Some key facts about Vale Libraries in 2022/2023:

- During the year 326,184 visits were made to our libraries, averaging 6524 visits per week.
- During the year 33,894 visits were made to our website.
- The total of 285,025 items were loaned from our libraries, this breaks down as:
  - Total number of adult book issues   122,575
  - Total number of children's book issues   82,270
  - Total number of audio-visual issues   5,796
  - Total number of electronic downloads   74,384
- A total of 19,558 individual titles were requested.
- 3136 learning, reading, cultural and community events were delivered, and they were attended by 44,962 people of all ages.

These figures are based on the Welsh Public Library Standards Return for the Vale of Glamorgan Libraries April 2022 -March 2023.

Performance

Each year the Vale Library Service is required to submit an annual report to the Culture Division of Welsh Government for the Welsh Public Library Standards. There follows an annual assessment made to the Council.

According to the last annual assessment received for 2021/22 the Vale of Glamorgan Council has achieved 5 out of 5 Qualitative Standards. However the number of standards was reduced in comparison to previous years due to COVID 19 restrictions.

What our users are saying

Marion Rowlands:
Thank you to all the staff for making St David's Day so special. The crafts for the children also coffee and Welsh cakes. My granddaughter loves the craft work, helped by dedicated ladies on the day. It was much appreciated.

Lovely! The library is a jewel in the crown of the Penarth community!!

Jeanne Owens Pickford:
Thank you so much for organising this event, we had a fabulous time and are very grateful for having such a great team at our local library.

The staff are wonderful, they go out of the way to make the library a fantastic experience for all ages and have put on events that cater for everyone. A jewel in the Vale crown!

Emma Howard:
Seren had a fabulous time at Penarth Library this evening for Magic, Muggles and Mr Marvel - Children's Entertainer !! Huge thanks to the library staff and Mr Marvel for such a wonderful event.
#exsmellyarmpits

Diamond Crime:
Huge thanks to Kerry, Rhodri, Bex and all at Penarth Library for a great evening of book-chat, crime and publishing, with a few stories and laughs thrown in.

Anna

'We attend the weekly morning music session and the Lego Club with my two older boys. The library has been a lovely and reliable service to attend and help structure our days. It is always a welcoming and calm atmosphere, with wonderful staff.' It has helped my 11-month-old to learn to socialise and sing, she starts to bounce in the buggy when she sees we are near the library. My sons aged 5 and 7 attend the Lego sessions and take books out and it has really helped calm and grow their focus and increase their enjoyment and intrigue of books. It is a brilliant service'.

Julia Stubbings

From a family perspective, particularly for the early year and primary school age group the library services provide several opportunities for: child development, community/social engagement, daily structure and general health and well-being. I am personally grateful for the captivating 'Tap & Clap' at Llantwit Library. The hot

drinks during the 'Winter Wellbeing/Warm Places' was comforting, along with the toys, literacy, numeracy puzzles and colouring. Also, borrowing books – the bread-and-butter = has been essential for a reading culture in the community and the home. The books are current and topical. We have also utilised the storytime and craft at Llantwit Library on Saturdays, the craft activities are very creative and of a high quality. We are now approaching the summer school holidays and in regards for planning a meaningful, cultural, fun exploration to develop and try new activities, I'm ever so grateful for the 'summer holiday activities' available at Llantwit and Cowbridge library… The services have a positive influence on our finances, particularly being a stay-at-home Mum of young children. Thank you for your services.