

RHONDDA CYNON TAF
COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

THREE YEAR LIBRARY PLAN

2005/06 – 2007/08

WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales

LIBRARY PLAN APRIL 2005 TO MARCH 2008

Name of Authority: Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

Section 1. Local information

1.1 Primary aims and objectives

The general overall aims of the Library Service are to:

- Support and promote reading and literacy, particularly in relation to children and those concerned with the welfare of children
- Meet the general and specialist information needs of the community
- Support the formal agencies of education and assist the independent learner
- Promote the study, knowledge and awareness of all aspects of the locality, past and present
- Provide works of the imagination in all types of media and satisfy the demand for material to support recreational and cultural interests
- Provide material in Welsh as required, in accordance with community need and the provision of the Welsh Language Act
- Enhance and improve service provision by developing appropriate partnerships

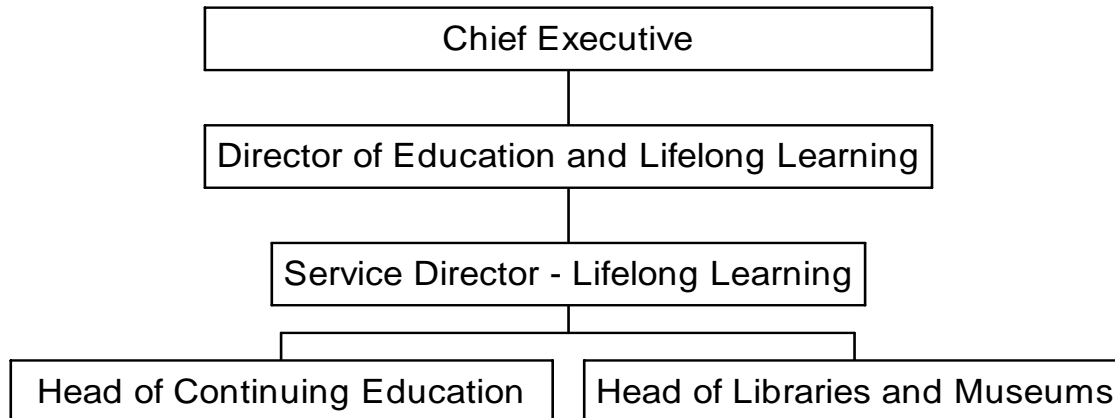
The following key objectives provide strategic direction for the service:

- Improve physical access, service environment and promotion
- Increase access to information and learning
- Assist in raising achievement, early years development, and improving literacy
- Improve access to services for disabled and housebound (physical and intellectual)
- Make stock relevant to community need and increase stock turnover, issues and satisfaction rates

1.2 Managerial structure

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council has just completed a reorganisation process and a new structure was put in place on September 1st 2005. The Library Service continues to be managed by the Head of Libraries and Museums and remains part of the Lifelong Learning Division in the new Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate. Formerly the Lifelong Learning Division was part of the Education and Children's Services Group. The diagram below shows the position of the Library Service within the authority.

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council



1.3 Committee structure.

In Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, council staff and executive councillors are accountable to the Scrutiny Committees. Elected members appoint an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a chair for each of the four Scrutiny Committees, which reflect the structure of the Group Directorates. These Scrutiny Committees have a specific area of work based on the main departments or "groups" within the Council, these being Community Services, Corporate Services, Education and Children's Services, and Environmental Services. Scrutiny Committees can review any aspect of the Council's affairs in depth.

1.4 Demographic and social characteristics

Rhondda Cynon Taf is the second largest and sixth most densely populated of the 22 Welsh unitary authorities. The major areas of population are Pontypridd, Aberdare, Tonypany, Treorchy, Talbot Green and Ferndale. The authority's area covers 44,000 hectares and the resident population is 231,600. The area has an ageing population with the proportion of residents over retirement age increasing. The economic activity rate is lower than the UK and Welsh average and youth unemployment is a major cause for concern. Seventeen wards are in the top 10% of the Wales Multiple Deprivation Index. The combination of the decline of heavy industry and recent inward investment has led to an uneven pattern of growth and polarisation between north and south in terms of relative affluence. Although there is a tradition of closely knit, supportive communities in the Valleys, the support infrastructure has been overwhelmed by these changes and pockets of very high socio-economic deprivation remain.

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Section 2. Commentary on standards

Information about issues related to standards has generally been recorded in the comments boxes alongside each standard in section 3. Information provided in section 2 relates to more complex issues which require longer commentary than allowed for in the comments boxes.

WPLS (Welsh Public Library Standards) 24, 25, 26:

WPLS 24 ii) public library authorities shall ensure that the proportion of households within 2 miles distance of a static service point will be 72%

and

WPLS 24 iii) The hours of opening for static libraries will also be convenient hours, defined as including at least five hours per week outside 9am to 5pm on weekdays. For static libraries open for fewer than 10 hours per week, opening hours should be at the discretion of the library authority

and

25 Welsh public library authorities will ensure that the aggregate annual opening hours per 1,000 population for all service points administered by the authority will be no less than 159 hours per 1,000 resident population

and

26 Welsh public library authorities will provide more service points selected to be open for more hours per week by March 2008, together with a selected programme of more frequent mobile library visits

Reviews of opening hours have been undertaken, including consultation with users and non users, and various options for change have been identified.

Additional funding is required to cover the extra staffing and other costs involved if overall opening hours are to be extended or existing day-time opening hours reduced and evening and weekend opening hours extended. Unfortunately evening opening hours have had to be reduced at two libraries in recent years in response to specific problems of staff harassment and disturbance.

Reducing opening hours at some libraries in order to extend them at others is problematic. Rhondda Cynon Taf library Service currently has more static libraries than any other authority in Wales but does not have a central HQ library with far wider resources than its other libraries. The topography of the area also makes travel around the county borough difficult and time consuming. The small branch libraries have excellent links with their communities, which have distinct identities, and are much appreciated by them. These factors mean that cutting back opening hours at smaller libraries in order to extend opening hours at the larger libraries would be unpopular with existing users.

Another alternative of closing some smaller libraries to extend opening hours at other libraries replacing their provision with a mobile library facility is also problematic. An additional mobile library would be required making this an expensive option. Also mobile libraries do not provide an acceptable alternative to static libraries nowadays as they have no ICT facilities due to problems with connectivity and limited stop times, no events or activities, no inquiry service, a limited choice of loan materials and limited stop time due to local topography which requires many short stops.

It should be noted that we currently exceed WPLS 24 (ii) and 25. We also supply grants to run two Institute Libraries at Cwmaman and Trecynon which provide additional library opening hours. Given this provision it is felt that rationalisation and standardisation of current opening hours and the extension of convenience hours are higher priorities than increasing overall opening hours of existing static libraries.

Providing a selected programme of more frequent mobile library visits within current working hours would also require purchasing an additional new vehicle. Another option to increase stops through increasing current working hours to provide visits to housing estates in early evenings is under consideration although this would need extra resources for increased staff costs. It should be noted that a recent request for mobile libraries to stop at selected children's homes was found impossible to accommodate within existing resources. An alternative solution was found whereby deposit collections of withdrawn stock have been provided backed up by visits from library staff to promote and raise awareness of library services in static libraries.

WPLS 28 ii) Welsh public library authorities will ensure that mobile service points provide by March 2008 a staff terminal that is linked to the authority's library management system that should provide issues and catalogue information and quick reference and community information and wherever possible, staff access to the Internet

Live links are not possible due to connectivity problems and the need for many short stops rather than fewer longer stops, which is dictated by the topography of the area. The geography of the valleys mean high numbers of stops make line of sight or "lamp post" hook ups very difficult and expensive. Mobile phone link ups are not an option as reception is non-existent or poor in many areas. The high number of short stops also precludes satellite dishes as even on the highest level of service it would take longer to hook up than the duration of the individual stop.

WPLS 29

29 i) By March 2008, Welsh public library authorities will ensure that the number of visits to the library service website per thousand resident population will be within the upper quartile for all authorities, currently 720. The method of counting should be based on a count of visits to the library owned or originated pages of an authority's site and should only include internet website and internet visits and not intranet visits

and

29 ii) Library authorities will also offer to the public a range of virtual and interactive services and facilities by March 2008: Access to Ask Cymru; Access to online community information services; Access to online catalogues of libraries in Wales; Access to Wales on the Web; Gathering the Jewels and other digitised material of Welsh interest; Access to e-government services delivered by the local authority; Learner support services for e-learning

We have given priority to the development of ICT services in libraries and have therefore developed five library websites and provide access to a wide range of IT facilities. We update our websites adding new content and features including interactive facilities constantly. We intend adding recorded reminiscences as audio and video clips to our recently launched Online Heritage Trail website as part of a new joint Library and Museum Service World War II project. Our Community Information Database is being extended to include information on facilities available throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf following a facilities audit. We are also collaborating with the Museum Service and the Glamorgan Record Office to develop an online project around local history resources. We are reliant on corporate systems to count usage but feedback from online users shows high levels of satisfaction with our websites and worldwide rather than just local usage. While external funding for the 3 library IT tutors has now ceased we are investigating options for partnership working and have put in a growth bid for additional core funding to ensure the services formerly provided by the tutors continue.

WPLS 31

Number of visits per 1,000 population per year shall be at least 6,144.

We aim to increase visitor numbers through the provision of more activities in libraries with more partnership working, both with internal partners inside the authority and external partners. We will place increased emphasis on marketing and promotion of services. We intend to engage with non-users through specific partnership projects, building on the success of the innovative n3b project with skateboarders at Aberdare Library. Our planned ongoing development of our websites which will encourage greater virtual use should also encourage increased physical visits.

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Section 3. Standards

A: Continuing Performance Checklist

Continuing Performance Checklist

This list seeks to ensure that performance against Standards in the first framework (April 2002 to March 2005) are sustained and that the requirements of these Standards are being met continuously.

Standard	Position on 31 March 2005 %	Target Performance by 31 March 2006 %	Target Performance by 31 March 2007 %	Target Performance by 31 March 2008 %	Comments
WPLS 2 Emergency non-opening hours of central and branch libraries will be no more than 2½ % of total planned opening hours in any year	2.18%	2%	1.5%	1%	
WPLS 3 Libraries will ensure that mobile library visits/stops missed will be no more than 2½ % of total planned number of visits/stops in any year	3.52%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	Missed stops through past recurring problems around vehicle maintenance and replacement are to be addressed under a new Transport Fleet Management policy. However missed stops also occur through low staffing levels and lack of relief cover may increase under new annual leave arrangements planned for 2006
WPLS 7 Libraries will ensure that the total number of workstations (including those for on-line catalogues) for public use will be no less than 7 per 10,000 resident population, and that every service point will have free public Internet access.	7.73	8	8.25	8.5	Space difficulties make it difficult to increase numbers though there is demand. As and

<p>Provision of assistive technologies for disabled will continue</p>					<p>when libraries move into new premises, if more space is available more pcs are provided. We're planning to make some library laptops regularly available in selected libraries eg for quick email access, rather than just on an adhoc basis as at present eg for training sessions</p>
<p>WPLS 8 Libraries will ensure that normal issue periods for books will be not less than 3 weeks</p>	<p>3 weeks</p>	<p>3 weeks</p>	<p>3 weeks</p>	<p>3 weeks</p>	
<p>WPLS 9 Libraries will ensure that the number of books users are allowed to borrow at any one time shall be at least 8</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>8</p>	

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Section 3. Standards

B: New standards

	Standard	Indicate position on 31 March 2005 (state in %)		Target for March 2006 (state in %)	Target for March 2007 (state in %)	Target for March 2008 (state in %)	Comments
24	<p>Either</p> <p>(i) In those authorities whose resident population is 20 or more persons per hectare, public library authorities shall ensure that the proportion of households within 2 miles distance of a static library will be 85%</p> <p>Or</p> <p>(ii) In those authorities whose resident population density is 19.9 persons or less per hectare, public library authorities shall ensure that the proportion of households within 2 miles distance of a static service point will be 72%</p> <p>(iii) Hours of opening of static libraries will be convenient hours – including at least 5 hours per week outside 9am to 5pm. (Do not include static libraries open for less than 10 hours per week)</p>	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Approx 85%		85%	85%	85%	
		List static service points	No. of hours outside 9-5	Target for March 2006	Target for March 2007	Target for March 2008	Comments

	and opening hours	Mon-Fri + Sats	List serv. points	No.of hours outside 9-5	List ser. pts	No.of hours outside 9-5	List service points	No.of hours outside 9-5	With Saturday opening hours added to opening hours outside 9-5 on weekdays, the majority of our libraries conform to this standard, with only 5 out of 29 libraries offering less than 5 "convenient" opening hours per week. Targets for increasing these "convenient" hours will be set according to whether options for standardising opening hours across the authority are implemented or whether ad hoc solutions for specific libraries are adopted. These options and related funding issues are currently under consideration.
	Abercynon 31	6							
	Aberdare 49	9							
	Beddau 23	6							
	Church Village 29	7							
	Cilfynydd 10	1							
	Cwmbach 24	6							
	Ferndale 41	7							
	Glyncoch 10	2							
	Hirwaun 30	5							
	Llanharry 10	3							
	Llantrisant 14	2							
	Maerdy 20.5	4.5							
	Mountain Ash 42	7.5							
	Penrhiwceiber 28	6							
	Penygraig 20.5	6.5							
	Pontyclun 30	6							
	Pontypridd 47	13.5							
	Porth 41	7							
	Rhydyfelin 37	6							
	Taffs Well 30	6							
	Talbot Green 31	7							
	Ton Pentre 41	7							
	Tonypany 41	7							
	Tonyrefail 30	6							
	Treherbert 41	7							
	Treorchy 41	7							
	Tylorstown 33.75	6.75							
	Ynyshir 19.5	6.5							
	Ynysybwl 32	7							

	provide a selected programme of more frequent mobile library visits by March 2008	Frequency of visits March 05	Total no.of mobile stops March 05	Target for March 2006		Target for March 2007		Target for March 2008		The topography of the area requires many shorter stops rather than less numbers of longer stops so there is no leeway to cut the length of stops to increase their number. Increasing the total number of stops would require additional mobile libraries. However options for increasing hours to visit housing estates in early evenings are under consideration although these would need extra resources for increased staff costs. This could add an additional 16 stops. It is planned to introduce a shared mobile service with Bridgend Library Service at Gilfach Goch and Evanstown next year. This would add an additional 4 stops		
		NB Duration of stops ranges from 5 minutes to 1 hour		Fortnightly	305	Freq	No. of stops	Freq.	No.of stops		Freq.	No.of stops
		F				305	F	311	F		325	
27	Library authorities will ensure that all service points providing a service for 10 or more hours per week provide access to an online catalogue for the whole authority by March 2008 And Will ensure that all mobile libraries will provide access to a catalogue for the whole authority by March 2008	Position as at 31 March 2005 (Tick ✓ or cross X)	Target for March 2006 (Tick ✓ or cross X)	Target for March 2007 (Tick ✓ or cross X)	Target for March 2008 (Tick ✓ or cross X)	Comments						
		✓	✓	✓	✓	Technical network problems mean that live internet access to the online catalogue is impossible. A snapshot download of the catalogue will therefore be provided on a laptop and regularly updated. However laptops cannot be made available on all mobile libraries until the oldest vehicle has been replaced						
		X	X	✓	✓							

	Standard	Tick (✓) provision available in March 2005	Tick (✓) provision target for March 2006	Tick (✓) provision target for March 2007	Tick (✓) provision target for March 2008	Comments	
28	(i) All static service points open for 10 hours or more per week shall provide by March 2008:					Our Corporate ICT Department do not allow users to plug their own laptops into the council network for security reasons. It is also council policy that only checked and registered equipment can be plugged into the mains for safety reasons. Users therefore can only use their laptops in libraries on battery power and access software available on their own laptops.	
	Provision for public laptop use	X	X	X	X		
	Scanning, printing and faxing facilities	x	x	✓	✓		
	Access on PCs to Office software	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Free e-mail facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓		Scanning and printing facilities are currently available in all libraries but fax machines are only available in the main three libraries
	Free basic support to users in above ICT facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Information literacy sessions for users	✓	✓	✓	✓	Information literacy sessions are currently provided by 3 library IT tutors and 2 part time library Community Learning Workers. External funding for the IT tutors has now ceased meaning that our ability to deliver these sessions will be considerably	
	(ii) All mobile service points will provide a staff terminal linked to library management system to provide information on:					Technical problems mean that network/internet access for mobile service points is impossible. However issues will be possible on a laptop to be uploaded to the library management system daily. A snapshot download of the catalogue will also be provided on a laptop and regularly updated However laptops cannot be made available on all mobile libraries until the oldest vehicle has been replaced allowing a laptop plug-in	
	Issues	X	X	✓	✓		
	Catalogue	X	X	✓	✓		
	Quick reference enquiries	X	X	X	X		
	And providing:	X	X	X	X		

Staff access to the Internet					
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	Standard	Position on 31 March 2005	Target for March 2006	Target for March 2007	Target for March 2008	Comments
29	(i) Number of visits to the library service website per 1,000 resident population will be within the upper quartile for all authorities, namely 720, by March 2008 (state figure)	289 visitors 547 visits See comments	600 visits	650 visits	720 visits	The defined method of counting required for this new standard is different to the method employed by us in the past. The new method requires us to count numbers of visits while we have been counting number of visitors, which is lower than visits. This accounts for the different figures for our position on 31 March 2005
		Tick (✓) provision available in March 2005	Target for March 2006 Tick (✓)	Target for March 2007 Tick (✓)	Target for March 2008 Tick (✓)	Comments
	(ii) Library authorities will provide the following services and facilities by March 2008:					
	Access to Ask Cymru	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Access to online community information	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Access to online catalogues of libraries in Wales	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Access to Wales on the Web, Gathering the Jewels and other digitised material of Welsh interest	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Access to e-government services delivered by the local authority	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Learner support services for e-learning	✓	✓	✓	✓		Learner support services are currently provided by 3 library IT tutors and 2 part time library Community Learning Workers. External funding for the IT tutors has now ceased which means that our ability to deliver these services will be considerably reduced

	Standard	Position on 31 March 2005 (state in %)	Target for March 2006 (state in %)	Target for March 2007 (state in %)	Target for March 2008 (state in %)	Comments
30	Library authorities will ensure that no less than					

	(i) 62% of all requests shall be supplied within 7 days, and	62.71%	65%	68%	70%	The implementation of a new request charges policy whereby charges for in-stock items will be dropped but charges for interlibrary loans increased may alter patterns of requests and affect these targets.
	(ii) 78% within 15 days	81.92%	82%	84%	86%	
	(iii) 89% within 30 days	91.2%	92%	93%	94%	
31	Number of visits per 1,000 population per year shall be at least 6,144	Position on 31 March 2005	Target for March 2006	Target for March 2007	Target for March 2008	Comments
		3804.8 (excludes visitors to library outreach events)	4,800	5,800	6,200	
32	(i) 94% of respondents in a user PLUS survey must rate the library service as 'very good' or 'good' on one occasion within the three-year cycle	Position on 31 March 2005 (state in %)	Target for March 2006 (state in %)	Target for March 2007 (state in %)	Target for March 2008 (state in %)	Comments
		91.8% - see comments	92.5%	93.5%	94%	This figure has been reached using an aggregate figure for our performance against the old standards 13, 14, 15 and 16
		(ii) 77% of respondents aged 15 in a PLUS survey must rate the library service as 'good' on one occasion in the three-year cycle	89% - see comments	89.5%	90%	90.5%

	Standard	Indicate compliance intended by March 2006			Comments	
33	(i) Authorities will prepare and issue a lifelong learning entitlement statement for learners by March 2006, indicating services delivered by libraries for learners	We hope to continue some of our current service provision via the work of the library Community Learning Workers and the provision of classes in libraries through partnership working. Continuation of the work of the library IT tutors is dependent on new funding			Guidance on the content of the entitlement statement to be issued prior to the call for 2005/06 annual reports	
	(ii) Authorities will work towards having policies on local and national smart card scheme for users after March 2008	Indicate compliance intended by March 2008			Comments	
		If it is decided corporately to introduce a smart card scheme in Rhondda Cynon Taf, it has already been agreed that the Library Service will participate in such a scheme			The Library Service has been working in partnership with the authority's Corporate ICT Department to investigate use of smart cards in Rhondda Cynon Taf. The recent change of library management system will make it easier for us to participate. However plans for the introduction of such cards have been shelved at present	
34		Position on 31 March 2005	Target March 2006	Target March 2007	Target March 2008	Comments
	(i) 28% of total staff will be formally qualified	(%) 22.1%	(%) 26.3%	(%) 28%	(%) 28%	Four existing members of staff are currently being funded to achieve professional qualifications but insufficient numbers of professional posts may lead to lack of retention of professionally qualified staff.
	(ii) Indicate total staffing levels (total establishment per 1,000 population) and indicate per 1000 population (e.g. 0.40, 0.43)	0.4%	0.42%	0.44%	0.46%	A trend is emerging for newly appointed younger non-qualified junior staff to move out of the Library Service into administrative posts in other areas of the authority which offer better pay and promotion prospects.

	Standard	Indicate year of quality health check and method			Comments
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	
35	<p>Authorities will undertake a stock quality health check on one occasion during the three-year cycle, for</p> <p>(i) Adult fiction</p> <p>(ii) Adult non-fiction</p> <p>(iii) Children's materials</p> <p>(iv) Reference Material</p> <p>(v) Welsh language materials and Welsh Writing in English</p> <p>(vi) Materials for special users</p>	<p>Adult fiction</p> <p>Reference material</p>	<p>Welsh language materials and Welsh Writing in English</p> <p>Materials for special users</p>	<p>Adult non-fiction</p> <p>Children's materials</p>	<p>We will devise local stock quality profiles for each of these categories, adapting national quality indices where these exist and taking account of the social and economic community profile of the authority. The stock quality health checks will match stock against these profiles.</p>
36	<p>Items added to stock per 1,000 population per annum will be at least</p> <p>Adult fiction 97 per 1,000</p> <p>Adult non-fiction 60 per 1,000</p> <p>Children's books (aged 15 and under) 76 per 1,000</p> <p>Reference materials 11 per 1,000</p> <p>Electronic reference services to be added to stock (list)</p>	<p>Indicate position March 2005</p> <p>85.63</p> <p>24.81</p> <p>193.37</p> <p>11.9</p>	<p>Target March 2006</p> <p>90</p> <p>40</p> <p>180</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Target March 2007</p> <p>94</p> <p>50</p> <p>165</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Target March 2008</p> <p>97</p> <p>60</p> <p>155</p> <p>11</p> <p>We are reluctant to cut back children's books to the standard of 76 per 1,000 as our Children's Bookbus, which acts as a children-only additional service point, increases the numbers of children's books required. Also higher numbers of children's books against adults relate to the purchase of larger numbers of cheaper paperbacks for children. A final target of 155 per 1,000 for children's books compares with the standard of 157 per 1,000 combined fiction and non-fiction adult items. Continuing reductions to the Bookfund have caused problems in the past with meeting the previous standard no 19. Meeting this new standard will be dependent on additional funding for the Bookfund</p>

	Standard	Position on 31 March 2005	Target March 2006	Target March 2007	Target March 2008	Comments
37	Welsh public library authorities will ensure that the time taken to replenish the lending stock on open access or for loan is no more than 9.1 years (indicate in years)	14.26	13	11	9.1	Continuing reductions to the Bookfund have caused problems in the past with meeting the previous standard no 20. Meeting this new standard will be dependent on additional funding for the Bookfund
38	Levels of expenditure (£ per 1,000 population)	Position on 31 March 2005	Target March 2006	Target March 2007	Target March 2008	Comments
	(i) Books	£1693.2	£1700	£1725	£1755	Continuing reductions to the Bookfund have caused problems in the past with meeting the previous standard no 21. Additional funding for the Bookfund will be required to enable us to meet this new standard in line with the defined median levels of expenditure, ie £1753 for books and £420 for other materials
	(ii) Other materials (indicate in £s)	£201.65	£250	£350	£425	
		Position on 31 March 2005	Target March 2006	Target March 2007	Target March 2008	Comments

39	<p>Expenditure on Welsh language material (adults, and children aged under 15) – to include purchase, marketing and promotion</p> <p>Either £1,050 per 1,000 Welsh-speaker total population (adults and children under 15 – state population numbers in Comments column) (indicate in £s)</p> <p>Or A minimum of 4% of total library purchasing fund (indicate in %)</p>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>Lack of take-up of Welsh language library materials provided in the past means that we will be concentrating on marketing and promotion and identification of required materials through partnership working eg through providing Welsh language classes in libraries, in order to increase usage of purchased materials</p>
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	Standard	Acquisitions in 2005/06		Acquisitions in 2006/07		Acquisitions in 2007/08		Comments
40	<p>Authorities are asked to indicate intended acquisition performance against an indicative Core List of Welsh Writing in English</p> <p>(Estimated levels accepted in Library Plan but details will be required in Annual Reports)</p>	% of titles on Core List purchased or in stock	Average number of copies of each title purchased or in stock	% of titles on Core List purchased or in stock	Average number of copies of each title purchased or in stock	% of titles on Core List purchased or in stock	Average number of copies of each title purchased or in stock	
								Core List of Welsh Writing in English not yet available
41	<p>Standard</p> <p>(i) Compare the authority's</p>	Position as at 31 March 2005	Target by March 2006	Target by March 2007	Target by March 2008			Comments

<p>performance against an indicative standard of 28 sq m of space per 1,000 resident population</p> <p>(ii) Indicate level of capital investment programme in £s in buildings / service points / vehicles, etc for period and describe schemes in Comments box</p>	<p>26.8 sq m</p> <p>£553,251</p>	<p>28 sq m</p> <p>New Bookbus £75K</p> <p>Planned works programme as follows: total £362K</p> <p>Abercynon - replace flat roof £2K</p> <p>Beddau refurbishment of building and upgrading of facilities (Done) £20K</p> <p>Tonyrefail - Provision of new temporary library (Done) £50K</p> <p>Tonyrefail - feasibility study re relocation of library into Leisure Centre (Done) £20K</p> <p>Treorchy Library - replacement windows £20K</p> <p>Taffs Well - internal redecoration £3K</p> <p>Ton Pentre - new automatic doors for disabled access (DDA money) £5K</p>	<p>28 sq m</p> <p>New mobile library £75K</p> <p>Church Village - new library (Part of a new Lifelong Learning shared site pfi development)</p> <p>Planned works programme as follows: total £109K</p> <p>Pontypridd - pointing building, complete internal redecoration £30K</p> <p>Treorchy - installation of lift and external fire escape to open up top floor use £40K</p> <p>Llanharan - feasibility study for a new library £20K</p> <p>Porth - external redecoration £4K</p> <p>Rhydyfelin - alteration of parking area £15K</p>	<p>28 sq m</p> <p>New mobile library £75K</p> <p>Planned works programme as follows: total £60K</p> <p>Glyncoch - feasibility study re relocation £20K</p> <p>Ynysybwll - feasibility study re relocation £20K</p> <p>Cwmbach - feasibility study re relocation £20K</p>	<p>Penrhiwceiber Library has recently moved to larger premises and Tonyrefail and Church Village Libraries will also be moving to larger premises</p> <p>Funding is to be mainly provided from the Capital Investment Programme</p>
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	Standard contd	Position as at 31 March 2005	Target by March 2006	Target by March 2007	Target by March 2008	Comments
41	(ii)Indicate level of capital investment programme in £s in buildings / service points / vehicles, etc for period and describe schemes in Comments box		Penygraig – new toilet facilities (DDA money) £15K Aberdare - new lift and internal adaptations (to be expanded to take in toilet area)£75K Pontyclun - internal redecoration £2K Various libraries - small DDA adaptations to buildings £150K			

WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

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Section 4. Local Priorities

Standards for Local Priorities

Please indicate what progress is planned by your authority in the development, implementation and monitoring of performance standards for locally designated service priorities

Local priority [short title]	Position as at March 2005	Target by March 2006	Target by March 2007	Target by March 2008	Comments
Develop and improve ICT based information and lifelong learning services	<p>Performance standards used: WPLS 6. Met WPLS 7 i). Exceeded WPLS 7 ii). Met WPLS 7 iii). Not possible to achieve as Llanharan Library still temporarily closed WPLS 11 Not met due to library closures for building work WPLS 12. Exceeded WPLS 14 i). Exceeded WPLS 14 ii) Exceeded WPLS 23. Exceeded Local PI "No of ICT based training sessions or opportunities accessed through library service provision" Not met. Ongoing difficulties with registering libraries as Learn Direct centres Local PI "No of learning centres provided in libraries". Exceeded</p>	To fully meet all new performance standards	To fully meet all new performance standards	To fully meet all new performance standards	<p>New performance standards: WPLS 7, 27, 28, 29, 33 (These replace the superseded standards WPLS 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 23)</p> <p>Local PIs used previously to continue ie Local PI "No of ICT based training sessions or opportunities accessed through library service provision" Local PI "No of learning centres provided in libraries".</p>

Marketing, publicity and promotion of the Library Service	As this is a new local priority, performance standards have only now been developed so performance figures are not available for 2004/05	As this is a new local priority, performance standards have only just been developed and monitoring systems set up. Targets cannot be set until actual performance figures are identified for 2005/06	Targets to be set for 2006/07 against each performance standard once actual performance figures have been identified against each performance standard for 2005/06	Targets to be set for 2007/08 against each performance standard once actual performance figures have been identified against each performance standard for 2005/06	Performance standards: Local PIs: Nos of outreach events attended Nos of visitors to library stands etc at outreach events Nos of special events/activities run/hosted in specific libraries Nos of press releases issued Nos of articles in local press/specialist journals etc Amount spent on marketing, publicity and promotion as a percentage of the total library budget WPLS 29 (i) and 31
Partnership working, both internally within the authority and with external partners	As this is a new local priority, performance standards have only now been developed so performance figures are not available for 2004/05	As this is a new local priority, performance standards have only just been developed and monitoring systems set up. Targets cannot be set until actual performance figures are identified for 2005/06	Targets to be set for 2006/07 against each performance standard once actual performance figures have been identified against each performance standard for 2005/06	Targets to be set for 2007/08 against each performance standard once actual performance figures have been identified against each performance standard for 2005/06	Local PIs: Nos of internal/external groups with Library Service representation Nos of joint projects

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Section 5. Risk assessment

Under the Council's latest WPI Risk Assessment, undertaken jointly with the Wales Audit Office, the Library Service was assessed as being a low/medium risk.

Despite budget restrictions, user feedback is very positive.

Some library buildings are no longer fit for purpose and, where required, consideration of suitable alternative accommodation is planned in the medium term