

# **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

**2014/15**

**City and County of Swansea  
Dinas a Sir Abertawe**



**Sustainable Development Unit**

# City and County of Swansea Sustainable Development Report 2014/15

## **The Sustainable Development Principle**

Sustainable development is the 'central organising principle' that underpins the planning and delivery of services resulting in sustainable outcomes for Swansea's communities.

The 'sustainable development principle' takes a long term perspective, is evidence based, seeks to balance economic, social, cultural and environmental costs and benefits, while prioritising a collaborative, citizen centred, preventative, approach. This is defined within the Council's Sustainable Development Policy as

*'Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'*

This principle guides the Council in working towards a 'safer, greener, smarter, fairer, healthier, richer Swansea'.

In April 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) also embraced this approach legislating that from April 2016, 44 devolved public sector bodies will work to improve the economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being of Wales in accordance with the 'sustainable development' principle.

## **Reporting on Sustainable Development**

This is the fifth year of reporting on sustainable development in Swansea. Progress is measured against seven priority areas for action defined within the Council's Sustainable Development Policy. Following the Report's adoption by Council, it is published alongside the Annual Statement of Accounts. This enables Council Members, Officers and the Public to benefit from a joined-up view of the year's outcomes in terms of impacts on well-being.

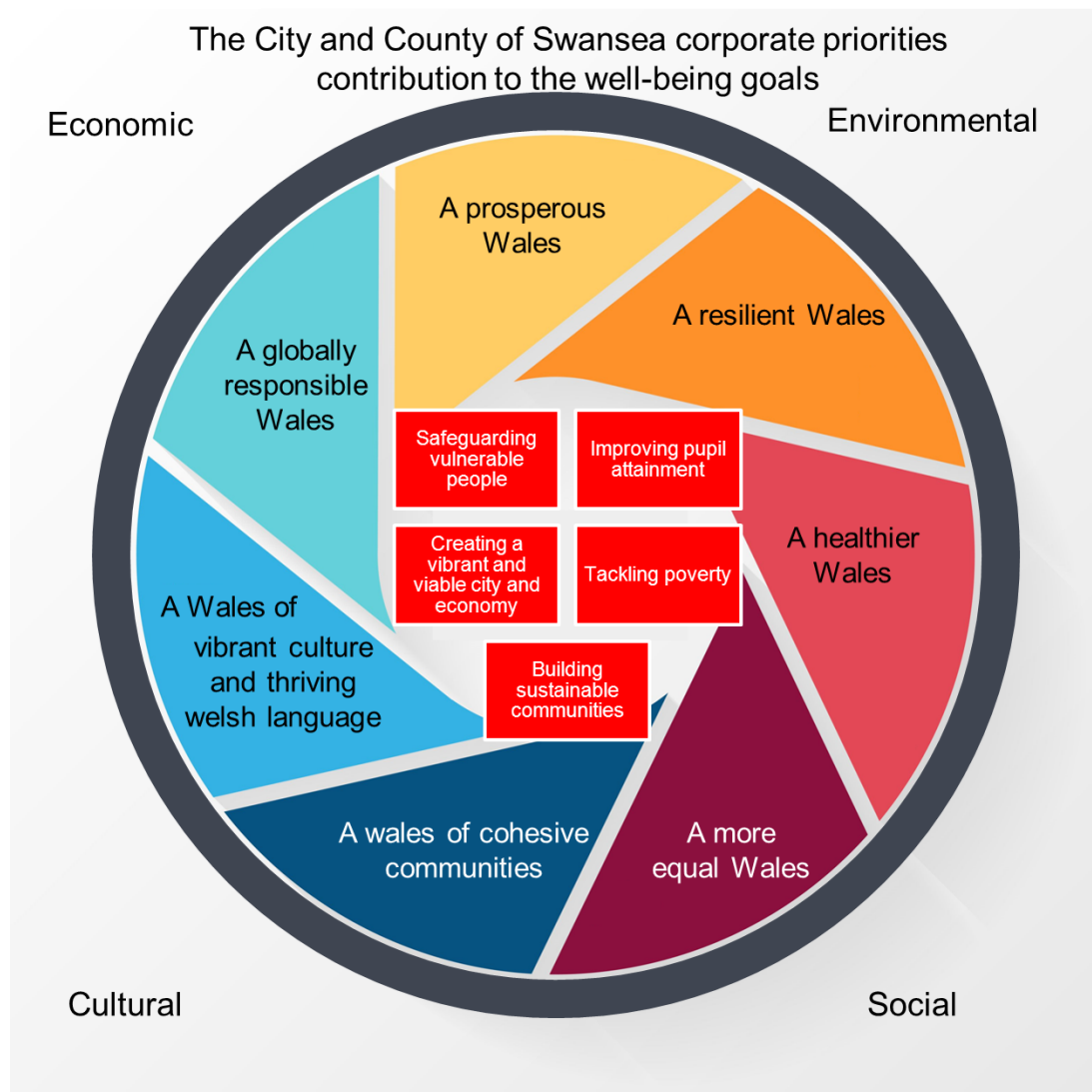
The current methodology was developed in 2012 with PwC influenced by CIPFA's 'Sustainability Reporting' guidance, The Prince's 'Accounting for Sustainability Connected Reporting' and, where practical, HM Treasury 'Public Sector Annual Reports: Sustainability Reporting Guidance'.

The reporting framework aims to connect strategy with material sustainability issues. Where possible the selected indicators are outcome rather than process focused. Indicators were selected and developed via relevance to the aims of the Council's Sustainable Development Policy and a Service Challenge Panel. All data presented within the report has been subject to a robust, internal and auditable certification and assurance process.

The report highlights key sustainable development issues and consists of two elements. A summary of sustainable development performance in the seven Priority Areas identified within the Sustainable Development Policy. This is followed by detailed information on individual metrics, grouped under Sustainable Development Priority Areas, analysed and displayed to best reflect their individual qualities.

## The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The 'sustainable development principle' underpinning this Act increasingly defines how services are planned and delivered at Swansea. Our corporate priorities each contribute both directly and indirectly to the Act's well-being goals.



The Act also sets out five governance approaches by which these outcomes are to be achieved. These ways of working include taking account of the long term, prevention, integration, collaboration and involvement. All are clearly demonstrated as fundamental elements of Swansea's transformation programme which aims to create a Sustainable Swansea - Fit for the Future.

### Sustainable Swansea – Fit for the Future

The scale of the financial, demographic and sustainability challenges facing Swansea require not only that the Council 'do things differently' but that it 'does different things'. Sustainable Swansea - Fit for the Future's budget principles and commitment to innovation, form a robust means of building the resilience of Swansea's communities.

## **Integrating Sustainable Development**

In challenging financial times, Swansea recognises the need to draw on all its resources. This includes often undervalued or under-utilised resources such as our natural environment, the capabilities and capacity of our citizens and partners, and the innovative ideas and thinking of service users, employees and residents. Sustainable development reporting is the first step towards a wider appreciation of how value is created in Swansea.

The introduction of the balanced scorecard as a means of reporting on corporate priorities offers a way to consider wider resources. In addition, the Council is exploring the potential benefits of complementary integrated reporting techniques through the [International Integrated Reporting Council](#) Integrated Reporting Welsh Public Sector Pilot Programme.

## **The Long Term Context**

A long term perspective is essential to make decisions today that continue to benefit generations of tomorrow. In order to work towards the 'Swansea we want' an understanding of future challenges based on current and future trends is necessary. Examples of foresighting undertaken in 2014 and key issues can be found in the WLGA [Generation 2050](#) Report. A regularly updated Future Trends report informs decision-making and represent the first steps towards the development of the Swansea 2040 Plan.

Key trends which impact how Swansea reconfigures its services for the future include:

- The aging population and increasing demand for care – The number of people aged 65 and over is estimated to increase by 44.1% or 19,000 by 2036.
- An increased birth rate – It is estimated the number of children aged 0-15 will grow by 3.5% or 1,500 by 2036.
- The number of obese adults in Swansea is projected to rise by almost 4,000 (8.5%) from 2015 to 2030. Obesity in children is projected to increase by 500 (6%)
- There will be a projected increase of 5.7% of adults in Swansea aged 19-64 with any mental health problem by 2030.
- The number of households in Swansea is projected to increase by 21.1% from an estimated 103,500 in 2011 to 125,300 in 2036.
- Summer temperatures are likely to increase in Wales between 1.2°C-4.1°C by 2050.

## **The Future**

Swansea has consistently led Wales in sustainable development, being recognised as an example of positive practice within the 2015 Wales Audit Office Corporate Assessment Report. The Local Authority was the first in Wales to report on carbon emissions and energy consumption before extending the scope of reporting to include economic, environmental and social indicators. The next phase of embedding sustainable development practice as the organisation's standard operating procedure focuses on the further development of a single corporate plan built around sustainable governance principles and evidenced at all levels of the organisation. Moving forward, a critical path towards integrating sustainable development into corporate planning and performance has been developed.

## SUMMARY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE

Priority Areas identified in Sustainable Development Policy 2012 and Direction of Progress ⤴ Improving, or at best performance   ⤵ No change, no prior or insufficient information ,   ⬇ Declining	Number and Status of Indicators in Priority Area		
<b>Climate Change / Decarbonisation (6 in total) ⬇</b>	<b>Ⓜ2</b>	<b>⤵1</b>	<b>⬇3</b>
<p>The City and County of Swansea (CCS) is a participant in the <u>Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme</u> (CRC) and has developed a reporting system to ensure compliance. Energy and Carbon data are collated and reported in the Council's Carbon Footprint and Annual Report submitted to the Environment Agency* annually in line with CRC legislation. The data is also used to drive behavioural change and efficiencies aimed at reducing carbon emissions and associated energy costs. Investment in 'low carbon' technologies such as LED building &amp; street lighting, renewable energy and electric vehicles demonstrate Swansea's ambition is to be among the greenest cities in the UK. Swansea was the first authority in Wales to sign the Climate Local Commitment.</p> <p><small>*The CRC Registry for the whole UK is administered by Environment Agency in England rather than Natural Resources Wales</small></p>			
<b>Sustainable Use of Natural Resources (8 in total) ⤴</b>	<b>Ⓜ4</b>	<b>⤵2</b>	<b>⬇2</b>
<p>Considerable efforts have been made to minimise the single use and disposal of finite resources and maximise the use of sustainable raw materials and energy in more efficient ways. A 'Municipal Waste strategy 2011-16' has been developed to meet Welsh Government targets set out in the <u>Towards Zero Waste</u> Strategy and the 'Municipal Sector Plan'. Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) are now operated in house. The Baling Plant &amp; HWRC in Llansamlet has achieved a range of quality standards and is recognised as a UK leader. This best practice is being rolled out to other sites. Swansea works with four neighbouring local authorities as South West Wales Waste Partnership to find the most sustainable, cost effective and practical solutions to treat waste. New Welsh Government criteria has amalgamating funding previously issued to specific departments for specific tasks into a single Environment and Sustainability Grant which requires a collaborative approach based on integrated objectives.</p>			
<b>Natural Environment (4 in total) ⬇</b>	<b>Ⓜ2</b>	<b>⤵0</b>	<b>⬇2</b>
<p>Swansea has a wide diversity of landscapes and habitats that make up over 80% of the County's total area. The Council aims to maximise the economic and social value created by our urban and rural environments and ensure that this asset is effectively managed for the future. Swansea is leading Wales in natural resource planning having mapped five existing and potential eco-system services such as carbon storage and food production, developing an approach that can be used across Wales. Swansea Biodiversity Partnership works to promote and protect natural habitats and resources. The Council is a key partner in a new Tawe Trial Project which explores an ecosystems approach to natural resource management. The forthcoming Environment Bill will strengthen protection. Increasingly cross organisational approaches are being adopted. Tree planting is being used to reduce flood risks through Coed Cymru and an urban tree survey aims to ensure climate change and pollution are mitigated.</p>			

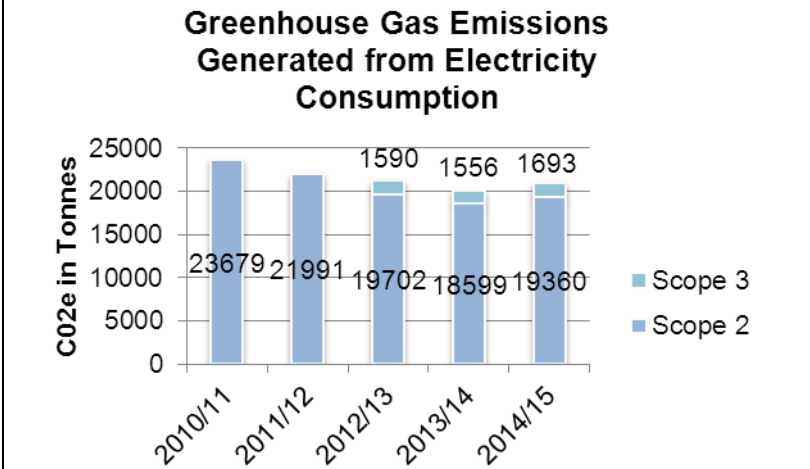
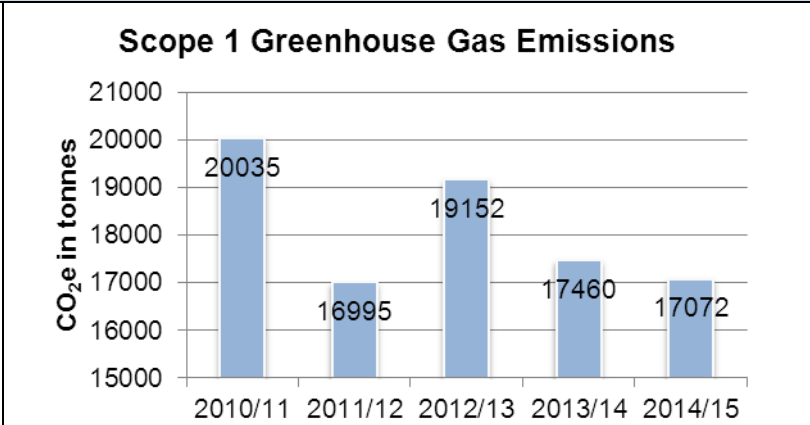
<b>Social Inclusion (3 in total) ☺</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>01</b>
The Local Authority is committed to ensuring people from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities and that social exclusion based on income, access to services and participation poverty is addressed. The Poverty and Prevention Service ensures policies and strategies across the Council reduce social exclusion and mitigate the impact of welfare reform on the vulnerable. Services build the resilience of local communities equipping individuals with the knowledge and skills to create self-aware, independent, and resilient communities. Training and support for both staff and our partners builds capacity and highlights the direct and indirect impacts of poverty. There is also recognition of the need to support and work with the community both geographically and with communities of interest, by providing networks, local resources, and advice. The focus is on early intervention and preventative measures that reduce the long term need for more serious and costly action.			
<b>Economic Resilience (5 in total) ☹</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>01</b>
Sustainable Swansea – Fit For the Future is a mechanism which ensures sustainable financial policies and procedures contribute to the continued financial viability of the City and County of Swansea as an organisation. 2014 saw the continuation of the biggest ever budget consultation with employees, the public and partners engaged in the continuously ongoing and rolling three year transformation programme which is set against a backdrop of distinctly challenging future public sector finances. The medium term financial plan (3 years) is an increasingly robust and responsive document which influences short term decision making. Longer term forecasting is still generally based on a service level analysis of trends although corporate level foresighting is in development. Collaborative economic planning led towards the development of the Swansea Bay City Region.			
<b>Governance (6 in total) ☹</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>03</b>
Structures are adopted which ensure good government, management and leadership, characterised by openness, participation, accountability, predictability, and transparency. Extensive consultation takes place with residents on both corporate and service specific issues. The Swansea Standard was introduced following research undertaken with citizens and sets customer service guidelines for staff. The Council is the first in Wales to adopt the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child placing a duty on the Authority to have due regard to the rights of children and young people placing them at the centre of decisions affecting them.			
<b>Procurement (5 in total) ☹</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>00</b>
Sustainable Procurement aims to achieve more than simply obtain best value from the purchase of goods and services while acting legally, ethically and transparently to minimise risk. The full integration of sustainable principles into procurement practice has the potential to add significant value in terms of social, economic and environmental benefits for the community. The Commercial and Commissioning Service has been set up to ensure the principles of Sustainable Swansea are integrated within procurement activity Every service over a three year cycle is to undergo a full commissioning review in line with these values.			
<b>Total - 37 Indicators ☹</b>	<b>017</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>012</b>

**Climate Change /Decarbonisation Information, Initiatives and Targets Progress**

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)**

**(1) Scope 1**  
Includes fossil fuel use in buildings (gas and heating oil) and fuel used in the Council's fleet (5% biodiesel mix).

**(2) Scope 2**  
Includes electricity use.  
Note: In previous years, conversion factors combined electricity generation and transmission and distribution (T&D) data, (T&D is now recorded in Scope 3).





Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) is a universal unit of measurement that allows the global warming potential of different GHGs to be compared.

Scope 2 carbon emissions have increased despite falling energy usage. However the overall trend over the past five years is positive. This is due to the UK energy mix being more carbon intensive reflecting a reliance on coal. Dependence on external energy sources can be reduced by reducing demand and generating energy in-house using renewables.

The Council is currently developing projects to explore how community-scale renewable energy projects may be used as a platform to develop enterprise, skills for local people and potentially an income stream for CCS (Community Renewable Energy and Enterprise Scheme - CREES).

CCS is a key player in Low Carbon Swansea, an initiative which coordinates carbon reduction across all sectors in Swansea. The Carbon Reduction Strategy 3% carbon emissions reduction target per annum has been set and met from a base year of 2009/10. This uses comparable conversion factors and excludes transport.

**Scope 1**  
  
 Scope 1 emissions have decreased

**Scope 2**  
  
 CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions have increased in Scope 2 despite falling consumption

**(3) Scope 3**  
Includes business mileage, indirect electricity emissions and disposal of construction waste

	Business Travel Mileage (miles)	Emissions Generated (tonnes CO <sub>2e</sub> )	Expenditure (£)
2014/15	3,220,074	982	1,579,722
2013/14	3,648,983	1117	1,984,875
2012-13	3,654,429	1,145	1,973,849
2011-12	3,865,675	1,273	2,095,853
2010-11	3,839,919	1,287	2,030,271

*\*In 2012 the methodology was improved to capture wider data*

There has been a further reduction in the use of own vehicles for business use. This is excellent especially as fleet fuel emissions have also declined within The Council's pool bike scheme operates at the Civic Centre and Guildhall sites.

Construction waste emissions have also fallen by 72.4 tonnes to 27 tonnes CO<sub>2e</sub>. This is due partly to a contractor disposing of waste as energy rather than landfill and data recording changes under ISO 14001.

Indirect carbon emissions resulting from the transmission and distribution of electricity are account for 1,693 tonnes CO<sub>2e</sub>.

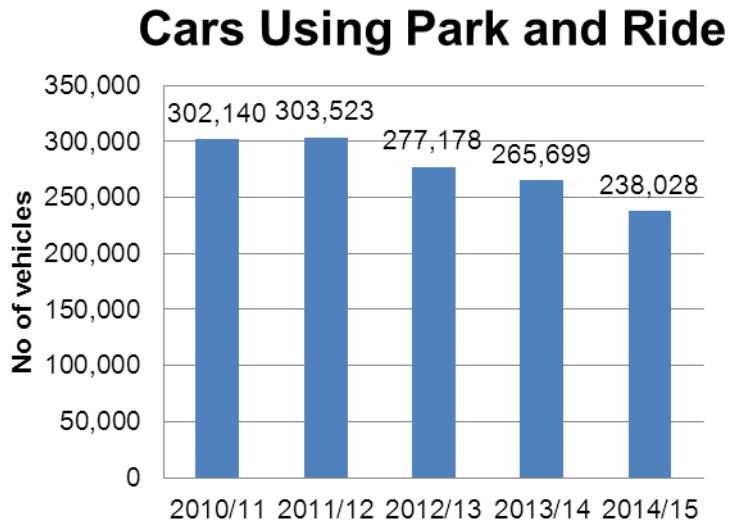


*Scope 3 emissions have fallen*

- Notes**
- 1 Electricity and Gas data is based on utility billing information, some of which will be estimated.
  - 2 Fossil fuel (gas and oil) is presented as absolute figures and is not corrected for weather
  - 3 Business travel data is for road miles only.
  - 4 Carbon emissions are calculated using appropriate Defra/DECC GHG Conversion factors for Company Reporting.
  - 5 Our Carbon Footprint has been restated for all years in order to account for material changes to the conversion factors provided by Defra for company reporting purposes'



**(4) Number of Cars Using Park and Ride Services**



'Swansea has 3 Park and Ride sites located at Landore, Fabian Way and Fforestfach resulting in a significant reduction in traffic to the City Centre.

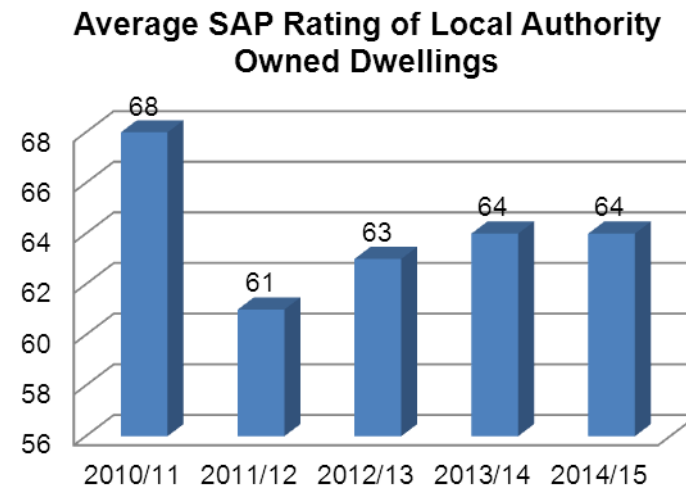
A subsidy scheme encourages staff to commute using this service. Investment in 'pay by foot' technology has provided more convenience and choice when making payments whilst reducing operating costs.

Prepayment and season tickets offer discounts with direct debit introduced. Collaborative working with the private sector has resulted in an effective service.



*A 'below target' decline in use reflects the wider economic, shopping and the competitive parking environment*

**(5) The average SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) rating of local authority owned dwellings. (HSG4)**





The SAP rating of a house measures its energy efficiency performance and represents the average of Energy Performance Certificates carried out since October 2008. The Wales Housing Quality Standard which the Council is committed to work towards includes a SAP rating of 65.

Initiatives to increase council house energy efficiency included the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) which part funded loft insulation to properties. The installation of new efficient boilers and external wall



*This rating does not necessarily reflect new measures introduced due to the data collection methodology which is currently*

		insulation is also to be part funded by (ECO) as well as Welsh Government funding.	being updated																		
<b>(6) Average Display Energy Certificate (DEC) rating in the Council's public buildings</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Rating</th> <th>Grade</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>87.1</td> <td>D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>86.5</td> <td>D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>92.6</td> <td>D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>94.6</td> <td>D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>98.7</td> <td>D</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>A 'D' Grade is awarded to sites with a Display Energy Certificate rating of between 76 to 100.</i></p>		Rating	Grade	2014/15	87.1	D	2013/14	86.5	D	2012/13	92.6	D	2011/12	94.6	D	2010/11	98.7	D	<p>All public buildings over 1000m<sup>2</sup> must display a DEC. Buildings are graded from "A" to "G" with an "A" rating being the most energy efficient. An average grade of "D" has been maintained however the rating on which this grade is based has significantly improved.</p> <p>In addition all public buildings over 500m<sup>2</sup> have a ten year Display Energy Certificate and some smaller buildings have been issued with Voluntary DEC's.</p>	 <p><i>The average rating score has increased slightly but met target by maintaining a D grade scoring below 100</i></p>
	Rating	Grade																			
2014/15	87.1	D																			
2013/14	86.5	D																			
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<b>Sustainable Use of Natural Resources</b>		<b>Information, Initiatives and Targets</b>	<b>Progress</b>																		
<b>(7) Water and sewage expenditure</b> <i>Includes an informed estimate relating to a minority of schools in prior years</i>	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>£1,160,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>£1,318,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>£1,040,872</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>£961,266</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>£777,098</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>While data over the past four year's is not fully comparable it reflects work to improve the accuracy and scope of reporting. A more meaningful comparison of expenditure is now possible in relation to a 2013/14 baseline..</p>	2014/15	£1,160,000	2013/14	£1,318,000	2012/13	£1,040,872	2011/12	£961,266	2010/11	£777,098	<p>Discussions are ongoing with Welsh Water to introduce centralised billing and automatic metering (AMR). In the absence of these tools it is not possible to fully understand water consumption other than in terms of expenditure.</p> <p>Detailed billing is currently only recorded for 30 corporate buildings precluding greater analysis and the effective monitoring and control of consumption.</p>	 <p><i>Recorded expenditure has decreased</i></p>								
2014/15	£1,160,000																				
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**(8) Consumption of water at key civic offices**  
(Civic Centre and Guildhall )

Civic Centre	Expenditure £	Cubic metres	Guildhall	Expenditure £	Cubic metres
2014/15	£31,273	10,304	2014/15	£18,228*	5,433
2013-14	£30,528	10,244	2013-14	£77,336	26,444
2012-13	£28,237	9,732	2012-13	£16,603	5,740
2011-12	£30,651	11,013	2011-12	£16,114	5,811
2010-11	£57,272	21,094	2010-11	£17,485	6,244

\*A leak at the Guildhall was promptly identified at the end of 2013. A rebate of £29,500 was agreed on the sewerage element of the water bills which has been offset against payments in 2014/15

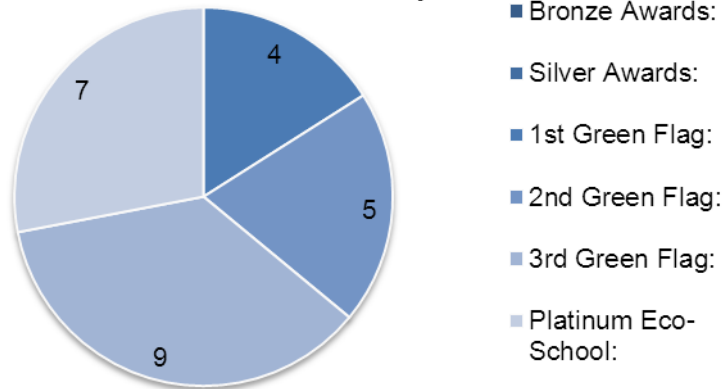
*Usage does not take into account refurbishment activity and changes in staffing numbers*



*Slight increase in consumption at the Civic Centre, slight decrease at Guildhall on 2012/13*

**(9) Number of schools attaining Eco Schools International Green Flag Programme Awards**

**25 Green Flag Scheme Awards Gained in 2014/15**



The Eco Schools programme is a student led, environmental management system which provides a structure for sustainable development activities in schools.

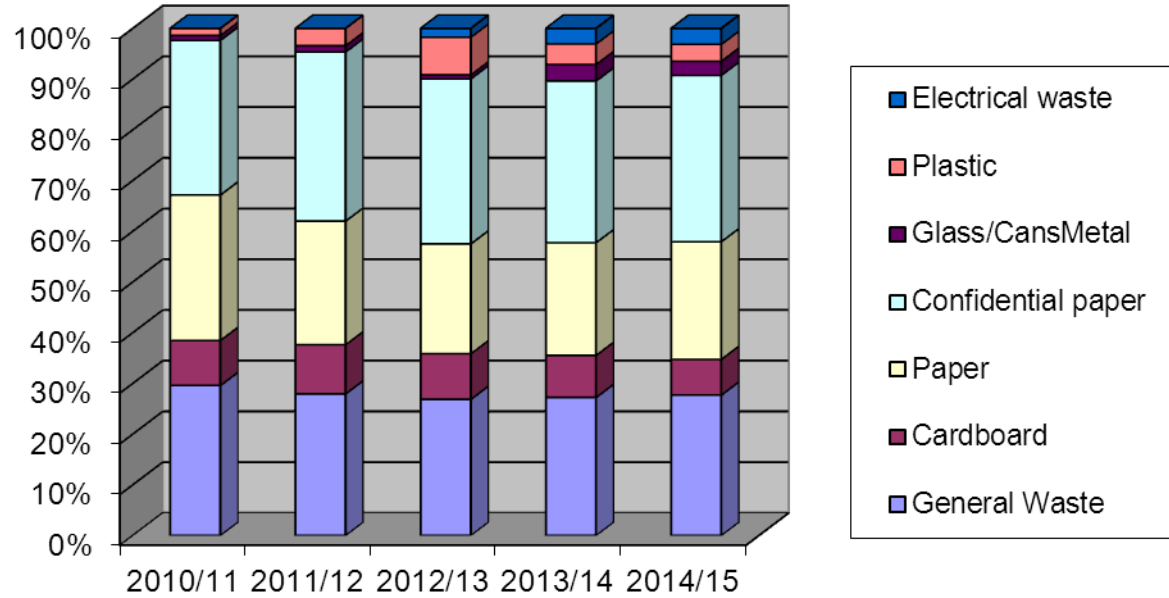
The number of schools registered has risen slightly to 87 but is still down from a high of 100. The activity in Swansea schools' demonstrates a clear commitment from participants with higher numbers of higher level awards. Future work will focus on re-engaging with those schools that have previously registered providing dedicated support and training.



*Number of awards comparable to previous year*

**(10) Waste recycled at Civic Centre**

**Civic Centre Waste**

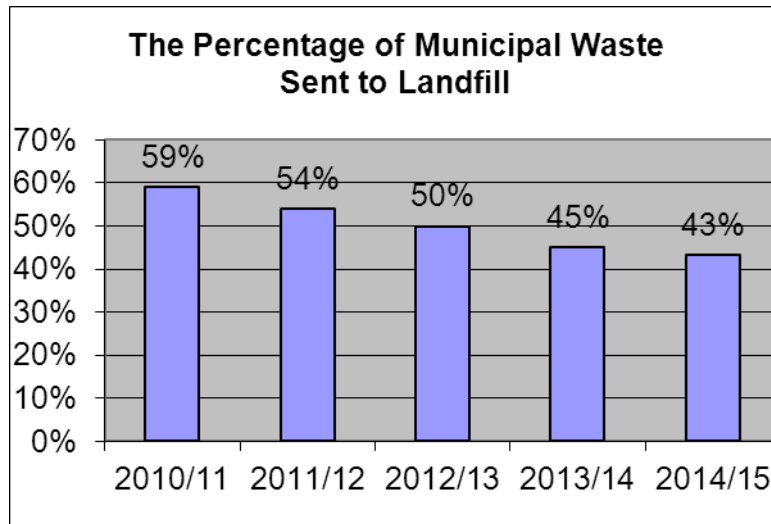


*The total amount of waste produced has increased, total amount of recycling has increased However the percentage recycled has reduced slightly.*

*A review of all council buildings' recycling is planned for next year.*

	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11
<b>Total Rubbish and Recycling (tonnes)</b>	<b>211.85</b>	202.73	231	194	188
<b>Total Recycling (tonnes)</b>	<b>153</b>	148	169	140	133
<b>Recycling Rate %</b>	<b>72</b>	73	73	72	70



**(11) The percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill (WMT004b)**







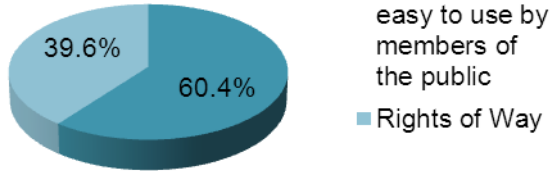

A range of initiatives contributed to a reduction in waste sent to landfill including Swapshop and the Real Nappy Campaign. Innovations include the trial of pop up recycling sites at community sites and micro-pilots testing the viability of reusable bags. The Reuse shop has proved popular and has improved reuse levels the project reclaims and sells items destined for landfill. While the SWAT Team break down household items for recycling. Sammy Seagull heads up the schools recycling programme, while targeted campaigns help students recycle effectively. Surveying followed up by targeted door-knocking campaigns, thanking and helping residents increase their recycling has again been effective.




*In 2014/15 performance more than met the target of 45%. A target of 42% or below is in place for 2015/16.*

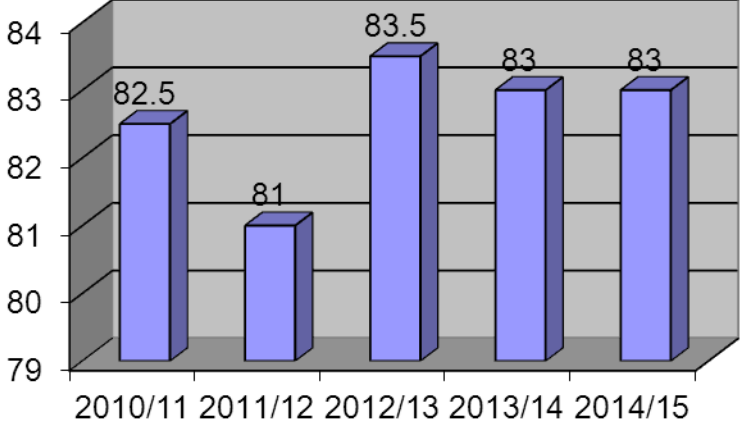


<p><b>(12) The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way (WMT009b)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Waste Collected by Local Authorities and Prepared for Reuse and /or Recycling</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>45%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>48%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>53%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>57%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage	2010/11	40%	2011/12	45%	2012/13	48%	2013/14	53%	2014/15	57%	<p>Recycling targets are increasingly challenging and require the support of the public if they are to be met. The overall re-use/recycling/composting statutory target is set to rise to 64% by 2019/20. Whilst the Authority has met the statutory target of 52% in 2014/15 much work needs to be undertaken to ensure the Authority meet the future statutory targets.</p> <p>Public engagement in 2014/15 has focused on the 'keep it to 3' strategy launched in April 2014 which limits collection of general waste. A free smartphone app 'Connect Swansea' which helps people access recycling information was launched and now has over 6,500 users.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p><i>The 2014/15 performance target was set at 55% and achieved. In 2015/16 the target is 58%.</i></p>
Year	Percentage														
2010/11	40%														
2011/12	45%														
2012/13	48%														
2013/14	53%														
2014/15	57%														
<p><b>(13) The percentage of local authority collected municipal waste used to recover heat and power (WMT/012)</b></p>	<p>The percentage of waste used to recover heat and energy for 2014/15 is 5.6% which is made up of the tonnage of food waste sent for anaerobic digestion and material sent for incineration with heat/energy recovery, This achieves the target of 4% but is lower in percentage terms than the 7.3% achieved the previous year. The reduction in percentage terms is down to the fact very little material was sent for incineration with heat/energy recovery as other forms of recycling etc. are also in use.</p> <p>The target for 2015/16 has been set at 5% based on the tonnage of food waste likely to be sent for anaerobic digestion as there are no firm plans to send materials for treatment to Energy from Waste, carpets for example are instead being recycled wherever possible.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p><i>Target achieved but lower overall percentage</i></p>													

<p><b>(14) Percentage of biodegradable municipal waste landfill allowance used</b></p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="573 229 1182 531"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Allowance used (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>75.89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>85.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>81.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>72.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>78.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This significant reduction is credited to the keep it to three campaign, door knocking campaigns and a focus on trade waste.</p>	Year	Allowance used (%)	2014/15	75.89	2013/14	85.1	2012/13	81.2	2011/12	72.6	2010/11	78.2	<p>The Authority has an annual <a href="#">Landfill Allowances Scheme</a> allowance which governs the amount of biodegradable municipal waste it can send to landfill in any given year. The lower the percentage used of this allowance, the less landfill is created.</p> <p>This allowance reduces each year making each year more challenging. The authority risks fines if it fails to meet its target.</p>	 <p><i>The target of less than 100% has been achieved and last year's outcomes Improved.</i></p>
Year	Allowance used (%)														
2014/15	75.89														
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2010/11	78.2														
<p><b>Natural Environment</b></p>		<p><b>Information, Initiatives and Targets</b></p>		<p><b>Progress</b></p>											
<p><b>(15) Number of Green Flags and Blue Flags awarded to local authority operated areas</b></p>	<p>Singleton Botanical Gardens, Victoria Park, Brynmill Park, Clyne Gardens, Cwmdonkin Park and for the first time Park Llewelyn were awarded the <a href="#">Green Flag Award</a>. The Parks Development and Outreach team work closely with schools enabling children to benefit from the educational value of green space, help visitors access valuable cultural amenities and engage residents in regenerating local greenspace creating health well-being benefits.</p> <p>The team facilitates community action by supporting the development of Friends groups. These groups have been supported in accessing over £200,000 of external grant funding this year.</p>	<p>Four beaches were awarded the <a href="#">Blue Flag</a>, Port Eynon, Caswell, Langland and Bracelet.</p> <p>At Swansea Bay predicted water quality information is posted thrice daily at the slip, meeting EU standards. It is anticipated that in 2015/16 Swansea Marina will return to the scheme having explored alternative environmental standards.</p>	 <p><i>Park Llewelyn attained the standard in 2014/15 bringing the total of Green Flag Parks to 6.</i></p>												
<p><b>(16) Number of biodiversity training sessions delivered, action</b></p>	<p>In 2014/15, it was not possible to deliver targeted NERC training sessions, producing bespoke action plans due to the loss of the Biodiversity Officer post. However, follow up support was provided to groups which had previously completed training in implementing their action plans. Provision has been made within the 2015/16 budget for the delivery of this provision. This</p>		 <p><i>Resource</i></p>												

<p><b>plans produced and employees trained</b></p>	<p>action aims to help the Local Authority and other public bodies to understand their obligations for biodiversity under the <u>Natural Environment and Rural Communities</u> Act 2006, and to provide information and advice on ways in which they can adopt relevant working practices which help to conserve and enhance biodiversity. A pilot project 'Wild about your Ward' maps natural resources at a local level making visible opportunities for potential economic, health and social benefit and enabling efforts to be concentrated where there is most impact. In 2014, a Biodiversity Champion at Council was appointed reflecting the importance of the issue</p>	<p><i>constraints meant that NERC training could not be maintained.</i></p>	
<p><b>(17) Number of Local Nature Reserves (LNR)s</b></p>	<p>The Authority currently has 6 Local Nature Reserves which are managed by the Nature Conservation Team in partnership with other organisations with help from local volunteers. LNRs are areas of high biodiversity value which are accessible to people and provide opportunities for people to enjoy nature where they live.</p>	<p>Progress toward the designation of a seventh LNR at Garth Farm is on target. A draft management plan has been prepared and consultation is underway.</p>	
<p><b>(18) The percentage of total length of Rights of Way which are easy to use by members of the public</b></p>	<p><b>The Percentage of Total Length of Rights of Way Easy to Use by Members of the Public</b></p>  <p>■ Rights of Way easy to use by members of the public ■ Rights of Way</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>The target of 67.5% has not been met (as predicted last year) due to the nature of the survey methodology. It is therefore expected to improve in 2015/16.</i></p> </div>	<p>The Countryside Access Team are responsible for nearly 400 miles of public rights of way. Partnership working with stakeholders helps fund this work. While the active engagement of citizens and groups as volunteers helps improve existing and develop new routes.</p> <p>Initiatives such as the Love Your Countryside festival, Swansea Nature Network and Countryside Connections Project promote access, understanding and enjoyment of local green spaces and wildlife sites. Rural assets are leveraged to provide urban economic, social and other outcomes</p>	 <p><i>The percentage has decreased from 66.8% the previous year</i></p>



Social Inclusion	Information, Initiatives and Targets		Progress												
<p><b>(19) Percentage of young people (at 16 years) not known to be in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)</b></p> <p><i>(this is local PI EDCP18c and not the nationally published figures)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Percentage of Young People Known to be NEET</b></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <caption>Data for NEET Percentage Chart</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>4.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>3.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>2.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>3.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>3.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Target was not met in 2014/15 as a result of changes to the co-ordination of identification and support for potential NEETs, reduced funding and reduced provision. This included a reduction in year of the WG grant for learning provision provided by the Council, along with a substantial change in the delivery of traineeships, as well as a move towards provision by National providers such as A4E and Rathbone. This transition led to a lot of upheaval and reduction in the number of young people with clear destinations.</i></p>	Year	Percentage	2010/11	4.2%	2011/12	3.1%	2012/13	2.0%	2013/14	3.2%	2014/15	3.7%	<p>The 'Keeping in Touch' partnership continues to work with young people at risk of becoming NEET utilising the WG Youth Progression and Engagement Framework. The partnership is working on new arrangements for more flexible provision with Gower College, along with changes in the structure and function of elements of the Youth Service to target vulnerable young people through a lead worker approach. There is also a prospective ESF bid for Pre and post 16 year olds to provide additional support. (2014/15 figures relate to the academic year 2013/14.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p><i>Target of 3% not met. The aim is to minimise the % of NEETS.</i></p>
Year	Percentage														
2010/11	4.2%														
2011/12	3.1%														
2012/13	2.0%														
2013/14	3.2%														
2014/15	3.7%														

<p><b>(20) Learners leaving Employment Training with a positive outcome</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Percentage of Learners Leaving Employment Training with a Positive Outcome</b></p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="526 375 1265 805"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>82.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>83.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>83</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage	2010/11	82.5	2011/12	81	2012/13	83.5	2013/14	83	2014/15	83	<p>Lifelong Learning and Employment Training Service (LLETS) provides young people and adults with apprenticeship opportunities from foundation to highest levels. Cross cutting themes in 'Environmental and Sustainability Global Citizenship' and 'Welsh Language and Culture' have been identified and specific officers have the responsibility to embed these into curriculum.</p> <p>Work is progressing with Gower College to develop work based learning (WBL) opportunities across Swansea. LLETS is looking to build resilience and independence of learners benefiting the local economy.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <i>Target met in 2014/15</i></p>
Year	Percentage														
2010/11	82.5														
2011/12	81														
2012/13	83.5														
2013/14	83														
2014/15	83														
<p><b>(21) Percentage of pupils of statutory age claiming Free School Meals (FSM)</b></p>	<p>Snapshot data reported at January 2015 indicates Free School Meals are claimed by 19.8% of statutory age pupils. This rate is lower than estimated entitlement to this benefit, a situation attributed to cultural and language factors. While the rate of claims has fallen 0.1% last year and 0.8% the previous year, this positive trend may not translate into an improvement in child poverty. Schools report the impact of welfare reform has reduced entitlement to FSM. Changes in entitlement to benefits which trigger FSM have impacted eligibility although family circumstances have not changed. School based initiatives motivated by the link to the Pupil Deprivation Grant ensure parents and carers are aware of this benefit and have the opportunity to apply.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <i>Small decrease</i></p>													

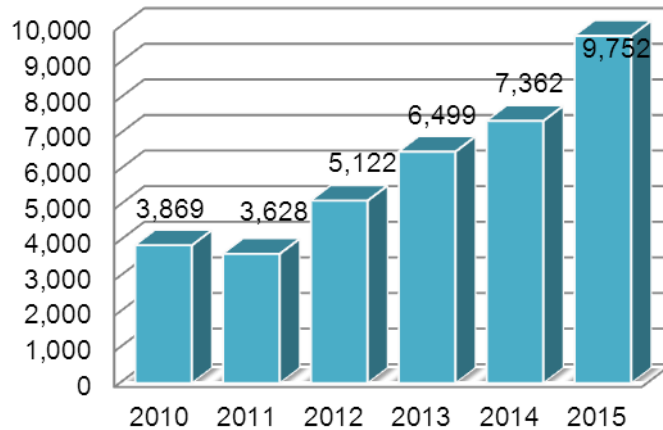
**Economic Resilience**

**Information, Initiatives and Targets**

**Progress**

**(22) Level of funds in reserve (£,000)**

**Schools Delegated Reserves £'000**

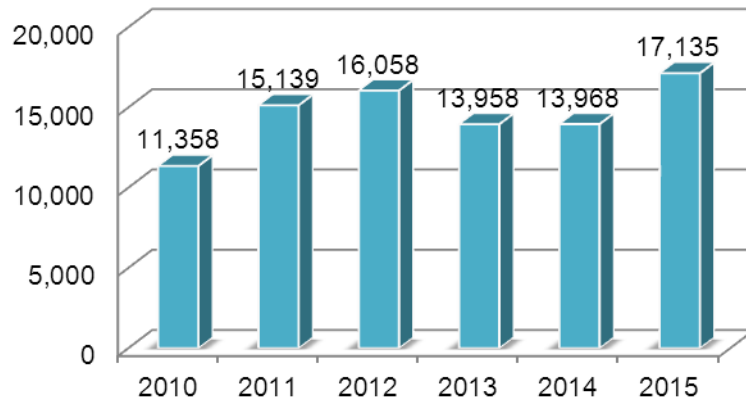


The Housing Revenue Account Reserves will be used to fund the capital works to meet the Welsh Quality Housing Standard more quickly, apart from £4m which is held as a general HRA contingency fund.

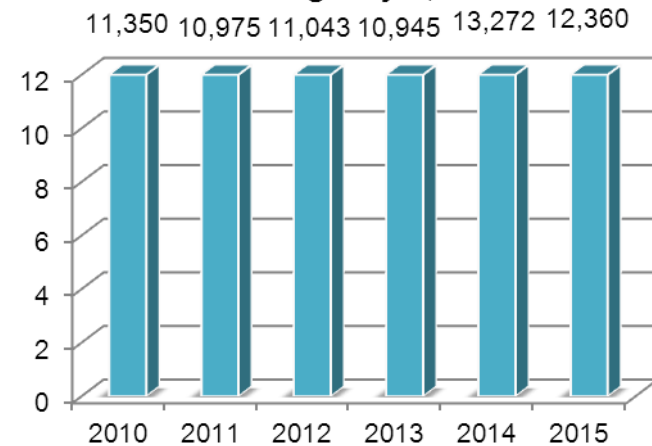
Schools Delegated Reserves have increased.

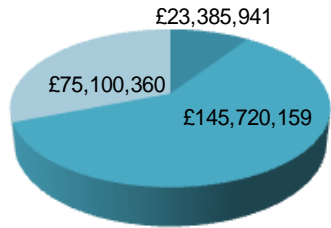

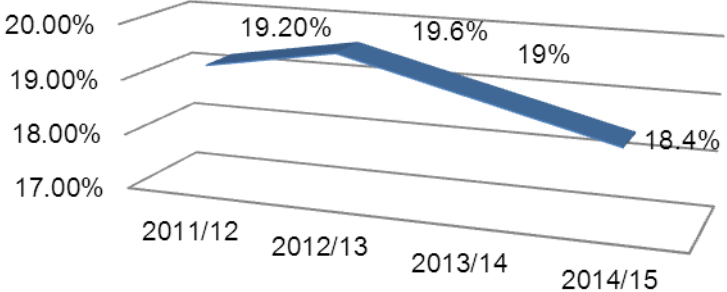





**Housing Revenue Account £'000**







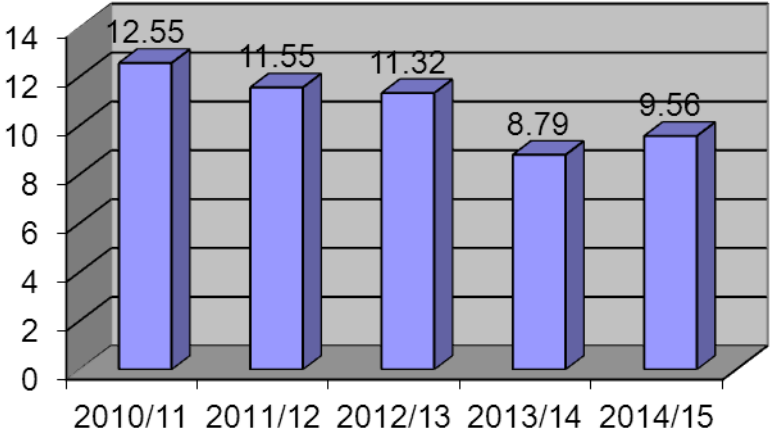

**General Reserves and Contingency £,000**



<p><b>(23) Asset management – The total value of required maintenance for the Local Authority’s buildings assigned to works of priority level</b></p>	<p><b>The Total Value of Required Maintenance for the Local Authorities Buildings Assigned to Works of Priority Level</b></p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Priority Level</th> <th>Value (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Urgent</td> <td>£145,720,159</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essential</td> <td>£75,100,360</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Desirable</td> <td>£23,385,941</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>■ Urgent ■ Essential ■ Desirable</p>	Priority Level	Value (£)	Urgent	£145,720,159	Essential	£75,100,360	Desirable	£23,385,941	<p>The percentage of the gross internal area of the local authority’s buildings in condition categories considered good is 7%, satisfactory - 47%, poor – 45% and bad – 1% in 2014/15.</p> <p>The total value of required maintenance was approximately £245,133 million compared to approximately £268.393 million in the previous year.</p>	 <p><i>Total value of required work has decreased.</i></p>		
Priority Level	Value (£)												
Urgent	£145,720,159												
Essential	£75,100,360												
Desirable	£23,385,941												
<p><b>(24) The percentage of void properties in the City Centre</b></p>	<p><b>Number of Vacant Properties Within the City Centre in 2014/15*</b></p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>19.20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>19.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>19%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>18.4%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*</p>	Year	Percentage	2011/12	19.20%	2012/13	19.6%	2013/14	19%	2014/15	18.4%	<p>The percentage of void properties in the wider City Centre decreased to an average of 18.4% during 2014/15. The Council works closely with Swansea’s Business Improvement District (BID) to actively promote a vibrant City Centre to overcome the national trend in increasing empty properties. The City Centre’s development presents both a risk and long term opportunity regarding the concentration of the retail core, development of City Living and designation of the Kingsway as an area designated for business and office use. This can be seen in the appearance of voids on the Kingsway as retail relocates.</p>	 <p><i>Not directly comparable to previous years due to change in survey methodology</i></p>
Year	Percentage												
2011/12	19.20%												
2012/13	19.6%												
2013/14	19%												
2014/15	18.4%												

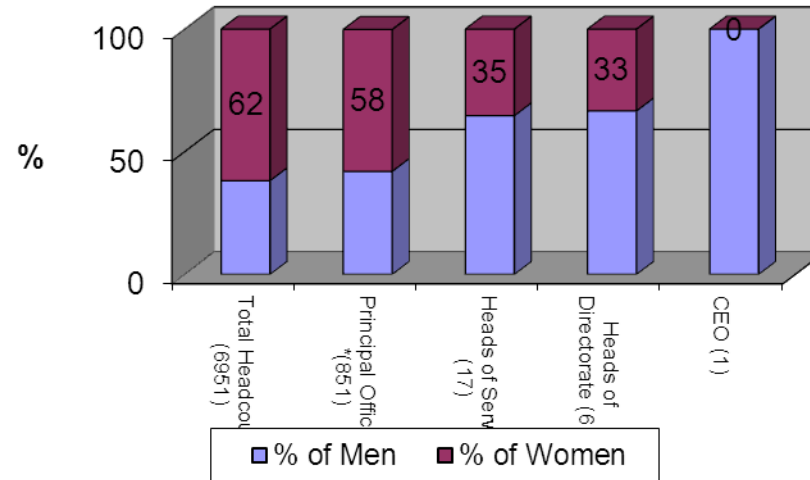
<p><b>(25) Percentage of children in Poverty (under 16)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Percentage of Children Living in Poverty</b></p> <table border="1"> <caption>Percentage of Children Living in Poverty</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Children Living in Families with above 60% Median Income</th> <th>Children Living in Poverty</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>15.2%</td> <td>24.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>16.5%</td> <td>23.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>17.1%</td> <td>23.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>18.3%</td> <td>21.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p> <span style="color: #4F81BD;">■</span> Children Living in Families with above 60% Median Income  <span style="color: #0070C0;">■</span> Children Living in Poverty         </p> <p><i>The 'Children in Low Income Families Measure' defines a child as being in relative poverty if they live in a household where income is less than 60 per cent of the national median income. This includes working families in receipt of tax credits as well as families claiming out of work benefits. (Snapshot August 2012)</i></p>	Year	Children Living in Families with above 60% Median Income	Children Living in Poverty	2011/12	15.2%	24.8%	2012/13	16.5%	23.5%	2013/14	17.1%	23.1%	2014/15	18.3%	21.7%	<p>This indicator mirrors national trends by decreasing each year. However, the recorded improvement is a comment on 'relative rather than absolute' poverty. In an environment where average living standards have declined and welfare reforms have been made to tax credits, the decrease does not necessarily reflect an improvement in the circumstances of Swansea's children.</p> <p>While the "poverty line" is 60% of the median, most household types actually require nearly 75% of median income to have an acceptable standard of living in the UK. <a href="#">Swansea's Poverty Profile</a> gives a wider insight into the impact and impacts of poverty in Swansea.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   <i>Decrease in relative poverty of 1.4%</i> </p>
Year	Children Living in Families with above 60% Median Income	Children Living in Poverty																
2011/12	15.2%	24.8%																
2012/13	16.5%	23.5%																
2013/14	17.1%	23.1%																
2014/15	18.3%	21.7%																
<p><b>(26) The percentage of clients returning home after residential re-ablement</b></p>	<p>This indicator demonstrates how Social Services are being redesigned with service users to be more resilient in the face of rising demand.</p> <p>A residential re-ablement service has been developed to help older people who need a short period of care to help them recover after a fall or illness. There are now 20 Step up/ Step down assessment beds at Bonymaen House and 8 at Ty Waunarllydd. In 2014/15, 51.2% of</p>	<p>The Promoting Safer Independence programme for older people and vulnerable adults in Swansea aims to safely reduce or prevent the need for citizens to require a formal adult services intervention or 'managed care' and to improve safety and independence for Swansea's most vulnerable citizens.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   <i>Decrease from 54% in 2013/14</i> </p>															

	<p>people receiving a residential re-ablement service returned home rather than being admitted to long term or hospital care.</p> <p><i>The nature of pressures of the NHS during 2015/15 led to an increase in discharges into re-ablement beds (aka assessment beds) Such service users are likely to have had a higher level of need and lower potential for re-ablement. Nonetheless, these placements were preferable to immediate admission to a long term care home.</i></p>	<p>The Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme facilitates collaborative working with health partners based on a regional strategy and analysis of demand.</p> <p>Further work to strengthen joint working with the Health Service via the establishment of the Hubs is set to continue over the coming year.</p>		
Governance		Information, Initiatives and Targets		Progress
<p><b>(27) The percentage of citizens satisfied with the overall standards of services provided by the Local Authority</b></p>	<p><u>Swansea Voices</u> Citizens' Panel consists of a representative sample of 1,250 residents who are regularly consulted by the Council about its services and local issues. The most recent survey recorded 71% of respondents were satisfied with overall standards of service provided by the Local Authority.</p> <p>Work is ongoing on the development of a more comparable source of reputational and customer satisfaction awareness.</p>		<p></p> <p>3% improvement</p>	
<p><b>(28) Number of complaints upheld</b></p>	<p>Complaints provide a valuable opportunity to improve services by learning from this information. In 2014/15, 1076 corporate complaints were recorded by the Authority. A new central recording mechanism was adopted by all Service Areas on 1 April 2013 which is now providing a much richer analysis of complaint outcomes than has ever previously been available.</p> <p>For complaints received in 2014/15, 25.2% of complaints were found to be justified, 20.9% were part justified and 51.8% were not justified. Outcomes were not specified in 2.1% of cases and work continues to ensure that all outcomes are recorded. During the year, corporate complaints were referred for further investigation to 'Stage 2' of the complaints process. The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales provides an <a href="#">annual report</a> which shows that his office received a total of 59 complaints in respect of Swansea, only 1 of which was upheld.</p>		<p></p> <p>Only one complaint was upheld by the Ombudsman in 2014/15</p>	

<p><b>(29) Attendance at meetings by Councillors</b></p>	<p>Average attendance at meetings has been affected by resignations and a dispensation for long term absence through ill health for one member. Due to these reasons attendance averaged 79%, attendance and with Committee meetings (for which agendas are published online excluding scrutiny) averaging 74%.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   <i>5% decrease in attendance at Council</i> </p>													
<p><b>(30) The gender of Councillors (% female)</b></p>	<p>The Member Support Unit recorded 72 members in April 2013 of whom 27 or 37.5% were female Councillors following the resignation of a female and election of a male Councillor. Cabinet consists of 10 Members, 3 of whom are female, including the Deputy Leader.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">  </p>													
<p><b>(31) The number of working days/shifts per full time equivalent (FTE) local authority employee lost due to sickness absence (CHR/002)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Number of Working Days/Shifts per Full Time Employee lost due to Sickness Absence</b></p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Working Days/Shifts per Full Time Employee</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>12.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>11.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>11.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>8.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>9.56</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Working Days/Shifts per Full Time Employee	2010/11	12.55	2011/12	11.55	2012/13	11.32	2013/14	8.79	2014/15	9.56	<p>The Council aims to be an excellent organisation to work for and in, by creating a culture that encourages employees to attend work and in doing so provides the best possible services to our customers. Early intervention and preventative approaches include mandatory Employee Health and Wellbeing training for managers, stress management interventions, monthly Health Fairs and a prompt and supportive occupational health service. Innovative approaches such as the volunteer based 'Helping Hands' service and closer collaboration with external agencies/providers are supported.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   <i>Increased supportive contact with employees with short term sickness is planned for 2015/16</i> </p>
Year	Working Days/Shifts per Full Time Employee														
2010/11	12.55														
2011/12	11.55														
2012/13	11.32														
2013/14	8.79														
2014/15	9.56														

**(32) The gender of senior staff (% female)**

### Gender of Staff in the Non-School Workforce



*The general workforce columns exclude employees on alternative salary schemes (e.g. Soulbury) and include some anomalies within the system due to legacy terms and conditions. CEO, Directors and HOS are also on a separate scheme. \*Principal Officers are based on Salary points 35-55. This data is based on ISIS Non schools workforce data on 4 April 2015 (includes educational psychologists, advisors, inspectors and social workers).*



*Changes reflect Senior Management Team restructuring and reductions in staffing levels. The percentage of women at Principal Officer level has remained consistent but has increased in both absolute and percentage terms at senior levels*

**Procurement**

**Information, Initiatives and Targets**

**Progress**


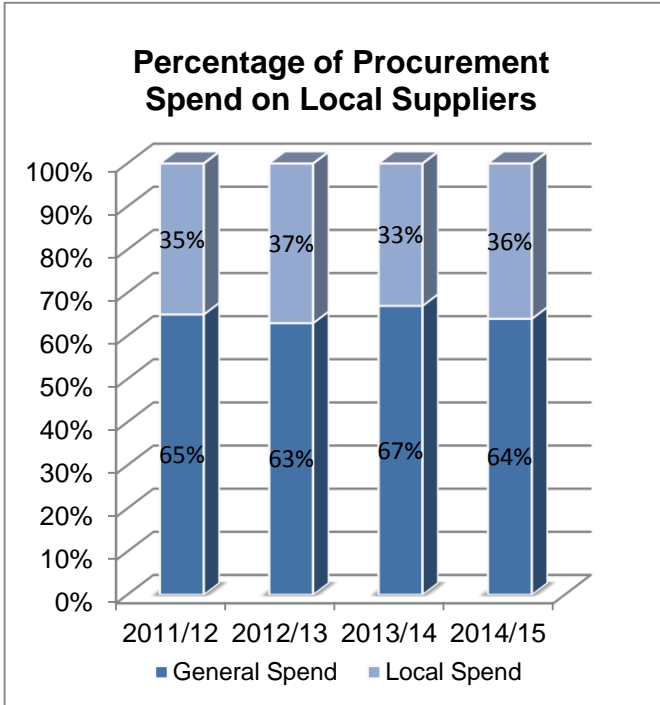

**(33) Increase in the number of projects with social benefit clause & Beyond Bricks and Mortar in**



The Beyond Bricks and Mortar scheme uses social benefit clauses in public sector contracts to maximise benefits of Council's regeneration programme by providing work experience, jobs and training for the economically inactive and unemployed. Extensive collaboration work with the Local Service Board and Economic Regeneration Partnership resulted in 19 projects in 2013/14. This equates to £45million in value. Social benefit clauses have resulted in over 1500 person weeks of training taking place during the financial year and 53 people benefiting from opportunities to train and work.



*This is an increase of 3 on the previous year's 16 projects.*



<p><b>their contracts</b> (BBMA1)* now includes previous indicator 34 as same outcomes)</p>	<p>This indicator includes both Council and wider public sector contracts. It has merged with the previous indicator measuring the Increase in the number of appropriate Council contracts that contain social benefit clauses (BBMA2). This reflects increased collaborative working and integration in Swansea's public sector. Beyond Bricks and Mortar won the Welsh National Procurement Awards Community Benefit Award for 2014.</p>																
<p><b>(34) Percentage of e-invoices as a percentage of total invoices</b></p>	<p>E-Invoices refer to transactions where invoices are electronically received and processed resulting in a more effective use of human, financial and natural resources. Additionally included are internal interfaces and Purchasing Card transactions from departments. The percentage of electronic transactions continues to increase significantly from 21% in 2013/14 resulting in efficiencies and reduced environmental impact. This year's target of 30% has been exceeded with an increase to 40% planned for 2015/16.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   <i>Increased to 33% of transactions</i> </p>															
<p><b>(35) Percentage of procurement spend on local suppliers</b></p> <p>It should be noted that large spends such as large development schemes cannot be obtained locally, although they sub-contract suppliers and use local labour this data is not captured.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Percentage of Procurement Spend on Local Suppliers</b></p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>General Spend</th> <th>Local Spend</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>65%</td> <td>35%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>63%</td> <td>37%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>67%</td> <td>33%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>64%</td> <td>36%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	General Spend	Local Spend	2011/12	65%	35%	2012/13	63%	37%	2013/14	67%	33%	2014/15	64%	36%	<p>£93 million of a total procurement spend of £257 million was placed with local suppliers (registered with a Swansea postcode) in 2014/15.</p> <p>The Opening Doors Charter has been adopted and is implemented to make contracts more accessible to Small to Medium Enterprises and the Third Sector.</p> <p>Initiatives such as a standard set of suitability questions (SQuID), streamlining low value contracts and the simplification of tender documentation has encouraged small local business to bid for contracts.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">   <i>3% increase on previous year's local spend</i> </p>
Year	General Spend	Local Spend															
2011/12	65%	35%															
2012/13	63%	37%															
2013/14	67%	33%															
2014/15	64%	36%															

<p><b>(36) Number of suppliers attending sustainable development training courses</b></p>	<p>Swansea is committed to maximising the percentage of expenditure with micro, small and medium SMEs (without contravening EC Procurement Directives) and is proactive in local supply chain development.</p> <p>The Commercial and Commissioning Service works in partnership with Business Wales Tendering Support to deliver events designed to improve the capability and capacity of local SME's. In 2014/15 businesses attended tendering events, tender specific workshops offering general advice on applying for advertised contracts, in addition to briefing sessions designed to alert potential local suppliers to relevant forthcoming opportunities.</p>	<p></p> <p>Specific numbers have not been recorded in 2014/15</p>
<p><b>(37) Public Sector Sustainable Procurement Assessment Framework (SPAF) Score</b></p>	<p>The Sustainable Procurement Assessment Framework against which Swansea consistently scored highly and set a benchmark for local authorities has been discontinued by Value Wales. The Initiative has been superceded by the <u>'Wales Procurement Policy Statement'</u> 'which aims to maximise the impact of Welsh procurement policy' and is based on sustainable principles. In future years, the public sector will undertake an annual Procurement Fitness Check to measure themselves against a 'maturity model' and action plan for improvement.</p> <p>The Council aims to maximise Community benefit from project and uses the Welsh Government Community Benefit Measurement Tool (applied on the Morryston Comprehensive Project) which records the wider impacts of key development projects on local communities.</p>	<p></p>

For further information please visit [www.swansea.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopmentreporting](http://www.swansea.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopmentreporting)

