

The Vale of Glamorgan

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

2013-2014



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Section 1: Context of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

The Childcare Act 2006 requires all Local Authorities in Wales to carry out a childcare sufficiency assessment. The intention of this report is to provide an assessment of the current levels of childcare within the Vale and the gaps identified via consultation. This will inform an action plan to secure sufficient childcare.

1.1 What is a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment?

A Childcare Sufficiency Assessment looks at the current supply of childcare in the Vale of Glamorgan (including type, quantity of provisions, location, costs, places available, choice) and the gaps in childcare (including location, choice, barriers to take up provision, places unavailable).

In order to carry out this assessment and gather the information required to achieve and deliver a successful Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan, it has been crucial to look at many different areas including:

- Consultation with parents/carers
- Consultation with employers
- Consultation with Providers
- Consultation with Children & Young People
- Consultation with wider stakeholders (e.g. Local Safeguarding Children's Board, Child Health and Disabilities team, Cyfle Cyntaf/First Opportunities, Mudiad Meithrin, Wales Pre-School Providers Association, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, etc).

Background

The Childcare Act 2006 underpins the Assembly Government's Childcare strategy 'Childcare is for Children' published in November 2005. Places a statutory duty and enshrines in law:

- Parents' Legitimate expectations of accessible high quality childcare for children and their families; and
- Local Authorities responsibilities for providing information to parents and prospective parents to support them in their parenting role

Legal Duties

The Childcare Act 2006 will achieve these aims through statutory duties that will build on Local Authorities' existing roles and responsibilities. In Wales, it will:

- Place a duty giving Local Authorities the lead role in facilitating the childcare market to ensure it meets the needs of working parents; in particular. Those on low incomes, those with disabled children. Or those who wish their child to attend Welsh medium provision.
- Ensure people have access to the full range of information they need as a parent.

Section 22 of the Act:

intends to place a duty on Local Authorities in Wales to secure, as far as is reasonably practicable, sufficient childcare to meet the requirements of parents in their areas who require childcare in order to work, undertake training, return to education or to prepare for work

Section 26 of the Act:

- Gives the Assembly the power to make regulations requiring Local Authorities in Wales to prepare assessments of the sufficiency for childcare in their area.

Implementation of both sections 22 & 26 support the implementation of the seven core aims of the Children and Young People's Plan (now superseded by the Vale of Glamorgan Community Strategy).

Section 27 of the Childcare Act:

Has a duty to provide information, advice and assistance to parents or prospective parents which is, for example:

- An integrated information service
- A service that provides access to national and UK printed information supported by comprehensive local information.

How the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment links to the Vale of Glamorgan Community Strategy

The Community Strategy considers how the Vale will look in the future and how that vision of the Vale can be achieved. It seeks to ensure that organisations active in the Vale are focused on providing quality services to residents, visitors and businesses. The Community Strategy represents a coordinated approach to improving the quality of life in the Vale. This Community Strategy covers the period 2011 – 21 and builds on the previous Strategy whilst incorporating a number of key partnership plans and strategies. As a result of this integration it is more comprehensive and more detailed than previous strategies.

The Vale of Glamorgan Local Service Board (LSB) acts as the overarching strategic partnership responsible for community planning and is supported by five strategic partnerships;

- Children and Young People's Partnership
- Learning and Skills Partnership
- Regeneration Partnership
- Safer Vale Partnership
- Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership

Priority Outcome 5: Children and Young People in the Vale are well informed and supported to access a broad range of quality services that enable them to take full advantage of the life opportunities available in their local communities and beyond.

Lead Partnership: Children and Young People's Partnership

The Vale of Glamorgan wants to ensure that the interests of children and young people are reflected in the services they provide.

They want children and young people to be respected and valued and for organisations to effectively engage with them and deliver services which will improve their quality of life.

They will work together to ensure every child has;

- A flying start in life with better access to information, family support and services including childcare.
- Access to a wide range of education and learning opportunities and is able to achieve their potential.
- A life, free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation and has the best possible physical, emotional and mental health.
- Access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities.

- Respect, and has their race and cultural identity recognised and is listened to.
- A safe home and a community that supports their physical and emotional wellbeing.
- A life not disadvantaged by poverty as services are more coordinated and families and carers including young carers are supported.

1.2 Gap Analysis

This section compares the demand for childcare within the Vale of Glamorgan with the care that is available, allowing us to identify any gaps in provision.

The data used in the gap analysis has been extracted from the following sections of the full report:

- Factors affecting demand and ability to pay
- Analysis of the supply of childcare
- Consultation with parents and carers
- Consultation with childcare providers
- Consultation with other key stakeholders

The wards in the Vale of Glamorgan have been analysed by broader geographic area, to ensure suitably sized samples of respondents:

- **Barry** – Baruc, Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleland, Court, Dyfan, Gibbonsdown and Illtyd.
 - **Central and Western Vale** – Cowbridge, Llandow-Ewenny, Llantwit Major, Peterston-Super-Ely, Rhoose, St Athan and St Brides Major.
 - **Eastern Vale** – Cornerswell, Dinas Powys, Llandough, Plymouth, Stanwell, St Augustine, Sully and Wenvoe.

1.2.2 Geographical Gaps

The analysis of supply highlighted that provision of childcare is not evenly distributed across the Vale of Glamorgan. There are 120 providers in Barry, 89 in the Eastern Vale and 83 in the Central and Western Vale. While it is to be expected that, as the most populous place in the Vale, Barry would have more childcare providers, even within these geographical areas certain wards have far more providers than others. In Barry, Illtyd has 29 providers but Dyfan has 5. In the Eastern Vale, Dinas Powys has 18 providers while Llandough has 5. In the Central and Western Vale, Llantwit Major has 35 but Llandow/Ewenny has only 2.

The same is true when looking at the distribution of childcare places. Barry and the Eastern Vale have 1504 places and 1501 places respectively, while the Central and Western Vale has only 1237. In Barry, Buttrills has 423 places while Dyfan has 48. In the Eastern Vale,

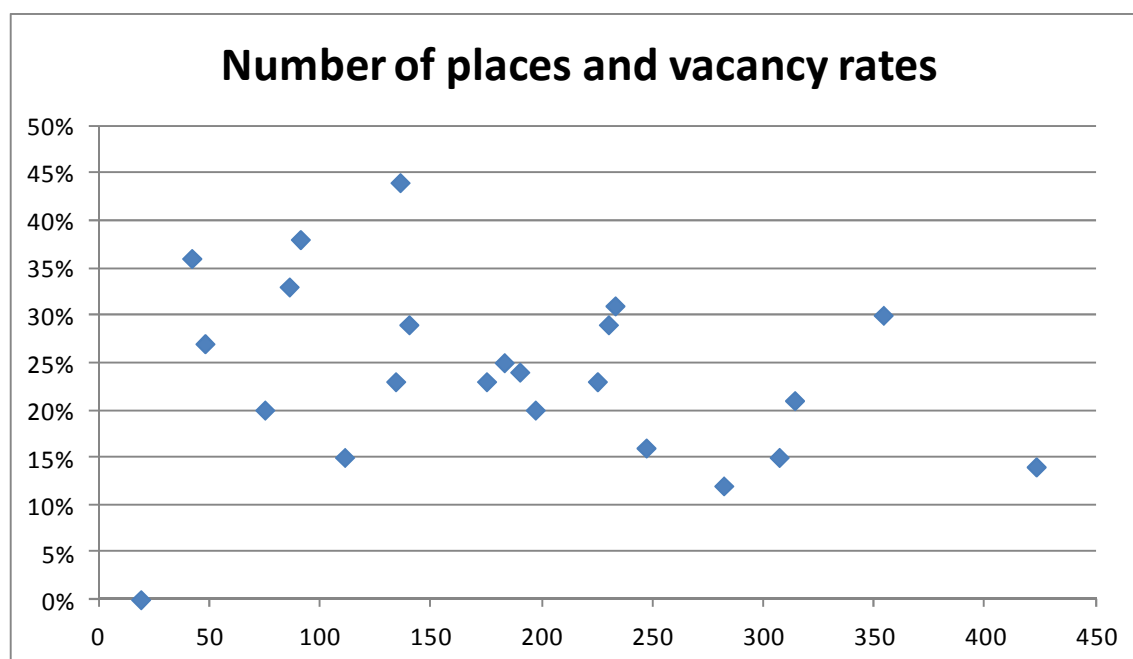
Dinas Powys has 307 places but Llandough has 91. This range is more pronounced in the Central and Western Vale: Peterston-Super-Ely has 247 places while Llandow/Ewenny has only 19.

When looking at the vacancy rates for each ward, it does not necessarily seem to follow that those areas with fewest places have the highest relative take up¹. While this is the case in Llandow/Ewenny, where there are only 19 places and there were no vacancies as of September 2013, other wards do not follow this pattern.

The most saturated ward in terms of childcare provision, Buttrills, had one of the lowest vacancy rates - 14%. This is 10% lower than the average vacancy rate for the Vale. This suggests that the level of childcare in Buttrills is suitable for the current population but that there may be little room to take on extra children in the future. The situation is comparable in Dinas Powys where 15% of 307 places were vacant.

However, despite there only being 42 places available in Castleland, 36% of these were vacant in September 2013. Similarly, 38% of the 91 places available in Llandough were vacant. This seems to suggest that demand for childcare is not particularly high in these areas as even the small number of places are not full.

Figure 1 – Number of places and vacancy rates



¹ Vacancy data represents a snapshot in time during September 2013. As a result, this does not include holiday provision. 80% of providers reported their vacancies.

As shown above, there appears to be a weak negative correlation between the number of places available and the vacancy rate. **Figure 1** shows that, in general, the lower the number of places the higher the vacancy rate. There are anomalies, such as Llandow/Ewenny with a low number of places and a low vacancy rate, and Cowbridge with a high number of places and a relatively high vacancy rate (354 and 30%).

In Llandow/Ewenny, the low number of places combined with the low vacancy rate suggests that there may be a need for greater access to childcare in this ward. It is not possible to support this assertion with comments from the parent and carer survey as only two respondents said that they lived in Llandow/Ewenny. Similarly, with Dyfan, although 72% of respondents who currently use childcare said that they would like to see childcare available in additional locations within the Vale of Glamorgan, this only amounts to 5 respondents in total. As such, it is difficult to definitively say that parents and carers living in wards with the fewest childcare places available would like to see more nearby.

Although the negative correlation does suggest that, on the whole, more places are available in the areas where there is greater demand for childcare, as demonstrated by the higher take up of places in these areas, there are anomalies. There may be opportunities to strategically assess the geographical distribution of childcare and conduct focussed pieces of work in defined areas to ensure that the Vale meets the needs of its resident population.

1.2.3 Income Gaps

Cost appears to be less of a barrier to accessing childcare than it was. 12% of parents and carers cited cost as a reason for not accessing childcare, compared to the 27% who did in 2011. When making comparisons with 2011, it is important to note that we did not survey the same sample of parents and carers for both assessments, although we did have a similar sample size each time. Any comparisons must act as guidance only and must not be viewed as absolute.

However, there were further suggestions that cost may not pose as great a barrier to accessing childcare as it did three years ago. Only 21% of respondents told us that the childcare they used was not value for money. While this was a higher level of dissatisfaction than respondents demonstrated when asked about other areas, this further signifies that cost may not be a major barrier to the majority of respondents.

It would be of use to understand why cost does not seem to act as such a great barrier to childcare three years on. This may be because a higher percentage of respondents to the recent survey are using cheaper forms of provision. When looking at responses from parents and carers, 28% said that they used free breakfast clubs, 4% said that they used paid breakfast clubs and 26% said that they used after school clubs. These proportions are higher than in 2011, when 13% of respondents said that they used breakfast clubs (free and paid were not assessed separately) and 16% said that they used after school clubs. Out of school care is, on average, the cheapest form of formal childcare in the Vale, when excluding crèches of which there are only two. Free breakfast clubs form part of the free breakfast initiative, so parents and carers are not required to pay for them and those parents who use the other forms of out of school care are paying less per hour on average.

This would seem to support childminders' assertion that they were losing business to the cheaper out of school care providers. However, vacancy rates for childminders have fallen while vacancy rates for out of school care have increased, with little change in the number of places available. This counteracts the results of the consultation, which suggest that take up of the cheaper forms of provision has increased to the detriment of childminders. As these vacancy rates do not take into account the free breakfast clubs, which proved popular amongst parents and carers, we cannot accurately assess whether the use of these has had an impact on attitudes towards the cost of childcare. Further research into the use of free initiatives may help cast more light on this issue and allow for useful steps to be taken towards eradicating the problem of cost.

A greater percentage of respondents from the Eastern Vale said that the childcare they used was not value for money – 24%, compared to 18% in Barry and 13% in the Central and Western Vale. This higher level of dissatisfaction may be a symptom of the highest costs per hour being charged in the Eastern Vale. For each type of care (out of school, childminder, crèche, sessional and day nursery) the highest hourly fee was charged in a ward located in the Eastern Vale. Moreover, the average cost per hour for all types of childcare was highest in the Eastern Vale - £3.99 compared to £3.95 in the Central and Western Vale and £3.60 in Barry. While the average costs do not vary extensively, the difference in the range of costs available is more acute.

Costs have not increased greatly since 2011 – this may partly explain why cost is not as much a barrier as it was three years ago. The average cost of childcare per hour in the Vale of Glamorgan has only increased from £3.84, at the time of the last CSA, to £3.88. However,

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according to the recent surveys, 50% of childminders and 70% of childcare providers intend to increase their fees in the next three years. This may lead to cost again becoming a greater barrier to accessing childcare, particularly as childminders have either attempted to and failed to raise costs or been worried about raising costs in the past three years as they are worried that they will price themselves out of the market.

1.2.4 Specific Needs Gaps

Children with Disabilities or Additional Learning Needs

There are 57 registered childcare settings in the Vale of Glamorgan that currently provide care for a child with a disability or special need, with over one third of these being with childminders. There are 191 settings that are able to cater for children with a disability or special need, with at least one in each ward, but only 124 settings with wheelchair access.

Settings have differing areas of experience, with 71% having some level of experience – the most common areas of experience are caring for children with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties (148), allergies (140) and dietary needs (123). The least common areas of experience are chronic illness (53), mental health (53) and physical disability (74).

Despite the number of settings able to care for children with a disability or special need and the differing areas of experience, there was a strong current of opinion amongst parents and carers that there needs to be more childcare available in the Vale of Glamorgan that carers for children with additional needs. 90% of those who responded agreed that more care of this nature is necessary. In addition, only 25% of respondents who have a child with a disability or additional learning need currently use childcare provision based in the Vale, others travel to Bridgend or Cardiff or care for their child themselves. 45% of parents or carers with a child with an additional need explicitly told us that they struggle to access the care required.

Childcare providers, mainly childminders, and other organisations, such as Wales Pre-School Providers Association and Clybiau Plant Cymru, recognise that there is a gap in provision for children with additional or specific needs.

As there is already a range of care available with mainstream providers for children with a disability or additional need and 20% of childcare providers plan to increase provision for these children, there may not be so much a gap in the number of places available but rather in the type of provision available. These results would suggest that there is a strong desire for more specialist care to become available. This is supported by demand data provided by FIS – there has been an increase in enquiries for special needs care and support since 2011.

It is also worth noting that, at the moment, there are no childcare settings that solely care for children with disabilities.

1.2.5 Time Gaps

There was a great desire amongst parents and carers for there to be more childcare available during school holidays and outside of working hours.

Childcare Outside of Typical Working Hours

66% of respondents said that they would like to see more childcare available outside of working hours. While respondents were given the opportunity to highlight when specifically they would like to see childcare available outside of working hours, we did not receive enough suggestions to make a considered assessment of the situation. Interestingly, the desire for greater access to childcare outside of working hours was felt most strongly in the Central and Western Vale. However, the Central and Western Vale also had the greatest number of spaces before 7.30am (224) and after 6pm (265) when compared to Barry (113 and 77) and the Eastern Vale (125 and 35). This may suggest that respondents from the Central and Western Vale are more interested in greater access to childcare during the weekend. As we do not have data to support this assertion, it may be worthwhile further investigating care outside of working hours in more detail.

School Holiday Childcare

74% of respondents said that they would like to see more childcare available during school holidays. These responses tally with the supply data provided by FIS. Only 65% of the number of places that are available during term time are available during school holidays. Notably, there are no places available in St. Brides Major during the school holidays where there are 390 children. Although we know that children from St. Brides Major do attend holiday provision in Pencoed, we cannot assume that this is a reasonable solution for everyone.

The lack of holiday provision is not isolated to St. Brides Major. There are 154.3 children per place in Llandow/Ewenny and 46.2 children per place in Dyfan. Two further wards in Barry have more than 30 children per place during the school holidays – Cadoc and Court. St. Athan has 27.7 children per place during the school holidays.

Wards in the Eastern Vale have fewer children per place, on the whole, during both school holidays and term time. Overall, there is a 41% increase in children per place during the

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school holidays in the Eastern Vale. While this seems relatively high, the increase is more pronounced in Barry, 53% more children per place, and in the Central and Western Vale, 71% more children per place.

While a reduction in the number of places is not surprising, as breakfast clubs and after-school do not operate during school holidays, it seems that there is not enough suitable provision available to compensate for the lack of these. As demonstrated by the number of children per place, this is particularly the case in the Central and Western Vale. Since 2011, the number of children per place during the school holidays has decreased by 3%, from 9.3 to 9.0. However, the results of this CSA suggest that further reductions are needed.

Problems with childcare during the school holidays were not just focussed on the number of places available. One of the greatest concerns raised about existing school holiday provision was that the hours and days provided are not suitable for working parents. Unfortunately, we do not have access to data detailing the times and dates that school holiday provision is available but we do know that 14% of all enquiries to FIS are about school holiday activities and that this has increased since 2011. As parents and carers noted their anxieties about the scheduling of school holiday provision, further investigation may be worthwhile to discover how the Vale can better provide support.

1.2.6 Age Gaps

There were no noticeable age related trends highlighted by the consultation with parents and carers. A few concerns were raised in isolation by certain respondents. These included a lack of suitable childcare for children aged 4 and below, particularly during school holidays. Three comments also referred to children not being old enough to attend the preferred type of provision, namely breakfast clubs and Cylchoedd Meithrin.

The lack of comments made by parents and carers about provision for specific age groups is positive. It suggests that, on the whole, there is already suitable provision available for children aged from birth upwards. While the number of places for children aged 5-11 has decreased by 3%, the number of places for children aged 0-4 has increased by 9%. The responses from the consultation did not highlight any problems with reduced access to care for children aged 5-11. As a result, this does not need to be an area of concern for us.

1.2.7 Type Gaps

Welsh Medium Provision

A very low number of parent/carer respondents said that they used Welsh medium childcare and the Cylchoedd Meithrin have a vacancy rate of 30%, 6% higher than the average vacancy rate for all provision across the Vale. The majority of childminders reported that they did not think that there was a demand for Welsh medium care – very few childminders spoke in Welsh with the children or were asked to speak in Welsh with the children, even if they cared for Welsh speaking children. A total of 38% of respondents said that they would like to see more Welsh language and bilingual provision in the Vale of Glamorgan,. Although this may appear to be a relatively low proportion of respondents, it is very encouraging especially due to 11% of the County's population are Welsh speaking. This was lower than all other suggestions for improvements where more than 50% of respondents noted their support.

Although there was only minimal interest in increasing and improving Welsh medium provision, this level of interest may be reflective of the Welsh speaking population in the Vale. In addition to this, there has already been an increase in Welsh medium provision since 2011. In 2011 only 4% of places were in settings where Welsh was used a significant amount. This has increased to 10%. This increase may have played some part in meeting the demands for Welsh medium provision that were highlighted by parents and carers in 2011.

There are further plans to increase the number of Welsh medium places in the Vale. 29% of childminders said that they plan to increase their use of the Welsh language and 19% of childcare providers said that they are going to increase the number of Welsh medium places that they provide. It is promising that the future plans of childminders and childcare providers are in line with the desires of parents and carers.

Choice of Childcare

When parents and carers were asked about their thoughts on the current childcare market, the lowest levels of satisfaction focussed on the choice of childcare available in the Vale. 28% of respondents were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Levels of dissatisfaction were similar in Barry and the Eastern Vale, 22% and 21% respectively. However, in the Central and Western Vale 40% of respondents said that they were dissatisfied with the choice of childcare available to them. This is to be expected as 73% of childcare providers are located in only three of seven wards. In addition, only 28% of childcare providers in the Vale are located in the Central and Western Vale. Parents and carers noted that they had to

travel a fair distance in order to access their chosen type of provider as there is not enough choice available to them locally - three respondents made particular reference to a lack of day nursery places. The responses to the parent/carer survey, combined with the supply data, highlight that there is a lack of access to a suitable choice of provision in certain areas of the Vale and that this problem is focussed in the Central and Western Vale. We did not receive enough responses from parents and carers to be able to accurately assess which particular types of childcare there is more demand for.

1.3 Conclusions/ Next Steps

The number of requests for childcare information has decreased over the last three years by 26% and the number of vacancies has increased by 18%. There has only been a net gain of 126 childcare places since 2011 but the number of places in some wards has fluctuated greatly. In order to respond to the gaps highlighted within this assessment, an action plan for 2014-2017 will be developed.

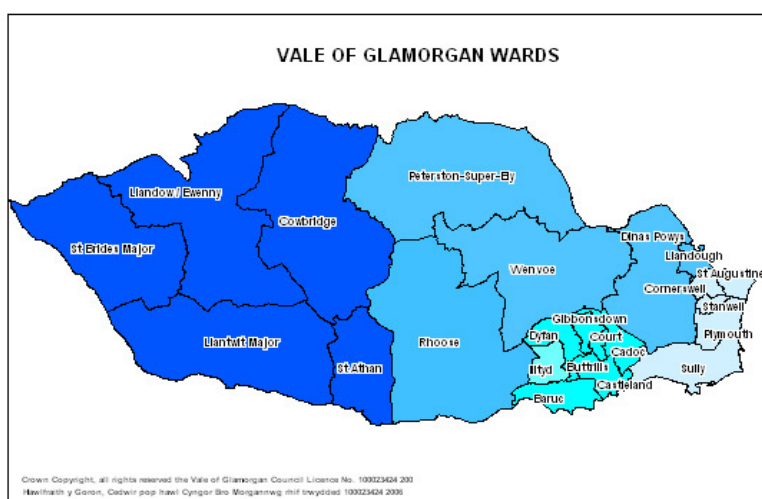
Section 2 – Factors affecting demand and ability to pay

2.1 Introduction

The Vale of Glamorgan is Wales' most southern Unitary Authority. It lies immediately west of Cardiff between the M4 and the Severn Estuary. It covers 33097 hectares (331 square miles) with 53 kilometres of coastline, of which 19 kilometres is Heritage Coast.²

There are 23 electoral wards in the Vale of Glamorgan but of these the eight considered to be rural cover approximately 80% of the area. Mid-year estimates for 2012, that the population of the Vale **122,018** with Barry being the largest town with a population of approximately **51,500**. It is the Vale's administrative centre, a seaside resort and port. Four miles to the west of the town centre, at Rhooose is Cardiff International Airport.

Figure 2 – Vale of Glamorgan Wards



2.2 Population of children

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid-year estimates for 2012 is that the population of the Vale of Glamorgan is 122,018. There are 37,045 children and young people aged between 0-24 in the Vale of Glamorgan, approximately 29% of the estimated total population. For 2012 it is estimated there are 23,814 children and young people aged between 0-15yrs and 13,231 aged between 16 and 24. This is a slight decline in number for both age groups over the last three years. This small decline in the number of children and young people aged 0-25 has been estimated to continue in the population projections for the Vale of Glamorgan.

¹ Facts and figures booklet published by the Vale of Glamorgan Council
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2.3 Projected changes in the child and young people population

The projected number of children (age 0-14) is forecast to rise from 21,090 in 2012 to 23,310 in 2030.

2.4 Numbers of vulnerable children

The principal aim of Children and Young People Services (formally Social Services) is to ensure quality services reach those vulnerable children, young people and their families assessed as being 'in need'.

There are many reasons why people get in touch with Children and Young People Services:

For example:

- to ask for help for a disabled child or young person
- because a child or young person has been harmed by someone
- because a child or young person is not being cared for adequately
- the child or young person's parents or carers need help with their own difficulties

Child in need support

If it is decided that the child or young person requires a service and support, a written Child in Need Plan will be developed and agreed with the family detailing the support to be provided, what the family must do for themselves and how long the services may be provided. This plan is then reviewed at regular intervals.

Safeguarding – Child Protection support

If the child or young person has been harmed or there is reason to believe he/she may suffer harm, a multi agency Child Protection Conference may be convened. Professionals and the family share all the information and concerns and if the child or young person's name is included on the Child Protection Register, the Conference will develop an outline Child Protection Plan with the family. This plan is developed through a multi agency Core Group and reviewed regularly by subsequent Child Protection Review Conferences.

Looked After services

For some children and young people it is necessary for them to be Looked After by the Council. This may need to happen because a parent is unable to cope with the pressures

of caring for a child or because it is not safe for them to remain living at home. In such cases a plan will be agreed with the parent, child or young person and any other professionals involved to ensure all their needs are addressed. This plan will be regularly reviewed by an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO). Many children and young people become Looked After because of child protection concerns.

Welsh Government initiatives set up to support families and children, Flying Start, Families First and Communities First, play a part in not only tackling poverty but by also providing services to assist vulnerable children & their families. Whilst there is 'no measure' for this, it certainly supports some of the issues that may come to light.

An assisted places scheme developed through the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership was also piloted in September 2012 in the Vale of Glamorgan to support children in need and children with a disability. The project continues to grow from strength to strength supporting disadvantaged children and their families. Referrals are made via, Children & Young People's Services, Health Visitors, Child Health and Disability team etc

Figure 3 below shows data regarding number of vulnerable children from 1 April 2011 up until 1 April 2013.

Since the last figures published in the 2010 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report, there seems to be only slight variations in the figures provided. This would be down to a natural variation rather than any major changes in services.

Figure 3 01-April-2011

01-Apr-11	0 - 4 years	5 - 11 years	12 - 17 years	Totals
Child Protection	43	21	29	93
Looked After Children	55	98	45	198
Child In Need	201	310	387	898
	299	429	461	1189

01-April - 2012

01-Apr-12	0 - 4 years	5 - 11 years	12 - 17 years	Totals
Child Protection	46	29	40	115
Looked After Children	56	108	53	217
Child In Need	172	240	246	658
	274	377	339	990

01-April - 2013

01-Apr-13	0 - 4 years	5 - 11 years	12 - 17 years	Totals
Child Protection	55	24	45	124
Looked After Children	35	85	51	171
Child In Need	185	244	252	681
	275	353	348	976

2.5 Welsh language profile

In 2010, it was reported that the demand for Welsh-medium schools had increased substantially to the extent that current demand exceeded capacity especially in Barry and the rural Vale. As a result of the Welsh medium survey carried out in July and August 2009, two new seed schools were established – one in Llantwit Major Ysgol Dewi Sant and one in Barry Ysgol Nant Talwg - to meet the demands of parents wishing to place their child in education through the medium of Welsh.

Cylch Meithrin Llanilltud Fawr continues to provide pre-school support to children who feed into Ysgol Dewi Sant. The Cylch has recently moved premises and is offering afternoon provision as well as wraparound care and the existing Cylch Meithrin Bethesda is operating a wrap around lunch service for children attending Ysgol Nant Talwg.

Mudiad Meithrin (formally Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin) staff continues to work closely with this setting along with other Cylchoedd in the Vale of Glamorgan to support and develop Welsh medium childcare provision.

In addition to these new seed schools, the Local Authority is proposing to further expand Welsh medium school provision in the Barry area due to increased demand. A consultation document is currently out for discussion regarding expanding an existed primary school, Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant with any views and comments to be with the Local Authority in January 2014.

The Vale of Glamorgan Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2014-17 is currently out for consultation (November 2013) with the document being submitted to Welsh Government in March 2014. The Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) represents on the WESP to consider Welsh-medium childcare – the intention to improve current situations, plans to further develop and sustain childcare, parental demand and future plans when considering provision of school places.

Since the last full CSA report in 2010, the EYDCP has provided financial support to a number of existing childcare settings to develop or sustain Welsh medium provisions in 2012-13. Funding in 2013-14 has been committed to support the set up of a new Cylch Meithin in the vicinity of the proposed expansion Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant School.

Figure 4 below shows the Census 2011 report on the Welsh Language

Figure 4 - Census 2011 – Report on the Welsh Language - All people aged 3 and over in the Vale of Glamorgan

Ward	Number of people in age group				Percentage of People in age group who can speak welsh			Percentage of people in age group with one or more skills in Welsh		
	All people aged 3 and over	3 – 15	16 – 66	65 & over	3 - 15	16 – 64	65 and over	3 - 15	16 – 64	65 and over
	122,018									
Baruc	6,100	914	3,949	1,237	5.1	7.1	1.2	6.2	11.2	2.4
Buttrills	6,062	1,073	4,037	952	5.9	5.5	0.4	7.2	8.9	0.9
Cadoc	9,551	1,685	6,749	1,117	5.9	4.7	0.2	7.1	7.5	0.6
Castleland	4,604	804	3,320	480	4.8	4.3	0.3	6.1	7.3	0.6
Cornerswell	5,187	865	3,368	954	5.1	5.3	0.6	6.6	9.0	1.4
Court	4,523	862	3,028	633	6.1	4.4	0.2	7.4	7.3	0.5
Cowbridge	6,037	810	3,538	1,689	4.1	5.4	2.4	5.0	9.7	4.5
Dinas Powys	7,589	1,067	4,568	1,954	3.9	4.7	1.4	5.1	7.7	2.3
Dyfan	5,004	734	3,179	1,091	4.6	5.4	1.0	5.7	8.5	2.0
Gibbonsdown	5,602	1,085	3,647	870	5.2	4.2	0.3	6.6	6.5	1.0
Iltyd	7,918	1,280	5,206	1,432	4.7	5.6	0.8	5.8	8.9	1.7
Llandough	1,923	253	1,245	425	3.9	3.5	0.9	5.1	7.4	1.5
Llandow/Ewenny	2,580	443	1,609	528	5.5	7.6	1.6	7.5	12.3	3.8
Llantwit Major	10,270	1,530	6,760	1,980	4.2	4.5	0.9	5.2	8.1	1.9
Peterston-super-Ely	2,221	402	1,367	452	5.6	5.7	1.3	6.9	9.5	2.3
Plymouth	5,658	887	3,210	1,561	4.6	5.4	1.5	5.5	8.4	2.6
Rhose	6,686	1,082	4,466	1,138	4.5	5.6	0.4	5.6	9.0	1.2
St Athan	4,322	803	3,057	462	4.5	3.2	0.3	6.3	5.7	0.8
St Augustine's	6,278	789	4,405	1,084	3.3	6.3	1.1	4.4	10.5	1.8
St. Brides Major	2,585	354	1,634	597	3.3	5.2	1.9	4.6	9.6	3.8
Stanwell	4,275	800	2,742	733	5.4	5.5	0.9	6.8	9.0	1.6
Sully	4,445	622	2,810	1,013	3.4	4.0	1.3	4.2	7.0	2.4
Wenvoe	2,598	370	1,555	673	5.2	5.8	2.4	6.2	9.1	3.3

2.6 Numbers of disabled children

Families or carers of children with disabilities or complex needs often face greater physical and emotional demands in caring for their children and so require a greater level of support to maintain the necessary care. Without adequate support there can be the risk of family breakdown and the potential need for future accommodation of the child.

It is predicted that 2,038 children and young people in the Vale of Glamorgan (aged 0 – 17yrs) have a disability and it is predicted that this will rise to 2,115 by 2020 and 2,206 by 2025

Learning Disability

It is predicted that there will be a slight increase in the number of children with learning difficulties in the Vale of Glamorgan by 2030 which may increase demand for services.

Figure 5: Predicted numbers of pupils with learning difficulties, 2012-30

	2012	2015	2020	2025	2030
Children aged 0-17 with a moderate learning difficulty	1,000	1,003	1,037	1,082	1,084
Children aged 0-17 with a severe learning difficulty	129	130	134	140	140
Children aged 0-17 with a profound learning difficulty	32	32	33	34	35
Children aged 5 – 17 with a learning difficulty, predicted to display challenging behaviour	9	9	9	10	10
People aged 18-24 predicted to have a learning disability	279	273	252	229	262
People aged 18-24 predicted to have a moderate or severe learning disability	64	63	59	54	62
People aged 18-24 with a learning disability, predicted to display challenging behaviour	5	5	4	4	4

Source: Daffodil

Disability Index – Register of disabled children

As reported in 2010/11, the Vale of Glamorgan's Disability Index was established in co-operation between health, education and social services and was launched in April 2005. It is kept by the Child Health and Disabilities team (formally Children with disabilities team) with the administration of the Index being maintained by the Family Information Service team.

In August 2013 there were 262 children and young people aged between 1 and 18 registered on the Vale of Glamorgan's Disability Index a slight increase on 205 children & young people that was reported 3 years ago. The criteria for being registered remain the same in that the child or young person is in receipt of Disability Living allowance. When signing up for the Disability Index parent/carers are asked to state the primary reason for the registration as well as listing any other associated disabilities/difficulties. (Source: Vale of Glamorgan Council).

Early Years & Childcare support for children with disabilities/additional needs

Cyfle Cyntaf/First Opportunities

This organisation was set up to help families contact local mother and toddler groups, playgroups and nurseries. They may be able to help parents/carers if they have any problems in finding a group which feel is suitable for both the parent and the child.

A Co-ordinator acts as a link between families, group organisers and helpers by arranging introductions and organising extra help or support for groups if they require it. Careful attention is given to the individual needs of each child and parent, so that they can be introduced to the most appropriate group. The Scheme can provide possible funding, to playgroups that are taking children with additional needs, to help pay for an extra helper if required, plus occasional help with fees and transport to and from playgroup.

Between April 2013 - March 2014, **41** children aged between 2 – 3 yrs in the Vale of Glamorgan are on the Scheme. These children attend on average 2 or 3 sessions in early year's settings per week and present with a number of different disabilities/needs including: Cerebral Palsy, mobility issues, speech and language delay, challenging behaviour, developmental delay etc.

Rainbows group

This group is run in partnership with the Families First Disability Strand funding and Flying Start with the group catering for children with special and additional needs. In April 2013, Rainbows expanded its geographical area to cover the whole of the Vale. It runs every Wednesday afternoon during term time at the Flying Start family Centre.

The Childcare Development worker liaises closely with generic Health Visitors and Child Health and Disability Team in addition to the Flying Start team to ensure that professionals are aware of the group and what can be offered to families.

Rainbows caters for children from birth until they start full time education and have a wide range of special/additional needs including Cerebral Palsy, Downs Syndrome, and heart conditions to name a few. A wide range of age and stage appropriate activities which caters for each child's individual needs are provided (with specialist equipment on hand which is also loaned to parents) particularly focussing on sensory play – a sensory room and a garden with adapted equipment is also available.

There are regular visitors to the group including student nurses and Health Visitors, Makaton teacher, Librarian, Portage worker, special needs Health Visitor and fire service.

Adventure Rangers

This group is funded through the Families First Disability Stand with the group catering for children with special and additional needs. It runs every Monday 4pm – 5:15pm during term



time at Ty Robin Goch, Barry. Children aged 4 – 11yrs with a disability or additional need attend with their parents/carers – siblings welcome to attend. The Child Health & Disability team support this group.

Sense of Play Project

In 2012, the Sense of Play Project was set up and designed by professionals in the Vale of Glamorgan for pre-school children with special or additional needs.



The sessions run for a period of six weeks in the family home and will meet the individual needs of the child and family.

Referrals can be made by professionals or parents.

Assisted Places Scheme

The Assisted Places Scheme is directed by the Early Years Development & childcare Partnership (EYDCP) in the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Funding is available from the Out of Schools Childcare Grant, a Welsh Government initiative, to support a child with a disability/additional need or a child in need. An agency/organisation can refer a child to the scheme.

The funding allocation is towards supporting the child in a childcare place for children in pre-school settings and out of school childcare provision.

Inclusive Play

In 2012, funding for play services was greatly reduced. However, some open access playschemes were run over the summer but on a much reduced level when compared with previous years. Funding from the Local Authority was made available and 14 days provisions were offered to children; venues were carefully chosen for their suitability to enable disabled children to access. Personal Care and a nurse were made available to ensure that disabled children were able to fully participate in the provision offered – this element was funded through the Disability Strand of Families First programme.



Playschemes are run on an open access basis, offering free play opportunities to children and young people with a target age of 4-11 years.

The summer of 2013 was an extremely positive summer of play in the Vale. The Vale's Sports & Play Development Team ran an exciting programme of play activities which saw a high number of participations from both disabled and non disabled children. In addition to delivering playschemes, the Sports & Play Development

Team organised vibrant family fun days and delivered play activities at various events across the Vale, all of which benefitted from the great weather enjoyed during the summer months.

12 days of playscheme were held during the summer, 6 days over two weeks in Murch Community Centre (Dinas Powys) and 6 days over two weeks in Palmerston Community Learning Centre (Barry). Attendance figures for the Playschemes were very positive.

Murchfield Playscheme

Breakdown of number of children attending Murch playscheme by age (week 1 & 2)

Age	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total
Number	5	21	32	12	18	20	9	6	3	1	127

Palmerston Playscheme

Breakdown of number of children attending Murch playscheme by age (week 3 & 4)

Age	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Number	7	30	41	24	23	27	16	13	3	184

Play Aloud project

Play Aloud is a partnership project between the Vale of Glamorgan Council (Sports & Play Development Team), Cardiff Council (Children's Play Services), the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services, Cardiff Third Sector Council, Parents Federation and Recreate Cardiff & the Vale. It is funded by the Big Lottery Child's Play funding stream and is a three year project (May 2011 – May 2014).

The project aims to create sustainable community based play opportunities by identifying and supporting community volunteers to facilitate future play provision.

The Play Aloud playworkers have set up open access play provision within identified communities and have been liaising with local community members in schools, village groups and other organisations in an attempt to identify volunteers to assist and eventually lead on the continuation of the play provision once the Play Aloud team has withdrawn from the area. If they demonstrate an interest, the volunteers are provided with opportunities to attend training and receive mentoring to provide them with the skills necessary to facilitate ongoing play opportunities. During the summer period the Play Aloud team have been offering open access play opportunities in both Barry Island and Cowbridge. Registration figures for these areas during the summer period can be seen in **figure 6**

Figure 6 Registration figures for Barry Island and Cowbridge

Barry Island			Cowbridge		
8 sessions per week at Maslin Park, Barry Island Beach, The Green, Barry Island School Garden, Jackson Bay and Romilly Park			5 sessions per week at Twt Park, Twt Field & Cowbridge Scout Hall		
Under 5	18	37	Under 5	25	37
5	20	27	5	12	11
6	15	12	6	15	16
7	30	15	7	13	19
8	10	24	8	7	12
9	23	42	9	5	0
10	29	40	10	3	0
11	16	22	11	1	2
12	4	10	12	1	0
13	2	9	13	0	0
14	1	1	14	0	0
15	2	0	15	0	0

Disability summer sports scheme

Eighteen children and young people attended the disability summer sport camps over the summer holidays thanks to funding from the Out of Schools Childcare Funding.

Coaches from Post2Post delivered activities throughout the 5 days which included football, Dodgeball, tennis, basketball, Boccia and many more. Badminton Wales also provided coaches to run sessions that all the participants took part in.

Dragon Cross fit also provided a cross fit for kid's session attended



by all participants. Siblings were also welcome to participate in the disability sport camps as this increases people's awareness of inclusion and how easy it can be.



2.7 Household type or family composition

Figure 7 provides information from The 2011 Census giving a breakdown of family composition

Household Composition - Households (QS113EW)				The Vale of Glamorgan	Wales
				Unitary Authority	Country
All Households	Count	Households	Mar-11	53505	1302676
One Person Household; Total	Count	Households	Mar-11	15851	400768
One Family Only; Total	Count	Households	Mar-11	34717	817464
One Family Only; Married Couple; Total	Count	Households	Mar-11	18596	426587
One Family Only; Married Couple; One Dependent Child	Count	Households	Mar-11	3224	70746
One Family Only; Married Couple; Two or More Dependent Children	Count	Households	Mar-11	5034	110466
One Family Only; Same-Sex Civil Partnership Couple; Total	Count	Households	Mar-11	75	1213
One Family Only; Same-Sex Civil Partnership Couple; One Dependent Child	Count	Households	Mar-11	8	84
One Family Only; Same-Sex Civil Partnership Couple; Two or More Dependent Children	Count	Households	Mar-11	6	44
One Family Only; Cohabiting Couple; One Dependent Child	Count	Households	Mar-11	1168	28079
One Family Only; Cohabiting Couple; Two or More Dependent Children	Count	Households	Mar-11	1248	30705
One Family Only; Lone Parent; Total	Count	Households	Mar-11	6009	147940
One Family Only; Lone Parent; One Dependent Child	Count	Households	Mar-11	2248	57012
One Family Only; Lone Parent; Two or More Dependent Children	Count	Households	Mar-11	1783	41129
Other Household Types; Total	Count	Households	Mar-11	2937	84444
Other Household Types; With One Dependent Child	Count	Households	Mar-11	619	15549
Other Household Types; With Two or More Dependent Children	Count	Households	Mar-11	515	13060

Office for National Statistics: Last Updated: 30 January 2013

2.8 Ethnic background

Figure 8 shows the ethnic population in the Vale of Glamorgan as at 30th January 2013 - Office for National Statistics

Variable	Measure			The Vale of Glamorgan	Wales
				Unitary Authority	Country
All Usual Residents	Count	Persons	Mar-11	126,336	3,063,456
White; English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	Count	Persons	Mar-11	119,212	2,855,450
White; Irish	Count	Persons	Mar-11	639	14,086
White; Gypsy or Irish Traveller	Count	Persons	Mar-11	21	2,785
White; Other White	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1,966	55,932
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups; White and Black Caribbean	Count	Persons	Mar-11	629	11,099
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups; White and Black African	Count	Persons	Mar-11	247	4,424
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups; White and Asian	Count	Persons	Mar-11	431	9,019
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups; Other Mixed	Count	Persons	Mar-11	388	6,979
Asian/Asian British; Indian	Count	Persons	Mar-11	566	17,256
Asian/Asian British; Pakistani	Count	Persons	Mar-11	216	12,229
Asian/Asian British; Bangladeshi	Count	Persons	Mar-11	121	10,687
Asian/Asian British; Chinese	Count	Persons	Mar-11	454	13,638
Asian/Asian British; Other Asian	Count	Persons	Mar-11	610	16,318
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British; African	Count	Persons	Mar-11	165	11,887
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British; Caribbean	Count	Persons	Mar-11	252	3,809
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British; Other Black	Count	Persons	Mar-11	72	2,580
Other Ethnic Group; Arab	Count	Persons	Mar-11	174	9,615
Other Ethnic Group; Any Other Ethnic Group	Count	Persons	Mar-11	173	5,663

Last Updated: 30 January 2013

Source: Office for National Statistics

Gypsy and Traveller community

A Needs Assessment on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation has recently been undertaken to inform the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) so as to meet the requirements of Sections 225 and 226 of the Housing Act 2004 and in the advice set out in Planning Circular WG 30/2007 in respect of the Gypsy and Traveller community. The main

objective of this study was to assess the need for authorised Gypsy and Traveller site provision within the Vale of Glamorgan. The report was compiled in September 2013.

The assessment shows that there are 4 known sites in the Vale of Glamorgan. Site 1 is a long term site on publicly owned land; Site 2 has permanent planning permission for one pitch, Site 3 the site near Wenvoe is occupied as one pitch and has no planning permissions and Site 4 this site on an old household waste recycling centre near Sully is occupied by a mixture of New Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

2.9 Economic Factors

2.9.1 Index of multiple deprivation

Multiple deprivation

Deprivation is a wider concept than poverty. Poverty means not having enough money (or other essentials) to get by. Deprivation refers to problems caused by a general lack of resources and opportunities (not just money).

The WIMD is made up of eight separate domains (or kinds) of deprivation: Income, employment, health, education, housing, environment, access to services, community safety. Domain indexes have been created to provide information about the specific deprivation related to each domain, in addition to their contribution to the overall index. Domain indexes have to be combined into an overall index of multiple deprivations.

Figure 9 - The following graph shows the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation for the Vale of Glamorgan.

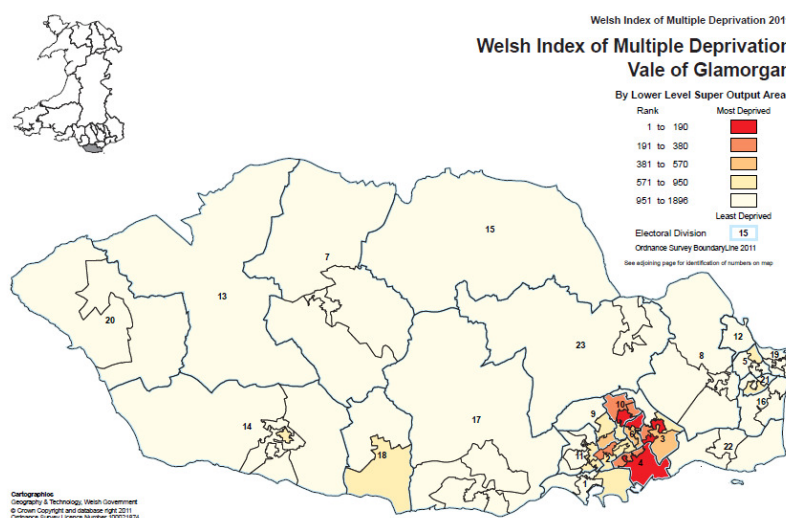


Figure 10 shows the most deprived LSOAs in the Vale of Glamorgan, 2011 WIMD.

Gibbonsdown 2	% of Local Authorities LSOAs in the 10% most deprived of all Welsh LSOAs
Cadoc 4	
Court 3	
Cadoc 1	
Castleland 1	
Buttrills 2	
Gibbonsdown 4	% of Local Authorities LSOAs in the 20% most deprived of all Welsh LSOAs
Gibbonsdown 1	
Castleland 2	
Cadoc 3	
Court 2	
Court 1	
Dyfan 3	
Cadoc 5	% of Local Authorities LSOAs in the 30% most deprived of all Welsh LSOAs
Illyd 4	
Stanwell 3	
Baruc 3	
Llantwit Major 6	

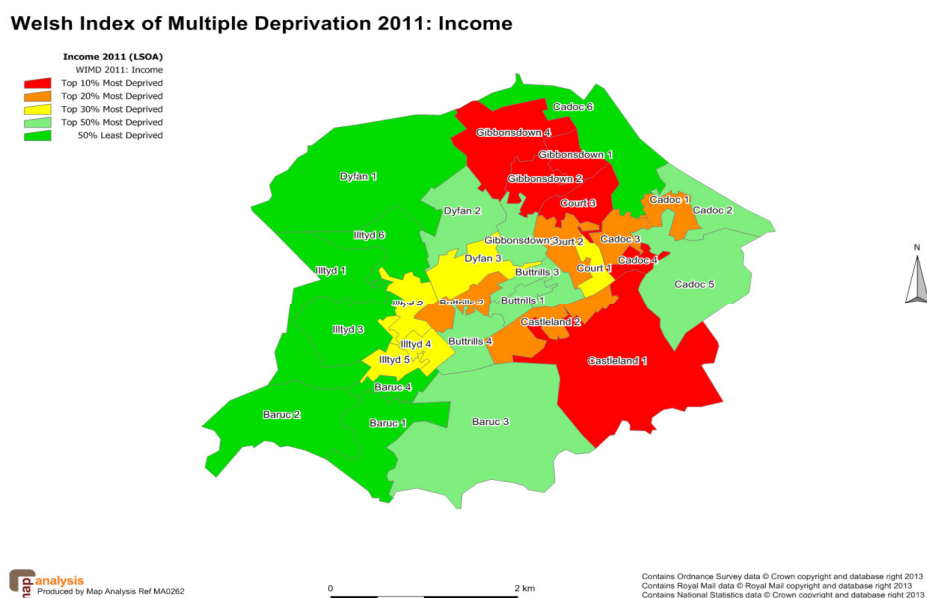
Source: Local Government Data Unit ~ Wales

As reported in the 2008 WIMD, Gibbonsdown 2 still remains the most deprived LSOA in the Vale in 2011, whereas Court 3 now appears as the third most deprived area as opposed to 2nd in 2008.

In respect of patterns of deprivation across Wales, the Vale compares favourably with 80% of Vale Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) outside the bottom 20% most deprived in Wales. Monmouthshire has 98.3% of its LSOAs outside the most deprived 20% LSOAs and Merthyr has just 30.6% of LSOAs outside the bottom 20%.

However, it is important to remember that there are pockets of deprivation throughout the Vale of Glamorgan and particularly Barry. There is a clear picture of income inequality throughout the Vale of Glamorgan and the following graph highlights that six of Barry's LSOAs lie within the top 10% most deprived in Wales, these are located to the east of Barry. The Vale has 10 LSOAs in the bottom 20% of the most deprived LSOAs in Wales according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD).

Figure 11 – the graph below shows the WIMD 2011: Income



2.9.2 Income deprivation affecting children index

Children who live in poverty are deemed to be more vulnerable. They may not only have income poverty, but could also have opportunity poverty. Although the overall percentage of children in poverty in the Vale of Glamorgan is lower than the Welsh average, there are specific geographical areas where the poverty level is greater than the Welsh average. Once again, although the Vale of Glamorgan has amongst the lowest percentage of pupils receiving free school meals in Wales. Data at the local authority level masks clearly disproportionate levels of free school meal take up. A number of geographical areas have been identified as having higher than average percentage of pupils receiving free school meals.

Research carried out by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation has shown that the affect of poverty during the early years of a child's life can have long reaching effects on areas such as health and educational attainment. An example of this being that 85% of pupils not receiving free school meals achieve the Foundation Phase Indicator in the Vale of Glamorgan compared with only 65% of pupils who are receiving free school meals, which highlights a significant inequality gap.

The rate of children in the Vale of Glamorgan who live in workless households has been consistently below the Welsh average and has decreased over the last three years for which data is available (up to 2011).

2.9.3 Percentage of household which are economically active

The 2011 Children and Young People Well-being Monitor reported that although being in employment reduces the risk of living in poverty, recent estimates suggest that more than half of all children living in poverty are now in households where at least one person is working. Although most of these are either self-employed or working part-time.

One of the key findings in the 2011 Children and Young People Well-being Monitor states that nearly one in three (32%) of children in Wales - around 200,000 – now live in poverty, according to a relative income measure.

The Economic Activity of Household reference 2011 census data below in **figure 12** shows that there are 53,505 economical active persons in the Vale of Glamorgan compared with 59,200 persons in 2009/10.

Figure 12 – Economic activity of household

Economic Activity of Household Reference Persons (QS602EW)				The Vale of Glamorgan	Wales
				Unitary Authority	Country
All Household Reference Persons	Count	Persons	Mar-11	53505	1302676
Economically Active; Total	Count	Persons	Mar-11	34774	808775
Economically Active; Employee; Part-Time	Count	Persons	Mar-11	5087	118229
Economically Active; Employee; Full-Time	Count	Persons	Mar-11	22074	506016
Economically Active; Self-Employed With Employees; Part-Time	Count	Persons	Mar-11	168	3795
Economically Active; Self-Employed With Employees; Full-Time	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1644	32375
Economically Active; Self-Employed Without Employees; Part-Time	Count	Persons	Mar-11	983	21728
Economically Active; Self-Employed Without Employees; Full-Time	Count	Persons	Mar-11	3049	75261
Economically Active; Unemployed	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1555	38711
Economically Active; Full-Time Student	Count	Persons	Mar-11	214	12660

Last updated: 30 January 2013 Office for National Statistics

2.9.4 Percentage of households which have a full-time carer

There is no specific data on households which have a full-time carer but the Office for National Statistics have data, see **figure 13** below, on those who are economically inactive and are: looking after home or family, looking after long-term sick or disabled or other.

Figure 13

Economic Activity of Household Reference Persons (QS602EW)				The Vale of Glamorgan Unitary Authority	Wales Country
Economically Inactive; Looking After Home or Family (Persons)	Count	Persons	Mar-11	832	24,913
Economically Inactive; Long-Term Sick or Disabled (Persons)	Count	Persons	Mar-11	2,252	69,033
Economically Inactive; others (Persons)	Count	Persons	Mar-11	690	20,490

Last updated: 30 January 2013

Source: Office for National Statistics

2.9.5 Average kilometres travelled to work

There is no up to date data on the average kilometres travelled to work, the office for National Statistics estimates this to be available in spring 2014. **Figure 14** below shows data reported in last CSA.

Figure 14

		The Vale of Glamorgan i	Wales i
All People Aged 16 to 74 in Employment in Area (Persons) ¹ i	Count	41,207	1,152,932
Works mainly at or from home (Persons) ¹ i	Count	6,248	163,521
Distance travelled to work: Less than 2km (Persons) ¹ i	Count	9,900	247,492
Distance travelled to work: 2km to less than 5km (Persons) ¹ i	Count	6,799	214,911
Distance travelled to work: 5km to less than 10km (Persons) ¹ i	Count	6,782	211,107
Distance travelled to work: 10km to less than 20km (Persons) ¹ i	Count	6,519	184,378
Distance travelled to work: 20km to less than 30km (Persons) ¹ i	Count	2,493	69,491
Distance travelled to work: 30km to less than 40km (Persons) ¹ i	Count	936	25,924
Distance travelled to work: 40km to less than 60km (Persons) ¹ i	Count	682	17,556
Distance travelled to work: 60km and over (Persons) ¹ i	Count	848	18,552

April 2005 Office for National Statistics

2.9.6 Households renting

In March 2011, the Office for National Statistics provided the information below in **Figure 15** regarding the number in households in the Vale of Glamorgan. The areas highlighted in green, gives us information on rented accommodation.

Figure 15 – Households renting

Tenure - People (QS403EW)					
				The Vale of Glamorgan	Wales
				Unitary Authority	Country
All Usual Residents in Households	Count	Persons	Mar-11	124259	3011182
Owned; Total	Count	Persons	Mar-11	91624	2072785
Owned; Owned Outright	Count	Persons	Mar-11	35887	895820
Owned; Owned with a Mortgage or Loan	Count	Persons	Mar-11	55737	1176965
Shared Ownership (Part Owned and Part Rented)	Count	Persons	Mar-11	245	9549
Social Rented; Total	Count	Persons	Mar-11	13505	466309
Social Rented; Rented from Council (Local Authority)	Count	Persons	Mar-11	8607	283006
Social Rented; Other Social Rented	Count	Persons	Mar-11	4898	183303
Private Rented; Total	Count	Persons	Mar-11	17871	426107
Private Rented; Private Landlord or Letting Agency	Count	Persons	Mar-11	15401	382259
Private Rented; Employer of a Household Member	Count	Persons	Mar-11	692	4773
Private Rented; Relative or Friend of Household Member	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1334	32583
Private Rented; Other	Count	Persons	Mar-11	444	6492
Living Rent Free	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1014	36432

Updated: 30th Jan 2013

Source: Office for National Statistic

2.9.7 Average total hours worked

Figure 16 below shows the average total hours worked full time, part-time, by age and gender.

Hours Worked (KS604EW)					
				The Vale of Glamorgan	Wales
				Unitary Authority	Country
All Usual Residents Aged 16 to 74 in Employment	Count	Persons	Mar-11	58978	1363615
Part-Time; 15 Hours or Less Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	5358	125060
Part-Time; 15 Hours or Less Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	9.1	9.2
Part-Time; 16 to 30 Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	12312	286513
Part-Time; 16 to 30 Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	20.9	21
Full-Time; 31 to 48 Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	33652	790605
Full-Time; 31 to 48 Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	57.1	58
Full-Time; 49 or More Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	7656	161437
Full-Time; 49 or More Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	13	11.8
Males; Total	Count	Persons	Mar-11	30655	712960
Males; Total	%	Persons	Mar-11	52	52.3
Males; Part-Time; 15 Hours or Less Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1687	40454
Males; Part-Time; 15 Hours or Less Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	2.9	3
Males; Part-Time; 16 to 30 Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	2976	72667
Males; Part-Time; 16 to 30 Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	5	5.3
Males; Full-Time; 31 to 48 Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	19965	473670
Males; Full-Time; 31 to 48 Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	33.9	34.7
Males; Full-Time; 49 or More Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	6027	126169
Males; Full-Time; 49 or More Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	10.2	9.3
Females; Total	Count	Persons	Mar-11	28323	650655
Females; Total	%	Persons	Mar-11	48	47.7
Females; Part-Time; 15 Hours or Less Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	3671	84606
Females; Part-Time; 15 Hours or Less Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	6.2	6.2
Females; Part-Time; 16 to 30 Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	9336	213846
Females; Part-Time; 16 to 30 Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	15.8	15.7
Females; Full-Time; 31 to 48 Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	13687	316935
Females; Full-Time; 31 to 48 Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	23.2	23.2
Females; Full-Time; 49 or More Hours Worked	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1629	35268
Females; Full-Time; 49 or More Hours Worked	%	Persons	Mar-11	2.8	2.6

Last updated: 30 January 2013

Source: office for national statistics

2.9.8 Worklessness

Figure 17 below shows the Worklessness data of those who are both unemployed and those persons who are economically inactive by age.

Worklessness: Economic Activity, April 2012 - March 2013					
				The Vale of Glamorgan	Wales
				Unitary Authority	Country
Unemployed; Aged 16-64	Count	Persons	Apr12-Mar13	4900	119900
Unemployment Rate; Aged 16-64	%	Persons	Apr12-Mar13	7.9	8.3
Unemployment Rate Confidence Interval; Aged 16-64	% Points	Persons	Apr12-Mar13	1.4	0.4
Economically Inactive; Aged 16-64	Count	Persons	Apr12-Mar13	18500	495700
Economic Inactivity Rate	%	Persons	Apr12-Mar13	23.9	26.2
Economic Inactivity Rate Confidence Interval; Aged 16-64	% Points	Persons	Apr12-Mar13	2.6	0.6

2.9.9 Working Tax Credit take-up

Figure 18 shows the number of families benefiting from WTC, CTC and families with children receiving out of work benefits in the Vale of Glamorgan: as at August 2011 source: Office for National Statistics

Tax Credit Claimants, 2011					
				The Vale of Glamorgan	Wales
Families Receiving; Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	11065	302635
Children in Families Receiving; Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	17635	474445
Families in Work Receiving; Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	8345	226130
Children in Families in Work Receiving; Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	12675	331610
Lone-Parent Families in Work Receiving; Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	2730	62545
Children of Lone-Parent Families in Work Receiving; Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	4110	93610
Families in Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	3770	98950
Children in Families in Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	6465	172265
Families in Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit Above the Family Element	Count	Families	Aug-11	1655	42250
Children in Families in Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit Above the Family Element	Count	Persons	Aug-11	3330	85550
Families in Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit Family Element and Below	Count	Families	Aug-11	2035	52595
Children in Families in Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit Family Element and Below	Count	Persons	Aug-11	2880	73795
Families in Work Receiving; Working Tax Credit Only	Count	Families	Aug-11	890	32330
Families in Work Receiving; Childcare Element of Working Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	830	19140
Lone-Parent Families in Work Receiving; Childcare Element of Working Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	535	10700
Families Out of Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	2715	76510
Children in Families Out of Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	4965	142835
Lone-Parent Families Out of Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	2040	55205
Children of Lone-Parent Families Out of Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	3560	97830
Couple Families Out of Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit	Count	Families	Aug-11	675	21300
Children of Couple Families Out of Work Receiving; Child Tax Credit	Count	Persons	Aug-11	1400	45005

2.9.10 Economic development plans or projections

Housing Supply

The anticipated candidate sites and expected numbers of units contained within the Vale of Glamorgan's Local Development Plan is provided below. The sites don't necessarily have planning permission and won't possibly be delivered but provides a starting point for projections.

Wenvoe Garden Centre	140 dwellings
Llangan Garden Centre	40 dwellings
Rhose Point	700 dwellings
Barry Waterfront	1700 dwellings
St Athan Old Station Yard	23 dwellings
Ogmore by Sea Residential Centre	80 dwellings
Leckwith Road Old Quarry	40 dwellings
Haydock House, Barry	15 dwellings
Marine Hotel	20 dwellings

Given the information above, it will be difficult to anticipate when/if these dwellings are built and therefore will be impossible to forecast the number of families with children that may move into area who may need childcare. It will be crucial to keep these developments under observation to record in future Childcare Sufficiency Assessments.

2.9.10 Key messages

Population

Mid-year estimates for 2012, that the population of the Vale **122,018** with Barry being the largest town with a population of approximately **51,500**.

There are **37,045** children and young people aged between 0-24 in the Vale of Glamorgan, approximately 29% of the estimated total population. For 2012 it is estimated there are **23,814** children and young people aged between 0-15yrs and **13,231** aged between 16 and 24. This is a slight decline in number for both age groups over the last three years. This small decline in the number of children and young people aged 0-25 has been estimated to continue in the population projections for the Vale of Glamorgan.

Welsh Language Profile

In 2010, it was reported that the demand for Welsh-medium schools had increased substantially to the extent that current demand exceeded capacity especially in Barry and the rural Vale. As a result of the Welsh medium survey carried out in July and August 2009, two new seed schools were established – one in Llantwit Major Ysgol Dewi Sant and one in Barry Ysgol Nant Talwg - to meet the demands of parents wishing to place their child in education through the medium of Welsh. During 2011/12, both schools have received both financial support and assistance through the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership in setting up afterschool provision and wraparound provision for pre-school and primary school age children.

Economic Factors

As reported in the 2008 WIMD, Gibbonsdown 2 still remains the most deprived LSOA in the Vale in 2001, whereas Court 3 now appears as the third most deprived area as opposed to 2nd in 2008.

In respect of patterns of deprivation across Wales, the Vale compares favourably with 80% of Vale Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) outside the bottom 20% most deprived in Wales. Monmouthshire has 98.3% of its LSOAs outside the most deprived 20% LSOAs and Merthyr has just 30.6% of LSOAs outside the bottom 20%.

However, it is important to remember that there are pockets of deprivation within the Vale of Glamorgan and particularly Barry. There is a clear picture of income inequality throughout the Vale of Glamorgan and the following graph highlights that six of Barry's LSOAs lie within the top 10% most deprived in Wales, these are located to the east of Barry. The Vale has 10 LSOAs in the bottom 20% of the most deprived LSOAs in Wales according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD).

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is the largest employer with approximately **6,500** full-time, part-time and casual employees (as at December 2013) **77%** are estimated to be female. The Council works in partnership with many different agencies in the public, voluntary and business sectors to deliver a wide range of services.

With regards to economic activity rate the Vale of Glamorgan sits above the Wales average. Economic activity rate increased for Wales as a whole from 72.5 in March 2011 to 73.8 in March 2013. Economic activity in the Vale of Glamorgan decreased marginally from 75.8 in March 2011

to 75.5 in March 2012, and then increased to 76.1 in March 2013. This means that a high proportion of the Vale of Glamorgan citizens are working or are available for work or training.

3 Analysis of supply

3.1 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 through the childcare element of Working Tax Credit, or by using childcare vouchers, by using registered or approved childcare. It will also look at unregistered childcare that takes place for less than two hours.

The analysis will cover the following topics:

- Number of providers Section 3.2
- Number of places – overall, gains and losses, Section 3.3
by age group, during different parts of the year and at different times
- Number of children per place Section 3.4
- Session type Section 3.4.5
- Vacancies Section 3.5
- Fees Section 3.6
- Welsh language Section 3.7
- Disability Section 3.8
- Quality Section 3.9
- Free part time education places for 3-4 year olds Section 3.10
- Flying Start Section 3.11
- Conclusions Section 3.12

The analysis will be further split into age groups. A large number of childcare providers offer places for a variety of age ranges, which may not fit neatly into the age categories used in this report. It is very difficult to narrow the age groups down to those recommended by the Welsh Government: 0-2; 3-4, 5-7, 8-10, 11-14 etc. When providers are asked for the number of places offered and the number of vacancies available for these age groups, they are unable to group them and therefore, leave the information blank. Therefore, for the purpose of this report the following age groups will be used:

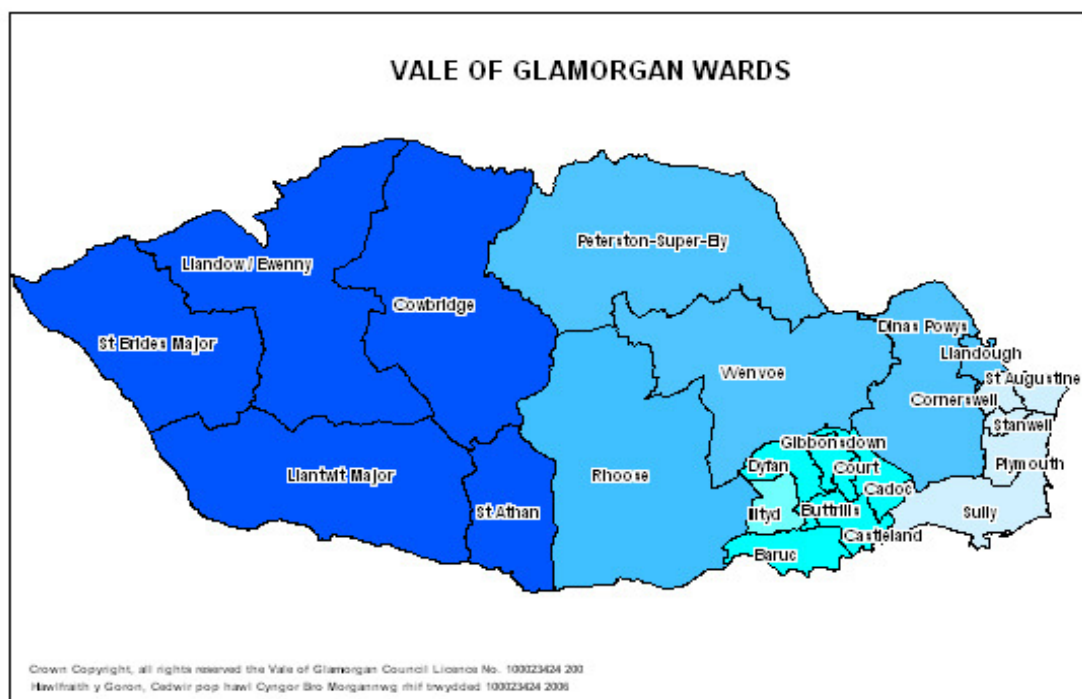
- 0 - 4years

- 5 – 11 years
- 12 – 14 years
- 15 – 17 years for disabled children

Data is presented for the Vale of Glamorgan Council as a whole and for electoral wards – please see **figure 19**.

Section 3.12 consolidates all of these findings and presents key conclusions for each ward.

Figure 19: Wards in the Vale of Glamorgan



3.2 Number of providers

3.2.1 Number of Registered Providers

As of December 2013, there are a total of **292** registered childcare providers in the Vale of Glamorgan. All of these settings qualify for people to be able to claim 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 decreases to **269**. 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.

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 and to allow for comparison with previous years, 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

Of these:

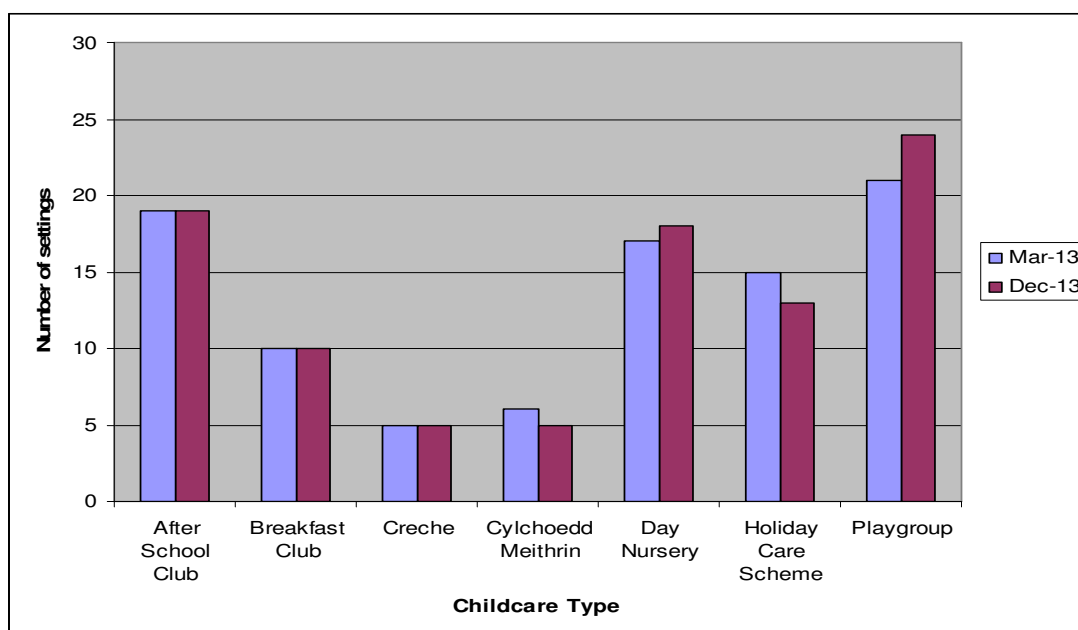
- **198 (68%)** are childminders
- **18 (6%)** are day nurseries
- **10 (3%)** are breakfast clubs
- **19 (6%)** are after school clubs
- **13 (4%)** are holiday care schemes
- **24 (8%)** are playgroups
- **5 (2%)** are Cylchoedd Meithrin
- **5 (2%)** are crèches

There are also **8** Approved Home Childcarers, registered under the Childcare at Home Approval Scheme, where children are looked after in the child's home. This is an increase of **3** since March 2013. Parents are able to use the childcare element of Working Tax Credit to help pay for this childcare. 2 are based in Cadoc ward, 2 in Cornerswell, 1 in Court, 1 in Dinas Powys, 1 in St Augustine's and 1 in Sully.

When comparing this data with data from the CSA in March 2013, there has been an overall decrease of **5** registered providers. **Figure 20** shows the number of registered childcare providers by childcare type. Childminders have been left off this graph as their numbers are so high.

The number of childminders has decreased by **6**, holiday care schemes have decreased by **2**, and Cylchoedd Meithrin have decreased by **1**. Whereas there has been an increase in **1** day nursery and **1** playgroup.

Figure 20: Number of registered childcare settings by childcare type and year



It is important to note that although there are 198 registered childminders, 30 of these are not currently childminding. This is due to 20 childminders who have suspended their registration for up to 2 years with the CSSIW and 10 childminders are not currently childminding for reasons such as being on maternity leave or taking a break from childminding.

3.2.2 Number of Unregistered Providers

There are also a number of unregistered childcare settings:

- **10** after school clubs
- **2** Cylchoedd Meithrin
- **1** breakfast club (there are also 34 schools that have a free breakfast club, which usually take place for an hour)
- **1** crèche
- **1** holiday club
- **4** playgroups

Open Access Playschemes

The Vale of Glamorgan Sports and Play Development Team run a number of playschemes, summer camps and projects for children. Playschemes ran through the summer holidays for children aged 5-11 years. More information can be found in section 3.3.6.

Play Aloud Project

The Play Aloud Project runs a number of community play sessions throughout the Vale. The aim is to create sustainable community based play opportunities. More information can be found in section 3.3.6.

Disability Sports Camp

A Disability Sports Camp ran through the summer holidays in Cadoxton Primary School Sports Hall in 2013. **18** children attended from aged 7 – 19, with a wide range of impairments ranging from learning disabilities, wheelchair users, Autism, Dyspraxia, along with non-disabled siblings. There was one session per week over 5 weeks from 10am – 3pm.

Disability Teen Scheme

The Disability Teen Scheme is a school holiday youth provision for young people with disabilities aged 12 to 19 years inclusive.

The Teen Schemes are open during every school holiday. This includes identified days during Easter, Whitsun, summer, October, Christmas Holidays and February half terms. The day is run from 10 am until 3 pm. More information can be found in section 3.3.7.

Youth Summer Scheme

The Vale Youth Service were awarded an Out of School Childcare Grant to run a Youth Service Summer Scheme for young people aged 10-14 years, during the school summer holidays. 2 schemes took place for 4 weeks each in Barry and Llantwit Major. They ran from 9:15am – 3:45pm and were free. More information can be found in section 3.3.7.

3.2.3 Location of Registered Providers

Figure 21 shows that the number of providers isn't evenly distributed. Buttrills, Illtyd and Llantwit Major wards all have **25** providers or more. Whereas St Bride's Major, Llandow / Ewenny, Dyfan and Llandough wards have **5** providers or less. **41%** of all providers (120) are based in Barry.

Figure 21 Number of registered providers by ward and Childcare Type

Ward	Childcare Type								Total	%
	After School Club	Breakfast Club	Childminder	Crèche	Cylch Meithrin	Day Nursery	Holiday Care Scheme	Playgroup		
Barry	5	2	87	3	2	5	6	10	120	41%
Baruc	1		11			1	1	1	15	5%
Buttrills	1	1	16	1	1	1	2	2	25	9%
Cadoc	1		10	1					12	4%
Castleland			7						7	2%
Court		1	5					4	10	3%
Dyfan			4		1				5	2%
Gibbonsdown	1		10	1		2	1	2	17	6%
Illtyd	1		24			1	2	1	29	10%
Penarth	3	2	28	1	1	5	3	2	46	16%
Cornerswell	1	1	13	1					16	5%
Plymouth	1	1	2			2	1		7	2%
St. Augustine's			8		1	2	1	1	13	4%
Stanwell	1		5			1	1	1	9	3%
										0%
Cowbridge	1		11		1	2		1	16	5%
Dinas Powys	3	2	10			1	1	1	18	6%
Llandough	1	1	2			1			5	2%
Llandow/Ewenny			1					1	2	1%
Llantwit Major	1		20		1	1		2	25	9%
Peterston-super-Ely	3	1	4			1	2	1	12	4%
Rhose			14			1		1	16	5%
St. Athan			6	1				1	8	3%
St. Bride's Major	1	1						2	4	1%
Sully	1	1	10				1	1	14	5%
Wenvoe			5			1		1	7	2%
Total	19	10	198	5	5	18	13	24	292	100%

3.3 Number of places

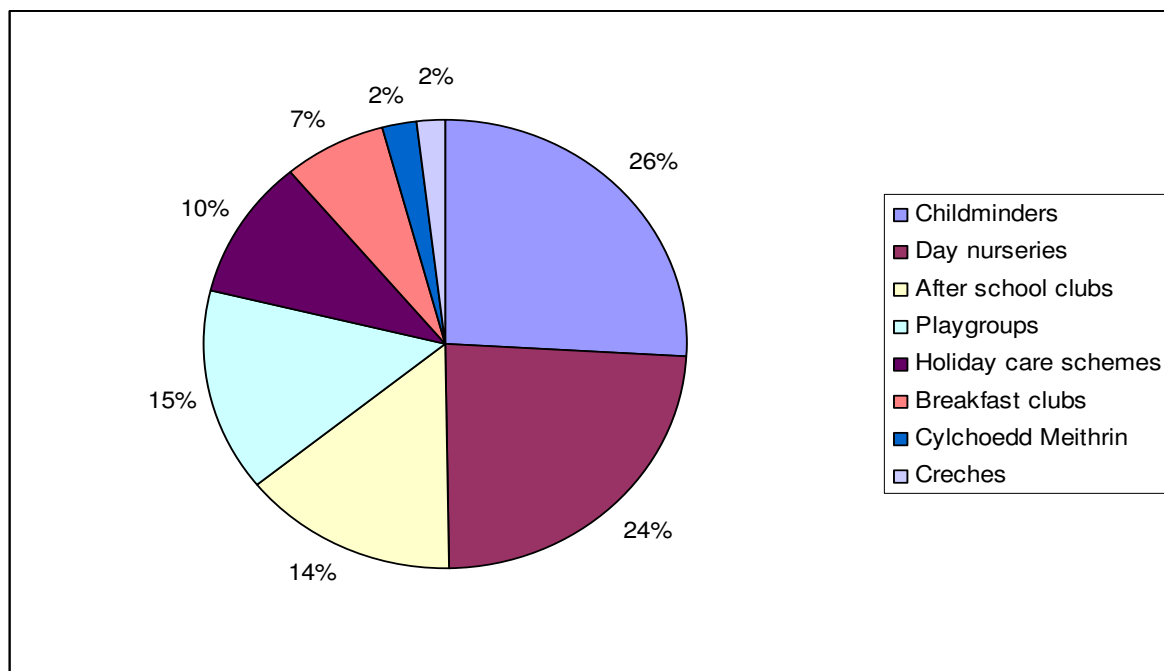
3.3.1 Number of Registered Places

As of December 2013, there are **4,242** registered childcare places in the Vale of Glamorgan. Therefore, **4,242** childcare places are eligible for parents to claim the childcare element of Working Tax Credit. These include:

- Childminders **1,092** places (26%)
- After school clubs **604** places (14%)
- Breakfast clubs **289** places (7%)
- Holiday care schemes **422** places (10%)
- Day nurseries **1,023** places (24%)
- Playgroups **631** places (15%)
- Cylchoedd Meithrin **104** places (2%)
- Crèches **77** places (2%)

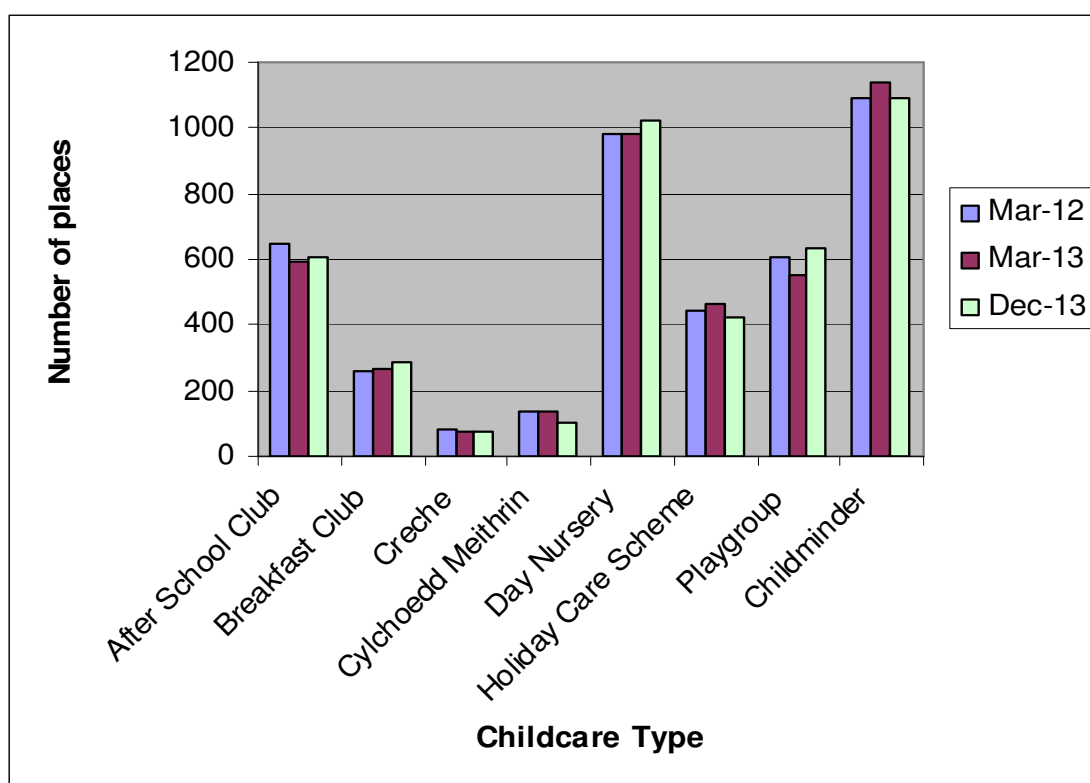
Figure 22 shows the percentage of childcare places by childcare type. Over ¼ of childcare places are with childminders and almost ¼ are in day nurseries.

Figure 22 Percentage of registered childcare places by childcare type



This is an increase of **36** registered childcare places since the last CSA Review in March 2013. When comparing data over the past 3 years, there has been an overall increase of **126** registered childcare places. This is mainly due to an increase of **213** places in day nurseries. **Figure 23** compares the number of registered places by childcare type, over the past 3 years. There has been an increase in places in breakfast clubs, day nurseries and playgroups and a decrease in places in after school clubs, crèches, Cylchoedd Meithrin, holiday care schemes and childminders. These will be looked at in more detail in the ‘Gains and Losses’ section.

Figure 23 Number of registered childcare places by childcare type from March 2012 – December 2013



3.3.2 Location of Registered Places

Figure 24 shows that the number of places is not evenly distributed across the County. Wards with the highest number of places are:

- Buttrills (**423** places)
- Cowbridge (**354** places)
- Illtyd (**314** places)
- Dinas Powys (**307** places)

Wards with the lowest number of places are:

- Llandow/Ewenny (**19** places)
- Castleland (**42** places)
- Dyfan (**48** places)

However, every ward has some form of childcare.

When comparing data with the last Review in March 2013, there is a significant variation in some wards: Court has seen a reduction of **72** places, Sully has seen a reduction of **70** places and Rhoose has seen a reduction of **40** places. Whereas some wards have seen a significant increase in places: Dinas Powys has an increase of **133** places and Gibbonsdown has an increase of **122** places. However, the main reasons for this are that Gibbonsdown Children's Centre moved back into their premises from Court to Gibbonsdown ward, as their building had been refurbished in 2013. Daisy Day Nursery used to be classed as being located in the Sully ward, however it is now classed as being located in Dinas Powys ward.

Figure 25 compares the number of registered childcare places in each ward with places in the last full CSA in March 2011. The wards with the most variation are: Buttrills, Cowbridge and Dinas Powys, which have seen a significant increase in the number of places. Whereas Peterston super-Ely, Baruc, Sully, Rhoose, and Llandow/Ewenny have seen a significant decrease in places. These will be looked at in more details in the 'Gains and Losses' section 3.3.4.

Figure 24: Number of registered places by ward and childcare type

Ward	Childcare Type								Total	%	Variations from March 2013
	After School Club	Breakfast Club	Childminder	Crèche	Cylch Meithrin	Day Nursery	Holiday Care Scheme	Playgroup			
Barry	172	61	480	45	48	206	225	267	1504	35%	63
Baruc	40		57			60	40	28	225	5%	-22
Buttrills	45	45	91	9	24	45	95	69	423	10%	42
Cadoc	23		51	12					86	2%	0
Castleland			42						42	1%	0
Court		16	30					90	136	3%	-72
Dyfan			24		24				48	1%	0
Gibbonsdown	24		56	24		46	24	56	230	5%	122
Illtyd	40		129			55	66	24	314	7%	-7
Penarth	110	60	151	20	18	312	87	44	802	19%	15
Cornerswell	28	28	64	20					140	3%	10
Plymouth	32	32	12			181	25		282	7%	0
St. Augustine's			47		18	82	12	24	183	4%	5
Stanwell	50		28			49	50	20	197	5%	0
										0%	0
Cowbridge	40		61		24	205		24	354	8%	-6
Dinas Powys	70	46	60			77	24	30	307	7%	133
Llandough	24	24	10			33			91	2%	0
Llandow/ Ewenny			3					16	19	0%	-15
Llantwit Major	24		111		14	42		42	233	5%	-22
Peterston-super-Ely	82	32	24			25	52	32	247	6%	2
Rhose			78			67		30	175	4%	-40
St. Athan			33	12				30	75	2%	-10
St. Bride's Major	48	32						54	134	3%	0
Sully	34	34	56				34	32	190	4%	-70
Wenvoe			25			56		30	111	3%	-11
Total	604	289	1092	77	104	1023	422	631	4242	100%	39

Figure 25: Number of registered childcare places by ward and year

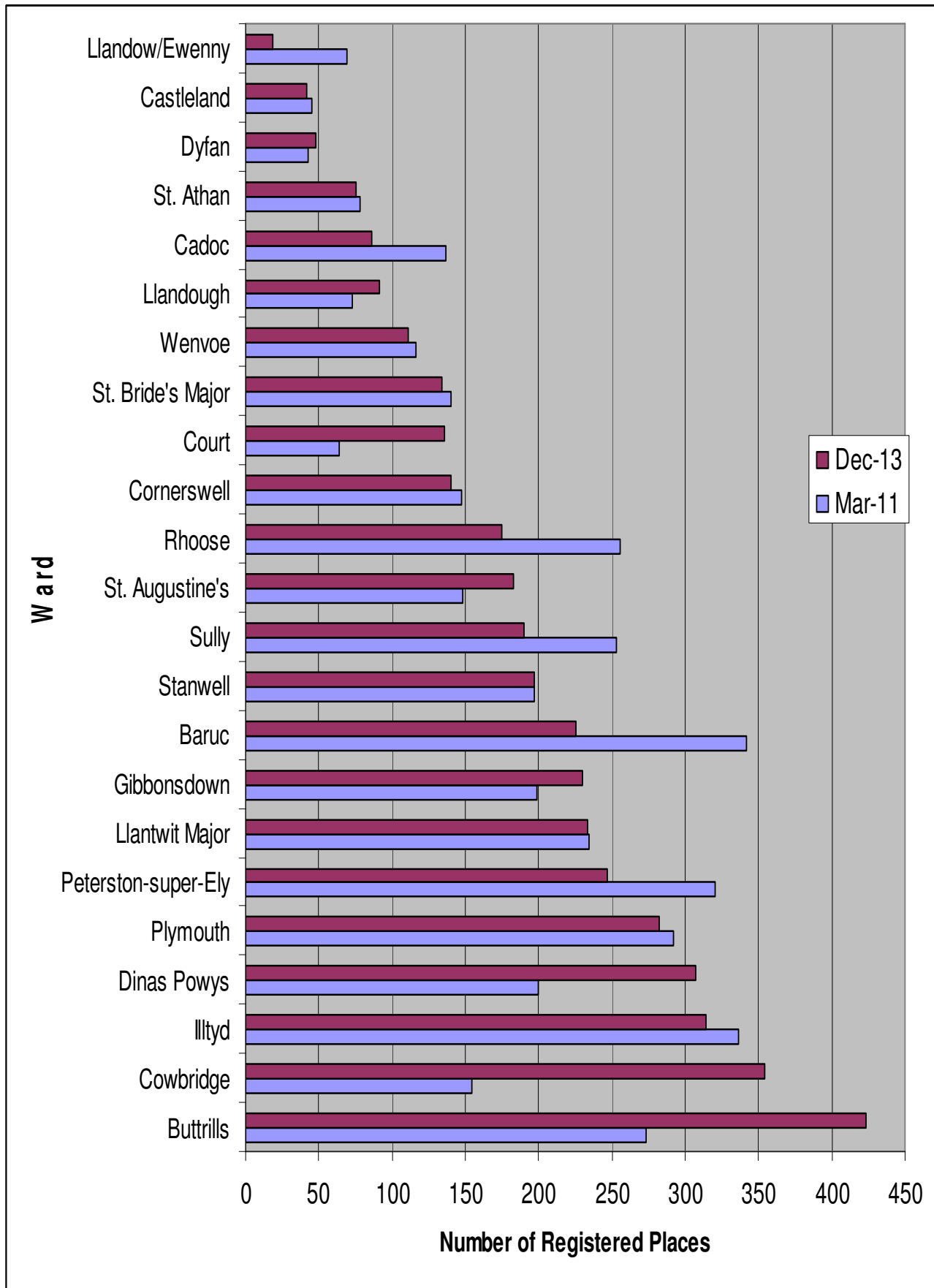


Figure 26 shows that the percentage of registered childcare places isn't evenly distributed between childcare providers in each ward. This means that parents may have less choice in the type of childcare available for their child in these wards. There are **5** wards where a particular type of childcare provides more than **50%** of the total number of places in that ward. These are:

- Plymouth where day nurseries contribute **64%** of total childcare places in the ward.
- Castleland where childminders contribute **100%** of total childcare places in the ward.
- Cadoc where childminders contribute **59%** of total childcare places in the ward.
- Cowbridge where day nurseries contribute **58%** of total childcare places in the ward.
- Llandow/Ewenny where playgroups contribute **84%** of total childcare places in the ward.

When comparing figures with the full CSA in March 2011, St Augustine now has a more even spread of childcare, due to more childminders setting up. Dyfan now has a new Cylch Meithrin, so childcare is split between the Cylch Meithrin and childminders in that ward.

Figure 26 Percentage of places by care scheme and ward

Ward	After School Club	Breakfast Club	Childminder	Crèche	Cylch Meithrin	Day Nursery	Holiday Care Scheme	Playgroup
Barry	11%	4%	32%	3%	3%	14%	15%	18%
Baruc	18%		25%			27%	18%	12%
Buttrills	11%	11%	22%	2%	6%	11%	22%	16%
Cadoc	27%		59%	14%				
Castleland			100%					
Court		12%	22%					66%
Dyfan			50%		50%			
Gibbonsdown	10%		24%	10%		20%	10%	24%
Illtyd	13%		41%			18%	21%	8%
Penarth	14%	7%	19%	2%	2%	39%	11%	5%
Cornerswell	20%	20%	46%	14%				
Plymouth	11%	11%	4%			64%	9%	
St. Augustine's			26%		10%	45%	7%	13%
Stanwell	25%		14%			25%	25%	10%
Cowbridge	11%		17%		7%	58%		7%
Dinas Powys	23%	15%	20%			25%	8%	10%
Llandough	26%	26%	11%			36%		
Llandow/Ewenny			16%					84%
Llantwit Major	10%		48%		6%	18%		18%
Peterston-super-Ely	33%	13%	10%			10%	21%	13%
Rhose			45%			38%		17%
St. Athan			44%	16%				40%
St. Bride's Major	36%	24%						40%
Sully	18%	18%	29%				18%	17%
Wenvoe			23%			50%		27%
Total	14%	7%	26%	2%	2%	24%	10%	15%

3.3.3 Number of Unregistered Places

There are also **708** unregistered childcare places in the Vale of Glamorgan. Parents are unable to use the childcare element of Working Tax Credit, or childcare vouchers, with unregistered childcare. **Figure 27** shows the number of childcare places by childcare setting and ward. The

majority of unregistered childcare places are in out of school clubs (**504**), as they open for less than 2 hours. However, there are **148** unregistered places in playgroups and **56** places in Cylchoedd Meithrin. The number of unregistered childcare places is not evenly distributed by ward. Plymouth and Cowbridge have over **100** unregistered places. This is due to an after school club deregistering in Cowbridge and a new unregistered after school club in Llanfair Primary School. The high number in Plymouth is due to Evenlode Breakfast Club deregistering.

When comparing data to the Review in March 2013, there has been an increase in **123** unregistered places, mainly due to an increase in places in after school clubs and playgroups.

There are also open access playschemes which take place after school and in the school holidays. These cater for a large number of children but it is not classed as 'childcare'. There is also a disability teen scheme that takes place in school holidays and a youth summer scheme was piloted in the summer holidays 2013. These have not been included in the childcare figures but more information can be found in section 3.3

Figure 27 Number of unregistered childcare places by ward and childcare type

Ward	After school club	Breakfast club	Holiday care schemes	Crèche	Playgroup	Cylch Meithrin	Total
Buttrills	60						60
Cadoc					56		56
Court						40	40
Gibbonsdown	40						40
Illtyd					32		32
Cornerswell	60						60
Plymouth		146					146
Cowbridge	114						114
Dinas Powys					30	16	46
Llantwit Major	36						36
Rhosee							0
St Athan					30		30
Wenvoe	48						48
Total	358	146	0	0	148	56	708

3.3.4 Gains and losses

Since the last full Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) in March 2011, there has been an increase of **126** registered childcare places. This is due to an increase in day nurseries and can be broken down as follows:

- An increase in **213** places in day nurseries.
- A loss of **26** places with childminders.
- A loss of **1** place in sessional care (increase of 14 places in Cylchoedd Meithrin and a loss of 15 places in playgroups).
- A loss of **53** places in out of school clubs (increase in 26 places in breakfast clubs, loss of 7 places in after school clubs, loss of 72 places in holiday care schemes).
- A loss of **7** places in crèches.

Since the CSA Review in March 2013, there has been an increase of **36** registered places. This is broken down as follows:

Childminders

There has been a loss of **47** places.

- **7** new childminders have registered and **12** have deregistered.
- An overall increase of **2** childminders in Baruc, **2** in Cornerswell and **2** in St Augustine's.
- An overall loss of **1** childminder in Cadoc, **2** in Illtyd, **1** in Llandow/Ewenny, **2** in Llantwit Major, **2** in St Athan, **1** in Sully and **2** in Wenvoe.

Day nurseries

There has been an increase of **44** childcare places in Buttrills.

- This is due to Les Tous Grand Out of School Care extending their service into full day care, called Les Tous Petits.

Crèche

There has been an increase of **5** places in an existing crèche.

Sessional Care

There has been an increase of **43** places. This is due to:

- **3** new playgroups registering: Phillybears Playgroup (Court), Les Tous Petits Playgroup (Buttrills) and Ladybirds Flying Start Playgroup (Court)
- **1** playgroup - Kiddiewinkles @ Bethel closing in Baruc
- **1** Cylch Meithrin – Camau Cyntaf closing in Buttrills

Out of school care

There has been an overall loss of **9** places:

Holiday Care Schemes:

- **2** holiday care schemes have closed at Ashgrove School (Cornerswell) (due to the school relocating to new premises) and Peterston Super-Ely Primary School (Peterston Super-Ely).
- **1** holiday care scheme has registered – Camp Coconuts in Sully.

After School Clubs:

- **2** after school clubs have registered – Active Play at St Joseph's Primary School (Dinas Powys) and Palmerston After School Club (Cadoc).
- **1** after school club has closed – Barry Island Primary School After School Club (Baruc).

Breakfast Clubs:

- **2** breakfast clubs have registered – Active Play at St Joseph's Primary School (Dinas Powys) and Simply Out of School Breakfast Club Pendoylan (Peterston Super-Ely).
- **1** breakfast club has closed at Barry Island Primary School (Baruc).

When looking at the changes in location, the wards that have seen a significant increase in places are Gibbonsdown and Dinas Powys. This is mainly due to Gibbonsdown Children's Centre moving from Court ward, back in to their building after refurbishment in Gibbonsdown ward. Daisy Day Nursery is now classed as being in Dinas Powys ward and not Sully ward.

There has also been an increase in places in Buttrills, due to Les Tous Grands Out of School Club extending their setting to incorporate a day care and playgroup setting for children aged 3 and above.

There has been a reduction in places in Rhoose. This is mainly due to not including figures separately of a day nursery that offers a breakfast club, after school club and holiday care scheme. It is registered as full day care, so only the full day care numbers have been included. Numbers have also reduced in Baruc, due to Barry Island Out of School Club closing.

3.3.5 Number of places for children age 0-4 years

To provide a realistic picture of likely provision for children aged 0-4 years, this analysis has:

- Excluded breakfast clubs, after school clubs and holiday care schemes from the 0-4 analysis. Although a small number of children age 4 and under attend these clubs, the majority of these providers will be catering for older children.

- Allocated childminder places evenly between the 0-4 age range and the 5-10 age range.
- Included the total number of places for playgroups and Cylch Meithrin. Although these settings can cater for children age 5 years, the majority of children of this age would attend school.

Figure 28 shows the total number of places by care scheme and locality. It shows that there are **2,381** registered places for 0 to 4 year olds. This is **56%** of all registered childcare provision in the Vale of Glamorgan. This is an increase of **192** places since the last full CSA in March 2011

The total number of registered places per ward varies greatly. The lowest number of places is in:

- Llandow/Ewenny (**17.5**)
- Castleland (**21**)
- Dyfan (**36**)
- Cadoc (**37.5**)
- Llandough (**38**)

The highest number of places are in:

- Cowbridge (**283.5**)
- Buttrills (**192.5**)
- Plymouth (**187**)

The type of childcare settings with the highest number of places are day nurseries (**1023**), which accounts for **43%** of childcare for this age group. Crèches offer the lowest amount of childcare, with only **77** places.

Since the full CSA in March 2011, places in Cowbridge have more than doubled due to **2** new day nurseries opening and places in Court have almost tripled due to **3** new playgroups opening, **2** of which are Flying Start. Whereas places have reduced by **65%** in Cadoc, due to a loss of **54** playgroup places.

There are also **204** unregistered childcare places in playgroups and Cylchoedd Meithrin, which is a total of **2,585** childcare places. This is an increase of **294** places for 0-4 year olds since the full CSA in March 2011.

Figure 28 Number of registered and unregistered places by ward and childcare type for children aged 0-4

Ward	Registered Childcare						Unregistered Childcare	
	Childminder	Crèche	Cylch Meithrin	Day Nursery	Playgroup	Total	Playgroup	Cylch Meithrin
Barry	240	45	48	206	267	806	88	40
Baruc	28.5			60	28	116.5		
Buttrills	45.5	9	24	45	69	192.5		
Cadoc	25.5	12				37.5	56	
Castleland	21					21		
Court	15				90	105		40
Dyfan	12		24			36		
Gibbonsdown	28	24		46	56	154		
Illtyd	64.5			55	24	143.5	32	
Penarth	75.5	20	18	312	44	469.5	0	0
Coronerswell	32	20				52		
Plymouth	6			181		187		
St. Augustine's	23.5		18	82	24	147.5		
Stanwell	14			49	20	83		
Cowbridge	30.5		24	205	24	283.5		
Dinas Powys	30			77	30	137	30	16
Llandough	5			33		38		
Llandow/Ewenny	1.5				16	17.5		
Llantwit Major	55.5		14	42	42	153.5		
Peterston-super-Ely	12			25	32	69		
Rhose	39			67	30	136		
St. Athan	16.5	12			30	58.5	30	
St. Bride's Major	0				54	54		
Sully	28				32	60		
Wenvoe	12.5			56	30	98.5		
Total	546	77	104	1023	631	2381	148	56

3.3.6 Number of places for children aged 5-11 years

As already mentioned in section 3.1, a large number of childcare providers offer places covering a wide age range, that don't neatly fit into the age groups used in this report. Therefore, this analysis has:

- Excluded the number of places offered in day nurseries, playgroups, Cylch Meithrin and crèches.
- Allocated childminder places evenly between 0-4 year olds and 5-11 year olds.
- Included the total number of places in breakfast clubs, after school clubs and holiday care schemes. Many of these care schemes cater for children above 11 years of age, but they do not have a set number of places available for this age group.

Figure 29 shows the total number of registered and unregistered places available by ward and care scheme for children aged 5-11 years. There are a total of **1,861** registered places, which is **44%** of the total number of registered places in the Vale of Glamorgan. This has decreased by **66** places since the full CSA in March 2011.

The number of places isn't evenly distributed across the wards. There are 4 wards with less than 30 places. These are:

- Llandow/Ewenny (**1.5** places)
- St Athan (**16.5** places)
- Dyfan (**12** places)
- Castleland (**21** places)

There are 4 wards with more than 170 places. They are:

- Buttrills (**230.5** places)
- Illtyd (**170.5** places)
- Peterston-super-Ely (**178** places)
- Dinas Powys (**170.5** places)

Since the full CSA in 2011, places in Llandow/Eweny have decreased by **35** due to the closure of a holiday care scheme. There is now only **1** childminder in the ward. Places have more than halved in Baruc, due to the closure of an after school club and holiday care scheme. Rhooose has seen a reduction of **80** places due to the closure of an after school club. Whereas places in Cowbridge have more than doubled, due to a new after school club opening.

There are **504** unregistered places, **114** of which are in after school clubs in Cowbridge and **146** are in Evenlode Breakfast Club in Plymouth. Therefore, there are a total of **2,365** places for children aged 5-11 years in the Vale of Glamorgan. This is a loss of **45** places since March 2011.

Figure 29 Number of registered and unregistered places by ward and childcare type for children aged 5-11 year

Ward	Registered Childcare					Unregistered Childcare	
	Childminder	After School Club	Breakfast Club	Holiday Care Scheme	Total	After School Club	Breakfast Club
Barry	240	172	61	225	698	100	
Baruc	28.5	40		40	108.5		
Buttrills	45.5	45	45	95	230.5	60	
Cadoc	25.5	23			48.5		
Castleland	21				21		
Court	15		16		31		
Dyfan	12				12		
Gibbonsdown	28	24		24	76	40	
Illtyd	64.5	40		66	170.5		
Penarth	75.5	110	60	87	332.5		146
Cornerswell	32	28	28		88		
Plymouth	6	32	32	25	95		146
St. Augustine's	23.5			12	35.5		
Stanwell	14	50		50	114		
Cowbridge	30.5	40			70.5	114	
Dinas Powys	30	70	46	24	170		
Llandough	5	24	24		53		
Llandow/Ewenny	1.5				1.5		
Llantwit Major	55.5	24			79.5	36	
Peterston-super-Ely	12	82	32	52	178		
Rhose	39				39		
St. Athan	16.5				16.5		
St. Bride's Major	0	48	32		80		
Sully	28	34	34	34	130		
Wenvoe	12.5				12.5	48	
Total	546	604	289	422	1861	358	146

Sports and Play Development

The Vale of Glamorgan Sports and Play Development Team run a number of playschemes, summer camps and projects for children. As the schemes are run on an 'open access' basis, they haven't been included in the figures for unregistered care. Below is a more detailed description.

Disability Summer Sports Camp

A Disability Sports Camp ran through the summer holidays in Cadoxton Primary School Sports Hall in 2013. **18** children attended from aged 7 – 19, with a wide range of impairments ranging from learning disabilities, wheelchair users, Autism, Dyspraxia, along with non-disabled siblings. There was one session per week over 5 weeks from 10am – 3pm.

Open Access Playschemes

In 2013 -2014 the Vale of Glamorgan Play Development Team ran Playschemes during the school holidays. The Playschemes are for children aged 5-11 years and run for 3 days per week, during the middle 4 weeks of the holidays. The first week of the holidays is a training week for all staff to attend and the training includes Introduction to Play, First Aid, Child Protection, Manual Handling and Disability Awareness. All Staff hold current DBS checks.

February Half Term 2013 – Held at Cadoxton Primary school.

47 children registered, 16 of these were linked in (received 1 to 1 support).

There were **150** participations over 3 days.

March/ April Easter Holidays – Held at St Joseph's R.C School.

84 Children registered, 21 of these were linked in. There were **261** participations over 3 days.

May Half Term – Held at Gladstone Primary School.

102 Children registered, 18 of these were linked in. There were **213** participations over 3 days.

July/August – Summer Holidays – Held at:

- Murchfield Community Centre. **158** children registered, **31** of these were linked in. There were **529** participations over 6 days.
- Palmerstone Community Learning Centre. **222** children registered, 38 of these were linked. There were **746** Participations over 6 days.

October Half Term – Held at Cadoxton Primary School.

95 children registered, 24 of these were linked in. There were **347** participations over 3 days.

Pick 'n' Mix project

The Vale Play Development Team runs the Pick 'n' Mix Project. Parents have the opportunity to experience areas of play such as messy play and outdoor play through the delivery of sessions within the Families First rooms in schools. The parents attend a session facilitated by playworkers. Sometimes their children attend these sessions. This project has provided them with the knowledge and confidence to undertake these activities with their children independently. The project has been created as a partnership between Families First and the Sports & Play Development Team, and is funded by Putting Families First.

- **36** pic'n'mix sessions have been delivered across 17 primary schools and 2 nurseries.
- **201** parents participated
- **213** children participated

The schools involved in the project are:

- Cadoxton School
- Cogan Nursery
- Cadoxton
- Barry Island
- Jenner Park
- Holton
- Gladstone
- Oakfield
- Colcot
- Eagleswell
- High Street
- Romilly
- St Athan
- St Helen's Infants
- St Helens Juniors
- Llanilltyd Fawr
- St Illtyds
- Palmerston
- Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant

Way 2 Play

The Way to Play Project provides parents with access to active play bags which contain equipment and instruction cards to give them ideas of active play activities to undertake as a family. This not only increases opportunities for them to engage together as a family but also encourages the development of healthy lifestyles. This is a partnership project between Sports & Play Development, Cardiff & The Vale Public Health Board and Families First, funded via the Change4Life scheme. Active play equipment bags and training is currently being delivered to the following schools:

Initially there were **7** schools participating in the project

- Cadoxton Nursery
- Cadoxton Primary
- Colcot
- Holton
- Jenner park
- Oakfield
- Ysgol Gwaun y Nant

8 more schools are now taking part in the project:

- Barry Island
- Gladstone
- Eagleswell
- Romilly
- St Helen's Infants
- St Helen's juniors
- Llanilltyd Fawr
- Palmerston

Play Aloud Project (Big Lottery)

The Play Aloud Project is a partnership project and is funded by the Big Lottery Child's Play funding stream for three years (May 2011 – Mar 2014).

The aim of the project is to create sustainable community based play opportunities by identifying and supporting community volunteers to obtain the necessary skills and training to run provision in the future. **47** volunteers have been recruited to date.

From February 2013 – March 2013, **270** children registered to attend sessions and they attended 1,738 sessions. These sessions took place in the following 4 locations:

- St Athan : **124** registered, **209** attended
- Cadoxton: **64** registered, **122** attended
- Barry Island (Baruc ward): **73** registered, **985** attended
- Cowbridge: **9** registered, **42** attended

3.3.7 Number of places for children aged 12-17 years

This section will focus on those care schemes that cater for children aged 12 -14 years and 15-17 years for disabled children. The number of places available for this age group is not specified by providers. Therefore, this analysis will show the number of providers that can cater for this age group.

Figure 30 shows that there are **82** registered childcare providers offering places to children aged 12-14. The majority of childcare for this age group is provided by childminders (**79%**). There are also **17** out of school clubs that provide childcare. The number has decreased by **24** providers (**22%**) since the CSA in March 2011.

There are also **2** unregistered after school clubs that take place in secondary schools in Llantwit Major High School and Bryn Hafren School and are for children age 11 – 16 years. Although this is not formal childcare, as children can come and go as they please, they have been included in the figures for unregistered childcare for this age group.

When looking at the wards where childcare is located, Illtyd has **13** providers catering for this age group and Peterston-super-Ely has **2** after school clubs, **1** breakfast club and **2** holiday care schemes. However, there are **5** wards where there is no childcare provision.

Figure 30 Number of registered and unregistered providers by ward and childcare type for children aged 12-14

	Registered Childcare Type					Unregistered care schemes
Ward	After school club	Breakfast club	Holiday care schemes	Childminder	Total	After school club
Barry	2		3	31	36	
Baruc	1		1	4	6	
Buttrills				5	5	
Cadoc				3	3	
Castleland				2	2	
Court						
Dyfan				1	1	
Gibbonsdown				6	6	1
Illtyd	1		2	10	13	
Penarth	1	1	1	9	12	
Cornerswell				4	4	
St. Augustine's				5	5	
Stanwell						
Plymouth	1	1	1		3	
Cowbridge			1	5	6	
Llandow/Eweny						
Llantwit Major				8	8	1
St. Athan				2	2	
St. Bride's Major						
Rhose				7	7	
Dinas Powys						
Llandough				1	1	
Peterston-super-Ely	2	1	2		5	
Sully	1	1	1	1	4	
Wenvoe				1	1	
Total	6	3	8	65	82	2

Youth Summer Scheme

The Vale Youth Service were awarded an Out of School Childcare Grant to run a Youth Service Summer Scheme for young people aged 10-14 years, during the school summer holidays. 2

schemes took place for 4 weeks each in Barry and Llantwit Major. They ran from 9:15am – 3:45pm and were free.

105 young people attended and feedback from both young people and parents was very positive. Young people took part in activities such as sports, play, pampering activities, den building, water games and a car wash fundraising for Ty Hafan. 54 young people also achieved the Bronze Youth Inspire Award. Comments from parents included: 'Enabled me to work while children in safe, friendly, fun and informal environment', 'Would have liked time to be bit later finishing'.

Disability Teen Scheme

Disability Teen Scheme is a school holiday youth provision for young people with disabilities aged 12 to 19 years inclusive.

The Teen Schemes are open during every school holiday. This includes identified days during Easter, Whitsun, summer, October, Christmas Holidays and February half terms. The day is run from 10 am until 3 pm.

Between **15** and **22** young people attend on average per day, with an average of 8 young people requiring 1 – 1 support. **42** young people have attended the scheme over the past year. The Teen Scheme is staffed to the need of the young people attending. A nurse and carer attend every Teen Scheme and one to one and two to one staffing is offered where need is identified. The Teen Scheme operates from Byrd Crescent Community Centre in the Plymouth ward of Penarth. The facility is accessible to all and has a fenced outside play area and sheltered outside area. Attendance is through referral only and on completion of the "Helpful Book" to ensure that every young person has their need/s identified and catered for to ensure a positive experience.

During a typical day at Disability Teen Scheme, activities on offer include: Arts and Crafts (painting, jewellery making, clay making, and seasonal arts and crafts, St. David's Day, Chinese New Year, Easter, Mothers Day etc.), board games, pool, X box and Playstation, dancing, music, outside sports and games (weather permitting), and bingo. They also go on many trips.

A [Disability Sport Summer Camp](#) also catered for this age group during the summer 2013. See previous Section 3.3.6 for more information.

3.3.8 Number of places available during the year

There are **3,820** registered childcare places available during term time, which is **90%** of the total number of registered places. This decreases by **35%** to **2,472** places available during school holidays, which is **58%** of the total number of registered childcare places.

Since the CSA in March 2011, numbers have increased for both term time places (**5%**) and school holiday places (**1%**).

Figures 31 & 32 show the number of places available during the year by ward. (Notes: Term time places are calculated by adding together providers open 'term time' and 'all year'. Holiday places are calculated by adding together providers open 'all year' and 'holidays only'. Childminders are assumed to have places available all year unless they have specified that they only work school holidays or term time. There are **17** childminders who work term time only.

There are geographical differences in the number of registered places available. Every ward has childcare available during term time. However, St Bride's Major doesn't have any childcare available during school holidays.

Wards with the highest number of term time and holiday places are:

- Plymouth (**257** term time places and **218** holiday places)
- Illtyd (**248** term time and **189** holiday places)
- Buttrills (**328** term time and **219** holiday places)
- Cowbridge (**354** term time and **260** holiday places)
- Dinas Powys (**283** term time and **161** holiday places)

Wards with the lowest number of term time and holiday places are:

- Castleland (**42** term time and **30** holiday places)
- Dyfan (**48** term time and **18** holiday places)
- Llandow/Ewenny (**19** term time and **3** holiday places)

Wards with the lowest number of holiday places only are:

- Dyfan (**18** holiday places)
- St Bride's Major (**0** holiday places)
- Llandow/Ewenny (**3** holiday places)
- St Athan (**33** holiday places)

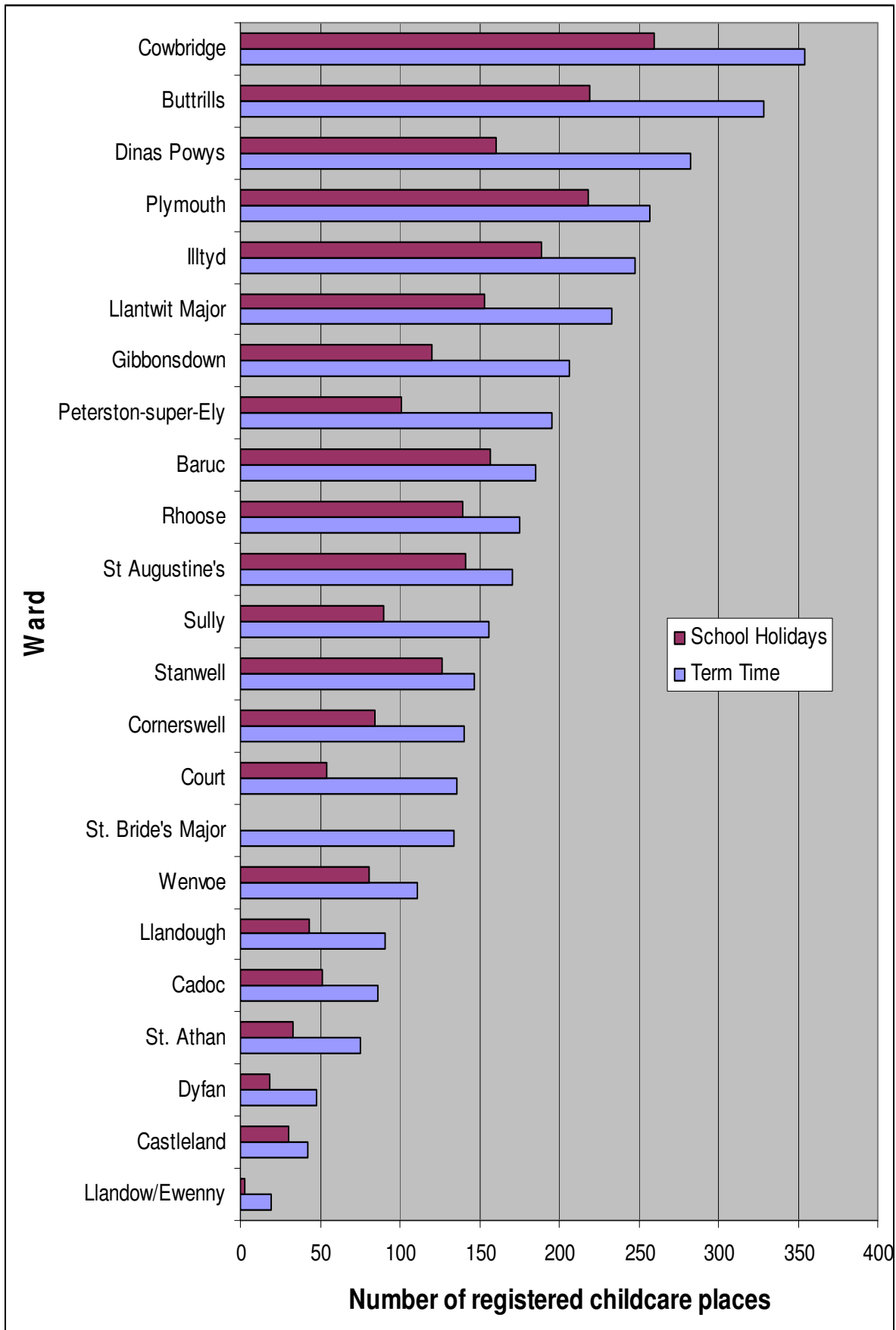
All wards experience a decline in the number of places between term time and school holidays.

There are **708** unregistered places available during term time, **146** of which are in Plymouth and **144** are in Cowbridge.

Figure 31: Number of places available during the year by ward

Ward	Registered Childcare		Unregistered Childcare
	Term Time	School Holidays	Term Time
Barry	1,279	838	228
Baruc	185	157	
Buttrills	328	219	60
Cadoc	86	51	56
Castleland	42	30	
Court	136	54	40
Dyfan	48	18	
Gibbonsdown	206	120	40
Illtyd	248	189	32
Penarth	715	570	206
Cornerswell	140	84	60
Plymouth	257	218	146
St Augustine's	171	141	
Stanwell	147	127	
Cowbridge	354	260	114
Dinas Powys	283	161	46
Llandough	91	43	
Llandow/Ewenny	19	3	
Llantwit Major	233	153	36
Peterston-super-Ely	195	101	
Rhose	175	139	
St. Athan	75	33	30
St. Bride's Major	134	0	
Sully	156	90	
Wenvoe	111	81	48
Total	3,820	2,472	708

Figure 32: Number of places available during the year by ward



3.3.9 Number of places available during the year for children aged 0-4yrs

Figure 33 shows that for children aged 0-4 years, there are **2,381** registered childcare places available during term time. This reduces to **1,569** places during school holidays (**34%** reduction). The number of places per ward differs greatly. The highest number of places in term time is in Cowbridge (**283.5**) and the lowest is in Castleland (**21**). The highest number of places during the school holidays is also in Cowbridge (**235.5**) and the lowest is in St Bride's Major where there are no places. Places for children aged 0-4 have increased since the CSA in March 2011 in both term time (increase of **195** places) and school holidays (increase of **186** places).

Figure 33: Number of places available during the year for children aged 0-4 years

Ward	Registered Childcare		Unregistered Childcare	
	Term Time	School Holidays	Term Time	School Holidays
Barry	806	446	128	
Baruc	116.5	88.5		
Buttrills	192.5	90.5		
Cadoc	37.5	25.5	56	
Castleland	21	21		
Court	105	15	40	
Dyfan	36	12		
Gibbonsdown	154	74		
Illtyd	143.5	119.5	32	
Penarth	469.5	387.5	0	
Cornerswell	52	32		
Plymouth	187	187		
St. Augustine's	147.5	105.5		
Stanwell	83	63		
Cowbridge	283.5	235.5		
Dinas Powys	137	107	46	
Llandough	38	38		
Llandow/Ewenny	17.5	1.5		
Llantwit Major	153.5	97.5		
Peterston-super-Ely	69	37		
Rhose	136	106		
St. Athan	58.5	16.5	30	
St. Bride's Major	54			
Sully	60	28		
Wenvoe	98.5	68.5		
Total	2381	1569	204	

3.3.10 Number of places available during the year for children aged 5-11 years

Figure 34 shows there are 1,439 registered places for children aged 5-11 years during term time and 968 places during school holidays. The numbers differ greatly between wards. The ward with the highest number of term time places is Buttrills (135.5) and the lowest number is Llandow/Ewenny (1.5). Buttrills also has the highest number of places during school holidays (140.5) and St Bride's Major has no places. Places during term time have slightly increased by 6 places since March 2011, whereas places during school holidays have decreased by 80 places.

Figure 34: Number of places available during the year for children aged 5-11 years

Ward	Registered Childcare		Unregistered Childcare	
	Term Time	School Holidays	Term Time	School Holidays
Barry	473	465	100	
Baruc	68.5	68.5		
Buttrills	135.5	140.5	60	
Cadoc	48.5	25.5		
Castleland	21	21		
Court	31	15		
Dyfan	12	12		
Gibbonsdown	52	52	40	
Illtyd	104.5	130.5		
Penarth	245.5	162.5	206	
Cornerswell	88	32	60	
Plymouth	70	31	146	
St. Augustine's	23.5	35.5		
Stanwell	64	64		
Cowbridge	70.5	30.5	114	
Dinas Powys	146	54		
Llandough	53	5		
Llandow/Ewenny	1.5	1.5		
Llantwit Major	79.5	55.5	36	
Peterston-super-Ely	126	64		
Rhose	39	39		
St. Athan	16.5	16.5		
St. Bride's Major	80			
Sully	96	62		
Wenvoe	12.5	12.5	48	
Total	1439	968	504	

There is a total of **74** registered childcare providers who can care for young people aged 12-14 years during term time and **73** available during school holidays. There are also **2** unregistered providers who can care for young people during term time. These numbers have reduced since March 2011 by **22** during term time and **23** during school holidays.

3.4 Number of children per place

Figure 35 shows the number of places available during term time and school holidays with the total number of children aged 0-14 years in each ward (*). It also shows the average number of children per place during term time and holidays.

During term time, the average number of children per place is 5.8 for the Vale as a whole. The number of children per place has decreased by 8% since March 2011. During school holidays, the average number of children per place increases to 9, which is a 3% decrease from March 2011.

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 during term times are:

- Dyfan (17.3)
- Castleland (23.6)
- Cadoc (23.2)
- Llandow/Ewenny (24.4)

Three of these wards are in Barry.

All of the wards above also have the highest number of children per place during school holidays, plus St Bride's Major and St Athan. There is no holiday provision in St Bride's Major and there are 390 children, which is an area for concern:

- St Bride's Major (390)
- Llandow/Ewenny (154.3)
- St Athan (27.7)
- Cadoc (39.2)
- Dyfan (46.2)
- Castleland (33)

The wards with the lowest number of children per place suggest an abundance of childcare in the area. During term time these are:

- Cowbridge (2.5)
- Peterston super-Ely (2.3)
- St Bride's Major (2.9)

During holidays these are:

- Cowbridge (3.4)
- Peterston super-Ely (4.3)
- Plymouth (4.5)

Figure 35 Number of children per place for children aged 0-14 years

Ward	Term Time	School Holidays	Number of children aged 0-14 years	Children per place during term time	Children per place during holidays
Barry	1,279	838	9892	7.7	11.8
Baruc	185	157	1025	5.5	6.5
Buttrills	328	219	1270	3.9	5.8
Cadoc	86	51	1999	23.2	39.2
Castleland	42	30	990	23.6	33.0
Court	136	54	1033	7.6	19.1
Dyfan	48	18	832	17.3	46.2
Gibbonsdown	206	120	1287	6.2	10.7
Illtyd	248	189	1456	5.9	7.7
Penarth	715	570	3734	5.2	6.6
Cornerswell	140	84	955	6.8	11.4
Plymouth	257	218	989	3.8	4.5
St. Augustine's	171	141	925	5.4	6.6
Stanwell	147	127	865	5.9	6.8
Cowbridge	354	260	882	2.5	3.4
Dinas Powys	283	161	1166	4.1	7.2
Llandough	91	43	281	3.1	6.5
Llandow/Ewenny	19	3	463	24.4	154.3
Llantwit Major	233	153	1733	7.4	11.3
Peterston-super-Ely	195	101	439	2.3	4.3
Rhose	175	139	1205	6.9	8.7
St. Athan	75	33	913	12.2	27.7
St. Bride's Major	134		390	2.9	390
Sully	156	90	667	4.3	7.4
Wenvoe	111	81	388	3.5	4.8
Total	3,820	2,472	22153	5.8	9.0

Notes *Source: ONS 2011 Census population estimates

3.4.1 Number of children per place for children aged 0- 4 years

Figure 36 shows the number of places available during term time and school holidays with the total number of children aged 0 – 4 years in each ward. It also shows the average number of children per place during term time and holidays.

During term time, the average number of children per place is **3.1** for the Vale as a whole. During holidays, this figure increases to **4.7** children per place. There is hardly any change in overall figures since March 2011.

It must be noted that for this age group, the number of places available in after school clubs for children aged 4 is not included.

There is variation between wards. The wards with the highest number of children per place during term times and therefore suggesting a lack of childcare are:

- Castleland (18.7)
- Cadoc (19.7)

The wards with the highest number of children per place during the holidays are:

- Castleland (18.7)
- Cadoc (29)
- Dyfan (20.5)
- Court (25.7)
- Llandow/Ewenny (78.7)
- St Bride's major (90)
- St Athan (18.2)

There is no childcare during the holidays in St Bride's Major and there are **90** children per place. There is also only **1** childminder in Llandow/Ewenny.

Figure 36 Number of children aged 0-4 years per place

Ward	Term Time	School Holidays	Number of children aged 4 and under	Children per place during term time	Children per place during holidays
Barry	806	446	3498	4.3	7.8
Baruc	116.5	88.5	327	2.8	3.7
Buttrills	192.5	90.5	469	2.4	5.2
Cadoc	37.5	25.5	740	19.7	29.0
Castleland	21	21	393	18.7	18.7
Court	105	15	386	3.7	25.7
Dyfan	36	12	246	6.8	20.5
Gibbonsdown	154	74	442	2.9	6.0
Illtyd	143.5	119.5	495	3.4	4.1
Penarth	469.5	387.5	1239	2.6	3.2
Cornerswell	52	32	301	5.8	9.4
Plymouth	187	187	312	1.7	1.7
St. Augustine's	147.5	105.5	350	2.4	3.3
Stanwell	83	63	276	3.3	4.4
Cowbridge	283.5	235.5	254	0.9	1.1
Dinas Powys	137	107	368	2.7	3.4
Llandough	38	38	103	2.7	2.7
Llandow/Ewenny	17.5	1.5	118	6.7	78.7
Llantwit Major	153.5	97.5	575	3.7	5.9
Peterston-super-Ely	69	37	119	1.7	3.2
Rhose	136	106	369	2.7	3.5
St. Athan	58.5	16.5	301	5.1	18.2
St. Bride's Major	54	0	90	1.7	90
Sully	60	28	187	3.1	6.7
Wenvoe	98.5	68.5	112	1.1	1.6
Total	2381	1569	7333	3.1	4.7

3.4.2 Number of children per place for children aged 5 - 9 years

Figure 37 shows the number of places available before and after school and during school holidays, with the total number of children aged 5 to 9 years in each ward. It also shows the average number of children per place before and after school, and during school holidays.

It must be noted that child population data is only available for the age range 5 to 9 years. However childcare provision data is for children aged 5-11 years. Therefore, this data must be treated with caution.

The number of children aged 5-9 years has decreased by one third since March 2011. There are now **6,918** children, compared to **10,881** in March 2011. This has had an impact on the number of children per place, as they have all decreased by at least **3** children per place.

Before school, the average number of children per place is **8.3** for the Vale as a whole. After school, this figure decreases to **6** and during school holidays it increases to **7.1** children per place.

There is variation between wards. The wards with the highest number of children per place before school are:

- Llandow/Ewenny (**108.7**)
- Cadoc (**23.5**)
- St Athan (**16.7**)
- Stanwell (**17.9**)
- Dyfan (**21.8**)

The wards with the highest number of children per place after school are:

- Llandow/Ewenny (**108.7**)
- St Athan (**16.7**)
- Dyfan (**21.8**)
- Court (**20.3**)

The wards with the highest number of children per place during school holidays are:

- Llandow/Ewenny (**108.7**)
- St Bride's Major (**144**)
- Court (**20.3**)
- Cadoc (**23.5**)
- Dyfan (**21.8**)

Figure 37 Number of children aged 5-9 years per place

Ward	Before school	After school	School holidays	Number of children aged 5-11	Children per place before school	Children per place after school	Children per place during holidays
Barry	301	412	465	3010	10.0	7.3	6.5
Baruc	28.5	68.5	68.5	323	11.3	4.7	4.7
Buttrills	90.5	90.5	140.5	373	4.1	4.1	2.7
Cadoc	25.5	48.5	25.5	600	23.5	12.4	23.5
Castleland	21	21	21	291	13.9	13.9	13.9
Court	31	15	15	304	9.8	20.3	20.3
Dyfan	12	12	12	262	21.8	21.8	21.8
Gibbonsdown	28	52	52	398	14.2	7.7	7.7
Illtyd	64.5	104.5	130.5	459	7.1	4.4	3.5
Penarth	135.5	185.5	162.5	1145	8.5	6.2	7.0
Cornerswell	60	60	32	312	5.2	5.2	9.8
Plymouth	38	38	31	314	8.3	8.3	10.1
St. Augustine's	23.5	23.5	35.5	268	11.4	11.4	7.5
Stanwell	14	64	64	251	17.9	3.9	3.9
Cowbridge	30.5	70.5	30.5	293	9.6	4.2	9.6
Dinas Powys	76	100	54	368	4.8	3.7	6.8
Llandough	29	29	5	90	3.1	3.1	18.0
Llandow/Ewenny	1.5	1.5	1.5	163	108.7	108.7	108.7
Llantwit Major	55.5	79.5	55.5	534	9.6	6.7	9.6
Peterston-super-Ely	44	94	64	166	3.8	1.8	2.6
Rhose	39	39	39	380	9.7	9.7	9.7
St. Athan	16.5	16.5	16.5	276	16.7	16.7	16.7
St. Bride's Major	32	48		144	4.5	3.0	144
Sully	62	62	62	215	3.5	3.5	3.5
Wenvoe	12.5	12.5	12.5	134	10.7	10.7	10.7
Total	835	1150	968	6918	8.3	6.0	7.1

3.4.3 Number of children per place for children aged 10 to 14 years

Unfortunately, data is not available on the number of places available for children aged 10 to 14 years. Providers do not specify a number of places available for this age group and childminders will take children in this age group as long as it doesn't adversely affect the care of children aged

0-8 years. The provision of care for children aged 10 and 11 is covered in the previous section. Whereas care for children aged 12 – 14 is detailed in Section 3.3.7. There are **82** registered childcare providers who offer places for the age group 12-14 years.

3.4.4 Number of places available during the day

Figure 38 shows the number of registered childcare places available during specified times across the Vale, by ward.

Places have increased for all times since March 2011. The most significant increase is before 7:30am, when **462** places are available. This has more than doubled since March 2011, largely due to an extra **169** places available in nurseries in Cowbridge. There are now only **4** wards where there is no childcare before 7:30am:

- Plymouth
- Llandow/Ewenny
- Dinas Powys
- Peterston Super-Ely
- St Bride's Major

There are **377** places available after 6pm. Almost half are in Cowbridge (**178** places). This has increased since March 2011 when **233** places were available after 6pm. The wards where there is no childcare after 6pm are:

- Court
- Plymouth (Penarth)
- Llandow/Ewenny
- St Bride's Major
- Wenvoe

The largest number of places (**2,903**) are available during the morning 9am – 12:30pm. There is a large drop in the afternoon, when **2,498** places are available. This is mainly due to the majority of Cylch Meithrin and playgroups taking place in the morning. There are **2,380** places available before school and this rises to **2,708** places after school.

Figure 38 Number of places available during the day during term time

Ward	Early (before 7:30am)	Before school (7:30- 9am)	Mornings (9am- 12:30pm)	Afternoons (1:30- 3:30pm)	After school (3:30- 6pm)	Late (after 6pm)
Barry	113	763	1022	893	859	77
Baruc	4	133	145	117	173	6
Buttrills	23	181	238	193	181	15
Cadoc	14	51	63	63	51	4
Castleland	12	42	42	42	42	12
Court	12	46	120	66	62	
Dyfan	12	24	48	48	24	6
Gibbonsdown	6	102	182	156	102	18
Illtyd	30	184	184	208	224	16
Penarth	17	519	545	463	569	20
Cornerswell	6	88	84	64	88	3
Plymouth		225	193	193	225	
St. Augustine's	5	129	171	129	129	5
Stanwell	6	77	97	77	127	12
Cowbridge	169	266	314	290	306	178
Dinas Powys	12	167	167	167	191	6
Llandough	37	67	43	43	67	6
Llandow/Ewenny		3	19	3	3	
Llantwit Major	23	153	209	185	177	23
Peterston-super-Ely		49	81	49	131	26
Rhooose	20	157	175	175	157	20
St. Athan	12	33	75	63	33	18
St. Bride's Major		32	54	30	48	
Sully	3	90	88	56	86	3
Wenvoe	56	81	111	81	81	
Total	462	2380	2903	2498	2708	377

Figure 39 shows the number of places at specified time periods by provider type. Care available before 7:30am is provided by childminders (**46%**) and day nurseries (**54%**). This is also the case for care after 6pm, as well as an after school club that provides **20** places.

Figure 39: Number of places at specified time periods by provider type

<i>Type of provider</i>	Early (before 7:30am)	Before school (7:30- 9am)	Mornings (9am- 12:30pm)	Afternoons (1:30- 3:30pm)	After school (3:30- 6pm)	Late (after 6pm)
Childminder	213	1092	1092	1092	1092	197
Day nursery	249	1023	1023	1023	1023	160
Crèche			77	45		
Cylch Meithrin			104	86		
Playgroup			607	252		
Breakfast club		265				
After school club					593	20

3.4.5 Places by session type

Figure 40 shows the relative balance between types of session offered by providers. Please note that full day care includes childminders and day nurseries; out of school care includes breakfast, after school and holiday clubs and sessional care includes crèche, playgroups and Cylch Meithrin. This analysis only includes registered childcare.

Across the Vale, 50% of provision is full day care, 31% is out of school care and 19% is sessional care.

The following wards have provision that varies from the County average and may suggest areas where parents / carers have less choice in session type:

Full Day Care

- Baruc, Cadoc, Castleland, Dyfan, Illtyd, Plymouth, St. Augustine's. Cowbridge, Llantwit Major, Rhooose and Wenvoe all have 50% or more of their places from full day care providers.

- Castleland has 100% of places from full day care. Whereas St Bride's Major has no full day care and Llandow/Ewenny only has 16% of places from full day care.

Sessional Care

- Court, Dyfan, Llandow/Ewenny and St. Athan have 50% or more of their places from sessional care.
- Castleland, Plymouth and Llandough don't have any sessional care.

Out of School Care

- Stanwell; Llandough, Peterston Super-Ely, St Bride's Major and Sully have 50% or more of their places from out of school care.
- Castleland, Dyfan, Llandow/Ewenny, Rhose and Wenvoe don't have any out of school care places.

Figure 40: Percentage of places by session type and ward

Ward	Full day care	Sessional day care	Out of school day care
Barry	46%	24%	30%
Baruc	52%	12%	36%
Buttrills	32%	24%	44%
Cadoc	59%	14%	27%
Castleland	100%		
Court	22%	66%	12%
Dyfan	50%	50%	
Gibbonsdown	44%	35%	21%
Illtyd	59%	8%	34%
Penarth	58%	10%	32%
Cornerswell	46%	14%	40%
Plymouth	68%		32%
St. Augustine's	70%	23%	7%
Stanwell	39%	10%	51%
Cowbridge	75%	14%	11%
Dinas Powys	45%	10%	46%
Llandough	47%		53%
Llandow/Ewenny	16%	84%	
Llantwit Major	66%	24%	10%
Peterston-super-Ely	20%	13%	67%
Rhosee	83%	17%	
St. Athan	44%	56%	
St. Bride's Major		40%	60%
Sully	29%	17%	54%
Wenvoe	73%	27%	0%
Total	50%	19%	31%

3.5 Vacancies

Please note that this data represents a snapshot in time during **September 2013** and is dependent on providers reporting their vacancies to the FIS. Vacancy levels are constantly changing within settings. This data doesn't include holiday care provision, as there were no holiday care schemes taking place when the information was gathered. If this data was included, it would skew the results.

Figure 41 shows there are a total of **969** reported vacancies across the Vale. This represents an average vacancy rate of **24%**. It should be noted that this provides only a snapshot in time and relies on providers reporting their vacancies to the Family Information Service. **80%** of providers completed this information.

The highest numbers of vacancies are available with childminders (**349**), which also has the highest average vacancy rate (**32%**). The lowest vacancy rate is reported in day nurseries (**17%**).

When comparing vacancies with data in February 2013, the number of vacancies has risen by **124** (**13%** increase). This could be due to the time of year the vacancies were recorded. However, when comparing data with the last full CSA, 3 years ago in October 2010, vacancies have still increased by **171** (**18%** increase). Caution must be taken as in 2010, only **70%** of providers updated their vacancy information.

When looking at vacancies by childcare type and comparing them with data in February 2013, vacancy rates have decreased with childminders and day nurseries (by **2%** and **5%** respectively). Whereas vacancy rates for after school clubs, breakfast clubs, crèche, Cylchoedd Meithrin and playgroups have all increased (by **6%**, **2%**, **19%**, **17%** and **12%** respectively).

Figure 41: Overview of reported vacancies in the Vale

Indicator	After school club	Breakfast club	Childminder	Crèche	Cylchoedd Meithrin	Day Nursery	Playgroup	Vale Totals
Total number of vacancies	143	76	349	25	48	172	156	969
Total number of places	604	289	1097	77	104	1023	631	3825
Vacancy rate	23%	21%	32%	19%	30%	17%	25%	24%

Figure 42 shows that the highest number of vacancies is located in the following wards:

- Cowbridge (**107** vacancies, of which **61** are in day nurseries)
- Llantwit Major (**73** vacancies, of which **41** are with childminders)

- Illtyd (67 vacancies, of which 52 are with childminders)
- Gibbonsdown (67 vacancies of which 21 are with childminders)

The lowest numbers of vacancies are in:

- Llandow / Ewenny (0 vacancies)
- Dyfan (13 vacancies)
- Castleland (15 vacancies)
- St. Athan (15 vacancies)
- Wenvoe (17 vacancies)

These figures are similar to February 2013 except in Wenvoe where vacancies have significantly reduced by 51.

When looking in further detail at full day care, childminders have vacancies in every ward apart from St Bride's Major and Llandow/Ewenny. There are also no day nurseries in these wards, suggesting a shortage of full day care in these areas. Vacancies for childminders are also very low in Dyfan (3), Plymouth (3) and Wenvoe (4). The wards where there are a high number of childminder vacancies are Llantwit Major (41), Illtyd (52) and Baruc (31). This suggests an over saturation of childminders in these areas.

The highest number of vacancies in day nurseries is in Cowbridge (61), followed by Rhose (26).

When looking at out of school care, specifically after school and breakfast clubs combined, the wards with the highest number of vacancies are Dinas Powys (24), Llandough (24), Stanwell (20) and Buttrills (20).

When looking at sessional care (Cylch Meithrin and playgroups combined), Court has the highest number of vacancies (32), followed by Cowbridge (24), St. Bride's Major (24) and St. Augustine's (21).

Figure 42: Number of vacancies by ward and type of provider

Ward	After School Club	Breakfast Club	Childminder	Crèche	Cylch Meithrin	Day Nursery	Playgroup	Total
Barry	46	26	168	15	17	24	63	359
Baruc	10		31			10		51
Buttrills	10	10	26	5	7			58
Cadoc	16		8	4				28
Castleland			15					15
Court		16	12				32	60
Dyfan			3		10			13
Gibbonsdown	10		21	6		14	16	67
Illtyd			52				15	67
Penarth	40	15	48	10	13	8	26	160
Cornerswell	8	8	15	10				41
Plymouth	12	7	3		13			35
St. Augustine's			22			2	21	45
Stanwell	20		8			6	5	39
Cowbridge	4		18		12	61	12	107
Dinas Powys	16	8	9			12		45
Llandough	12	12	9			2		35
Llandow/Ewenny								0
Llantwit Major	2		41		6	24		73
Peterston-super-Ely	15		10			5	10	40
Rhose			15			26		41
St. Athan			15					15
St. Bride's Major		7					24	31
Sully	8	8	12				18	46
Wenvoe			4			10	3	17
Total	143	76	349	25	48	172	156	969

3.6 Fees

3.6.1 Comparisons with national averages

Figure 43 shows the average hourly fee data for the Vale of Glamorgan compared to Wales averages for different types of registered childcare provision.

The average hourly rate for all types of childcare in the Vale is above the national average. The greatest difference is with childminders where the average hourly rate in the Vale is **£4.38** compared to **£3.93** in Wales. This is the most expensive form of childcare on average per hour. Day nurseries in the Vale charge **£4.08** per hour, compared with **£3.70** in Wales. Out of school care doesn't vary greatly from the national average and this is the cheapest form of childcare in the Vale. The national average for sessional care is unknown.

Figure 43: Comparisons in fees

Area	Out of school club	Nursery	Childminder	Sessional care
Vale of Glamorgan*	£3.38	£4.08	£4.38	£3.54***
Wales**	£3.23	£3.70	£3.93	unknown

* Source: Vale of Glamorgan FIS

** Source: Family and Childcare Trust Costs Survey 2013

*** Sessional care provider charge? per session rather than per hour. Therefore figures have been given for an average of 2.5 hours per session.

When comparing fees with data over the past 3 years, there has been an increase in cost per hour for all childcare providers, the most significant being in sessional care.

Figure 44: Comparisons in fees over 3 years

Year	Out of school club	Nursery	Childminder	Sessional care
Mar 2011	£2.96	£4.00	£4.20	£2.45
Mar 2012	£3.31	£4.16	£4.24	£2.56
Mar 2013	£2.91	£4.17	£4.33	£2.68
Mar 2014	£3.38	£4.08	£4.38	£3.54

3.6.2 Differences within the Vale of Glamorgan

Figure 45 shows average hourly fees by type of childcare provider and ward.

The table shows that within the Vale there are differences in the average hourly fee rates for different types of providers. For instance:

- Childminder fee rates range from **£4.69** in Cornerswell and St Augustine's to **£4** in Llandow/Ewenny.
- Day nursery fee rates, which also provide full day care, range from **£4.79** in Plymouth and St Augustine's to **£2.63** in Rhoose.
- Out of school club fee rates, which include after school, breakfast and holiday clubs range from **£4.80** in Baruc and Plymouth to **£2.00** in Court.
- Sessional fee rates, which include playgroups and Cylchoedd Meithrin, range from **£4.80** in Dinas Powys to **£2.00** in Gibbonsdown.
- The cheapest average hourly fee is charged in Cadoc for a crèche (**50p**) and the most expensive average hourly fee is charged in Baruc and Plymouth (**£4.80**). The average hourly fee for all of the Vale is **£3.88**.

Figure 45 Average hourly fees by type of provider and ward

Ward	Out of school care	Childminder	Crèche	Sessional care	Day Nursery	Total
Barry	3.15	4.45	0.5	2.64	3.56	2.86
Baruc	4.8	4.28		3.16	4.3	4.14
Buttrills	3	4.58		2.8	3.53	3.48
Cadoc	2.9	4.56	0.5			2.65
Castleland		4.19				4.19
Court	2	4.53				3.27
Dyfan		4.56				4.56
Gibbonsdown	2.8	4.6		2	2.84	3.06
Illtyd	3.4	4.32		2.6	3.58	3.48
Penarth	3.93	4.59	2.1	2.95	4.74	3.66
Cornerswell	4.2	4.69	2.1			3.66
Plymouth	4.8	4.5			4.79	4.70
St. Augustine's	2.5	4.69		3.1	4.79	3.77
Stanwell	4.2	4.5		2.8	4.63	4.73
Cowbridge	3.9	4.5		3.6	4.73	4.18
Dinas Powys	2.85	4.21		4.8	4.73	4.15
Llandough	2.9	4.5			4.11	3.84
Llandow/Ewenny		4				4.00
Llantwit Major	3.8	4.08		3.94	4.53	4.09
Peterston-super-Ely	3.65	4.67		4.2	3.89	4.10
Rhose		4.08		3.8	2.63	3.50
St. Athan		4.4		4.4		4.40
St. Bride's Major	2.8			3.9		3.35
Sully	2.9	4.21		4		3.70
Wenvoe		4.4		4	4.1	4.17
Total	3.38	4.38	1.30	3.54	4.08	3.88

3.7 Welsh language

Figures 46 and 47 show that where the language of the setting is known, over half of all registered places (**2400, 58%**) are in settings where the language is predominantly English with some use of Welsh. One third (**33%**) of places (**1343**) are in English medium settings. **10%** of

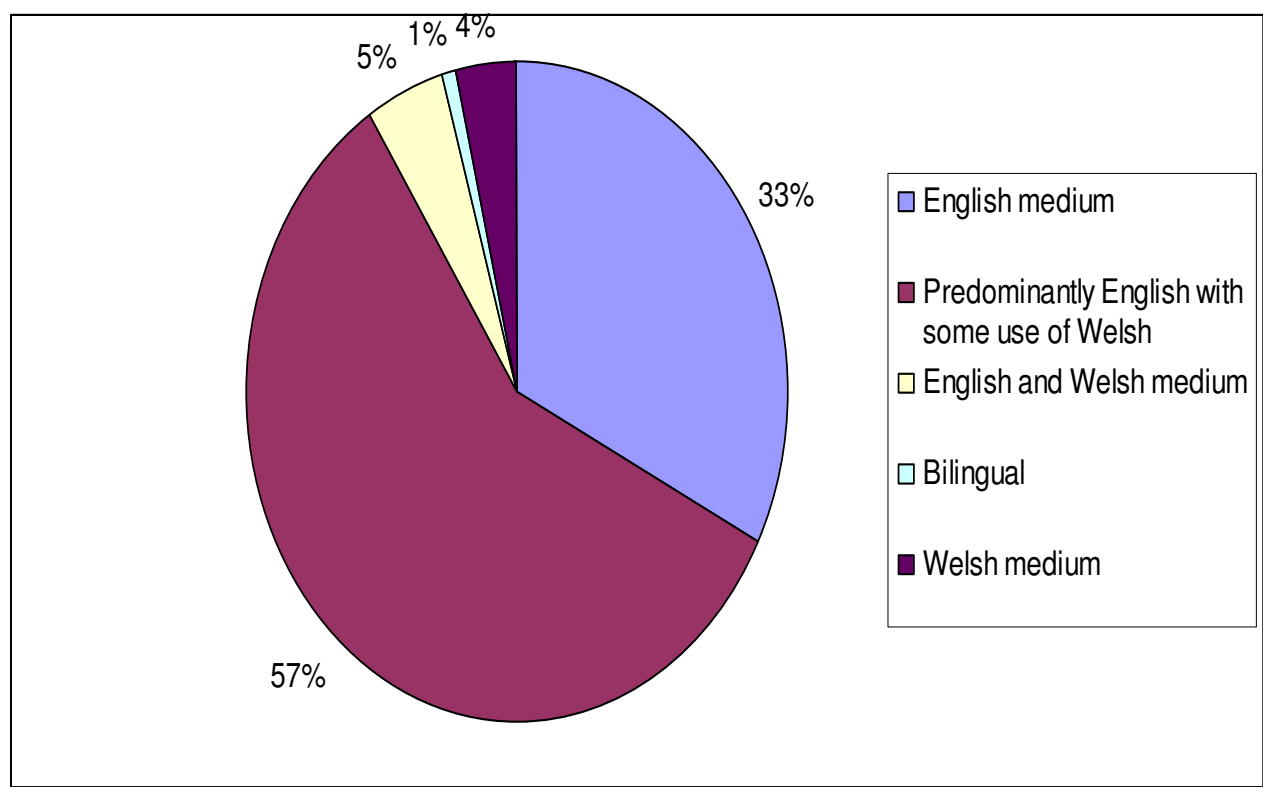
places are in settings where Welsh is used a significant amount of time (includes English and Welsh medium, Bilingual, Welsh medium settings).

It is important to note that there are also **88** childcare places in unregistered Welsh medium settings.

Figure 46: Number of registered childcare places by language used in setting

English medium	Predominantly English with some use of Welsh	English and Welsh medium	Bilingual	Welsh medium
1343	2400	198	26	154
33%	58%	5%	1%	3%

Figure 47: Percentage of registered childcare places by language used in settings



When comparing data over the past 3 years, the number of places where a significant amount of Welsh is used has increased by **214** childcare places which brings the **total number of registered places where a significant amount of Welsh is used to 378**. It now accounts for **9%** of all childcare places. This has remained quite consistent over the past 2 years.

Figure 48, Number of registered childcare places by language used in setting over the past 3 years

Year	English medium	Predominantly English with some use of Welsh	English and Welsh medium	Bilingual	Welsh medium	Significant amount of Welsh	Total places
Mar-14	1343	2400	198	26	154	378 (9%)	4121
Mar-13	1,413	2,428	180	20	188	388 (9%)	4,229
Mar-12	1701	2205	220	24	164	408 (9%)	4314
Mar-11	1760	2033	9	39	116	164 (4%)	3957

Figure 48 shows the number of registered childcare places and the language used in settings by childcare type.

- There is 1 day nursery that is an English and Welsh medium setting and has **160** places.
- Although the majority of childminders are English medium settings, **10** childminders provide either bilingual or English and Welsh medium settings.
- The majority of sessional care provides predominantly English with some use of Welsh medium settings. However, all of the Cylchoedd Meithrin (**5**) provide Welsh medium settings.
- There is **1** Welsh medium holiday care scheme, providing **50** childcare places and **1** breakfast club providing **16** places in a bilingual setting.
- There are also **2** unregistered Cylchoedd Meithrin that provide **28** places and **2** unregistered after school clubs that provide **60** places in Welsh medium settings.

Figure 48: Number of registered childcare places by language used in setting and childcare type

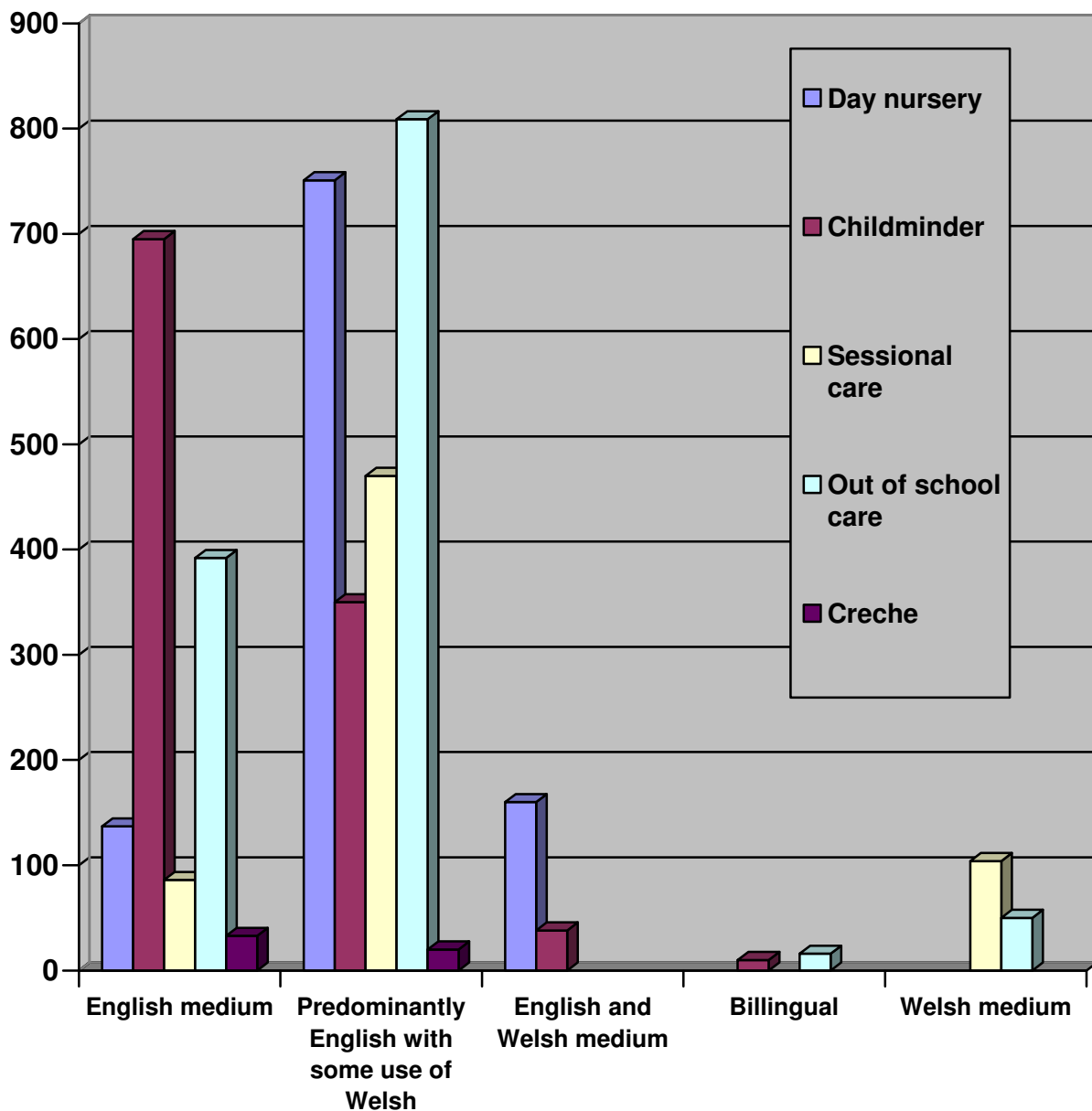


Figure 49 shows the number of places in each medium setting across the Vale.

When looking at wards where a significant amount of Welsh is used, the number of places is not evenly distributed across the Vale. The ward with the highest number of places is Cowbridge (**184**), which accounts for almost half of all places (**49%**), followed by Buttrills (**74** places). Barry accounts for over one third of places where a significant amount of Welsh is used (**36%**). There are **12** wards where there are no Welsh medium / bilingual / Welsh and English medium settings.

Figure 49: Number of registered childcare places by ward and language used in setting

Ward Description	Welsh Medium Setting	Welsh / English Setting	Bilingual Setting	English Some Welsh	English Medium Setting	Total
Barry	98	17	20	780	498	1413
Baruc				152	68	220
Buttrills	74			69	185	328
Cadoc		4	4	36	46	90
Castleland				18	24	42
Court			16	118	18	152
Dyfan	24			6	18	48
Gibbonsdown				177	29	206
Illtyd		13		204	110	327
Penarth	18	11	6	507	329	871
Cornerswell		11	6	26	102	145
Plymouth				270	82	352
Stanwell				85	112	197
St. Augustine's	18			126	33	177
Cowbridge	24	160		126	55	365
Dinas Powys				215	60	275
Llandough		6		81	4	91
Llandow/Ewenny				19		19
Llantwit Major	14			119	100	233
Peterston-super-Ely				157	64	221
Rhose		4		42	125	171
St. Athan				15	54	69
St. Bride's Major				134		134
Sully				140	38	178
Wenvoe				65	16	81
Total	154	198	26	2400	1343	4121

3.8 Disability

3.8.1 Holiday provision for children with disabilities

There are currently no childcare settings that solely care for children with disabilities. This is due to a holiday care scheme, caring for children with Autism deregistering, due to the school moving. However, as previously mentioned in section 3.3.6, there is a Disability Teen Scheme that runs during the school summer holidays for young people aged 12-19 years. There are also open

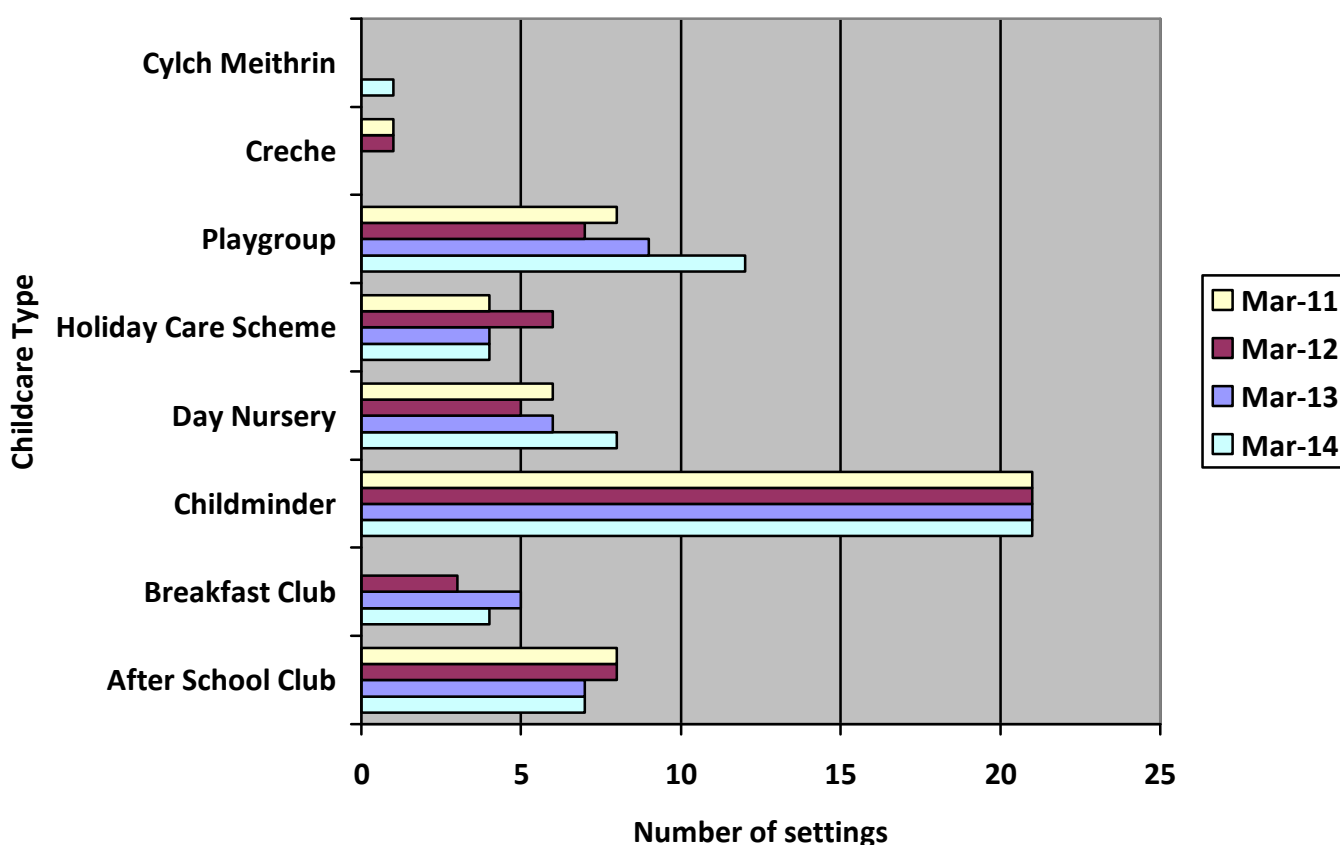
access playschemes that cater for children with disabilities and can provide 1 to 1 care, during the school holidays. These are for children aged 5-11 years.

3.8.2 Number of settings currently looking after a child with a disability

Figure 50 shows that **57** registered childcare settings currently look after a child with a disability or special need. This is an increase of **6** settings since March 2011. However, many providers left this information blank and said that the number they currently care for varies. There has not been much variation over the past 3 years. Over one third of settings are with childminders.

There are currently **280** children on the Index of Children with a Disability or Special Educational Need.

Figure 50: Number of registered childcare settings that currently care for a child with a disability or special need



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

191 registered childcare settings say that they can cater for children with a disability. This is **65%** of all registered childcare settings and has increased by **8** settings since March 2013 and **23** settings since March 2011, which is very positive.

Figure 51 breaks down the number by type of childcare and compares it with the total number of registered childcare settings. The highest number of settings are childminders (**106**). However, childminders also have the greatest variation between those who can care for a child with a disability compared to the total number of childminders (**53%**).

Figure 51: Number of childcare settings that can cater for children with a disability or special need by childcare type

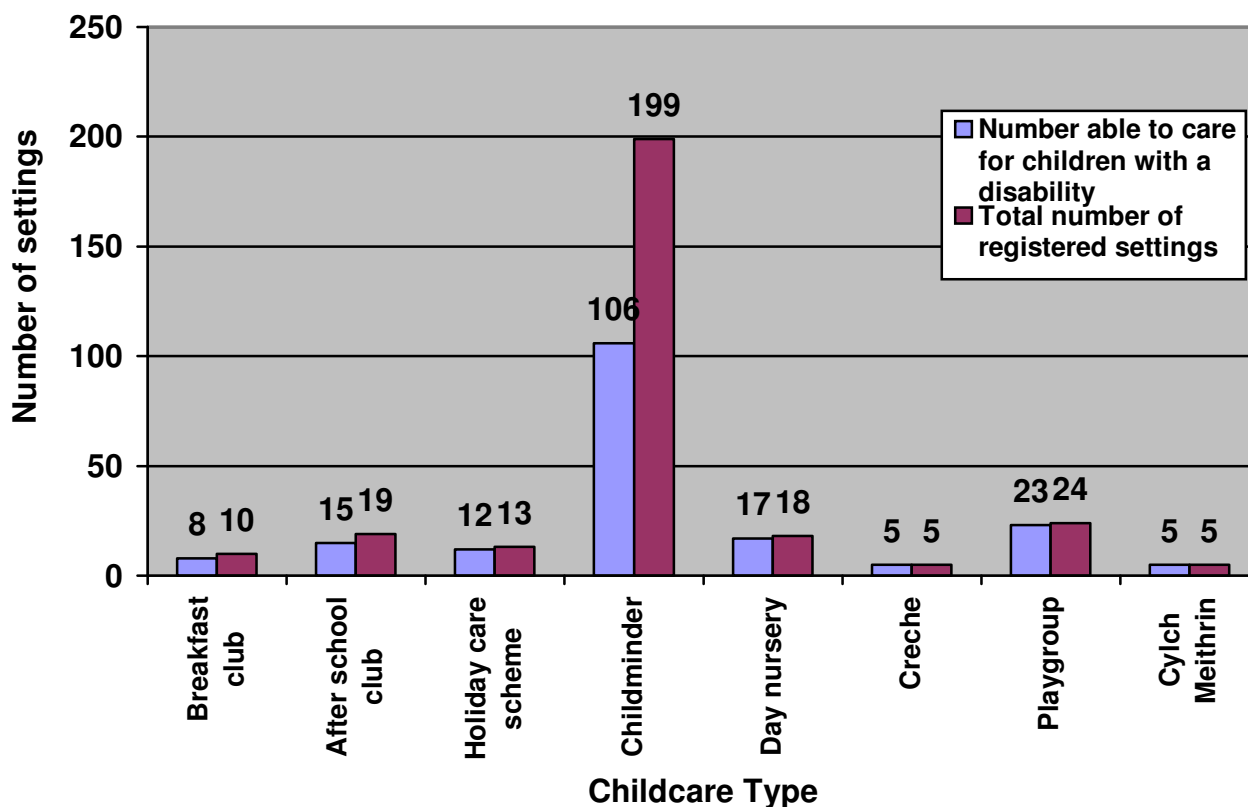


Figure 52 shows that all wards have some provision for children with disabilities. **42 %** of settings (**80**) are based in Barry. The ward with the highest number of settings is Illtyd (**18**) and the ward with the lowest is Llandow/Ewenny (**1**).

Figure 52: Number of childcare settings that can cater for children with a disability or special need, by ward

Ward	Number of settings
Penarth	27
Cornerswell	11
St. Augustine's	5
Stanwell	7
Plymouth	4
Barry	80
Baruc	7
Buttrills	17
Cadoc	9
Castleland	5
Court	9
Dyfan	4
Gibbonsdown	11
Illtyd	18
Cowbridge	11
Llandow/Ewenny	1
Llantwit Major	15
St. Athan	5
St. Bride's Major	3
Rhose	10
Dinas Powys	11
Llandough	5
Sully	6
Peterston-super-Ely	9
Wenvoe	3
Total	191

This number reduces when looking at the number of settings that have wheelchair access (**124** settings). This is mainly due to a reduction in the number of childminders. These include:

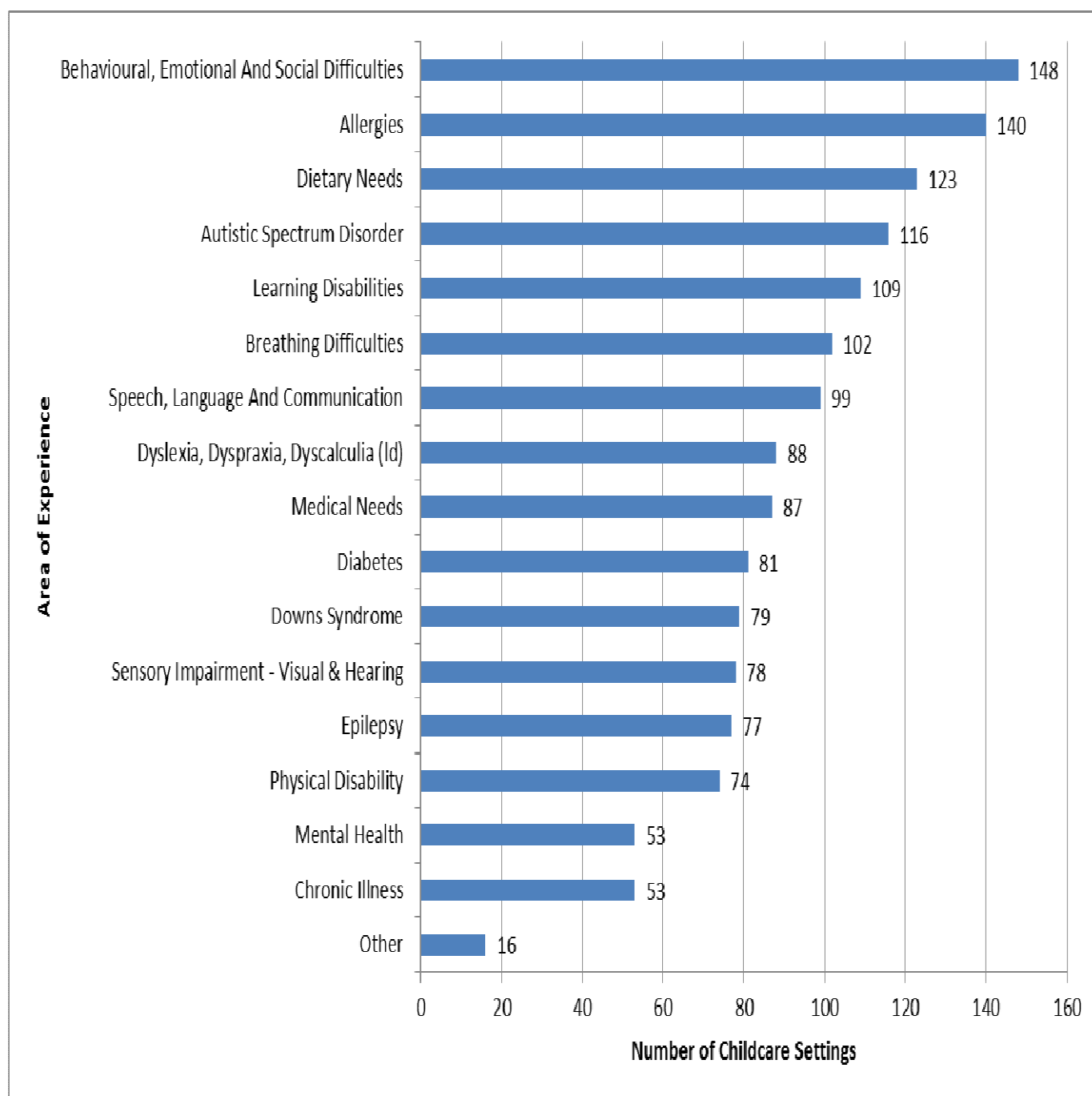
- **15** after school clubs
- **7** breakfast clubs
- **50** childminders
- **5** crèche
- **4** Cylch Meithrin
- **13** day nurseries
- **11** holiday care schemes
- **19** playgroups

This is a reduction of **5** settings since March 2011.

3.8.4 Childcare settings that have experience of caring for children with special needs

Childcare providers are asked what areas of experience they have in special needs and the level of experience i.e. Basic, Confident, Trained. Almost three quarters (**71%**) of all childcare settings have some sort of experience in caring for children with special needs. **Figure 53** shows that the highest number of providers have experience in caring for children with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties (**148**). This is over half of all childcare providers (**51%**). The lowest number of providers have experience of chronic illness and mental health (**53** each).

Figure 53: Number of registered childcare settings that can cater for children with a disability or special need by type of disability



3.9 Quality

28 registered childcare settings have achieved a quality assurance standard. **Figure 54** breaks this down by award and type of childcare setting. Please note that a setting may have more than 1 assurance standard. Please also note that this relies on settings completing this information.

Figure 54: Number of registered childcare settings that have achieved a Quality Assurance by childcare type

Type of Childcare	Name of Award					
	Wales PPA Quality Award	PACEY Quality Assurance	Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Club Aiming High	Investors in People	Cynllun Y Cylch Rhagorol	Flying Start
Out of School Club			2			
Childminder		8				3
Day Nursery	3			3		
Sessional Care	9				2	

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

3.10.1 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 oversubscription criteria. The authority adopts a mixed economy approach with places also available at non-maintained registered provider settings. 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.

3.10.2 Places by type of setting

Information provided by the Learning and Skills Directorate indicates that there are **2,722** nursery places available for eligible 3 and 4 year old children living in the Vale. This is broken down into **2,496** places at maintained school settings (including Community schools, Denominational schools and Welsh medium schools) and **226** places available at registered non-maintained settings. For the 2012/13 academic year **2339** places were required in total for

eligible vale children of which **2200** places were filled, an occupancy rate of **81%** compared to the total number of available places (**2722**). A large percentage of eligible nursery age children in the Vale receive their part time place within the Vale maintained sector or at a Vale registered provider setting. **Figure 55** shows the individual breakdown and take up of places at schools and funded playgroups for the academic year 2012/13. The highest take up of school place provision was in the Barry area (**90%**) and the lowest take up was in Cowbridge (**59%**). The Council provides sufficient nursery places to meet the demand for eligible 3 and 4 year old children living in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Less than half the number of places available in funded playgroups were taken up (**49%**).

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.

Figure 55: Take up of places at schools and funded playgroups for the academic year 2011/12

	No of places available at Sept 2012 Part-Time Equivalent Places	Take up of places at September 2012	Take up of places April 2013
<u>SCHOOLS</u>			
BARRY AREA			
All Saints C/W Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	56	60	58
Barry Island Primary	66	40	48
Cadoxton Nursery	100		100
Colcot Primary	54	25	44
Gladstone Primary	62	68	68
High Street Primary	72	36	52
Holton Primary	74	64	62
Jenner Park Primary	58	27	52
Oakfield Primary	82	13	18
Palmerston Primary	56	32	49
Romilly Primary	130	87	127
St Helen's RC Infant - VOLUNTARY AIDED	46	52	46
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	60	38	58
Ysgol Sant Baruc	38	30	57
Ysgol Sant Curig	114	66	99
Ysgol Nant Talwg	32	29	48
Sub-Total	1100	667	986
COWBRIDGE AREA			
Llanfair Primary	20	16	20
Llangan Primary	34	14	17
Llansannor - VOLUNTARY AIDED	68	25	31
Pendoylan C/W Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	42	25	25
Peterstone	56	15	26
Y Bont Faen Primary	52	27	45
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	52	30	28

Sub-Total	324	152	192
LLANTWIT AREA			
Eagleswell Primary	52	25	37
Llanilltud Fawr Primary	62	41	56
Rhws Primary	90	51	86
St Athan Primary	52	28	40
St Illtyd Primary	76	52	72
Ysgol Dewi Sant	32	20	23
Sub-Total	364	217	314
PENARTH AREA			
Albert Nursery Unit	72	54	69
Bute Cottage Nursery	96		98
Cogan Nursery	120		84
Dinas Powys Infant	72	51	81
Llandough Primary	30	21	30
St Andrew's C/W Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	40	23	28
St Joseph's RC Primary - VOLUNTARY AIDED	48	25	45
Sully Primary	64	34	49
Victoria Primary	90	54	74
Ysgol Pen y Garth	76	33	39
Sub-Total	708	295	597
OVERALL TOTAL	2496	1331	2089

3.11 Flying Start

3.11.1

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, 39 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 Flying Start Networking Facilitator who supports and trains 14 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.

3.11.2 Profile of children taking up a place

From January 2013 – December 2013

- **290** children accessed a childcare place (**86%** take up)
- **29** BME children accessed childcare
- **137** children accessed childcare at any one time (The date assessed for this was 18th November 2013)

3.11.3 Places by type of setting

150 places are allocated to the following Flying Start settings:

- Red Robin Playgroup – (Cadoc) **32** places morning and afternoon
- Cylch Meithrin Pili Pala – (Buttrills) **44** places morning and afternoon
- Butterflies Playgroup – **24** places (Buttrills) morning and afternoon
- Ladybirds Playgroup - **20** places (Court) morning and afternoon
- Gibbonsdown Playgroup – **30** places (Gibbonsdown)

40 places were allocated to our Flying Start Childminders

- **14** Registered childminders : **4** in Cadoc ward, **1** in Castleland ward and **8** in Gibbonsdown ward.

A total of **22,731** sessions took place during the year.

The take up in wards is difficult to measure because the areas covered by Flying Start are not coterminous ward boundaries.

3.12 Conclusions

There are **4,242** registered childcare places in the Vale of Glamorgan, of which the largest proportion is with childminders (**26%**). This means that 4,242 places are available for parents to be able to claim help with childcare costs through the childcare element of working tax credit and childcare vouchers. There has been an increase of **36** registered places since March 2013. This is due to an increase of places in day nurseries (**44**), playgroups (**77**) and crèches (**5**). All other settings have seen a decrease in places (out of school clubs **9**, childminders **47**, Cylchoedd Meithrin **34**).

Since March 2011, there has been an increase of **126** registered places, mainly due to an increase of **213** places in day nurseries. Out of school clubs, sessional care, crèches and childminders have all seen a decrease in places (**53**, **1**, **7** and **26** respectively).

Wards with the highest number of registered places are Buttrills (Barry), Cowbridge and Illtyd (Barry). Cowbridge and Illtyd, as well as Llantwit Major and Gibbonsdown also have the highest number of vacancies, suggesting a wealth of childcare in these wards. These remain the same as in March 2013. However, there is variation since March 2011, where Baruc and Rhoose also had the highest number of vacancies.

Wards with the lowest number of places are Llandow/Ewenny, Dyfan (Barry) and Castleland (Barry). All 3 wards as well as St. Athan and Wenvoe, also have the lowest number of vacancies, suggesting a lack of childcare in these wards. These remain the same as in March 2013 and March 2011, with the exception of St Athan and Wenvoe.

There is a reduction in childcare places during the school holidays of **35%**. The lowest number of holiday places are in Llandow/ Ewenny, Dyfan and St. Athan. St Bride's Major doesn't have any places available during the holidays. During term time, the average number of children per place is **5.8** for the Vale as a whole. This has decreased since March 2011, when the average number of children per place was **6.3**. This could be due to the significant decrease in the population of children aged 5-9, having reduced by one third since March 2011. The average number of children per place increases to **9** during school holidays. The highest number of children per place during term time is in Dyfan, Castleland, Cadoc and Llandow/Ewenny, suggesting a lack of childcare in these wards. During the school holidays, all of these wards, plus St Bride's Major and St. Athan have the highest number of children per place. As already mentioned, St Bride's Major doesn't have any places during the school holidays. This has remained similar to March 2011, with the exception of Court, which now has a fairly low number of children per place (**7.6**) during term time, due to **2** new playgroups being registered.

The number of registered places where Welsh is used a significant amount has increased by **214** childcare places over the past **3** years. It now accounts for **10%** of all childcare places. This is also reflected in the number of places in English medium settings, which has decreased by **24%** from **1760** to **1343** places.

There are no registered settings that solely care for children with disabilities. A holiday care scheme for children with Autism has closed due to the school moving premises. **57** settings currently look after a child with a disability (**19.5%**) and **191** registered settings (**65%**) say they are able to care for a child with a disability. This is an increase of **14** settings (**7%**) over the past **3** years. Almost three quarters of all childcare settings (**71%**) have some experience in caring for children with special needs.

Figure 56 consolidates the supply indicators explored above to present an overall picture of registered childcare supply within each ward. The matrix shows the top three or four wards and the bottom three or four wards for each indicator and is designed to highlight where multiple

supply pressures may be experienced within a ward. It also shows those wards that have no provision for each indicator. The main implications for each ward are explored below:

Penarth

- **Cornerswell:** There are few pressure points for this ward, suggesting that supply is likely to be healthy. Affordability may be an issue, with average hourly fees for childminders and out of school care being some of the highest in this ward.
- **St Augustine:** There are few pressure points for this ward, suggesting that supply is likely to be healthy. Fees are one of the highest for full day care and childminders and there are no breakfast or after school clubs. This ward has one of the highest number of free entitlement places taken up.
- **Stanwell:** Stanwell has few pressure points, as it has a varied choice of childcare and relatively low number of children per place. However it has one of the lowest number of Welsh medium/bilingual providers.
- **Plymouth:** Plymouth has one of the highest number of term time and school holiday places and one of the lowest number of children per place during these times, suggesting a healthy supply of childcare. However there is a lack of sessional care and care before 7.30am and after 6pm. It has a high amount of childcare available before and after school (7.30 – 9am and 3.30 - 6pm).

Barry

- **Baruc:** There are few pressure points for this ward, suggesting that supply is likely to be healthy. There are a relatively low number of children per place during term time and school holidays.
- **Buttrills:** Has a very healthy supply of childcare and is the only ward that offers every type of childcare. It has one of the highest number of providers and places available during term time and school holidays. It also has one of the highest number of Welsh medium providers and the number of providers who can care for a child with a disability. Fees for young children are also one of the lowest.
- **Cadoc:** Has the highest population of children age 0-14 years, in the Vale. It also has one of the highest number of children per place during term time and school holidays, suggesting a shortage of childcare in this ward. Childminders provide the majority of care and there is no sessional care or day nurseries, suggesting a lack of choice.
- **Castleland:** There is a lack of childcare in Castleland. This ward has one of the lowest number of places available during term time and one of the highest number of children

per place during this time, suggesting a need for more term time places. The only provision available in this ward is childminders and it has one of the lowest number of vacancies. There is also a shortage of Welsh medium/ bilingual provision.

- **Court:** Has few pressure points. However there are no after school clubs or holiday care schemes, suggesting a lack of choice and there is no childcare available after 6pm.
- **Dyfan:** Has many pressure points suggesting a lack of childcare. It has one of the lowest number of places available during term time and school holidays and one of the highest number of children per place. It also has a low number of vacancies. However a Cylch Meithrin is now based there and therefore has a good amount of Welsh medium provision
- **Gibbonsdown:** There are few pressure points in this ward apart from having one of the highest number of vacancies, suggesting a wealth of childcare. Gibbonsdown has some of the lowest fees for full day care, sessional care and out of school care.
- **Illtyd:** Has a wealth of childcare, as it has one of the highest number of childcare providers, number of school holiday places and it also has one of the highest number of vacancies. It has one of the highest number currently caring for a child with a disability and number of free entitlement places taken up.

Other wards

- **Cowbridge:** Cowbridge has the highest number of places available during term time and school holidays and the lowest number of children per place during these times. It also has one of the highest number of vacancies, suggesting a very healthy supply of childcare and perhaps an over supply. Childcare is very flexible as it scores as one of the highest wards for having childcare available early, late and throughout the day. It also has one of the most expensive fees for full day care and one of the highest number of Welsh medium/bilingual providers.
- **Llandow/Ewenny:** There is a significant lack of childcare in this ward as there is 1 childminder and 1 playgroup. It has the lowest number of providers and childcare places during term time and school holidays and has no full day care or out of school care. It also has no childcare available before 9am and after 6pm and only has 3 places available during school holidays. There are no vacancies reported.
- **Llantwit Major:** Llantwit Major has one of the highest number of providers and one of the highest number of vacancies. It also has one of the lowest average fees for childminders suggesting a very healthy supply of childcare and perhaps an over supply. It has one of the highest number of providers able to care for children with disabilities.

- **St Athan:** This ward has no out of school care and lacks provision during school holidays, as it has one of the lowest number of school holiday places. It also has one of the lowest number of vacancies and one of the highest fees for sessional care. There is also a lack of Welsh medium provision in this ward.
- **St Bride's major:** There are many pressure points in this ward, as it has one of the lowest number of providers, and a lack of childcare during the school holidays. There are no childminders, day nurseries or holiday care schemes. It has one of the lowest number of places available during school holidays and one of the highest number of children per place during school holidays. There is also no care available before 7.30am and after 6pm.
- **Rhooose:** There are few pressure points in Rhooose, apart from there are no out of school care schemes. Fees for full day care and childminders are one of the lowest.
- **Dinas Powys:** There are few pressure points in Dinas Powys, indicating a healthy amount of childcare. It has one of the highest number of places available during term time but affordability may be an issue with one of the highest average fees for full day care and sessional care settings.
- **Llandough:** Llandough has one of the lowest number of providers and there is no sessional care available. However it has a fairly low number of children per place during term time and school holidays. It has one of the highest number of places available before 7.30am.
- **Peterston super-Ely:** This ward has a good choice of childcare and has one of the lowest number of children per place during term time and school holidays, suggesting a healthy supply of childcare. Affordability may be an issue, with one of the highest average fees for sessional care and childminders..
- **Sully:** Sully has few pressure points, suggesting a healthy supply of childcare. However there are no day nurseries and out of school care accounts for over half of all childcare in that ward.
- **Wenvoe:** Wenvoe has few pressure points but has no out of school care, suggesting a lack of choice. It also has a lack of Welsh medium provision and care for children with disabilities.

Figure 56: Summary of supply indicators

Indicator	Cornerswell	St Augustine	Stanwell	Plymouth	Baruc	Buttrills	Cadoc	Castleland	Court	Dyfan	Gibbonsdown	Illyd	Cowbridge	Llandow/Ewe naw	Llantwit Major	St Athan	St Bride's Major	Rhoose	Dinas Powys	Llandough	Peterston Minor, Fiv	Sully	Wenvoe
Blue = Highest wards																							
Yellow = Lowest wards																							
Total number of providers																							
Number of places available during term time																							
Number of places available during school holidays																							
Number of children per place during term time																							
Number of children per place during school holidays																							
Number of places open before 7:30am																							
Number of places open between 7:30 – 9am																							
Number of places open between 3:30 – 6pm																							
Number of places open after 6pm																							
Percentage of places that is full day care																							
Percentage of places that is sessional care																							
Percentage of places that is out of school care																							
Number of vacancies																							
Fees for full day care																							
Fees for sessional day care																							
Fees for out of school care																							
Fees for childminders																							
Number of Welsh medium / bilingual providers																							
Number currently caring for a child with a disability																							
Number who can care for a child with a disability																							
Number of free entitlement places taken up																							

4 – Understanding the needs of parents/carers

4.1 Introduction

Understanding the needs of parents/carers is vital to ensuring that there is sufficient childcare in the Vale of Glamorgan. By sufficient childcare we mean a suitable range of childcare, suitably located childcare and enough childcare available at suitable times to meet the needs of parents/carers.

4.2 Questionnaire analysis

4.2.1 Introduction

To ensure that we really understand the needs of parents/carers, both in the present and for the future, we have consulted with them. The consultation sought to discover if parents/carers currently use childcare, their reasons for doing so, which type of childcare they use and whether the childcare provision they use meets their needs. We also asked parents/carers who did not use childcare why this was.

4.2.2 Methodology

A questionnaire, designed specifically to gather information for the childcare sufficiency assessment, was distributed both online and in hard copy.

The survey was promoted on the council website, in two press releases, on social media and through Family Information Service summer activity leaflets which were sent out to all schools and available in all council reception areas. Hard copies of the survey were also left in libraries in the Vale.

A stall was set up on Barry Market and members of the public were asked to complete the survey.

Certain groups were engaged face-to-face and asked to complete the survey. These groups include:

- Rainbow Women's Group – a cultural and social group for black and minority ethnic women
- Parent and toddler groups
- Ti a Fi groups – Welsh medium parent and toddler groups
- Rainbows groups – part of the Girlguiding Association
- Adventure Rangers and Tŷ Robin – groups for children with disabilities or additional learning needs

The survey was also posted on the council intranet and emailed to all Vale staff.

All respondents were given the opportunity to send in any further comments via email, post or telephone.

Further information was gathered through a survey sent out to all parents/carers in the Vale of Glamorgan with children under the age of 2. This survey was designed to assess the demand for Welsh medium education in the county. The survey also asked whether children were currently attending any daycare nursery or playgroup. The responses gathered from this survey can be used to assess the use of and demand for Welsh medium childcare.

4.2.3 Profile of respondents

There were 502 responses to the survey. No further comments were received from parents/carers following their completion of the survey.

Figure 57 below shows that the majority of respondents were already parents and not expecting a child.

Parents and not expecting a child	On maternity or paternity leave	Parents expecting an additional child	Parents expecting first child
88%	5%	4%	2%

44% of respondents to the survey said that they were employed and worked full time (more than 30 hours a week). 27% of respondents said that they were employed and worked part time (less than 30 hours a week). 15% of respondents described themselves as stay at home parents or carers, and 6% said that they were self-employed. 6% of respondents were unemployed and 1% of respondents were in full time education.

Figure 58 below shows the proportion of respondents from each electoral ward in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Ward	Percentage	Ward	Percentage
Baruc (Barry)	9%	Cowbridge	3%
Buttrills (Barry)	10%	Dinas Powys	5%
Cadoc (Barry)	13%	Llandow/ Ewenny	<1%
Castleland (Barry)	6%	Llandough	1%
Court (Barry)	3%	Llantwit Major	5%
Dyfan (Barry)	4%	Rhoose	7%
Gibbonsdown (Barry)	7%	Peterston-Super-Ely	1%
Illtyd (Barry)	6%	St. Athan	3%
		St. Brides Major	1%
Cornerswell (Penarth)	3%	Sully	3%
Plymouth (Penarth)	2%	Wenvoe	3%
Stanwell (Penarth)	2%		
St. Augustine (Penarth)	3%	Unknown	4%

While responses were received from each Vale of Glamorgan ward, the limited number of responses from some wards makes it impossible to undertake any meaningful analysis on a ward by ward basis. However, it will be possible to analyse by broader geographical area:

- **Barry** – Baruc, Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleland, Court, Dyfan, Gibbonsdown and Illtyd.
- **Central and Western Vale** – Cowbridge, Llandow-Ewenny, Llantwit Major, Peterston-Super-Ely, Rhoose, St Athan and St Brides Major.
- **Eastern Vale** – Cornerswell, Dinas Powys, Llandough, Plymouth, Stanwell, St Augustine, Sully and Wenvoe.

We still cannot be certain that our analysis will be completely accurate, especially as 58% of responses came from Barry, but we will be able to gain a better understanding of geographical variations through grouping responses into these areas.

So we are able to further understand responses in context, respondents were also asked the ages of their children. **Figure 59** below shows that we received the most responses from parents and carers who had children aged between 0 and 4 years.

0 to 4 years	5 to 10 years	11 to 14 years	15 to 18 years
62%	51%	18%	12%

The responses for those aged between 15 and 18 will only be considered in relation to childcare provision if we have been told that the child has a disability or long term limiting illness. 2% of respondents said that they had a child with a disability or a long term limiting illness who was aged between 15 and 18. A further 9% of respondents said that their child or children, aged 14 and under, had a disability or long term limiting illness.

4.2.4 Current use of childcare

The survey asked respondents to answer a number of questions about the childcare they used during term time and school holidays.

Firstly, respondents were asked whether they used formal childcare for their child or children. Formal childcare was explained to include playgroups, day nurseries, Cylch Meithrin, wrap around provision, breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, holiday playschemes, comprehensive school 'Chill Zones', childminders, nannies and au pairs.

In total, 36% of respondents said that they used formal childcare for all of their children and 38% said that they did not use formal childcare for any of their children. 16% said that they used formal childcare for some of their children and 10% said that they did not use childcare at the moment, but that they intended to in the future.

Figure 60 below shows the use of childcare was lowest in Barry, with 48% of respondents saying that they used childcare for some or all of their children. 59% of respondents from Central and Western Vale used childcare and 58% from the Eastern Vale used childcare.

	Geographical area		
	Barry	Central and Western Vale	Eastern Vale
Do you use formal childcare?			
<i>Yes, for all my children.</i>	89 32%	45 46%	38 38%
<i>Yes, for some of my children.</i>	44 16%	13 13%	20 20%
<i>Not at the moment, but I intend to in the future.</i>	28 10%	7 7%	12 12%
<i>No, for none of my children.</i>	121 43%	32 33%	29 29%

These figures can be broken down for each age group. As **Figure 61** below demonstrates, use of childcare was highest by respondents with children aged from birth to 4. As children get older, fewer respondents said that they used childcare provision. Although we did not receive as many responses from those with older children (aged 10 and over), we can reasonably assume that this reflects reality because, as children get older, they start attending full time education.

	Age of children			
	0 - 4	5 - 10	11 - 14	15-18
Do you use formal childcare?				
<i>Yes, for all my children.</i>	120 39%	93 36%	10 11%	- -
<i>Yes, for some of my children.</i>	62 20%	43 17%	19 21%	3 27%
<i>Not at the moment, but I intend to in the future.</i>	39 13%	16 6%	3 3%	1 9%
<i>No, for none of my children.</i>	86 28%	104 41%	59 65%	7 64%

94% of those who said that they use childcare said that this is based in the Vale of Glamorgan. The reasons given by the 6% respondents for using childcare elsewhere included the importance of finding provision near their place of work (54%) and the lack of suitable provision available in the Vale (38%).

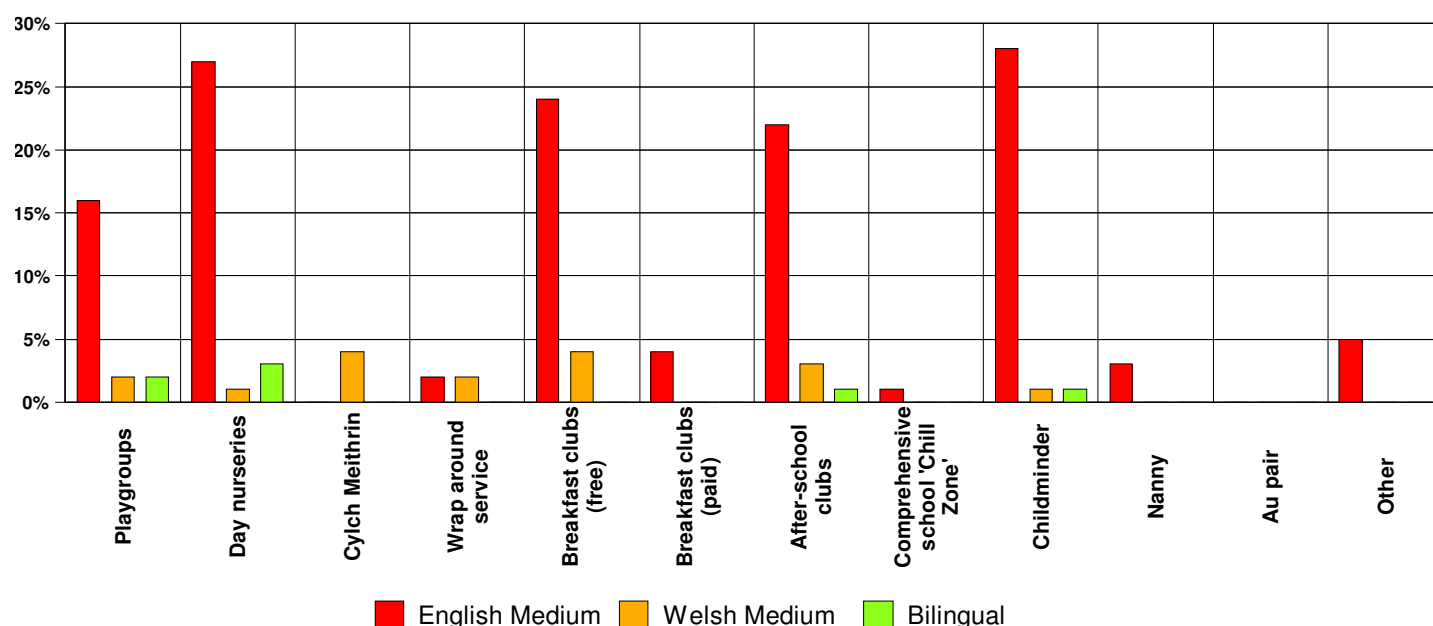
4.2.5 Term time childcare

Respondents were asked whether they used childcare during term time. Overall, 96% of respondents said that they used childcare used childcare during term time.

The most popular type of childcare provision was English medium childminder. 73 respondents said that they used this form of provision during term time, equating to 28% of users. Other forms of popular provision included English medium day nurseries (69 or 26%), English medium free breakfast clubs (63 or 24%) and English medium after-school clubs (58 or 22%). No respondent said that they used an au pair.

Figure 62 below shows all responses to this question. Please note that responses are presented as percentages of all those who said that they used childcare either for all or some of their children and not just percentages of those who said that they used childcare during term time.

Use of childcare during term time



As demonstrated in **Figure 62**, Welsh medium and bilingual provision proved distinctly less popular than English medium provision. The most popular type of Welsh medium provision was Cylch Meithrin with 5% of respondents (12) using this. Similarly, 3% of respondents (8) said that they used bilingual day nurseries.

Type of term time childcare by area

The most favoured forms of childcare varied slightly throughout the Vale. **Figure 63** shows the four most popular types of childcare provision in each area.

Most popular	Overall	Barry	Central & Western	Eastern
1	English medium childminder (28%)	English medium childminder (30%)	English medium day nursery (33%)	English medium day nursery (38%)
2	English medium day nursery (26%)	English medium breakfast club (free) (28%)	English medium after-school club (26%)	English medium after-school club (26%)
3	English medium breakfast club (free) (24%)	English medium day nursery (20%)	English medium childminder (26%)	English medium childminder (24%)
4	English medium after-school club (22%)	English medium after-school club (20%)	English medium breakfast club (free) (22%)	English medium playgroups (17%)

The free breakfast clubs were most popular among respondents in Barry, particularly when including those who used Welsh medium and bilingual clubs. 34% of respondents from Barry used a free breakfast club compared to 24% from the Central and Western Vale and 19% from

the Eastern Vale. Traditionally, Barry is viewed as more deprived than other parts of the Vale and take up is higher in Cadoc and Buttrills, two of the most deprived wards in the county.³ There are also a larger number of free breakfasts clubs in Barry – 16 of the 34 in the Vale are based here. This may go some way in explaining the higher uptake of free breakfast clubs but it is not possible to draw watertight conclusions due to the size of the sample used.

In the Central and Western Vale and the Eastern Vale, a higher proportion of respondents used day nurseries – 36% and 41% respectively, compared to 24% in Barry (including Welsh medium and bilingual provision). However, in Barry a higher proportion of respondents used playgroups – 34%, compared to 24% and 19%. As playgroups do not provide full-time care, and day nurseries can, this may suggest that there is a higher demand for full time care outside of Barry. The cost of care may also be a factor. Day nurseries are, on average, one of the more expensive types of childcare available. In comparison, playgroups offer a cheaper hourly rate.

It is interesting to note that only in the Eastern Vale did respondents use Welsh medium childminders. This is particularly striking as take-up of Welsh medium provision was lowest in this area. Welsh medium provision proved most popular in the Central and Western Vale.

Type of term time childcare by age

The responses to this survey suggests that, as children get older, there is a shift in the types of childcare used. However, we do not have a large enough sample of respondents with children aged 11 and over to be able to draw reasonable conclusions and age group comparisons. While we may be able to view the smaller number of respondents from those with older children as an indicator that use of childcare is less common for children above the age of 10, we have not explicitly asked at which age respondents stop using childcare for their children.

Figure 64 below outlines the two most popular types of provision for each age group. Please note that percentages used include responses for English medium, Welsh medium and bilingual provision.

Most popular	0-4 year olds	5-10 year olds	11-14 year olds
1	Day nurseries (42%)	Breakfast clubs (free) (4	After-school clubs (31%)
2	Childminders (29%)	After-school clubs (34%	Breakfast clubs (free) (24%

³ Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2011.

It is perhaps to be expected that, as children get older, a larger proportion will attend breakfast clubs and after-school clubs as these are arranged around the school day. Similarly, day nurseries in particular are geared towards providing care for children aged less than 4 years old.

Only 11 respondents in total had children aged between 15 and 18 with disabilities or additional needs. None of these respondents used childcare provision during term time.

Hours of childcare used per week

Respondents were asked how many hours of childcare they used per week for each of their children. **Figure 65** below presents these responses. Respondents were asked to start with their youngest child, so Child 1 represents the youngest child for each respondent and, where applicable, Child 6 represents the oldest child.

	0-5 hours	6-10 hours	11-15 hours	16-20 hours	20+ hours
Child 1	59 (24%)	55 (23%)	43 (18%)	18 (7%)	55 (23%)
Child 2	51 (21%)	26 (11%)	17 (7%)	11 (4%)	14 (6%)
Child 3	15 (6%)	2 (1%)	1 (<1%)	-	3 (1%)
Child 4	3 (1%)	-	-	-	1 (<1%)
Child 5	2 (1%)	-	-	-	-
Child 6	2 (1%)	-	-	-	-

While analysis of the survey does not allow us to see how old each child is, in relation to this question, we can see that more hours of childcare are used for younger children than older children. This is likely the result of parents having the ability to align working hours and school or hours or feeling that their children do not require care as they get older.

For younger children, there is a fairly even spread of responses – a similar number of respondents use 0-5 hours of childcare for their youngest child as those who use 20+ hours. There is no typical number of hours that a parent in the Vale of Glamorgan would use during term time.

Trends in number of hours of childcare used per child per week do not vary greatly between geographical area. When looking at responses for Child 1, as shown in **Figure 66** below, a slightly larger proportion of respondents from the Eastern Vale said that they used 20 hours care

or more. More respondents from Barry tended to use between 11 and 15 hours. There is no typical number of hours that a parent in each geographical area would use during term time.

	Total	Child 1				
		0-5 hours	6-10 hours	11-15 hours	16-20 hours	20+ hours
Base	242	59 24%	55 23%	43 18%	18 7%	55 23%
Geographical area						
<i>Barry</i>	121	28 23%	28 23%	27 22%	8 7%	23 19%
<i>Central and Western Vale</i>	56	15 27%	14 25%	8 14%	6 11%	13 23%
<i>Eastern Vale</i>	58	16 28%	11 19%	6 10%	3 5%	17 29%

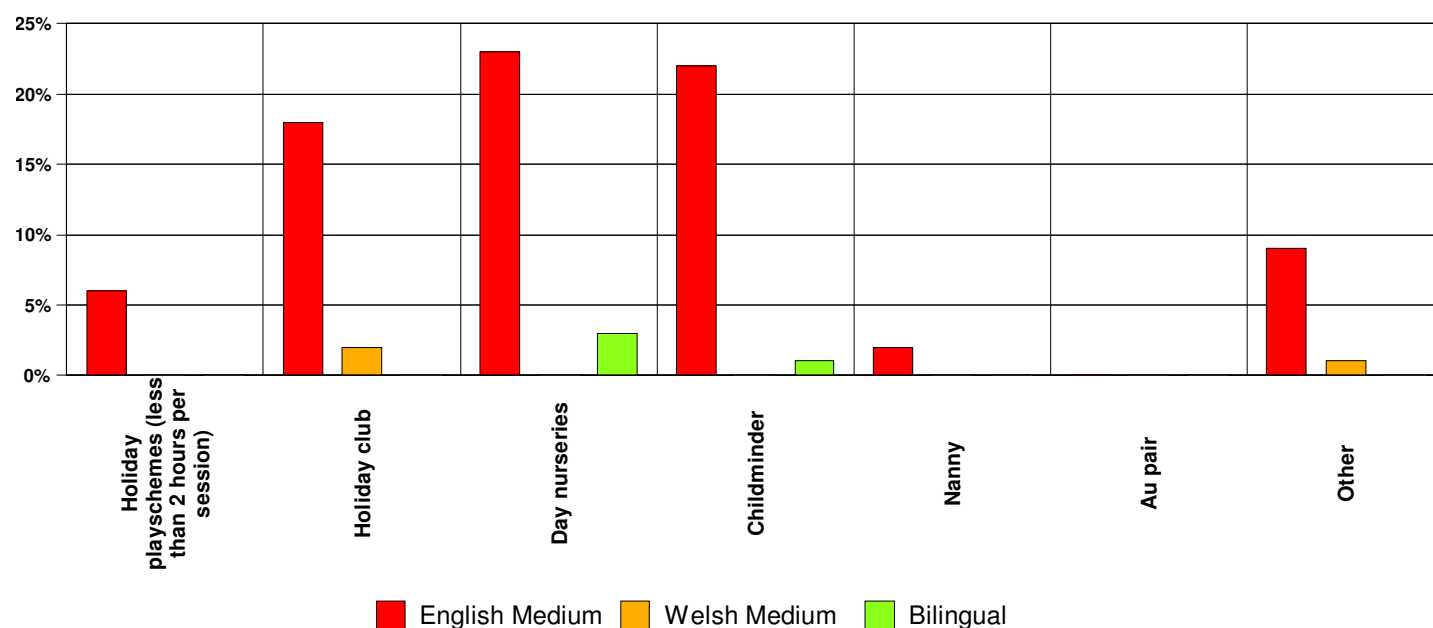
4.2.6 School holiday childcare

Respondents were asked whether they used childcare during school holidays. Overall, 71% of respondents who use childcare said that they used childcare during school holidays. This is 25% lower than those who said that they used childcare during term time. However, we should not automatically assume that parents do not use care because it is not accessible or available.

The most popular form of school holiday childcare provision was English medium day nursery. 23% (59) of respondents who said that they used childcare used these during school holidays. English medium childminders were also popular, with 22% (58) of respondents saying that they used them.

Responses to this question are shown in **figure 67** below. Please note that responses are presented as percentages of all those who said that they used childcare either for all or some of their children and not just percentages of those who used childcare during school holidays.

Use of childcare during school holidays



Welsh medium and bilingual provision were significantly lower. 22 respondents said that they used Welsh medium or bilingual provision during the school holidays. This equates to less than 1% of respondents who said that they used childcare. The Local Authority is aware of the lack of Welsh Medium childcare during the school holidays and will continue to work with partners to increase provision.

Type of school holiday childcare by area

In each area of the Vale, the same three types of holiday provision proved most popular. These are detailed below in **figure 68**

Most popular	Overall	Barry	Central & Western	Eastern
1	English medium day nursery (23%)	English medium childminder (23%)	English medium day nursery (29%)	English medium day nursery (29%)
2	English medium childminder (22%)	English medium day nursery (22%)	English medium childminder (21%)	English medium holiday club (24%)
3	English medium holiday club (18%)	English medium holiday club (16%)	English medium holiday club (17%)	English medium childminder (19%)

Similar to responses about term time care, take up of day nursery provision was proportionally higher in the both the Central and Western Vale (29% with no use of Welsh medium or bilingual) and the Eastern Vale (34% including use of Welsh medium and bilingual) when compared to Barry (22% including use of bilingual provision but no use of Welsh medium provision).

These results show a decrease in the uptake of childcare provision during school holidays, with overall use of childminders dropping from 30% to 23% and use of day nurseries dropping from 30% to 25%. This may be partly explained by a larger number of respondents relying on family to help with childcare during the school holidays. 17 of 26 respondents who provided other responses explained that family cared for their child during the school holidays. This greater reliance on family to care for children may suggest that there is a lack of affordable and accessible holiday childcare provision. This correlates with results from 2010, when the percentage of respondents using family care during school holidays increased from 26% to 41% for younger children and from 33% to 50% for older children.

Type of school holiday childcare by age

When looking at responses by age of child, use of childcare during school holidays was similar to that during term time for 0 to 4 years olds. For children aged 5 to 10 holiday clubs took the place of breakfast and after-school clubs. The two most popular forms of childcare provision for each age group are detailed below in **figure 69**. The percentages include use of English medium, Welsh medium and bilingual provision.

Most popular	0-4 year olds	5-10 year olds	11-14 year olds
1	Day nursery (36%)	Holiday club (31%)	Holiday club (31%)
2	Childminder (22%)	Childminder (25%)	Childminder (14%)

Only one respondent had a child aged between 15 to 18 with a disability or additional learning need who used childcare during the school holidays – this was a holiday club.

During the school holidays, childminders appear to be a popular choice whatever the age of the child.

Hours of childcare used per week

Respondents were asked how many hours of childcare they used per week for each of their children during the school holidays. **Figure 70** presents these responses. Again, respondents were asked to start with their youngest child, so Child 1 represents the youngest child for each respondent and, where applicable, Child 6 represents the oldest child.

Figure 70

	0-5 hours	6-10 hours	11-15 hours	16-20 hours	20+ hours
Child 1	26 (14%)	29 (16%)	32 (17%)	23 (12%)	69 (37%)
Child 2	24 (13%)	16 (8%)	16 (8%)	11 (6%)	26 (14%)
Child 3	8 (4%)	2 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	4 (2%)
Child 4	-	-	1 (1%)	-	-
Child 5	-	-	1 (1%)	-	-
Child 6	1 (1%)	-	-	-	-

When compared to term time childcare, these results suggest that the number of hours used per week increases during the school holidays. For example, during term time, 23% of respondents used more than 20 hours of childcare for their youngest child, but during the school holidays 37% of respondents used more than 20 hours.

This trend is mirrored throughout the Vale. 16% more respondents from both Barry and the Central and Western Vale said that they used more than 20 hours of childcare for their youngest child during the school holidays when compared to term time responses. Similarly, 9% more respondents from the Eastern Vale said that they used 20 hours or more. See **figure 71** below

	Total	Child 1				
		0-5 hours	6-10 hours	11-15 hours	16-20 hours	20+ hours
Base	186	26 14%	29 16%	32 17%	23 12%	69 37%
Geographical area						
<i>Barry</i>	100	14 14%	15 15%	22 22%	11 11%	35 35%
<i>Central and Western Vale</i>	41	6 15%	6 15%	3 7%	9 22%	16 39%
<i>Eastern Vale</i>	42	6 14%	8 19%	7 17%	3 7%	16 38%

4.2.7 Welsh medium childcare

In addition to the survey specifically designed to gather data for this childcare sufficiency assessment, another survey was also conducted from September to November 2013 with the aim of assessing the demand for Welsh medium education in the Vale of Glamorgan. The survey was sent by post to all parents with a child under the age of 2. An online survey was also available on the council's website.

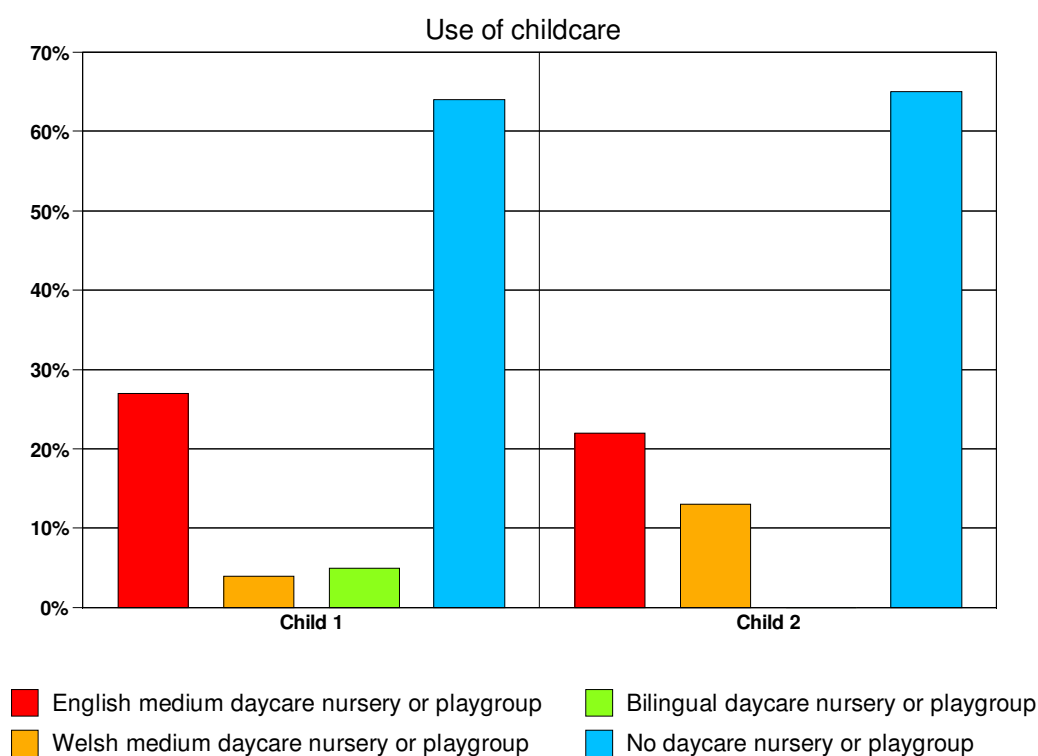
In total, 603 responses were received. As this survey was aimed at gauging interest in Welsh medium education, it is to be expected that those parents/carers who would prefer their children to speak in Welsh would have engaged with and answered this survey.

One question included on this survey is of particular pertinence to the childcare sufficiency assessment. It asked respondents whether each of their children, under the age of 2, attended any daycare nursery or playgroup.

27% of respondents said that they used English medium daycare nursery or playgroup for their youngest child, 4% said that they used Welsh medium daycare nursery or playgroup and 5% said that they used bilingual daycare nursery or playgroup. 64% of respondents said that they did not use either daycare nursery or playgroup for their youngest child.

Only 36 respondents had a second child under the age of 2. 22% of these respondents said that they used English medium daycare nursery or playgroup and 13% used Welsh medium daycare or nursery. 65% said that they used neither daycare nursery or playgroup for their second child.

As demonstrated in **Figure 72** below, the majority of respondents said that they did not use either daycare nursery or playgroup provision. While a larger proportion of respondents said that their second child attended Welsh medium provision, it is worth noting that this is only equivalent to 6 respondents in total.



Responses to this survey correlate with responses to the childcare sufficiency assessment survey, suggesting that interest in Welsh medium provision is significantly lower than in English medium provision. The reason for this could be due to the low numbers of childcare providers in the medium of Welsh. Of those parents/carers with a child aged between birth and 2 years who responded to the childcare sufficiency assessment survey, 7% said that they used Welsh medium provision and 6% said that they used bilingual provision. However, 38% of respondents would like to see an increase in Welsh language and bi-lingual provision. These figures are slightly higher than those given to the Welsh medium education survey, but they cover all types of provision rather than just daycare nursery or playgroup.

4.2.8 Reasons for using and not using childcare

Reasons for using childcare

Of the 52% of respondents who either used childcare for all of their children or some of their children, 92% said they did so because they worked. Of those who cited work as their main reason, 7% also said that they felt their child would benefit socially or educationally. A further 6% of respondents reasoned that childcare would provide social or educational benefits. 2% of respondents said that they use childcare as they were in some form of education or training. 2% of respondents said that they use childcare while undertaking voluntary work.

Responses to this question generally reflect those given in 2010, when the previous childcare sufficiency assessment consultation was undertaken. There has been a slight increase in the proportion of respondents using childcare due to work commitments, from 85% to 92%, and a small decrease in the proportion of respondents using childcare for social and educational benefits for their children, from 20% to 13%.

Respondents who said that they only use childcare for some of their children were asked why. The most popular reasons for not using childcare for all children revolved around the different ages of the children. Of the 16% of respondents who said that they used childcare for some of their children, 46% made reference to the different ages of the children. 22% said that their other children were in full time education so did not need to attend childcare. 11% said that their other children were old enough to not require childcare. Conversely, 9% of respondents said that they were still on maternity leave or stayed at home with their youngest child. 8% of respondents said that their children were not yet old enough to start attending childcare provision - particular references were made to Cylchoedd Meithrin and breakfast club. Other comments referred to work commitments (8%), social and educational benefits for children (8%), help from family with childcare (7%), no suitable care available for children with disabilities or additional needs (4%), a break for parents (4%) and cost of childcare (3%).

There are no comparative responses from 2010 for this question.

Reasons for not using childcare

38% of respondents said that they did not use childcare for any of their children. Respondents were asked why this was the case.

35% of respondents who did not use childcare for any children said that they or their partner were stay at home parents. 30% of respondents said that their friends or family looked after their children. These were the most popular reasons. In addition, 3% of respondents said that they were childminders so they had no need for childcare, and 3% said that they were on maternity leave with a younger child so did not currently need care for older children but would in the future. Another 2% said that their working arrangements allowed them to care for their own children. These responses suggest that respondents do not use childcare because they do not need to rather than because it is substandard. This is similar to the responses received in 2010 when 46% of respondents said that they, their partner or family looked after their children.

Other reasons given to the 2013 survey included that childcare is too expensive (12%). However, the proportion of respondents who see cost as a barrier to accessing childcare has decreased since 2010, from 27% to 12%. The only other barriers highlighted by respondents were a lack of transport (4%) and a lack of suitable Welsh medium provision (2%). In 2010, 9% of respondents said that there was no childcare available at required times. In 2013, only 1% of respondents cited this as a problem – these respondents were all from the Eastern Vale.

These results suggest that barriers to accessing childcare in the Vale of Glamorgan have been reduced in the past three years, but that cost is still a significant problem for some.

Future use of childcare

10% of respondents said that they did not currently use childcare, but that they intended to in the future. This 10% does not include those respondents who were expecting a child, adopting their



first child and on maternity, paternity or adoption leave with their first child. When asked why they did not currently use childcare, 33% of these respondents said that they or their partner was a stay at home carer, 28% said that childcare was too expensive and 12% said that their family or friends looked after their children.

Of those who were expecting a child, were on maternity or paternity leave, were adopting a child or on adoption leave with a child, 87% said that they intended to use childcare in the future. It is important to note that this, while being a high percentage, only equates to 20 respondents.

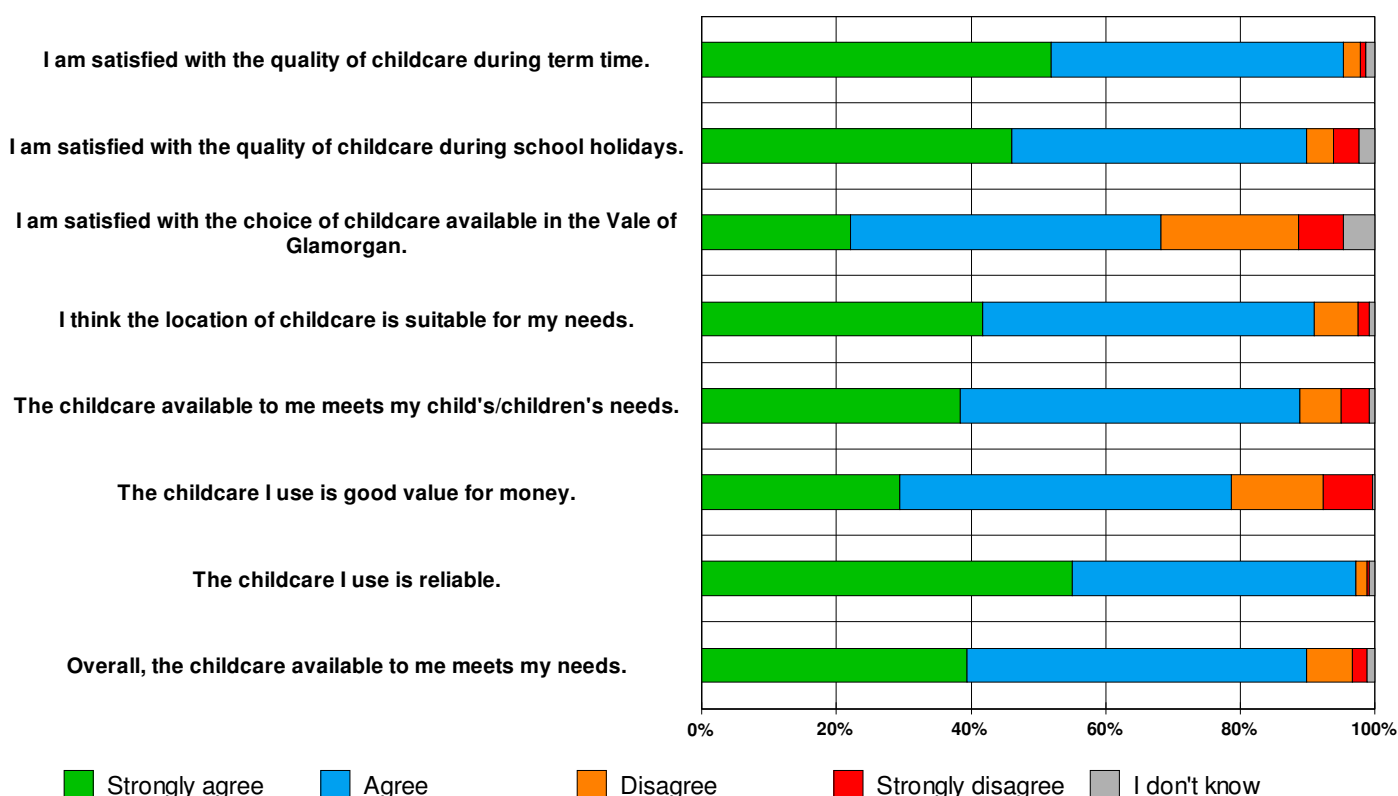
These 20 respondents were asked how old their youngest child would be when they started attending childcare provision. 85% said that their youngest child would be 0-4 years old when they start attending childcare provision. English medium childcare was the most popular type of provision, but there was considerably more interest in Welsh medium provision from future users than current users. 50% of the parents and carers who intended to use childcare in the future said that they would use part time English medium provision and 15% said that they would use full time English medium provision. 25% said that they would use part time Welsh provision and 10% said that they would use full time Welsh medium provision.

This suggests that there is a growing latent demand for Welsh medium childcare provision that may be worth investigating further.

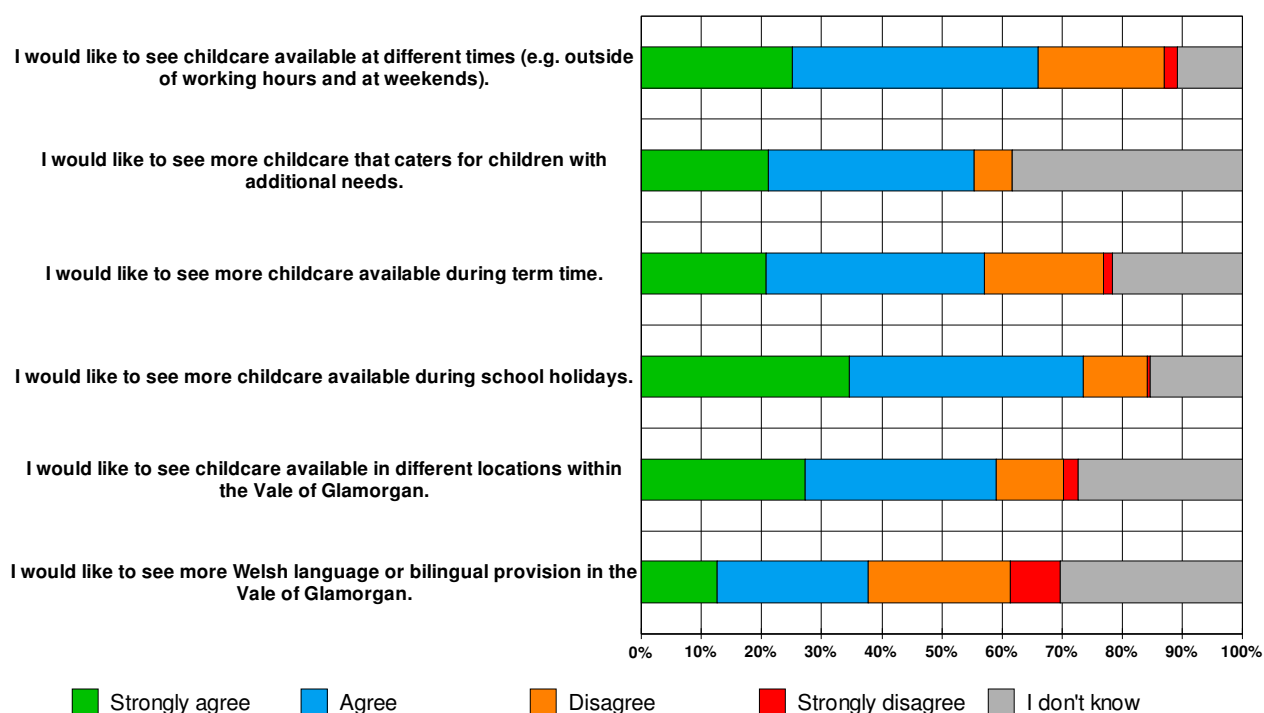
4.2.9 Meeting the needs of parents/carers

Respondents who used childcare were asked how satisfied they were with different elements of provision. Overall, 89% of respondents were satisfied with the childcare available to them in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The lowest levels of satisfaction were recorded for the choice of childcare available – 28% of respondents were dissatisfied. In addition, 21% of respondents thought that childcare was not value for money. Levels of satisfaction were high in all other areas that respondents were asked about, as shown in **Figure 73** below.



Respondents were also asked to consider improvements which could be made to childcare provision in the Vale of Glamorgan. Respondents generally showed a desire for improvement, with more than 50% agreeing with 5 of the 6 suggestions. All responses are shown in **figure 74** below.



The most popular area for improvement was childcare provision during school holidays. 74% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that they would like to see more childcare available during school holidays. Only 1 respondent strongly disagreed with this and 11% disagreed.

Respondents also wanted to see childcare available outside of working hours and at weekends – 66% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed with this. This sentiment was felt more strongly in the Central and Western Vale where almost three quarters of respondents agreed. While we did ask respondents at what times they would like to see childcare available, we only received 27 responses from the 158 who wanted childcare available at different times. Weekend childcare was the most popular response, but this option may be worth exploring further with a larger sample to ensure that the needs of parents and carers in the Vale are being met.

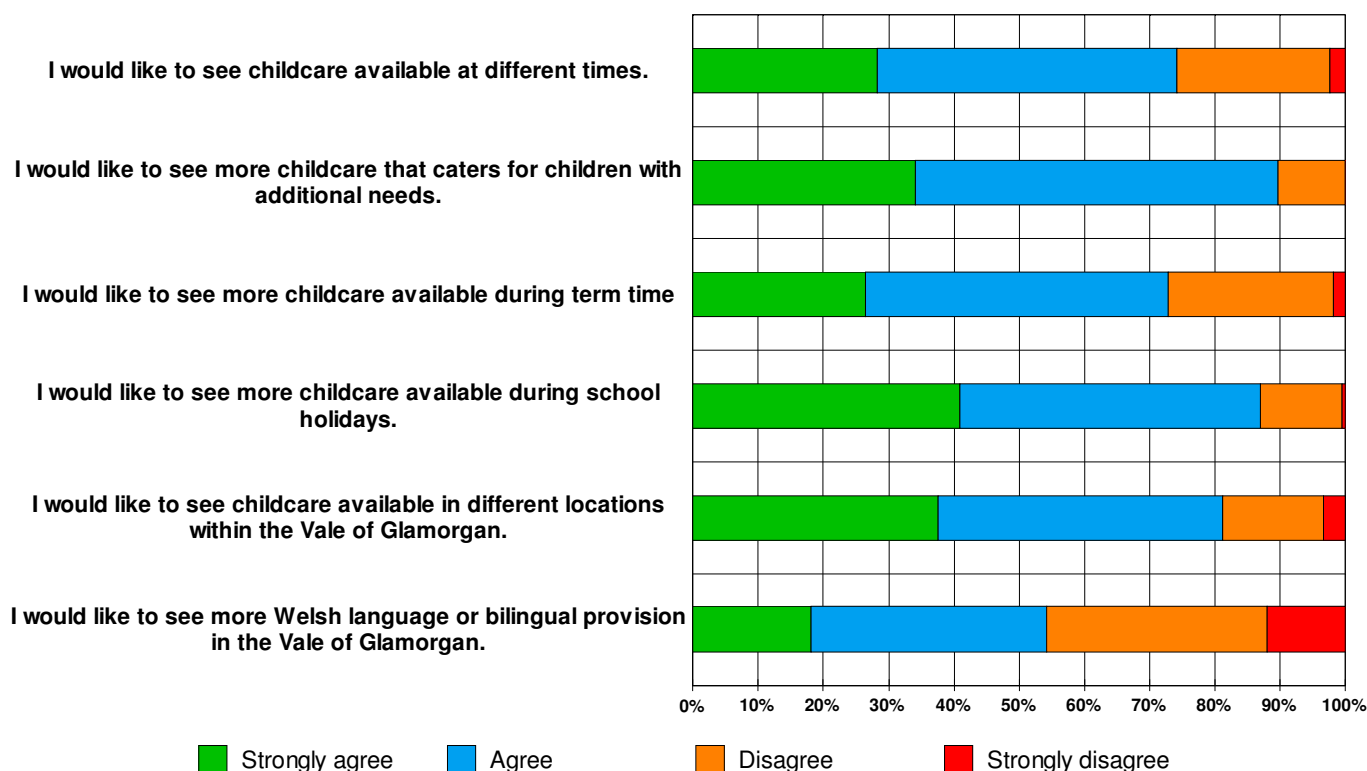
59% of respondents said that they would like to see childcare available in different locations in the Vale of Glamorgan. 57% of respondents said that they would like to see more childcare available during term time.

A total of 38% of respondents said that they would like to see more Welsh language and bilingual provision in the Vale of Glamorgan,. Although this may appear to be a relatively low proportion of respondents, it is very encouraging especially due to 11% of the County's population are Welsh speaking. The Vale of Glamorgan does not have a high percentage of

Welsh speaking residents when compared to other parts of Wales. According to the 2011 census, 83.7% of residents reported that they had no skills in Welsh. It is important, however, not to assume that all parents/carers with no skills in Welsh would prefer their child to attend English medium provision.

A high proportion of respondents answered that they did not know whether they would like to see more childcare that caters for children with additional needs (38%). This is no surprise as access to this specialist area of care will only be required by certain respondents.

It is useful to assess the results when excluding the 'I don't know' responses. When this is the case, the most popular area for improvement was provision of childcare that caters for children with additional needs. As shown in **figure 75** below, 90% of respondents agreed that they would like to see more childcare for children with additional needs.



Respondents were also given the opportunity to make further comments explaining why they were not satisfied with certain elements of provision and how they would like improvements to be made. 25% (65) of respondents made further comments, with several recurring themes emerging.

19 respondents felt that there was a lack of provision for children with additional needs. In addition, a further 4 respondents said that they travel to either Bridgend or Cardiff to find suitable care for their child. This means that 43% of respondents who have children with a disability or additional learning have told us that they struggle to find suitable provision in the Vale. Only 25% of respondents who have a child with a disability or additional learning need use childcare provision based in the Vale. These results suggest that there may be a gap in provision for children with additional needs.

19 respondents told us that childcare is too expensive. 4 of these comments suggested that the Vale of Glamorgan Council or the government could help by providing good quality, affordable and accessible childcare and a further 2 said that they would welcome access to free childcare.

15 respondents made specific comments about childcare provision during the school holidays. Respondents' main concerns about school holiday childcare provision revolved around the hours and dates available. 5 respondents told us that they find holiday provision very limiting as often certain schemes only run for a limited number of weeks and not for the duration of the holiday. 7 respondents said that the hours provided are not suitable as they do not cover working hours. These concerns were echoed by 8 respondents who said that there was not sufficient childcare available for working parents at all times of the year.

Other responses focussed on the lack of choice in general (10), a desire for more Welsh medium provision (8) and a lack of provision for children aged 4 and younger (6).

4.2.10 Conclusions

The most popular reason for using childcare was because parents and carers worked. The majority of parents and carers who said that they did not use childcare simply did not need to – they, their partner, their family or friends looked after their children. Cost is still a barrier to both users and non-users of childcare, but the extent of this problem has decreased since 2011.

Overall, the most popular forms of provision were childminders, day nurseries, breakfast clubs and after school clubs. The popularity of each type of provision varied depending on geographic area. For younger children, childminders and day nurseries were most popular. For older children out of school clubs were most popular.

During school holidays, the number of respondents who used childcare decreased, but the average amount of hours used per respondent increased. There was a strong desire for expansion of school holiday provision, better aligning it with working hours. Respondents also

said that they would like to have greater access to childcare outside of working hours during term time.

A small minority of respondents said that they used Welsh medium or bilingual provision. In addition there was limited desire for an increase in the number of Welsh medium places available. Conversely, respondents expressed a strong desire for more provision for children with a disability or additional needs.

4.3 Family Information Service brokerage 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 November 2012 to October 2013 and compares data over the past three years.

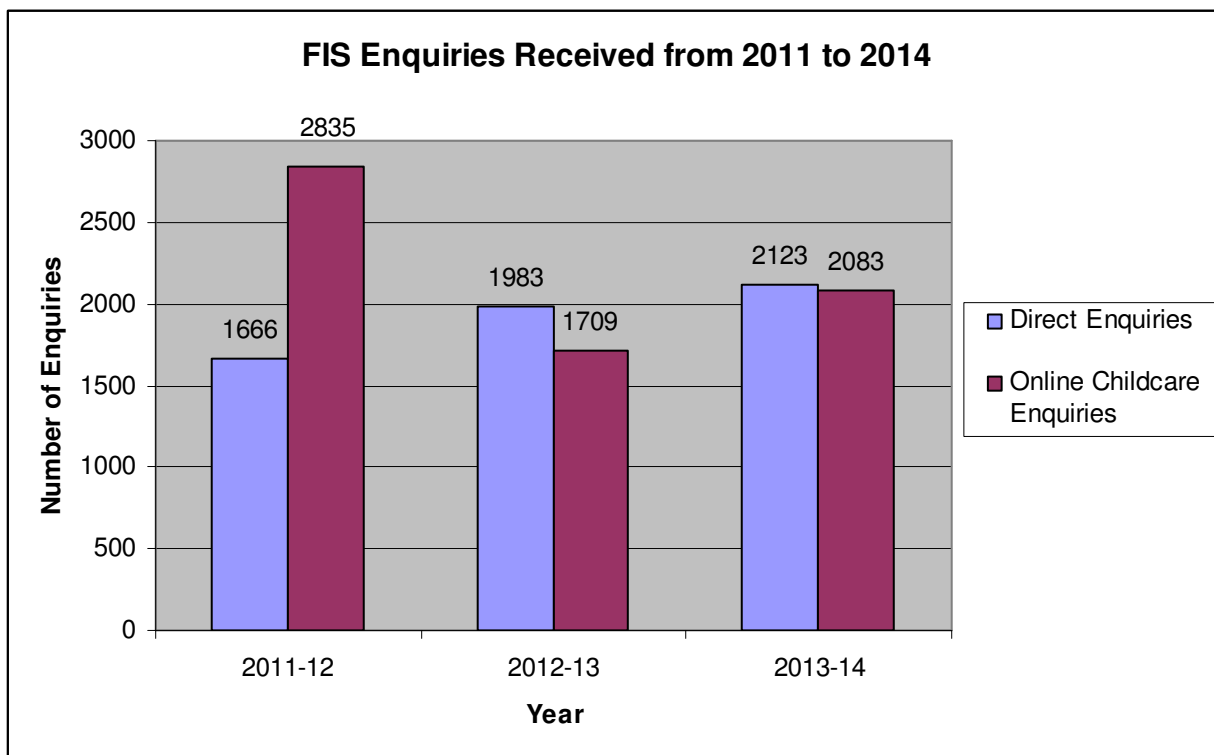
4.3.1 Number of enquiries to the FIS

Over the past year FIS has received **2,123** direct enquiries, which is an average of **177** enquiries per month. This is an increase of **22%** over the past three years. See **figure 76**.

Childcare enquiries are also carried out on-line and for the same time period **2,083** enquiries were made, which is an average of **174** per month. This is an overall decrease of **27%** over the past three years. See figure 76 below.



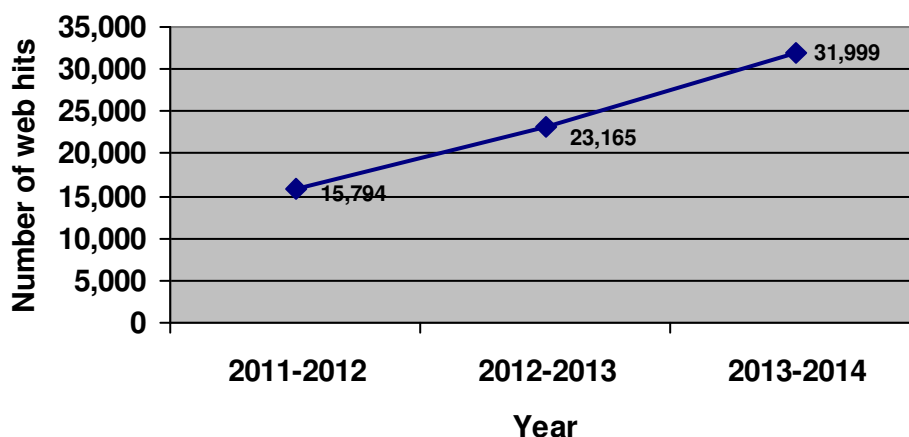
Figure 76 Number of enquiries received by FIS and on-line over the last three years



4.3.2 Number of web hits to the FIS website

The FIS website contains a whole host of information for parents and carers, professionals and providers on childcare, family support, holiday activities and services for children and young people. **Figure 77** shows that over the past year, almost **32,000** hits have been made to the web pages. Hits were particularly high over the summer months when the FIS produced their online Summer Holidays Activity Programme. This generated almost **20,000** hits. Total hits have doubled over the past 3 years.

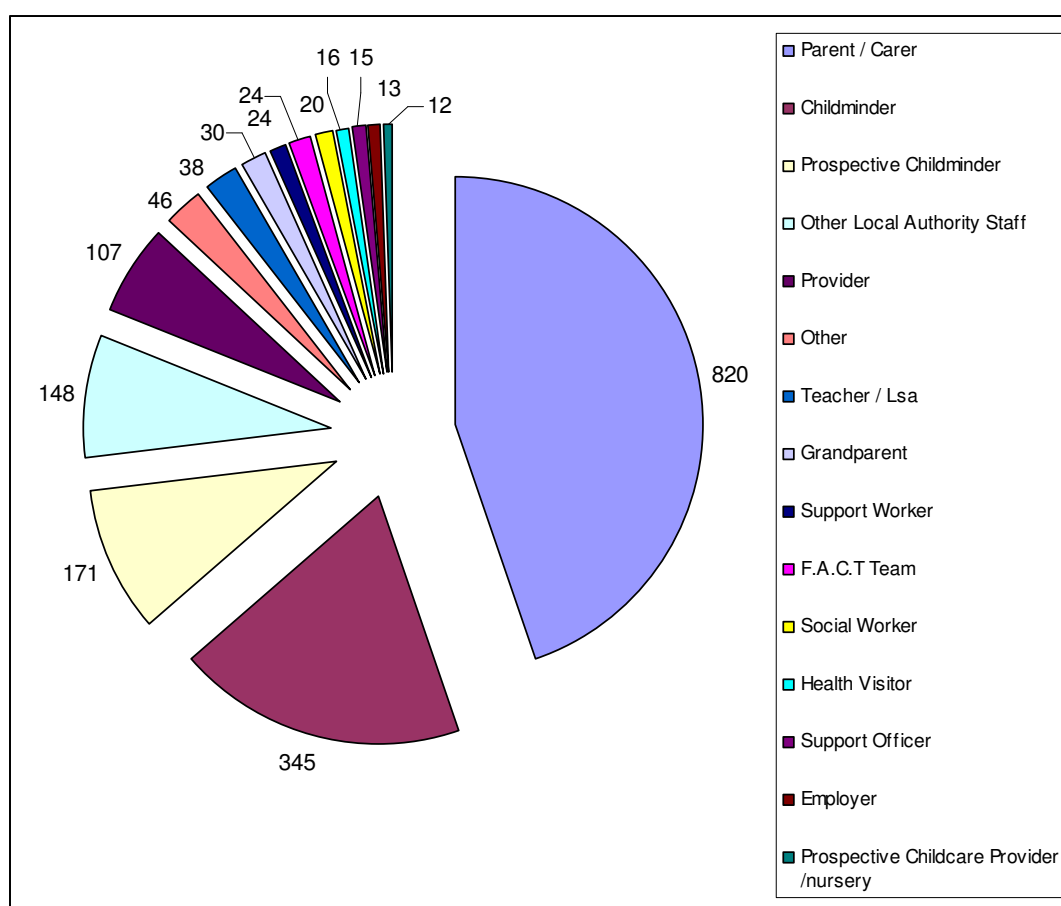
Figure 77 Number of web hits made to the FIS website by year



4.3.3 Type of enquirer

Figure 78 shows that almost half of all enquiries were from parents and carers (**820, 45%**). When making comparisons with enquiries in the previous year, there has been a significant increase in enquiries from: parents and carers, childminders updating their details, other local authority staff, providers, prospective childminders and support workers. There has been a slight decrease in enquiries from health visitors and social workers. When comparing data with the last full CSA carried out in 2011, parents now account for a smaller percent of the overall number of people contacting the service. It has reduced in proportion from **65%** in 2011 to **45%** in 2014

Figure 78 Number of enquiries by type of enquirer



4.3.4 Childcare information requested

For the same time period, the service received **564** requests for information about childcare (this doesn't include those childcare enquiries made online, as this information cannot be analysed). This includes unregistered childcare such as nannies, approved childcarers, baby sitters, open access playschemes and au pairs. This number has decreased by **10%** from the previous year, and **23%** over the last 3 years, where **736** childcare requests were received. When combining

the number of online childcare enquiries with direct enquiries, the picture is similar. There has been a **26%** decrease in overall requests for childcare information over the past 3 years. However, there has been a **12%** increase since last year (see [Figure 79](#)).

Figure 79 Number of requests for childcare information including online childcare enquiries

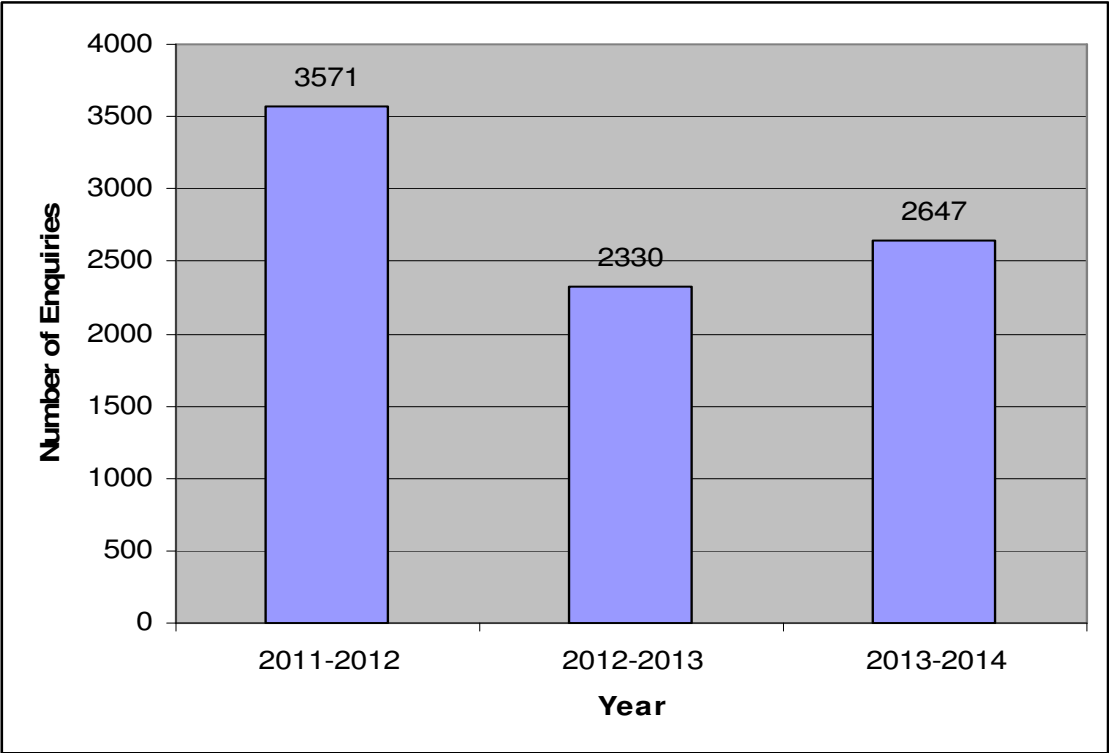
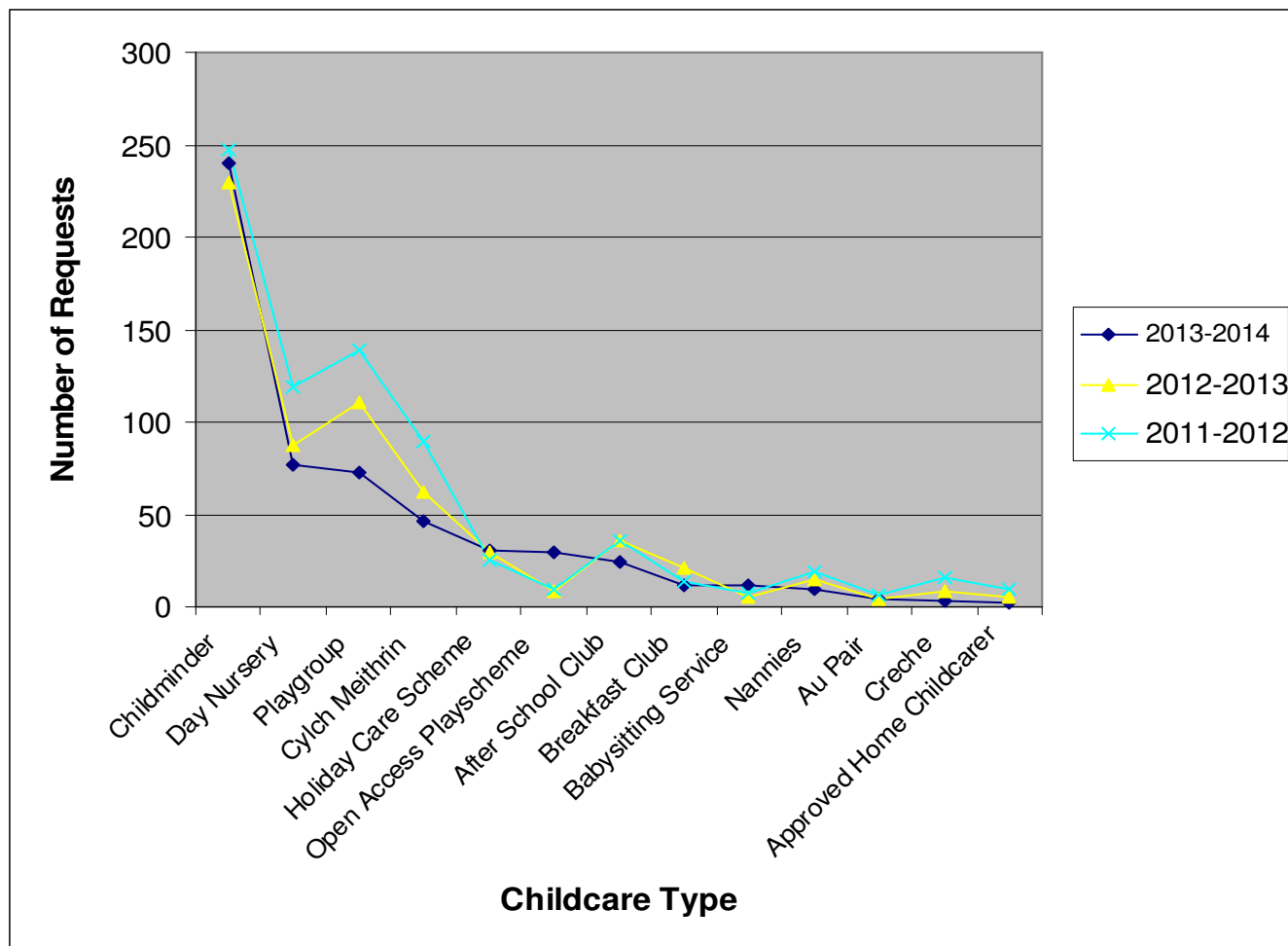


Figure 80 shows the number of requests for childcare by childcare type and year. The number of requests follows a similar pattern to the previous year, where the highest number of requests were for childminders (**240, 43%**). Requests for childminders accounts for almost half of all childcare requests and has increased from the previous year. Requests for all other types of childcare have decreased apart from open access playschemes, baby sitters and holiday care schemes.

Figure 80 below shows the number of requests for childcare by childcare type and year



4.3.5 Specific requirements

120 enquiries were received where the child has a specific requirement. This has increased by **30%** since last year, where **84** enquiries were received. The most common requirement relates to 'Autistic Spectrum Disorder' (**47** enquiries), followed by 'Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties' (**30** enquiries).

4.3.6 Welsh medium provision

Only **7** enquiries for Welsh medium information were received, which is the same as the previous year. When including requests for Cylchoedd Meithrin, the number increases to **53**.

4.3.7 Reason for enquiry

Figure 81 compares the top 23 reasons why people have contacted the service within the previous 2 years. The past two years follow a similar trend, apart from the top two reasons – 'Holiday Activities' and 'Database Updates'. In the past year FIS has received **316** enquiries (**14%**) for information on 'Holiday Activities', which has increased by **40%** since the previous year. Due to the All Wales FIS Network changing the way they would like FIS to count enquiries, there has been a significant reduction in enquiries from providers updating the database (**308**, compared to **436** in 2012-13).

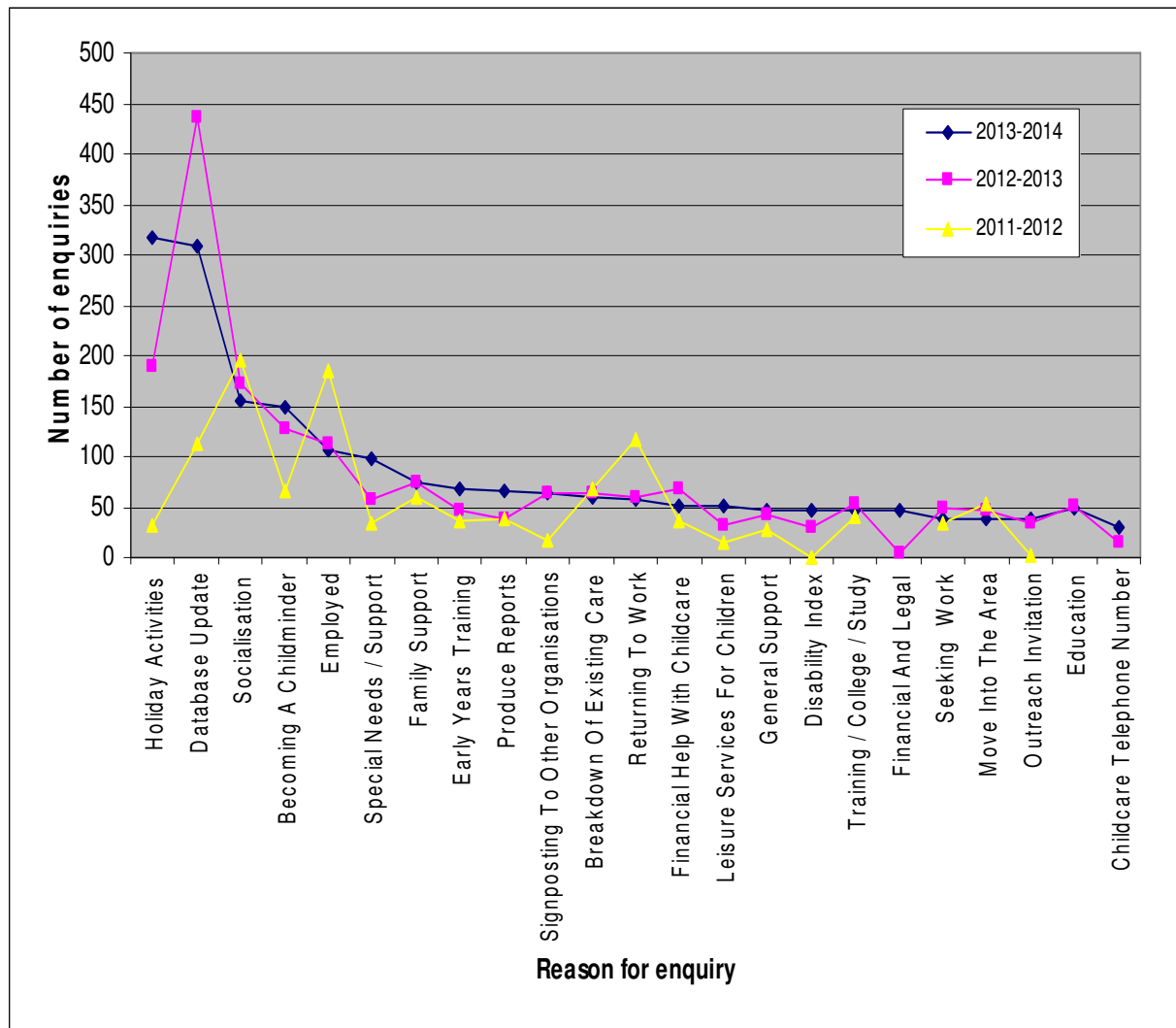
Other significant differences include an increase in enquiries for:

- ‘Becoming a Childminder’ (**149** enquiries)
- ‘Special Needs / Support’ (**98** enquiries)
- ‘Early Years Training and Childcare Provider Enquiries’ (**68** enquiries)
- ‘Produce Statistical Reports on Service Provision and Enquiries’ (**65** enquiries)
- ‘Leisure Services for Children’ (**51** enquiries)
- ‘Disability Index’ (**47** enquiries)
- ‘Financial and Legal’ (**46** enquiries)
- ‘Mailout on Behalf of Another Organisation’ (**24** enquiries)
- ‘Database Inclusion’ (**23** enquiries)

There has been a decrease in people contacting the service for the following reasons:

- ‘Employed’ and looking for childcare (**107** enquiries)
- ‘Socialisation’ purposes (**155** enquiries)
- ‘Returning to Work’ (**58** enquiries)
- ‘Childcare Voucher Scheme’ (**19** enquiries)

Figure 81 Number of enquiries by the reason why people contacted the FIS and year



4.3.8 Enquiry source

Figure 82 compares the most common sources of enquiries over the past 3 years. A fairly similar pattern follows for the 3 years, with the majority of enquirers having contacted the FIS in the past. The referrals that have significantly increased over the past year include:

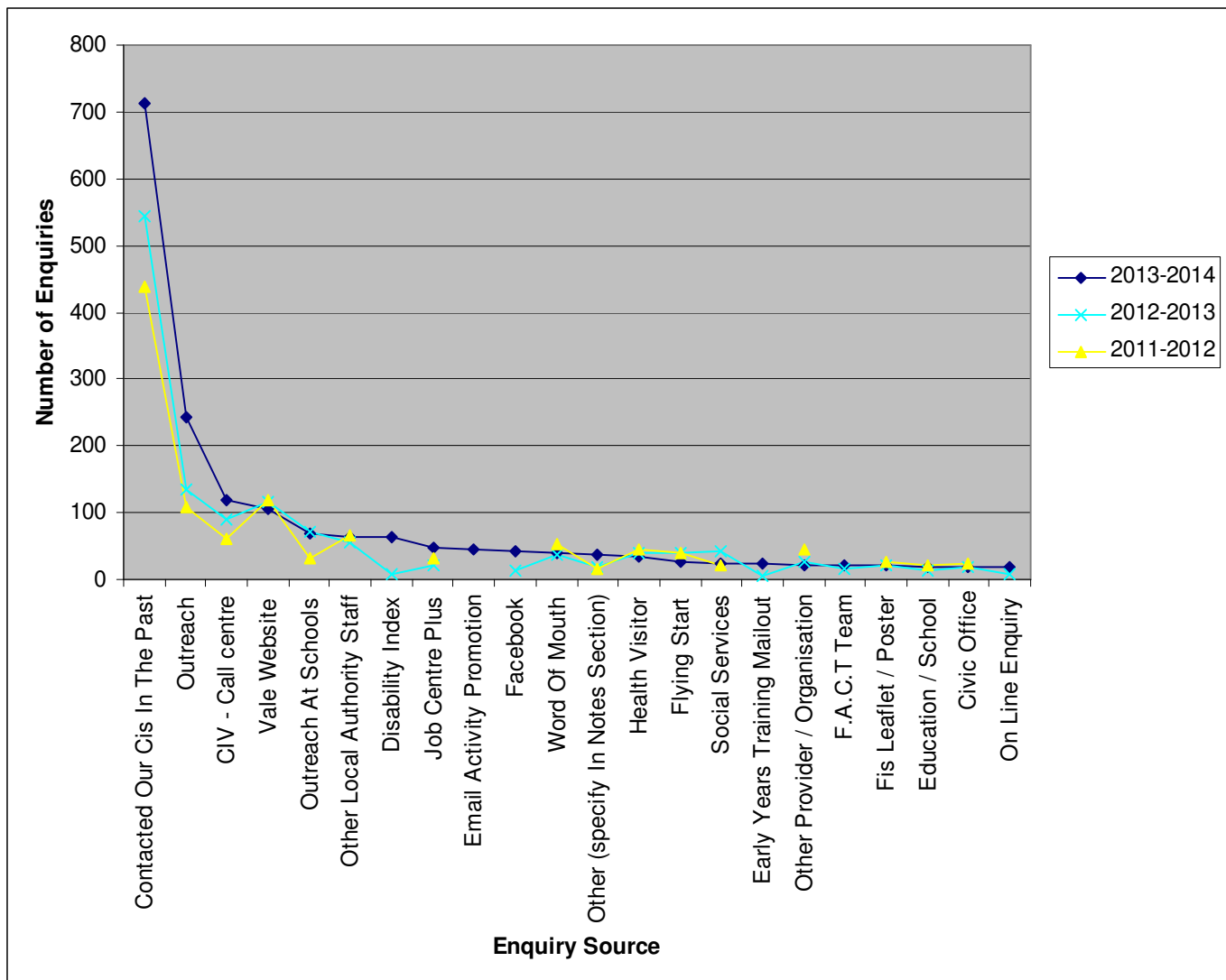
- Contacted the FIS in the past (**712** enquiries, **24%** increase)
- Outreach (**242** enquiries, **44%** increase)
- Disability Index (**63** enquiries, **87%** increase, as the Disability Index was launched in April 2012)
- Job Centre Plus (**47** enquiries, **55%** increase)
- Summer Activity Programme promotion (**45** enquiries, **100%** increase as this was not recorded previously)
- Facebook (**43** enquiries, **70%** increase)
- Early Years Training Mailout (**23** enquiries, **78%**)



The FIS have concentrated their promotion during outreach activities in schools, parent craft sessions, parent & toddler groups and supermarkets. They have also integrated the Disability Index into the team and this is constantly promoted.

The only referrals that have decreased significantly are from Flying Start (27 enquiries, 31% decrease) and Social Services (23 enquiries, 42% decrease) This indicates where FIS needs to target more marketing and outreach.

Figure 82 Number of Enquiries by Enquiry Source and Year



4.3.9 Ward where enquirer lives

Figure 83 compares the number of enquiries received from people looking for childcare, and the ward they live, over the past 3 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. The highest number of enquiries were from people living in the Buttrills ward (**74**), followed by Cadoc (**59**) and Illtyd (**45**). These remain the same as last year.

As already mentioned, the number of enquiries from people looking for childcare has decreased by **10%** since last year. The wards which has seen the greatest decrease are:

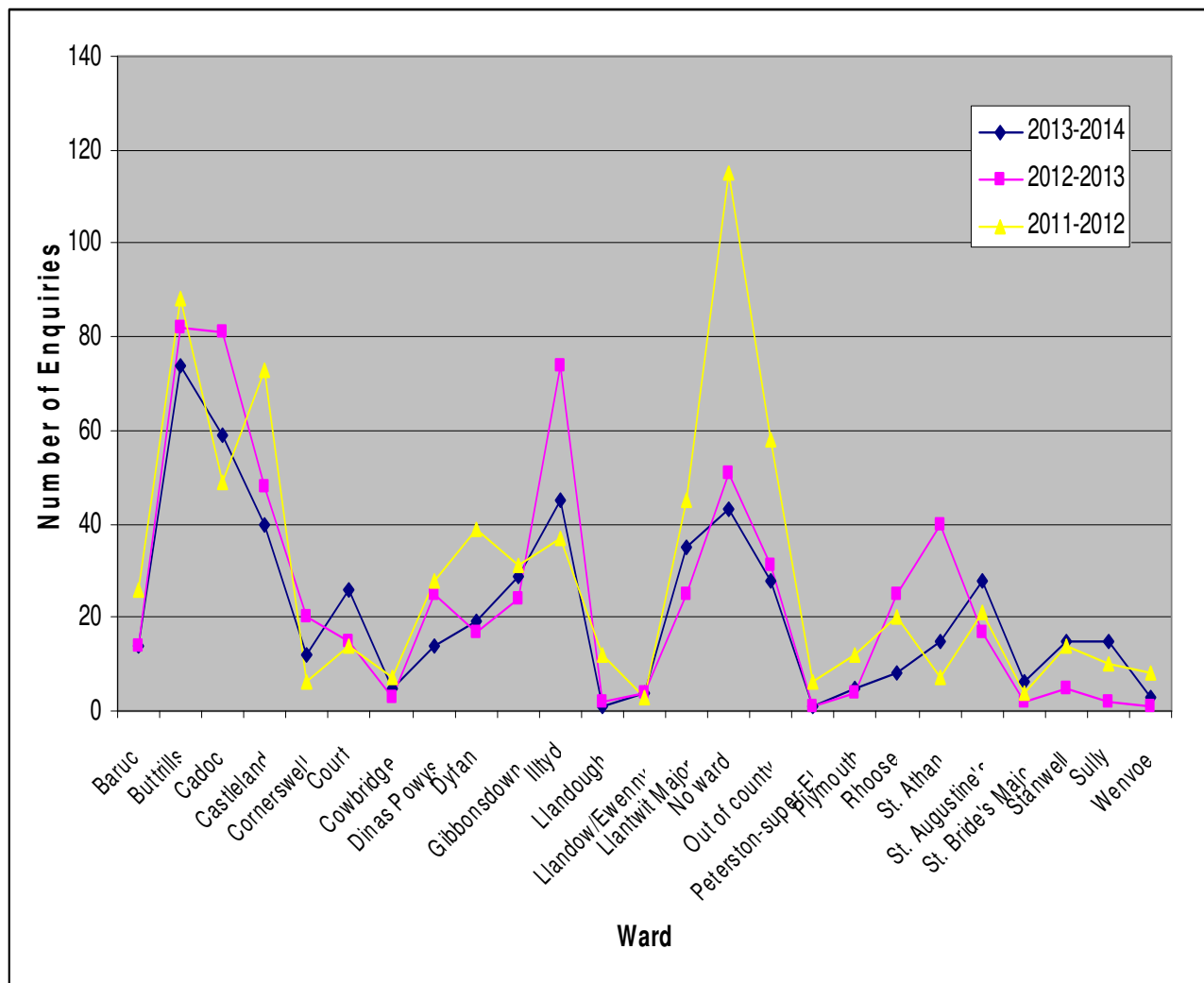
- Cadoc (**59** enquiries, **27%** decrease)
- Cornerswell (**12** enquiries, **40%** decrease)
- Dinas Powys (**14** enquiries, **44%** decrease)
- Illtyd (**45** enquiries, **39%** decrease)
- Rhooose (**8** enquiries, **32%** decrease)
- St. Athan (**15** enquiries, **38%** decrease)

The FIS has been targeting outreach in the Western Vale. However there has still been an overall decrease in enquiries from these wards from **99** to **73** enquiries (**0.7%** decrease), largely due to the fall in enquiries from Rhooose (**8** enquiries) and St Athan (**15** enquiries). Enquiries from Barry wards have also decreased from **355** to **306** enquiries (**14%** decrease). The lowest number of enquiries are from Llandough (**1** enquiry), Peterston-super-Ely (**1** enquiry) and Wenvoe (**3** enquiries). This is where the FIS need to target their marketing.

On a positive note, enquiries from Penarth have increased from **46** to **60** (**23%** increase) and one area where marketing has been targeted over the past year is St Bride's Major and enquiries have increased from **2** to **6**.

Just over half of all enquiries (**56%**) come from people living in Barry.

Figure 83 Number of Enquiries by the Ward where the Enquirer Lives and Year



4.3.10 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.

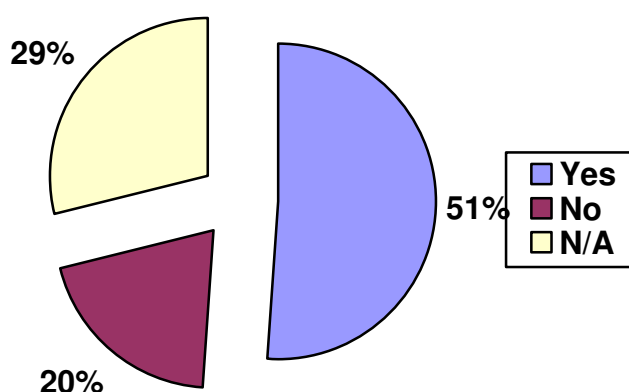
From April 2013 to October 2013, feedback was gained from **126** people who used the service. This is a **32%** response rate, which is very positive and an increase in the average number of responses per month from the previous year (**12** to **18** responses per month).

One third of respondents were looking for childcare (**41** people, **33%**). The majority of respondents were accessing other information on activities and services for children and family support (**83** people, **67%**).

4.3.11 Ability to access childcare

Of those people looking for childcare, 51% were able to find childcare (21 people), 20% didn't find childcare (8 people) and 29% either didn't answer or they were still looking. Due to the large percentage of people still looking for childcare, the FIS wait 6 weeks before contacting the enquirer to ask for feedback, from the time when they made their enquiry. This new process began in September 2013.

Figure 84 Number of service users who found childcare as a result of contacting the FIS



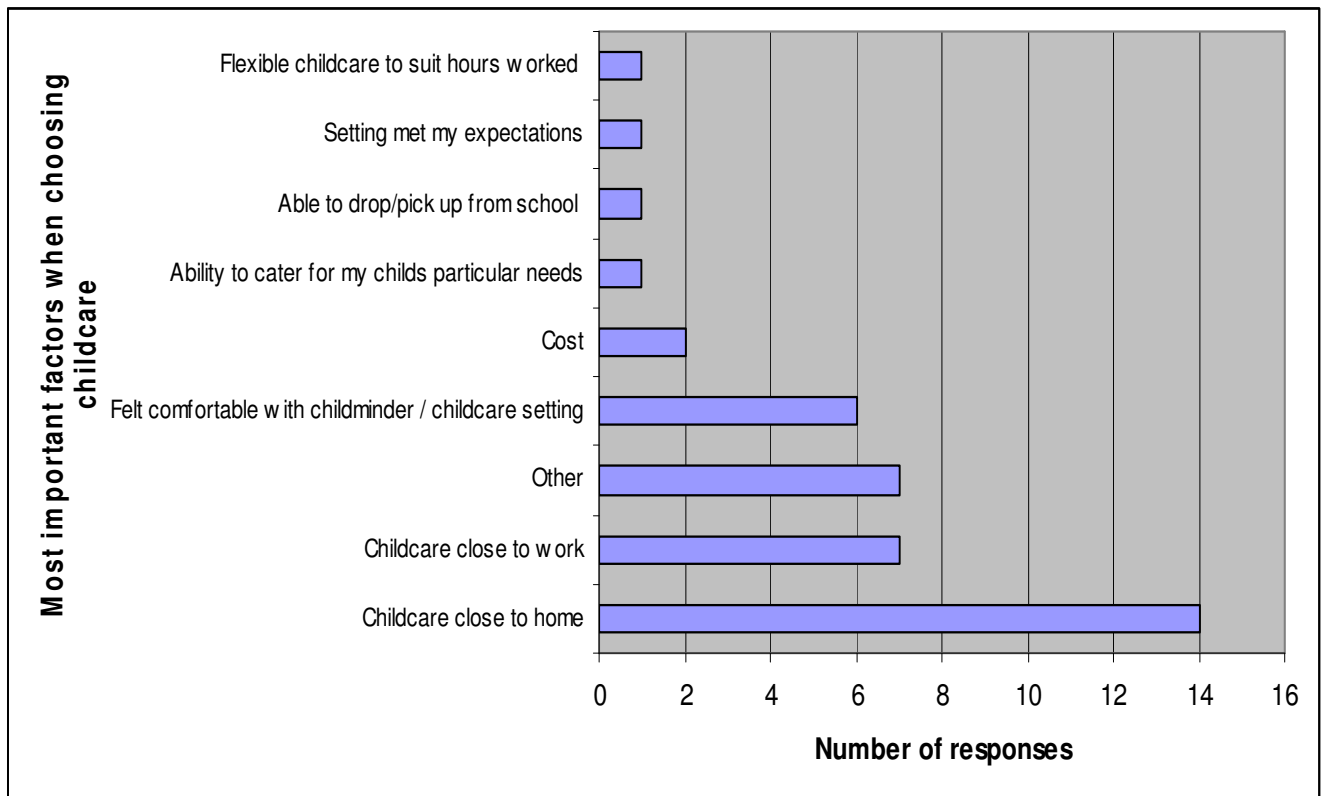
4.3.12 Why childcare was needed

When asked why they needed to access childcare, one quarter of respondents said it was for socialisation purposes. Almost half (44%) were returning to work, employed or seeking work.

4.3.13 The most important factors when choosing childcare

Figure 85 shows the most important factors to service users when choosing childcare. The most important factor was that 'childcare is close to home' (14 responses, 35%). This was followed by 'childcare close to work' (7 responses, 18%), 'other' (7 responses, 18%) and 'felt comfortable with childcare provider' (6 responses, 15%). Only 2 people said that 'cost' was the most important factor.

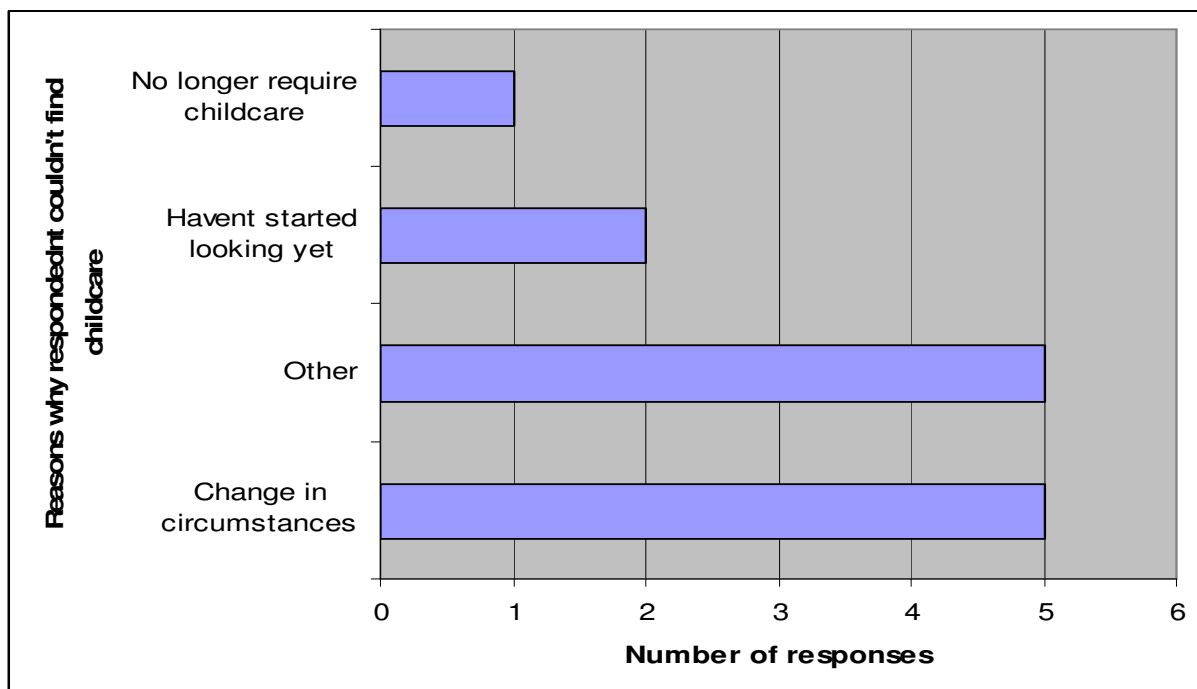
Figure 85 Most important factors when choosing childcare



4.3.14 Reasons for not accessing childcare

Figure 86 lists the reasons why some people did not access childcare. **5** respondents reported a 'change in circumstances', **5** responded reported 'other', **2** hadn't started looking and **1** no longer required childcare.

Figure 86 Reasons for not accessing childcare



4.3.15 General feedback about the service

- **86%** of respondents said the information helped them find and access what they were looking for
- **98%** received the information within 7 working days (**92%** in the previous year)
- **93%** received the information they expected (**96%** in the previous year)
- **100%** were either very satisfied (**83%**) or satisfied (**17%**) with the service (**100%** in the previous year)
- **100%** were happy with the customer service they received (**100%** in the previous year)
- **98%** would recommend the service to other people (**99%** in the previous year)

When asked how they thought the service could be improved, **7** suggestions were made. **2** related to the prices of activities being too expensive, **1** said 'more activities for children under 5yrs in the Summer Brochure' and **1** said that 'the earlier the information is made available, the easier it is to plan for holiday periods'.

When asked for any other comments, **17** were made, all of which were complimentary and included: 'very helpful, quick service', 'excellent service', 'very helpful, called back, quick, good links, excellent', 'used the service twice and info has been great both times'.

4.3.16 Conclusions

The FIS has seen a **7%** increase in enquiries direct to the service since the previous year and an **18%** increase to the on-line childcare database. Hits to the FIS website have also increased by **28%**, which is all very positive.

The number of childcare enquiries direct to the service have decreased by **10%** from 2012-2013. However on-line childcare enquiries have increased by **18%**. Unfortunately on-line childcare enquiries can't be analysed.

When looking at enquiries for specific childcare e.g. childminders, day nurseries etc. requests for childminders account for almost half of all requests for childcare. Enquiries for all other forms of childcare have decreased apart from open access playschemes, baby sitters and holiday care schemes. This could be for many reasons. However, it indicates that the FIS team needs to target promotion at new parents who may be looking for childcare. FIS have been attending all

parent craft sessions for expectant parents over the last year, so hopefully this will result in an increase in enquiries from new parents looking for childcare over the next few years. One of the actions for FIS for the next year is to target more parent & toddler groups.

Enquiries where a child has special needs have increased by 30% since last year. The FIS has taken on the administration of the Disability Index, which would contribute to the increased number of referrals and the information resources held in the team.

Reasons why people have contacted the service remain largely the same as last year apart from a significant increase in enquiries for the holiday activity programme. There has also been a decrease in the number of people contacting the service because they are employed or returning to work and for socialisation purposes. This reflects the decrease in the number of people contacting the service for information about childcare.

How people found out about the service is a good indicator of where marketing is working and where it needs to be improved. There has been a significant increase in enquiries via outreach, social media, the summer holiday programme, Job Centre Plus, the Disability Index and mailouts to childcare providers.

Over half of all enquiries for people looking for childcare were from people living in Barry. Whereas only 5 people contacted the service from Llandough, Peterston-super-Ely and Wenvoe. FIS will be targeting outreach in these areas and other rural areas.

126 people provided feedback from April 2013 – November 2013 and of these, only **33%** were looking for childcare. **51%** were able to find childcare (**21** people). As a result of this, FIS has extended the time between someone making an enquiry and when they are contacted for feedback. The team now wait for 6 weeks, allowing people time to look for childcare. The most important factor when choosing childcare was that childcare is close to home, followed by close to work. There was a very small response as to why people were unable to access childcare and the majority reported either a change in circumstances or gave 'other' as a reason.

100% were either very satisfied or satisfied with the service they received from FIS.

4.4 Jobcentre Plus barriers to take-up employment

4.4.1 Childcare as a barrier

Figure 87 gives information on Childcare Barriers To Work (CBW) Markers set by advisers within Barry and Penarth Jobcentres on a monthly basis from January 2009 to date.

The total in month column provides the number of CBW markers raised by advisers within that month. The total snapshot column provides the total number of CBW markers that have been raised **and** still exist that month.

The information provided can **only be used for indicative purposes**; it is not 100% accurate with regards to genuine childcare barriers to work. Often markers are raised following a conversation where a customer indicates a perceived barrier but actually further questioning with the individual would identify there is no actual barrier and therefore the marker should not have been raised. For example a customer may believe the cost of childcare is unaffordable however there isn't always evidence to suggest the adviser has carried out a "Better Off" calculation to explore the financial perception which raises the question is there an actual barrier.

Table 89

Child Details - Summary of Childcare and CBW January 2010 – Oct 2010

Key: Ch - Children

Barriers	Ch 0 – 2yr	Ch 3 – 4yr	Ch 5 – 7y	Ch 8 – 11yr	Ch 12 - 14	Ch 15 - 16	Ch 17 - 18	Total In month	Total Snapsho t
Provision Places	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	9
Early morn/Eve/Weekend	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	12
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Transport Links	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disabled Children	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Cultural Needs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	15
Childcare	Ch 0 – 2yr	Ch 3 – 4y	Ch 5 – 7yr	Ch 8 - 11	Ch 12 - 14	Ch 15 - 16	Ch 17 - 18	Total In month	Total Snapsho t
Day Nursery	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Nanny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breakfast Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
After School Club	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	12
Holiday Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Home Child Carer Scheme	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Informal	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	13
Childminder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Playgroup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
TOTAL	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	6	55

Section 5 - Consultation with Childcare providers

5.1 Introduction

In order to gain the views of childcare providers with regards to the current state and future of the childcare market in the Vale a programme of consultation was undertaken.

5.2 Methodology

There are a wide variety of childcare providers in the Vale of Glamorgan offering a range of levels of childcare provision. In total there are 292 registered childcare providers in the Vale. See **figure 90** below

Childcare Providers in the Vale of Glamorgan	
<i>Childminders</i>	198 (68%)
<i>Day nurseries</i>	18 (6%)
<i>After school clubs</i>	19 (6%)
<i>Playgroups</i>	24 (8%)
<i>Breakfast clubs</i>	10 (3%)
<i>Holiday care schemes</i>	13 (4%)
<i>Cylchoedd Meithrin</i>	5 (2%)
<i>Crèches</i>	5 (2%)
Total	292

A variety of methods were used to ensure that childcare providers were engaged at the most appropriate level. There were two key strands to the consultation; consultation with childminders and consultation with other childcare providers.

Consultation with childminders was undertaken via a series of facilitated focus group sessions and a brief questionnaire. The focus groups were arranged by and were facilitated by a representative of Vale of Glamorgan Council. The questionnaire was designed in line with the guidance set out in the Cordis Bright toolkit. The questionnaire was distributed by post and by email to all registered childminders in the Vale of Glamorgan. Recipients could complete the questionnaire either online or by post. An incentive of entry into a £50 prize draw was offered to encourage responses.

In total 35 childminders attended the 5 focus group sessions and 50 childminders returned the questionnaire.

Consultation with all other childcare providers was undertaken with a detailed questionnaire. The questionnaire was designed in line with the guidance set out in the Cordis Bright toolkit. The questionnaire was distributed by post and by email to all registered childcare settings in the Vale of Glamorgan. Recipients could complete the questionnaire either online or by post. An incentive of entry into a £100 prize draw for their setting was offered to encourage responses.

In total 94 survey responses were received from childminders and childcare providers operating in the Vale of Glamorgan. This represents 32% of all providers.

In addition to this submissions were received from Wales Pre-school Providers Association and Clybiau Plant Cymru offering these organisations' views on the childcare market in the Vale.

5.3 Characteristics of providers

The results of the two questionnaires provide us with an understanding of the characteristics of the childcare providers currently operating in the Vale.

The profile of respondents to the two questionnaires is broadly similar to that of the total number of registered childcare providers in the Vale (detailed above). As a result the responses offered should reflect, with an acceptable level of accuracy, the childcare available in the Vale.

5.3.1 Childminders

There were 50 responses to the childminder questionnaire. This represents a response rate of 25%. See [figure 91 below](#)

In which electoral ward is your setting?					
<i>Baruc</i>	2	<i>Dyfan</i>	3	<i>Rhoose</i>	2
<i>Buttrills</i>	2	<i>Gibbonsdown</i>	2	<i>St. Athan</i>	1
<i>Cadoc</i>	3	<i>Illtyd</i>	2	<i>St. Augustine's</i>	2
<i>Castleland</i>	2	<i>Llandough</i>	1	<i>St. Brides Major</i>	0
<i>Cornerswell</i>	5	<i>Llandow-Ewenny</i>	0	<i>Stanwell</i>	1
<i>Court</i>	3	<i>Llantwit Major</i>	6	<i>Sully</i>	2
<i>Cowbridge</i>	3	<i>Peterston Super Ely</i>	1	<i>Wenvoe</i>	0
<i>Dinas Powys</i>	3	<i>Plymouth</i>	0	<i>Unknown</i>	4

Responses were received from childminders operating in all but four wards of the Vale (Llandow-Ewenny, Plymouth, St Brides Major and Wenvoe).

16% of respondents currently provided care for children with learning difficulties, disabilities or long term illnesses. None of the childminders that responded to the questionnaire reported that they had ever had to refuse a place due to the complexity of a child's care needs. This is encouraging. However, it is likely that parents of children with complex care needs would generally approach specialist care settings.

5.3.2 Childcare Providers

There were 44 responses from other childcare providers in the Vale. This represents a response rate of 47%.

Responses were received from childcare providers operating in 16 of the 23 wards in the Vale. As many of these providers are larger settings, providing childcare for larger numbers of children than childminders, it would not be expected that there would be a setting in every ward within the Vale. See [figure 92](#) below

In which electoral ward is your setting?					
<i>Baruc</i>	2	<i>Dyfan</i>	0	<i>Rhose</i>	3
<i>Buttrills</i>	3	<i>Gibbonsdown</i>	5	<i>St. Athan</i>	2
<i>Cadoc</i>	0	<i>Illtyd</i>	2	<i>St. Augustine's</i>	0
<i>Castleland</i>	1	<i>Llandough</i>	0	<i>St. Brides Major</i>	1
<i>Cornewell</i>	0	<i>Llandow-Ewenny</i>	1	<i>Stanwell</i>	0
<i>Court</i>	0	<i>Llantwit Major</i>	7	<i>Sully</i>	1
<i>Cowbridge</i>	6	<i>Peterston Super Ely</i>	1	<i>Wenvoe</i>	1
<i>Dinas Powys</i>	2	<i>Plymouth</i>	1	<i>Unknown</i>	5

Respondents were asked to indicate which types of childcare they provided. This offers us an indication of which forms of provision are available within the Vale. A number of providers offered more than one form of provision. See [figure 93](#) below

What type of childcare provider are you?			
Nursery class in school	2	After-school club	10
Day Nursery	14	Pre-school or playgroup	15
Cylch Meithrin	4	Holiday play scheme	8
Breakfast club	5	Other	2
Crèche	0		

The only type of provider from which no responses were received was crèches.

58% of childcare providers surveyed reported that they currently provided care for children with learning difficulties, disabilities or long term illnesses. Further to this only 7% of providers reported that they had refused a child a place due to the complexity of their need. These figures suggest that there are a range of childcare options for parents of children with complex care needs. However, again it should be noted that those with the most complex needs are unlikely to approach most mainstream providers.

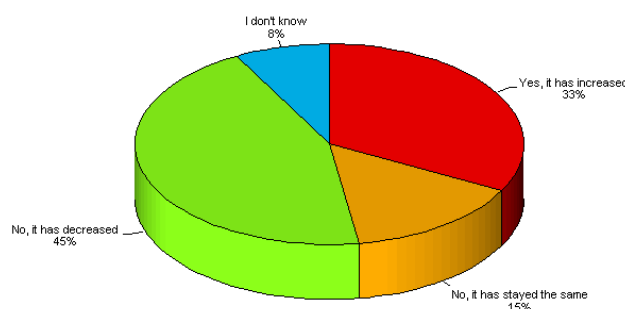
5.4 Views on the local childcare market

Both surveys asked respondents for their opinion of the current level of demand for childcare services in their area. The current state of the childcare market in the Vale was also one of the main discussion topics during the focus group sessions.

5.4.1 Childminders

Within the survey responses there was a lack of consensus among those childminders that had been operating for at least three years as to the recent trend for demand for their services. See **figure 94** below

In the last three years, has demand for your childcare services increased?



One third of childminders operating in the Vale felt that demand for childcare had increased in the previous three years. 45% felt that demand had decreased. 15% felt that it had stayed the same.

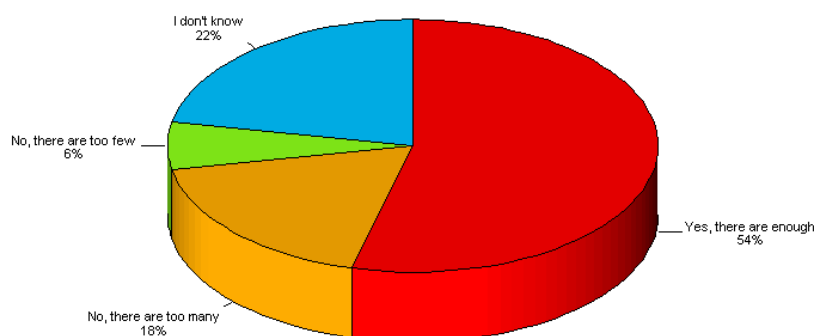
However, when this issue was discussed in the focus group sessions there was a clear consensus that demand for childminding services had fallen. Those present at all sessions reported that there are increasing numbers of vacancies particularly during the day. The considerably lower cost of school breakfast and after-school clubs was seen as one of the main reasons for this downward trend.

Among those who attended the focus groups there was a general consensus that informal childcare, especially that offered by family members such as grandparents, is now playing a larger role within the Vale. This is because parents see this form of care as being considerably more cost effective.

Comments made at the sessions suggest that, on the whole, childminders now have more part-time places. One childminder commented that she cares for 10 children all on a part-time basis and she cannot remember the last time she cared for a child on a full-time basis.

The questionnaire asked childminders whether they felt there were currently a suitable number of childminders operating in their local area and whether or not they felt this number had significantly changed in the last three years. See [figure 95](#) below

In your opinion, are there a suitable number of childminders currently operating in your local area?



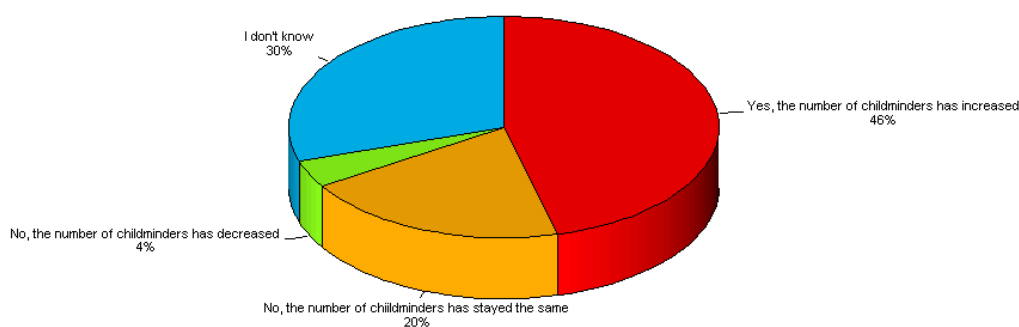
54% of respondents felt there were currently enough childminders operating in their local area. 18% felt that there were currently too many. Only 6% felt that there were currently too few.

Considering the views expressed with regard to changes in the demand for childcare it is understandable that only a very small minority of childminders feel that there are currently too few of their contemporaries operating in their local area.

The childminders who attended one the focus groups offered the same opinion. At one focus group session there was agreement that recent changes have resulted in a lot more childminders all being located in the same area. One childminder suggested that a more strategic approach should be taken, as it was previously, by the council in order to ensure that this did not become commonplace.

In **figure 96** below, Survey respondents were also asked how they felt the number of childminders operating in their area had changed over the past three years.

In the last three years, do you feel that the number of childminders operating in your local area has increased?



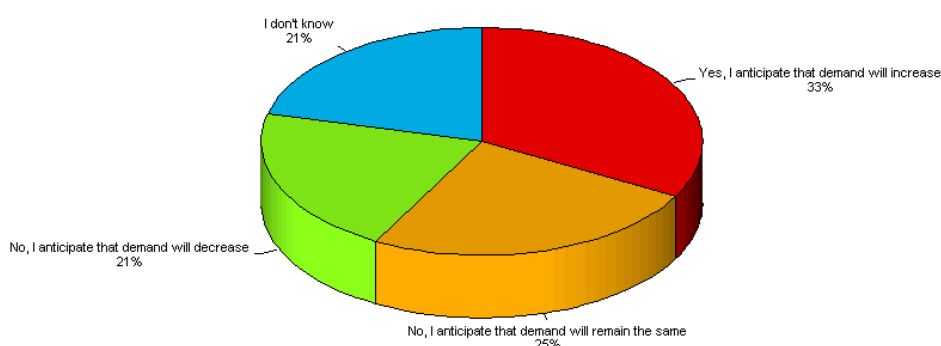
The high number of respondents reporting that they feel the number of childminders operating in their area has increased also fits with the previous responses.

The responses to all of the questions in this section of the survey suggest a potential concern among some childminders that the local childcare market is becoming saturated with providers. This is very interesting as there are in fact fewer childminders currently

operating in the Vale of Glamorgan than in 2011. Unfortunately the responses offered do not provide an explanation of why childminders' perceptions of the local childcare market differ from the reality.

Figure 97 below demonstrates that childminders were also asked how they anticipated the demand for their services would change in the next three years. Once again opinion among survey respondents was divided.

In the next three years, do you anticipate that demand for your childcare services will increase?



33% of childminders felt that demand was likely to increase. 25% felt that demand was likely to stay the same. 21% felt that demand was likely to decrease. 21% felt that they did not know.

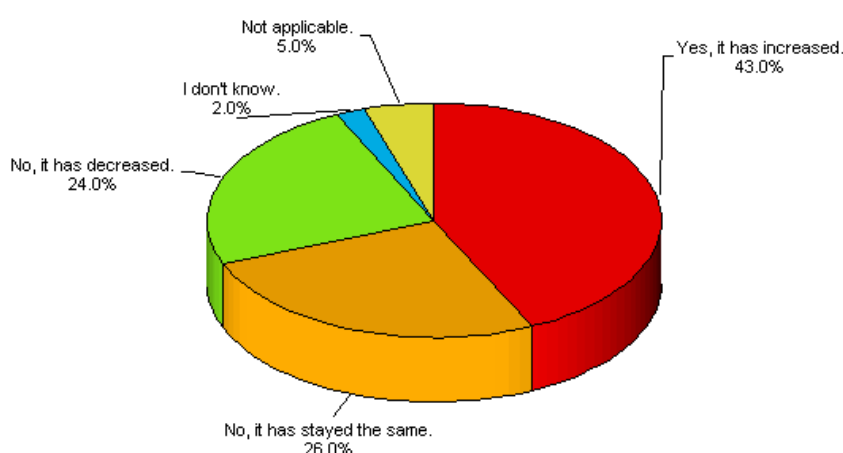
These results suggest that opinion among childminders about the likely health of the childcare market in the near future is divided. However, it should be noted that this does not suggest that childminders take a negative view of their future prospects. Indeed only 21% of childminders surveyed felt that the demand for their services was likely to decrease.

The final question in this section of the survey asked respondents whether they currently had any vacancies that would allow them to meet any future increase in demand for the services. Encouragingly 75% of respondents reported that they did.

5.4.2 Other Childcare Providers

Among other childcare providers overall opinion was split as to whether demand for childcare services had increased in the past three years. However, a very significant minority reported that demand for their services had increased – see [figure 98](#) below.

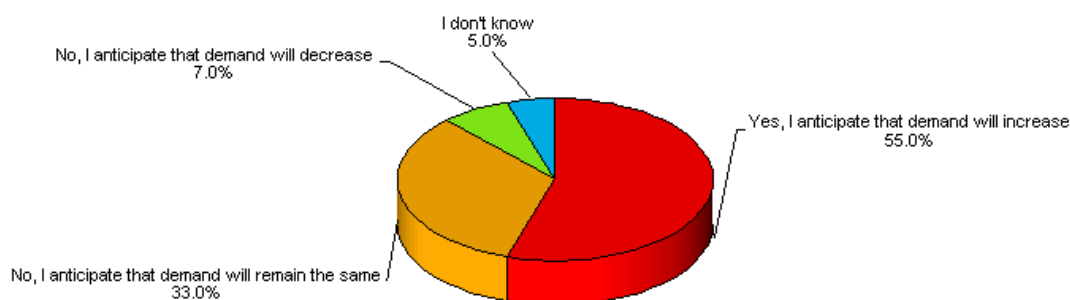
In the last three years has demand for your childcare services increased?



43% felt demand had increased, 26% felt it had stayed the same and 24% felt it had decreased. There is little variation in the responses of those respondents providing different forms of care or for those operating in different locations across the Vale. This suggests that the popularity of a setting is determined by a factor or factors other than the type of childcare offered and a setting's location.

The majority of providers responded positively when asked about how they felt demand for their service was likely to change in the next three years – see [figure 99](#) below 55% reported that they anticipated an increase in demand while only 7% anticipated that demand would decrease.

In the next three years, do you anticipate that demand for your childcare services will increase?



When asked whether they felt there were a suitable number of childcare providers in their area 70% of providers felt this to be the case. When asked whether they felt there was a suitable range of childcare provision 73% felt that there was.

These figures suggest that providers in the Vale feel that the local childcare market is in good health.

Further to this 88% of childcare providers reported that they were able to meet the current demand for their childcare services. 50% of providers reported that there were currently children on their waiting lists. While 66% reported that there were currently places available within their setting.

These figures suggest that if the demand for childcare is to rise in the future then there are childcare providers operating in the Vale that are able to meet the increased need for places.

5.4.3 Other Respondents

The Wales Pre-school Providers Association raises several concerns about the sustainability of the childcare market in the Vale. These concerns relate to reduced income and a shortage of staff.

In their response the voluntary group tell us that resources are stretched within many establishments and that in many there is a high and frequent turnover of staff. Both of these issues impact negatively on the sustainability of the settings and the morale of childcare workers.

The Association also states that the expansion of Flying Start has had an impact on the levels of qualified staff within the childcare sector in the Vale as employees move from private providers to schools. The Association says that as a result there is now a shortage of qualified and experienced staff within the childcare sector. However, none of the childcare providers who responded to the consultation stated that this was the case.

The Wales Pre-school Providers Association feels that these circumstances mean that the goal of raising standards and improving quality is very challenging.

Clybiau Plant Cymru highlighted that the number of providers and the types of provision on offer varied greatly across the wards of the Vale of Glamorgan and pointed out that while in a small number of areas there may be demand for further expansion of the care on offer many settings had spare capacity.

Mudiad Meithrin reported that the Vale has seen a substantial increase in the demand for Welsh medium education over the last years with increasing numbers of parents sending their children to Welsh medium schools. The availability of Welsh medium childcare has played a part in this.

Mudiad Meithrin also state that there is a lack of Welsh speaking childminders in the Vale and afterschool and holiday clubs.

5.5 Improvements in the local childcare market

The two voluntary organisations representing childcare providers in the Vale who responded to the consultation also offered views on how the local childcare market could be improved.

The view of the Wales Pre-school Providers Association was that the number of qualified staff must be increased. The organisation felt that the quality of the training on offer was of paramount importance and that potential staff need to experience a quality environment

and excellent practice during their training otherwise they will not learn about the delivery of high quality childcare.

Much of the feedback offered by The Association related to the need for increased financial investment in the sector. The organisation feels that increased funding would help sustain providers and allow them to pay staff higher wages which would improve staff retention rates.

It was also felt that to improve the recruitment and retention of staff promotion of early years care and childcare in general as profession was needed.

The Wales Pre-school Providers Association also felt it should be made compulsory for all childcare settings to undertake a quality assurance scheme.

The views offered by Clybiau Plant Cymru focused on the need for the council, providers and voluntary organisations to work together to build up an accurate picture of the current market environment that would enable effective future planning.

Clybiau feel that maximising the use of current provision would help negate the impact of reduced funding from Welsh Government and potentially bring down the cost of childcare for parents, thus making the sector both resilient and sustainable.

Mudiad Meithin welcomes the Local Authority's plans to investigate latent demand and suggest that more should be done to promote the benefits of quality childcare even if it is only for some of the parents' childcare needs.

5.6 Future plans

The results of the consultation also provide an insight into providers' plans for the future and offer an indication of how the level of supply in the Vale is likely to be affected.

5.6.1. Childminders

In the survey childminders were asked whether they had plans to implement any of a list of possible changes to their service – see **figure 100** below

In the future do you have plans to implement any of the following?	
<i>Expand the age range for which you provide care</i>	5%
<i>Expand the number of places</i>	18%
<i>Increase fees</i>	50%
<i>Increase the provision for children with disabilities or long term limiting illnesses</i>	3%
<i>Increase the hours for which you provide childcare</i>	3%
<i>Increase the use of the Welsh language</i>	29%
<i>Stop working as a childminder</i>	18%

The results suggest that the only change that appears likely among a significant number of childminders is an increase in fees. Although among some there is likely to be an expansion in the number of places and in the use of the Welsh language and some are likely to leave the profession.

The issue of fees sparked considerable debate at each of the focus group sessions. There was a common consensus at the sessions that in recent years childminders had not been able to increase their fees in line with increased costs and the rise in their cost of living.

The majority of those present at each of the groups felt that they would need to increase their fees in the near future but had concerns about the impact of doing so on their business.

The childminders felt that they were already unable to compete with after-school clubs and holiday clubs on cost and that any potential increase would further worsen the situation.

Some childminders had attempted to increase fees to compensate for a decrease in the number of children they looked after. However, they found this resulted in even lower numbers.

18% of questionnaire respondents had plans to stop working as a childminder in the next three years. The views expressed at the focus groups echo this.

Many childminders felt that due to their worsening financial circumstances would soon make childminding unviable.

There was also a concern expressed that a number of potential new childminders are being put off establishing themselves as a childcare provider because of the large amounts of

paperwork involved. Attendees at one focus group also stated that a lot of good and established childminders have also left the profession due to the demands of the paperwork.

The comments offered by childminders suggest that both an increase in fees and a decrease in the number of childminders in the Vale are likely in the future.

5.6.2. Other Childcare Providers

Despite general optimism regarding prospects for the future 44% of other providers reported that they had some concerns about the sustainability of their setting. Interestingly these concerns were not limited only to those who did not expect to see an increase in demand for their services in the next three years.

The most common concerns for the future were paying of staff salaries, low take up of places and increased overhead costs. See **figure 101** below

In the next three years, do you have plans to make any of the following changes?			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Under Consideration</i>
<i>Expand the age range which you provide care for</i>	6%	88%	6%
<i>Expand the number of places</i>	15%	82%	3%
<i>Expand the number of Welsh medium places</i>	19%	81%	0%
<i>Increase fees</i>	70%	22%	8%
<i>Increase provision for children with disabilities or long term limiting illnesses</i>	20%	73%	7%
<i>Extend opening hours</i>	26%	57%	17%
<i>Expand into another part of the Vale</i>	18%	64%	18%

Not all of the childcare providers surveyed responded to this question and so the results should be seen only as a rough indicator. However, based on these responses it seems

likely that several things could change within childcare provision in the Vale over the next three years. Fees are likely to increase. As may the number of welsh medium places and places for children with disabilities or long term limiting illnesses. Opening hours may also be extended.

The comments offered by providers offer examples of changes to provision that are already being planned.



- *Opening a Cylch Meithrin*
- *May open Saturday mornings*
- *We would like to offer holiday care for up to age 8.*
- *We are at present looking into further funding applications to enable our work to carry on after March 2015*
- *Opening a summer club for children between 2 and 6 years over the 6 weeks break*
- *We may offer afternoon places from the Easter term when we have the highest intake*
- *Our parent committee regularly review fees - increases in minimum wage and rent will necessitate fee increases*
- *Take on more schools. Develop existing clubs*
- *Fees go up every year*
- *By registration with CSSIW that will increase the hours. The Hall has provision for disabilities*
- *If the need is there we would like to extend the hours by opening the group for afternoon sessions*
- *Fees will need to increase over the next 3 years as outgoings also will increase*
- *Fees will need to be reviewed annually. We would consider training/special provisions for children with particular needs should the need arise. We would like to extend our provision for after school care/pre school care if the interest was there*
- *Look at schools in the local area of which do not provide after school care to see if we could do a pick up service to our premises*
- *Wrap around childcare for children attending LEA nurseries within close proximity to our Nursery.*
- *More flexible approach to child care, we are now offering short term places during holidays.*
- *Consideration of pick up from other schools in area*
- *Availability for children aged 18mth +*

5.7 What support would providers like?

5.7.1. Childminders

Respondents to the survey were asked what form of support they would like to receive in order to help them continue to provide childcare services. The results in **figure 102** below suggest that all of the forms of support available to childminders are generally popular.

What type of support would you like to receive to help you continue to provide childcare services?	
<i>Training</i>	56%
<i>Grants</i>	56%
<i>Promotion of your childminding service</i>	65%
<i>Help with paperwork</i>	53%

All of the support services on offer were popular with at least half of the childminders surveyed. This suggests that there is significant demand for support from the council.

The focus group sessions revealed a significant demand for extra support from the council and there was a strong consensus that the council and the Family Information Service could do more to support childminders in the Vale.

The increasing demands that paperwork, observations and mandatory training placed on childminders was a source of much concern and complaint. Many felt that these requirements detracted from the quality of care that they were able to offer children. Others felt that the increasing burden of these was making them consider leaving the profession. The comments made at the sessions suggest that any support to alleviate the pressures of these requirements would be welcomed.

The need for increased support with training was another commonly raised issue. Many childminders felt that the timing of many training session was not convenient for those looking after children. Others felt that both the quality and the range of courses on offer from the Vale of Glamorgan Council was inferior to those offered by other providers.

All of the childminders who attended the focus groups were aware of the FIS. Opinion differed on the support that the team offered. Some childminders felt that they did not receive a significant number of enquiries through FIS referrals and that the team was ineffective in promoting their service. However, others felt that the communications received from FIS were very useful – most notably the holiday activities programme.

5.7.2. Other Childcare Providers

Many childcare providers in the Vale already receive significant support from the Vale of Glamorgan Council. See **figure 103** below

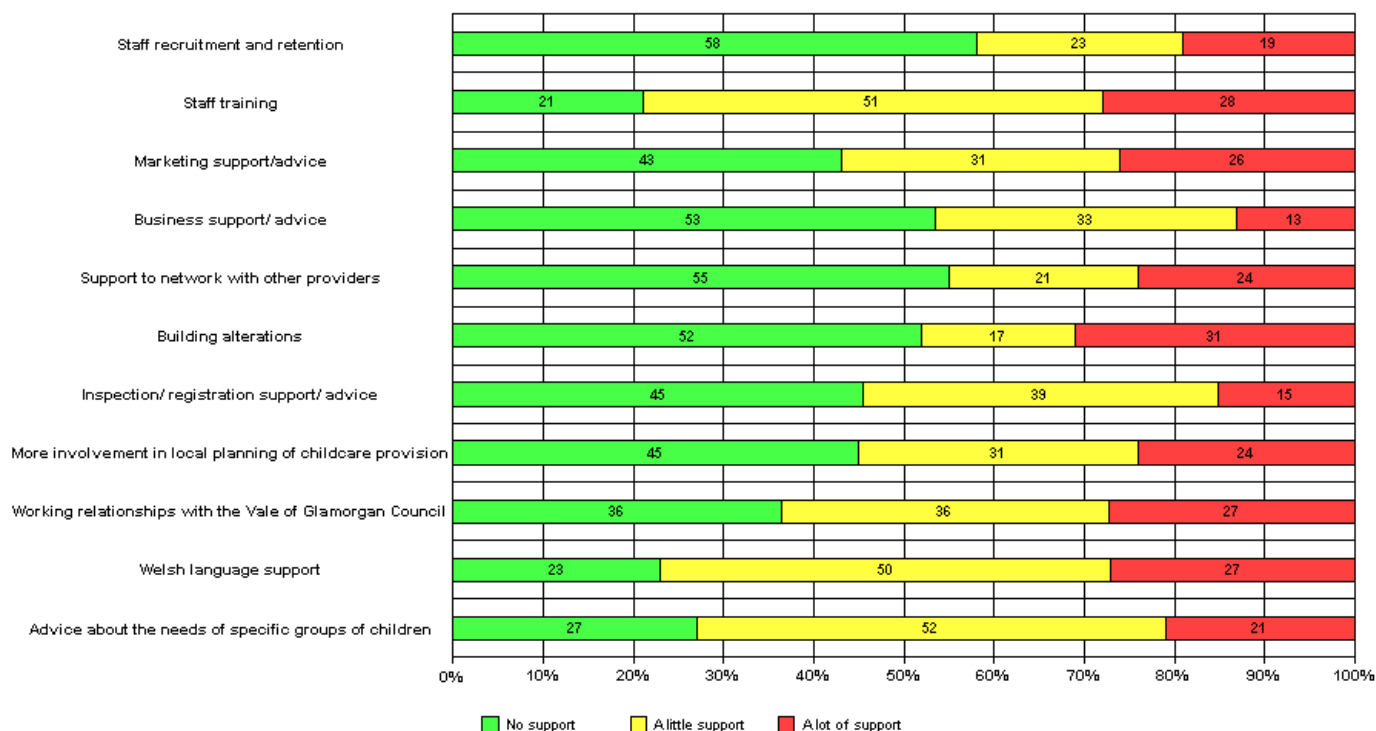
Have you received any of the following support from the Vale of Glamorgan Council?		
	Yes	No
<i>Family Information Service (FIS) support</i>	76%	24%
<i>Sustainability grant</i>	55%	45%
<i>Assisted places scheme</i>	34%	66%
<i>Out of school childcare grant</i>	32%	68%
<i>Training opportunities</i>	82%	18%

This demonstrates that the support provided by the council is of use to and valued by a range of childcare providers operating in the Vale. The support offered by the council is complimented by the support on offer from other agencies. Childcare providers reporting receiving support from the following organisations.

- Big Lottery Fund
- Clybiau Plant Cymru
- First Opportunities
- National Day Nurseries Association

The questionnaire also asked providers what support they felt was required in order to continue to provide childcare and to meet their plans for the future. The results in **figure 104** below offer an insight into which support services are likely to be in the highest demand in the future.

In order to continue providing childcare and meet your plans for the future, what support do you require?



The results show that there are many areas in which a large number of providers feel they are likely to require support.

79% of providers feel they will need some level of support in staff training. 77% of providers feel they are likely to need some level of Welsh language support. 73% of providers feel that they are likely to need some level of support with advice about the needs of specific groups of children.

In addition to these areas more than half of childcare providers surveyed feel they are likely to require some level of support with marketing, business support, inspection and registration advice and with the planning of childcare provision. 64% of providers also felt they would need support with building working relationships with the council.

The high demand for support demonstrates that the Vale of Glamorgan Council has a significant role to play in enhancing the quality of provision on offer in the Vale.

5.8 Conclusions

The consultation undertaken with childcare providers in the Vale enables us to draw a number of conclusions.

There is a clear perception among childminders that the level of demand for their service is decreasing. The childminders that were spoken to felt that this was largely due to the higher cost to parents of using a childminder as opposed to using either breakfast and after school clubs or informal childcare provided by friends and family.

Opinion among childminders is divided about their prospects for the future. Some childminders have very real concerns about the viability of their business and so are considering leaving the profession.

Conversely the majority of other childcare providers feel that the demand for their services has either grown or stayed the same in recent years.

A very large majority of other childcare providers expect that demand to either increase or stay constant in the near future. These providers are well prepared to meet any potential increase in demand.

An increase in fees from all forms of childcare providers is likely in the near future. A number of providers are also planning on beginning to offer Welsh medium care provision.

The support received by all forms of childcare providers in the Vale is generally valued. There is considerable demand for increased forms of training and support from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in the future.



6 – Consultation with employers

6.1 Introduction

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is the largest employer with approximately 6,500 full-time, part-time and casual employees (as at December 2013) which is an increase of 622 staff since 2011. 77% of the workforce is female. The Council works in partnership with many different agencies in the public, voluntary and business sectors to deliver a wide range of services.

6.2 Methodology

Due to the poor response of replies reported for the 2011 CSA, discussions took place as to how this could be improved upon. As a result of these discussions, the Vale's Family Information Service office spent some time with the Vale's business and employment officer to look at ways of distributing the prepared questionnaire. Therefore, 75 questionnaires were sent out via the Business Wales forum, 9 questionnaires were distributed at the local business breakfast form and 11 partner organisations linked to the Local Service Board.

6.3 Returned questionnaires

After some considerable time a very disappointing 6 completed questionnaires had been returned. As reported in 2011, due to the low amount of returns and not all sections being completed, there will be very little evidence to give any constructive feedback on this section.

6.4 Employers characteristics

As mentioned, only 6 questionnaires were returned which again was very disappointing. These were made up of both private and public (Vale of Glamorgan Council) sectors which made it difficult to make any comparisons regarding childcare benefits offered to staff and those that are taken up, recruitment and retention and childcare for this assessment. The data given below in **figure 105** below captures the responses from employers. Where there are 'blanks' in the table, the employer has not responded

Figure 105 shows the results from 6 employer questionnaires

Questions asked	Employer 1	Employer 2	Employer 3	Employer 4	Employer 5	Employer 6
Are you aware of the Vale Family Information Service?	No	No	Yes	No		Yes
Would you like more information about the Vale Family Information Service?	No	No	No	No		No
How many people do you employ who reside in the Vale of Glamorgan?	10	Approx 100	130	3	10	6,500 Inc schools
Approximately what percentage of your workforce is female?	20%	10%	No stats available	100%	Less than 5%	77% inc schools
Approximately what proportion of your workforce are parents with children aged 14 years or over	10%	30%	Unsure	0%	5%	Not known
Flexible working arrangements	Offers: part-time, flexi-time.	Offers: part-time, job share, flexi-time.	Offers: part-time, job share, flexi-time, phased return to work, voluntary reduced working time	Offers: part-time	Offers: part-time, flexi-time, voluntary reduced working time, home working.	Offers: part-time, flexi-time, voluntary reduced working time, home working, term-time/school hours, job share.
Any problems with employees taking up employment with you or continuing to work in your organisation?	Slightly	Not at all	Not at all	Not at all	Not at all	Not at all
Any problems with employees taking up employment with you or continuing to work in your organisation? To what extent has childcare been a factor?	Not at all	Slightly	A lot	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not at all
In relation to childcare and the take up of employment, what type of problems have you encountered?						
What staff benefits do you provide?	None				None	Childcare vouchers, information on working tax credits
Are there any factors which affect the take-up of these benefits?	Financial, size of company, lack of employees with kids					
Do you have any other comments about childcare or any suggestions as how we can improve our provision?						

6.5 Conclusions

In 2011, it was reported that the reasons for the lack of responses could highlight several things. Either employers do not see the benefit in completing the questionnaire due to the nature of the employment or maybe they do not have the information required etc. As a result of this, further development work has been undertaken with employers in the Vale – the Vale's Family Information Service (FIS) has produced a leaflet regarding employment and childcare. The Vale's FIS have also produced information regarding financial support with childcare which is available via leaflets, posters and also on their website and have undertaken face to face meetings with local businesses.

However, the number of returned questionnaires from employers for the 2013-14 CSA remains disappointing. Other methods of engaging with employers will need to be sought which may well involve discussion with Welsh Government and other Welsh local authority personnel responsible for compiling the CSA on their findings/methods.

Views from Jobcentre Plus

Whilst Jobcentre Plus (JCP) has provided a snap shot of information for the report, it must be taken as a guide. JCP reports that childcare can be a barrier for various reasons. Generally, advisers report different types of childcare being readily available and specifically mention having positive experiences in helping parents find suitable holiday clubs, after school and breakfast clubs. However, Lone parent advisers do report a common childcare barrier from parents they're working with is around the lack of flexible childcare options available across the county.

In some cases parents have a perceived idea about the financial implications of moving into employment which is sometimes a perceived barrier, however Jobcentre plus advisers can support understanding by providing a "better off" calculation to investigate how much better off individuals can be in employment. Genuine cases of parents being worse off financially because of childcare costs are not common because of the help available through tax credits. In cases where people are worse off financially advisers work with individuals to seek more appropriate options.

7 – Consultation with children & young people

7.1 Introduction

“It is important for Local Authorities to include within their consultation on the assessment an opportunity for local children to express their views on what they see as strengths, weaknesses and gaps in childcare. They are the main users and beneficiaries of childcare services, so it is vital that their needs and concerns are understood” (Welsh Assembly Government, 2008)

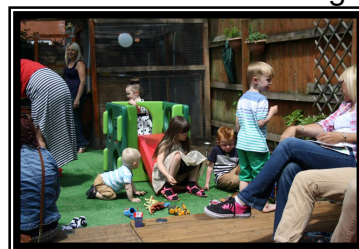
7.2 Methodology

A number of methods were used in order to consult with children universally, by this we mean a wide cohort of children and young people aged 5+, including face-to-face, self-completion surveys and group sessions.

Consultation was carried out by existing practitioners, group leaders and organisations.

7.3 What children/young people like about childcare provision

A number of children and young people in different set ups were consulted in regards to childcare provision over the past year.

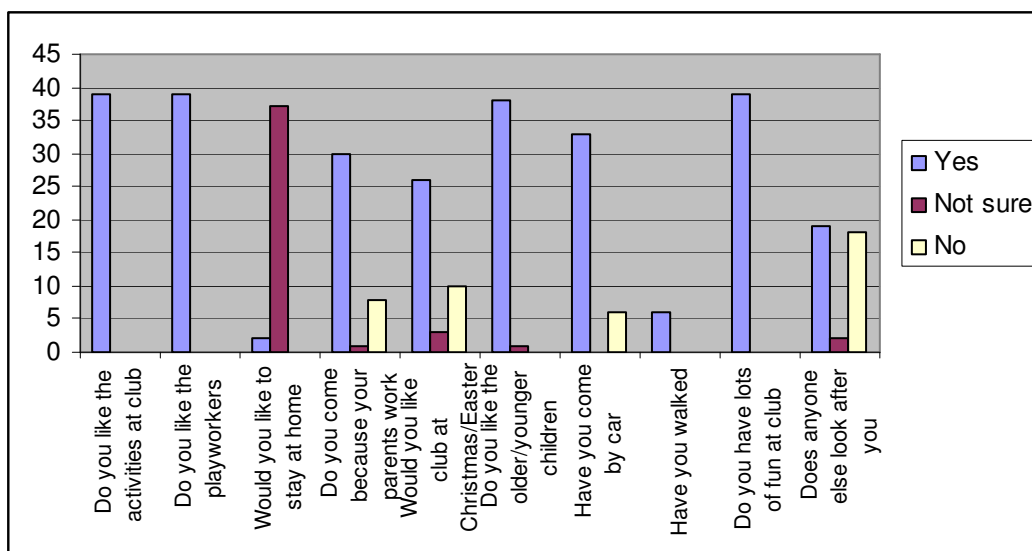


Out of School Provision children aged 5 – 11yrs

39 children and young people attending 7 different out of school provisions were consulted on a number of questions.

Figure 105 Below shows the results

Figure 105 Children & Young People consulted in out of school provision



Holiday provision for children aged 10 – 14yrs

A gap identified in childcare provision for 10 – 14yr olds resulted in a pilot project being introduced in Llantwit Major and Barry. The provision was run for 4 weeks in each location during the summer holidays.

A vast number of activities / sessions were planned included the following:

Arts: Glass / candle painting, paper Mache, card making, jewellery making, mosaic bracelets, pencil case decorating, key ring making, mod roc, painting, mask making, coaster decorating, design a plate and a mug, playdough, poster design for fundraising activities, music/media workshops, cooking, sports, water games and play activities.

The young people who attended the scheme had the opportunity to take part and complete a Bronze Youth Inspire Award that is a locally recognised award that highlights the achievements of young people through their active participation in activities. From the **105** individual young people who attended the schemes **54** young people completed this award.

A total of **106** questionnaires were given out to the attendees with **19** responses being returned. The Young people were asked to rate the workshops delivered on a scale of 1 – 5 (1 being bad and 5 being very good). **Figures 106 & 107** below show the results of different activities on offer.

Figure 106 – Feedback on Workshops attended

Scale	1	2	3	4	5
Circus Skills	1	0	4	3	6
Music Studio	0	1	1	4	13
Slapping Skins	0	0	2	4	9
Guitar workshop	0	0	0	1	6

Figure 107 Feedback on activities offered

Activity	Number of responses	Activity	Number of responses
Decorate a pencil case	4	Cake making	6
Music workshops	15	Team building	11
Water play	7	Sports	12
Biscuit Decorating	10	Talent Show	5
Dance	3	Fundraising	6
BBQ	7	Windmill making	0
Fruit kebabs	6	Food Olympics	2
Paper Mache	3	Plate painting	4
Glass painting	4	Make a key ring	8
Mask Painting	6	Pampering	6
Badminton	2	Tennis	4
Jewellery making	7	Treasure hunt	4

The questionnaire also asked young people if the staff were friendly and approachable and all **19** responded yes to this. Below is a list of the additional comments made by young people in regards to staff:

- I felt very comfortable with staff.
- They were fun.
- They made me feel happy and helped me get to know others better.
- They were all lovely.
- Nice and friendly
- Every-one took time to make us feel welcome; we were asked what we wanted to do and weren't made to do any thing we didn't want to.
- Caring and nice
- Staff were very friendly, we could ask them any thing
- They got involved with what we were doing
- If there was a problem they were there to help
- They made me laugh
- I liked them all.

Playscheme staff's consultation with children aged 4 – 14yr olds

12 days of playscheme were held during the summer, 6 days over two weeks in Murch Community Centre (Dinas Powys) and 6 days over two weeks in Palmerston Community Learning Centre (Barry). Attendance figures for the playschemes were very positive and whilst these are not offered as 'childcare' the children attending benefitted greatly.



A total of **127** children attended the Murchfield playscheme over 2 weeks during the summer holidays – **38** of which had a disability and a total of **184** children attended the Palmerston playscheme – **44** of which had a disability. A number of activities were on offer to children including:

Sports activities, games, painting, sand & soil play, den building, junk modelling, quiet room activities, clay, dressing up, puppet play and many more.

Children were provided with the opportunity to say what they thought of the summer playscheme in relation to the staff, activities offered, and anything else that they would like provided. Examples of the feedback received are below in **figures 108 & 109**

Figure 108 shows responses from children regarding the staff at the Murchfield scheme

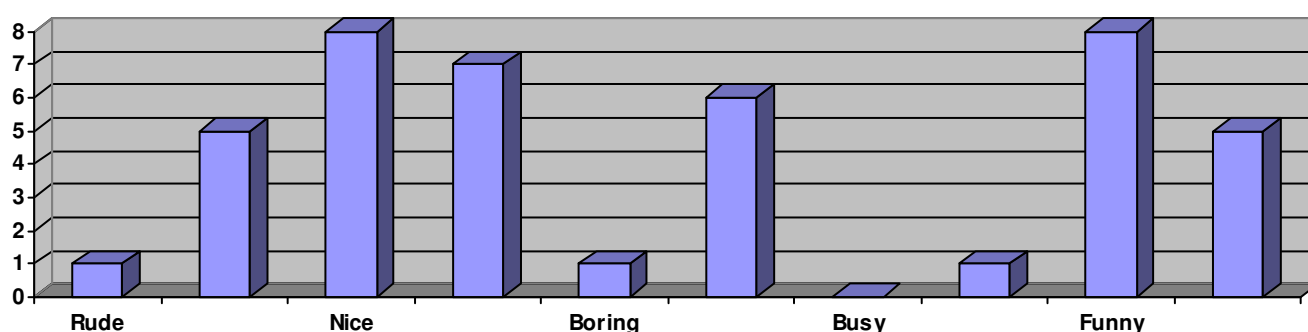
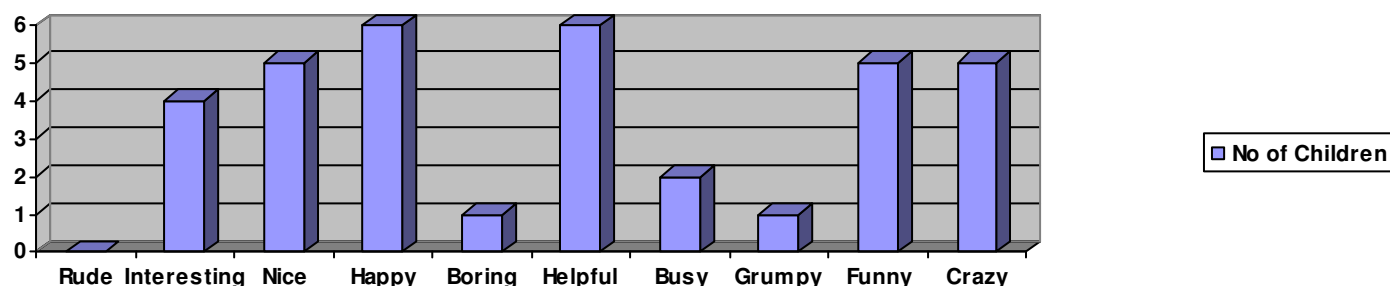


Table 109 shows responses from children regarding the staff at the Palmerston scheme



Other comments made by the children were:

I have had a great day here today and I hope you bring this fun day to the park by me

Loved it so much I came twice

I liked all the activities – sports games, painting, modelling, and dressing up. I also liked the water fights. The staffs were, nice, interesting, fun, happy, helpful and crazy!

It was enjoying for me.

7.4 How could the provision be improved

With the young people attending the holiday provision for 10 – 14yr olds, the main suggestions that young children commented on when asked if anything would need to be changed should another scheme run, **17** out of the **19** responses answered 'No nothing needs to change' and **2** said yes. One of the young people who answered yes commented that more activities with Vpod would be good and IPAD with games would be fun. The other young person who answered yes said more equipment for building dens would be an improvement were coming up with was that they wanted more activities in one form or another. For example, an Xbox 360, more board games, trampoline, new toys.

7.5 Reasons for attending provision

Similar to the last CSA report in 2011, typically children attend out of school provision due to their parents being in work, training or education. However, the set up of the assisted places scheme in September 2012 saw an increase in the number of children with a disability/additional need attending out of school provision to socialise with others, take part in out of school activities etc.

The pilot scheme that was set up to offer holiday provision for 10 – 14yr olds saw a number of children attending due to parents working but mainly children attended the holiday provision to take part in activities on offer, take part in workshops or Bronze Youth Inspire Award.

7.6 Frequency of attending this and other provision

Most Children attend out of school provision on average 3 evenings per week during term time, which is similar to the numbers of children attending holiday provision. It has been noted that there has been a slight decrease in the number of sessions that children attend clubs due to changes with parent's employment i.e. Decreasing working hours or in some cases where parents have been made redundant.

According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), the *employment rate* for those aged from 16 to 64 for August to October 2013 was **72.0%**, up **0.4** percentage points from May to July 2013. There were **30.09 million** people in employment aged 16 and over, up **250,000** from May to July 2013.

The *unemployment rate* for August to October 2013 was 7.4% of the economically active population, down 0.3 percentage points from May to July 2013. There were 2.39 million unemployed people, down 99,000 from May to July 2013.

7.7 Accessibility

Inclusive

It is expected that all childcare provisions in the Vale of Glamorgan are inclusive to both disabled and non-disabled children. The Early Years Partnership (EYDCP) offers a wide range of training courses that support staff in settings to offer appropriate play opportunities that meets the needs of children with a disability/additional need.

As mentioned previously in this report, the assisted places scheme was set up in September 2012 to support both children with a disability and children in need. Children are referred to the scheme via an agency and are then placed in an approved childcare setting where staff have appropriate experience of working with children with a disability or additional needs. From December 2012 to the present time, approximately 45 referrals have been made, 42 of those have received an assisted place with or without the need for a 1:1 worker.

Convenience

Children who attend out of school provision within the school are collected by the staff from classrooms at the end of the school day and escorted to the afterschool provision. If the out of school provision is at a different venue, children are normally collected in the school yard and either taken by minibuss or a walking bus (taking into consideration distance to walk and age of child) to the provision. Children will then be collected at the end of the day by the parent/carer.

7.8 Holiday provision

As reported in 2011, there is a broad mix of holiday care provision in the Vale of Glamorgan. The Out of Schools Grant over the past 3 years has supported some new settings including:

- pilot project for 10 – 14yr olds in Llantwit and Barry,
- a club for over 8's was supported in Cowbridge,
- club attached to a school in Barry



The Out of Schools Childcare Grant has also supported some existing settings with sustainability including:

- Ashgrove club for children on the autistic spectrum
- Extension of places and age range for a holiday provision in the Western Vale.

There is a split between children being looked after by parents/guardians, grandparents, older brother/sister & childcare provision.

There are however, many children attending free playschemes, schemes for children with disabilities and sports type provision – these will not be registered with CSSIW and may only run for a certain number of hours/days during the holidays.

7.9 Conclusions

Through consultation with the children and young people it is evident that they are happy with the childcare arrangements that have been made for them by their parents. They reported that they enjoy the activities provided; they liked the playworkers and have fun at the clubs. Only a handful reported that they would rather stay at home.



8 - Consultation with other agencies

8.1 Introduction

In order to look at any key gaps in the childcare market, it has been imperative to consult with key stakeholder e.g. Local Safeguarding Children Board, Primary Care Trust, Jobcentre Plus, Foster & Adoption team, Child Health & Disabilities team, Welsh Language partners; third sector organisations to seek their views on the key gaps in the childcare market.

8.2 Methodology

A questionnaire survey was created in order to gather relevant information. 11 different organisations were asked their views with 5 agencies responding – these include Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, Mudiad Meithrin, Wales Pre-school Providers Association, Jobcentre Plus, childminding network facilitator, etc

8.3 Views on the childcare market

There are some similar views from our partners reported in 2013 that were also reported in the 2011 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment in that there is a diverse range of childcare options for parents in work, training or education and that childcare settings remain steady.

Having said this affordability still remains problematic for a number of parents. According to the Daycare Trust's 'Childcare Costs Survey in 2013, real earnings have fallen to a 2003 equivalent resulting in a **77%** increase in childcare costs.

Whilst the introduction of Flying Start in 2008 has supported a high number of parents to access free part-time childcare, there are a number of families who struggle financial but do not reside in the Flying Start area and are therefore unable to access the free childcare.

However, many parents, if eligible, will be able to apply for the child tax credit and childcare vouchers if the settings they use is registered with Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CCSIW). The Vale Family Information Service is able to provide parents with information on help with costs as well as choosing childcare.

In the present climate, it is not only parents who are feeling the squeeze financially as sustainability issues for childcare settings continues to be an ongoing problem which not only

affects the running of the setting but staff morale too. A continuation of the Welsh Government free breakfast club is a must if we are to support parents and children.

Sessional care - Unfortunately in a lot of cases, sustainability still continues to be an ongoing problem which affects staff morale. Staff are committed and dedicated to the delivery of high quality childcare but many only get paid for contact hours working with the children. The majority do not get paid non-contracted hours for paperwork meetings or training and are already working over and above the hours for which they are being paid and in fact, many are in receipt of the minimum wage and some have 2 or 3 jobs. Settings have little money to purchase resources which has an impact on the activities/experiences offered to children.

The expansion of Flying Start in 2011 has had an impact on the levels of qualified staff within the childcare sector. Many staff once qualified to a level 3 leave settings to work within Flying Start or schools due to the better terms and conditions and increase in salary. This has a significant effect on seasonal care as there is not enough qualified staff to work within the childcare sector. It must be remembered that qualified experienced and existing staff are essential to raising standards and improving quality in all childcare settings and not just within Flying Start settings.

Out of school provision – There doesn't seem to be many differences reported in 2013 than in 2011 on out of school provision.

There could be demand for further expansion of after school care in 2 of the primary schools within Buttrills ward but there has been no indication from the schools that there is a need for one.

Day care – No changes commented on

Flying Start provision - Free part time quality childcare in English, Welsh or bilingual setting is available to children aged 2 – 3 yrs, in the Flying Start designated areas. Childcare is offered in a number of settings including 4 Flying Start Playgroups, 1 voluntary run playgroup, 1 Day care setting and 14 childminders within the Gibbonsdown, Cadoxton, Court Road and Gladstone Road area - update

Unregistered childcare - fortunately, there are only a handful of settings within the Vale that are not registered with CSSIW for one reason or another. This may be due to inadequate suitable qualified staff, premises unable to be registered or groups who simply don't want to be registered.

In these situations, parents are unable to claim Working Tax Credits and often as these settings are not inspected, lower standards of care may be taking place, training opportunities are missed and staff are less likely to hold a DBS check or have engaged in Child Protection training. It is important that parents, when looking for childcare, are made aware of the difference between registered and unregistered childcare.

8.4 Improvements required

The improvements that our third sector organisations suggest are provided below:

- Increase the number of Welsh speaking childminders and out of school provision by way of a marketing drive to overcome this difficulty
- Increase the number of Welsh speaking qualified staff possibly more work to be done to ensure that secondary school leavers are given inspiring information and advice regarding childcare as a career choice
- Family Information Service to continue to promote their services to the general public in order for them to be aware of what the service provides
- Flexible models of childcare need to be developed/highlighted to reflect the range of childcare needed within the family. For example: families with mixed ages and or additional needs, shift workers, shift-parenting & single parent families. Possibly a need for weekend/bank holiday workers
- Raising the profile of childcare profession through a variety of methods – road shows, promoting early years events etc
- Provide clear information and promote National Qualifications for existing and newly registered childcare settings
- Raise awareness of the Disability Index

- The number of qualified staff needs to be increased but the issue of the quality of training undertaken must be considered – qualifications have been offered free for the last few years which have seriously improved the situation
- More funding to help sustain playgroups to allow them to pay staff higher wages such as the living wage of £7.45 which will improve staff retention
- There is a need to maximise the use of current childcare settings as opposed to creating new ones if possible
- More affordable childcare needed

8.5 Specific views on key groups

Children with additional needs or disabilities

September 2012 saw the introduction of the Assisted Places scheme which was developed to support children in need and children with disabilities/additional needs access childcare in the Vale. The scheme has been funded from the Out of School Childcare Grant and has gone from strength to strength over the past year receiving over **40** referrals. It gives children with disabilities/additional needs or in need, the opportunity of attending childcare which encourages socialisation, confidence, self esteem etc. Many parents face long-term hardship and are unable to afford the basic necessities let alone childcare so it is important that all children are given the opportunity to attend a playgroup, afterschool club etc.

Open access schemes still run across the Vale during the summer holidays but are limited – please refer to section 2.6

The Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) continues to offer both legal & regulatory training and continuous professional development training to registered childcare settings. The programme includes a wide range of training for those working with children with disabilities/additional needs.

Cyfle Cyntaf/First Opportunities – continue to provide 1:1 support for children aged 2 -3 to attend playgroup/Cylch Meithrin – refer to section 2.

Welsh Medium Provision

Mudiad Meithrin report that the Vale has seen a substantial increase in the demand for Welsh medium education over the last years with increasing numbers of parents sending their children to Welsh medium schools. The availability of Welsh medium childcare has played a part in this.

In the last 12 months, Mudiad Meithrin report that Cylchoedd Meithrin have received support from the Vale's Early Years department by way of: sustainability grants, grants to develop and extend provision, grants to support set up of new settings and offering Welsh Language courses for which Mudiad are very grateful for.

In response to the two new seed schools being established in Sept 2011, one in Llantwit Major and one in Barry, the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership gave financial support to two existing Welsh medium childcare settings in order for them to support wraparound childcare to these two schools. A further consultation process is underway to extend an existing Welsh school, Ysgol Gwaun y Nant, Gibbonsdown from **210** to **420** places from September 2015. In response to this consultation, with the support of the Out of School Childcare Grant, a new Cylch Meithrin has been set in Gibbonsdown to meet the needs of parents and children.

When looking at Welsh Medium provision for Flying Start children, there is currently only one provision on offer which at present is under subscribed. As part of the Welsh Government's guidelines to actively offer Welsh language provision to all parents it is hoped that the benefits of Welsh medium education are explained to parents in making the linguistic choice – something that Mudiad Meithrin would be happy to support Flying Start with.

Whilst Mudiad Meithrin greatly value the work of the Family Information Service, it did raise the question around how the Family Information Service (FIS) promote the activities and opportunities for children with additional needs and how are people who have no concept of the existence of the FIS and those without access to the internet kept informed?

Mudiad Meithrin also state that there is a lack of Welsh speaking childminders in the Vale and afterschool and holiday clubs.

8.6 Conclusions

- Affordability – again this comes out very clear in the feedback received. Action have been taken over the past 3 years to continue with sustainability grants to support those settings most at risk

of closure and with the introduction of the Assisted Places scheme to support children in need, headway is being made. However, this is not an overnight solution and further work will need to be done if the Vale is to continue to support parents with childcare costs.

- Further promotion by the Family Information Service to provide information to parents on financial assistance for childcare.
- Increase the number of Welsh speaking childcare staff, including childminders in the Vale of Glamorgan by promotional events and also visits to secondary school pupils.
- Increase the number of out of school childcare places for children aged 4 – 14yrs, both afterschool and during the school holidays, through the medium of Welsh.
- Support the childcare workforce to access National Qualifications as well as continuous professional development training, specifically those courses that support welsh language and working with children with disabilities/additional needs.
- Sustainability still remains a major concern for childcare settings. As parents find it more difficult to pay childcare costs, the number of sessions their child attends reduces. Further work needs to be done on sustainability for settings.

9 - Acknowledgements

This report has been compiled by the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership, Family Information Service and Improvement and Development team within the Vale Council.

Feedback on the DRAFT consultation has been received by Mudiad Meithrin and Menter Bro Morgannwg which have been taken into consideration and amended in the report as appropriate.

Thanks must also go to:

Colleagues within the Vale of Glamorgan Council including –

Planning & transportation

Children & Young People's Services

Learning & skills

Play Development

Housing

To respondents:

Childminding Network facilitator

Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs

Family Information Service

Jobcentre Plus

Mudiad Meithrin

Wales Pre-School Providers Association



And Finally,

Our most grateful thanks must go to the parent s/carers, children & young people, employers and childcare providers who attended focus groups, completed questionnaires and face to face interviews.

Appendix 1 - Parent/carer questionnaire – PDF English Version

Appendix 2 – Parent/carer questionnaire – PDF Welsh Version

Appendix 3 – Employer Final – PDF Version

Appendix 4 – Childcare Provider questionnaire – PDF Version

Appendix 5 – Childminder questionnaire – PDF Version

Appendix 6 – Welsh Medium Education survey – Welsh Version

Appendix 7 - Welsh Medium Education survey – English Version