penarth and Llantwit Major. At these the groups were asked to discuss recent changes in the childcare market; how they felt they would fit into the Welsh Government's priorities of expanding the level of provision for children with disabilities and Welsh language childcare; and their views on the Vale of Glamorgan Council Family Information Service. The sessions that took places with parents of children attending Ti a Fi childcare groups were from Dinas Powys and Llantwit Major.

Findings

1. Income Gaps

The Gap Analysis in the 2010-11 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment highlighted cost as a major factor influencing demand for childcare in the Vale of Glamorgan. All of the groups raised this issue of changing demand.

Childminders

The Llantwit Major group felt that demand for childcare and in particular childminders had recently declined. The group commented that many childminders have available places. One childminder was due to lose the last remaining child in her care the following month.

The group felt that cost was the significant factor that had prompted this decrease in demand. Some childminders are now asked to pick up children from an after school club,

to reduce the cost of care for parents. The group felt that where after school clubs were available, parents would choose the cheaper option.

The Penarth group, conversely, felt that more childminders are needed in Penarth. The group did not mention falling demand, the issue of cost, or the role of alternative forms of childcare.

In Barry, most of the childminders present felt that there hadn't been any recent change in demand and that this was linked to them maintaining their current pricing.

The information gathered suggests that as the 2010-11 Gap Analysis highlights, cost is a major factor in demand for childcare.

The differing views of the three groups suggest that demand for childcare is a localised issue. Penarth had not previously been identified as an area with insufficient childcare, the number of available childminder places should be investigated. Likewise it should be ascertained whether there is an excess of places in Llantwit Major.

2. Specific Needs Gaps

Childminders

Access for parents of children to specific needs to childcare was identified as a gap in the 2010-11 CSA. The lack of provision for children with disabilities and Welsh language childcare were highlighted.

All childminders felt that they needed to consider all children and some indicated they were willing to undertake training to allow this.

Several of the childminders currently accommodated children with special needs, generally behavior disorders. However, a number did mention that it is difficult to look after other children if one needs a lot of attention. They also felt that parents may be 'put off' if they see a childminder in the playground looking after a child who is badly behaved. Although none said they would turn away children with special needs one group did question whether accepting such a child would be financially beneficial. This reluctance to take on

children with behavioral needs is an issue and that the specific needs gap will grow if it is not addressed.

The groups did not feel that Welsh language provision was a major issue. None of the childminders present had been asked to care for Welsh speaking children. However, it is very likely that this because none advertised themselves as offering Welsh language care. This should not be considered to suggest that there is no gap in Welsh language provision.

Parents

Many of the parents at the Welsh language Ti a Fi group commented, without prompting, that they had travelled from other parts of the Vale to attend the group and that they did not know of any other Welsh-medium childcare setting close to their home. None of the parents present mentioned using any other Welsh-medium childcare settings. This suggests that there is a definite gap in Welsh-medium provision in the Vale, as highlighted in the 2010/11 CSA Gap Analysis. If this is not addressed the Vale could risk failure to provide sufficient appropriate childcare for parents.

7.4 Recommendations

The focus group sessions provide qualitative data to confirm the two major findings of the 2010/11 CSA Gap Analysis: that there are income and specific needs provision gaps in the Vale. The information gathered also suggests that the latter is likely to widen. Further engagement with childcare practitioners would be needed to gain an understanding of how the Vale of Glamorgan Council could work effectively with childcare providers to close these gaps.

7.5 Reducing the gaps

Over the past year the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership and other partners in the Vale have worked closely together to develop an action plan to identify the priorities. (See section 8)

Community Focused Schools grants were made available to all schools and childcare settings within the Vale of Glamorgan. Priority was given to areas which were identified within the Action Plan. For example:

- To support the increase of Welsh Medium childcare, 3 existing Welsh Medium settings were granted funding to increase the number of places made available. Unfortunately one of these was then able to carry this through – 24 additional places were created.
- A number of assisted places were offered to children in need. These were provided in afterschool clubs within Community First and Flying Start areas – 12 places were provided.
- To support children with disabilities/special education needs, 4 Inclusive play & sports clubs were funded – 97 children attended.
- A new breakfast club was funded creating 20 new places
- An extension of an existing out of school club was funded to take 7 – 11yrs olds creating 15 new places

In order to target areas where there is a demand for childcare, working with our partners will be crucial alongside submitting an application for Out of Schools childcare funding to the Welsh Government which focus on these particular areas.

Action Plan

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Action Plan was developed by a task & finish group to address the gaps highlighted within the full Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report carried out in 2010-11. This was submitted to the Welsh Government in May 2011.

All persons with actions are responsible for monitoring, reviewing and updating them which are then discussed at bi-monthly Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership meetings.

Progresses on actions contained within the plan are updated as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment refresh 2011-12.

Any outstanding or continuous actions along with actions on Flying Start childcare and the workforce will be outlined in the following years action plan.

A copy of the Action Plan with progress to date can be found in Annex 2

Appendices

Appendix 1 Updated Action Plan 2011 - 12

Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership

APPENDIX 1 Updated Action Plan to address gaps in Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2011-12

Priority 1: support parent/carers on low incomes to access childcare					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Update March 2012
Information on tax credits, childcare vouchers, DLA and benefits advice is made available to parents	Parents are made aware of national and local initiatives that makes childcare more affordable	April 11 – March 12	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	From April 2011 to March 2012, FIS automatically provides information on help with childcare costs through working tax credits and childcare vouchers to all enquirers looking for childcare = 608 enquirers. Specific requests for information on childcare vouchers: 15 Specific requests for information on financial help: 42
	A pilot project working in conjunction with Jobcentre to offer relevant childcare information to JCP clients including lone parents.	January 2012	None required	Becky Wickett	4 visits made (2 in Penarth and 2 in Barry) and 7 clients seen. Project on hold, awaiting feedback from Lone Parent Advisors in Barry. 31 referrals received from JCP

	Advert placed in Activale brochure promoting tax credits and childcare vouchers	July 2011	Contribution from Community Focused Schools childcare money	Becky Wickett	Completed July 2011 – 16,500 brochures distributed to schools, leisure centres and libraries.
Information and advice to parents in the Flying Start area on free childcare	Provide parents with a choice of childcare in the Flying Start areas	April 2011 – March 2012	Flying Start funding	Antonia Bridges	Information provided to parents with children eligible for the free childcare through home visits arranged term before the child 's second birthday
Information is developed to provide parents, of Primary and comprehensive age children, information on after school activities and holiday provision	Provide information to parents on after school activities	July 2011	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	<p>Information provided to 35 parents on after school provision.</p> <p>Information provided to 35 parents on holiday care schemes and 101 parents on holidays activities.</p> <p>Activale Summer Brochure, containing all holiday activities and childcare schemes, distributed to 16,500 families.</p>
Promote back to work initiatives	Information is provided to parents on Genesis 2 project	April 2011 – March 2012	Genesis 2 funding	Sandra Perkes	<p>The majority of Genesis Participants have childcare responsibilities. Genesis has supported 128 participants to date of those 16 parents have been assisted with childcare costs.</p> <p>Genesis parents attend Vale of Glamorgan Council education facilities that</p>

					<p>provide a free crèche service.</p> <p>Vale Of Glamorgan Genesis participants have gained: 36 Positive Outcomes –i.e. attended interviews, non accredited courses etc</p> <p>20 gained below level 2 qualification</p> <p>5 gained Level 2 qualification</p> <p>6 have entered employment</p> <p>2 are undertaking Voluntary work</p>
Develop additional community based open access free play provision	<p>Creation of additional open access play provision</p> <p>Information on open access play is provided to local communities</p>	<p>April 2011 – March 12</p> <p>April 2011 – March 12</p>	Existing play funding & external Big Lottery funding	<p>Joanne Jones</p> <p>Joanne Jones</p>	<p>5 open access clubs have been developed in partnership with community focussed school. Leaflets are distributed within local communities and the web page is updated regularly.</p> <p>The Play aloud team continues to develop in identified communities and are currently working in Rhose and the Colcot</p>
Provide subsidised childcare places	Develop subsidised out of school care and holiday care in areas identified	July 2011	CFS childcare funding	Debbie Maule	18 children in need from Community First and Flying Start areas were offered subsidised

	Children and families access subsidised childcare	September 2011	CFS childcare funding	Debbie Maule	<p>childcare during the summer holidays 2011</p> <p>10 children in need from Community First and Flying Start areas were offered subsidised childcare during October 2011 half term</p>
--	---	----------------	-----------------------	--------------	---

Priority 2: to set up & support additional childcare provisions delivered in the Welsh Language					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Develop a task & finish group to address the gaps highlighted within the CSA in relation to increasing childcare provision delivered in the Welsh Language.	Task & Finish group established	May 2011	None required	Debbie Maule	Task and finish group was established in May 2011 to address gaps in Welsh Medium provision and contact made with education & Mudiad Meithrin
	Links established with school improvement service, Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) and Mudiad Meithrin	May 2011	None required	Debbie Maule	
	Creation of additional Welsh language childcare places developed in identified areas	Sept 2011	Childcare Strategy Funding & CFS childcare funding	Debbie Maule	24 additional Welsh language childcare places were created in 2 Cylchoedd Meithrin in identified areas.

Priority 3: to support childcare providers to increase the use of the Welsh Language in their setting					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Identify training needs required	Develop and offer a range of training courses in response to the identified need	April 2011	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule	2 training courses have been offered to support the increase of Welsh Language in settings. Cymraeg o'r Crud a 5 week course ran from September 2011 and Welsh for the Family a 30 week course starting January 2012 both delivered by Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Welsh for Adults Centre.
Information and advice is offered to Childcare providers on Welsh Language	Increased Welsh Language support is available to childcare providers	April 2011 – March 12	Childcare Strategy and CFS childcare funding	Ann Angel	Cylchoedd Meithrin staff have received training on the "Dull Trochi" (Language immersion method) All Cylchoedd have access to Mudiad Meithrin's language resources including language pattern packs Development Officer has worked on a pairing scheme with Cylch Meithrin to develop language skills and confidence in using the language which involved 6 weeks of ½ hour meetings.

					<p>Positive feedback was given by the Cylch regarding the scheme.</p> <p>Development Officer was funded by Cam Wrth Gam for 2 hours per week to work with students to improve their language skills.</p> <p>Advice and support given to Cylchoedd on appropriate language resources and language strategies.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--

Priority 4: disabled children's access to childcare					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Information and advice is provided to childcare providers on accessibility for children and young people with disabilities	Develop and offer a range of relevant courses in response to identified need.	April 2011	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule	<p>In response to identified training needs, a number of courses including: 1 X Managing Children's behaviour, 2 x meningitis – everyone's concern, 2 x Makaton, 2 x Alert to Asthma, 1 x ADHD awareness and 1 x ASD awareness were offered to Early Years & Childcare settings. A total of 195 childcare staff attended these courses</p>

	Details of those childcare settings that can cater for children with disabilities is supplied to FIS annually	Dec 2011	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	179 childcare settings (56%) can cater for children with special needs. 131 childcare settings (41%) have wheelchair access. Childcare settings are now asked whether they have experience of caring for children with disabilities covering 16 categories. The most common area of experience is Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties where 146 childcare settings (46%) have experience in this area.
	Parents are given information on accessing suitable childcare	April 2011 – March 12	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	36 parents who have children with special needs have been given information on suitable childcare.
	Increase disabled children's access to childcare providers via one-to-one support	May 2011	Cyfle Cyntaf/First Opportunities	Katie Barrett-Goode	One-one support for children with disabilities increased from 20 children in 2010/11 to 27 in 2011/12
Work with key stakeholders to support parents of children with disabilities	<p>A support group is developed to provide advice and support to parents of children with disabilities/SEN</p> <p>Parents are able to access a wide range of information and support.</p>	September 2011 – September 2012	None required	Ceri Spence	Disability Index will be re-launched in April 2012. Families will receive quarterly newsletter and information.

Investigate the possibility of providing an assisted places scheme	A task & finish group is established	July 2011	None required	Debbie Maule	Funding has now been sought and ongoing discussions are continuing regarding a pilot assisted places scheme which we aim to get off the ground in 2012-13.
	Criteria for developing an assisted places for children with disabilities/SEN and children in need is developed	August 2011	None required	Debbie Maule	
	A pilot assisted places scheme is launched	September 2011	CFS childcare funding	Debbie Maule	

Priority 5: to provide a wide range of information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Information and advice is developed to provide relevant information to parents via a range of different sources	Pilot Family Information Service in primary schools and schools gain FIS certificate	March 2011 – March 2012	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	2 schools have gained the FIS Certificate. 8 schools are working towards it. FIS has attended parenting groups and events at 11 schools.
	‘Activale’ summer activities brochure is developed and distributed to all families in the Vale	July 2011	CFS childcare funding	Becky Wickett	16,500 copies distributed to schools, leisure centres and libraries in July 2012

	FIS website is developed and enquiries to the FIS website increase	April 2011 – March 2012	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	14,410 hits received to the FIS website from April 2011 – Feb 2012. An increase of 26%. 2,693 hits received to the on line childcare database. An increase of 16% from 2010-2011
	Promotion of FIS in rural areas is increased via various media resources	April 2011 – ongoing	Existing FIS and Childcare Strategy funding	Becky Wickett	25 places where leaflets and posters have been displayed and distributed in the rural Vale. 16 outreach events attended in rural Vale
	Develop a website where childcare providers can update their details on line. Information is then more up to date	Sept 2011	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	Provider Portal launched in August 2011. 67 childcare settings are signed up to the portal. 29 childcare settings actively using the portal to update details. FIS attended 5 childminding groups to train childminders on using the portal.

Priority 6: to work more closely with employers					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Engage with local employers (links with priority 1)	Benefits of childcare vouchers for employers and employees and FIS is promoted	January 2012	None required	Becky Wicket	<p>Work plan in place:</p> <p>Employer flyers and posters developed; letters sent to main employers and will be followed up with joint meetings with Chwarae Teg.</p> <p>Information stand at the Civic offices booked for June 2012, to promote childcare vouchers, WTC and FIS.</p>

Priority 7: database of relevant workforce development information from childcare providers including qualifications and training attended					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Develop a qualifications and training database	Database of all qualifications and training created	January 2012 – March 12	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule	Conversations within the Local Authority and other Local Authorities regarding qualifications and training database have taken place.

	Increase numbers of childcare staff gaining further qualifications	April 2011 – June 2012	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule	Individual Early Years and Childcare setting staff qualifications and training are being collated.
	Quality of childcare offered raised	January 2012	None required	Umbrella Organisations leads	Database hoping to be in place by September 2012 Discussions have taken place with Cardiff & the Vale college with regards to increasing the amount of Level 2,3 and 5 childcare courses being offered to students

Priority 8: to undertake an annual review of childcare sufficiency in the Vale of Glamorgan.					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Meet the requirements of the Childcare Act 2006	Action Plan developed & implemented	April 2011	None required	Debbie Maule	Task & finish group set up to address Action Plan.
	Annual review plan developed	April 2012	Childcare Strategy & CFS childcare funding	Debbie Maule	Action Plan developed and sent to Welsh Government in May 2011. Actions are addressed at bi-monthly EYDCP meetings. Progress on Actions plan updated as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment refresh 2011-12

Address areas for improvement as highlighted within Welsh Government feedback on CSA report	Additional detailed data is collected to determine demand of childcare	April 2012	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule	
	Information on the take up of Working Tax Credit Childcare Element is collected and addressed in the annual review	April 2012	None required	Debbie Maule	

Priority 9: sufficient childcare to address geographical gaps					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2012
Identify areas with little or no childcare provision	Areas identified	April 2011	Childcare Strategy	Becky Wickett	Wards identified: Dyfan, Castleland, Court, Cadoc, Llandow/Eweny, Llandough, St Bride's Major,
	ICP panel target new childminders in areas where gaps are identified	April 2011 – March 2012	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule	Introduction to Childminding Practice panel meet approximately twice a year to discuss interest from potential childminders taking into consideration identified gaps areas
	Childcare home approval scheme promoted to parents and potential childcare staff in areas needed	April 2011 – March 12	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	Voluntary Approval Scheme flyer developed. 9 parents sent information on the scheme.

	<p>Information is gathered by FIS as to those childcare providers who offer weekend care, flexible care for shift workers</p> <p>Develop out of school care and holiday care in areas identified</p> <p>Funding is provided to successful applicants to develop childcare in identified areas</p>	<p>April 2011 – ongoing</p> <p>Sept 2011</p> <p>March 2012</p>	<p>Existing FIS funding</p> <p>CFS childcare Funding</p> <p>CFS childcare funding</p>	<p>Becky Wickett</p> <p>Debbie Maule</p> <p>Debbie Maule</p>	<p>4 Approved Childcares in the Vale.</p> <p>1 Approved Childcarer agreed for their information to be sent to parents.</p> <p>27 childcare settings offer weekend care. 58 childcare settings offer flexible care for shift workers.</p> <p>33 projects were approved for CFS funding in 2011-12. Of which, 23 were new out of school provisions within identified areas of childcare need.</p>
--	---	--	---	--	---