

# Section 6.3a

## Title: Draft 1 Sports, recreation, arts and culture

### 1. Overview

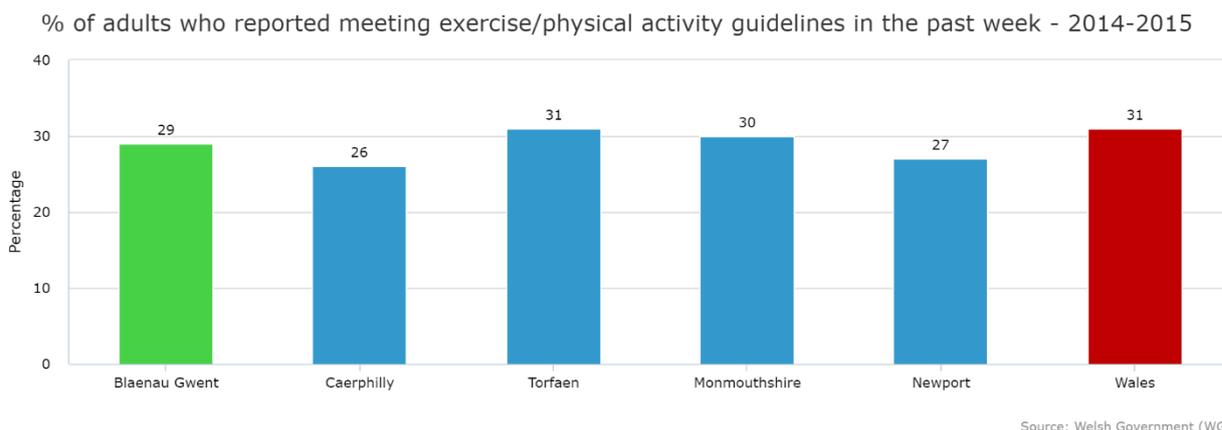
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council externalised its Sports, Recreation, Arts and Cultural Services by creating a Leisure Trust (Aneurin Leisure Trust) in October 2014.

A funding and Management Agreement was signed between both parties that requires the Leisure Trust to provide up to date quarterly performance reports to the council to be monitored by Scrutiny Committee and the Executive of the Council.

The information contained in the Leisure Trust quarterly reports demonstrates how leisure services impact to the Health & Well-being of local people through the following themes;

- **Thinking for the long term**  
The services provided by the Leisure Trust on behalf of the Council contribute significantly to the learning/health and wellbeing of the local community.
- **Taking an integrated and collaborative approach**  
The Leisure Trust works closely with Blaenau Gwent Council and other partner organisations to provide leisure services.
- **Taking a preventative approach**  
The Leisure Trust provides a number of preventative and lifelong initiatives, provided to support people at an early stage.
- **Involvement**  
The Leisure Trust is a service for the community and provides services to meet the needs.

The chart below provides information on the percentage of adults in Blaenau Gwent who reported meeting exercise/physical activity guidelines in the past week in 2014-2015 was 29%. This compares with 28% for the Gwent region and 31% for Wales.



Performance information now being provided by the Leisure Trust is indicating that this has been an improving picture since this data was produced.

## 2. Story behind the data

The first quarter report for April to June 2016/17 clearly demonstrated improvement across a range of Sports Recreational and Cultural activities as follows;

- **Attendance at Cultural Venues**

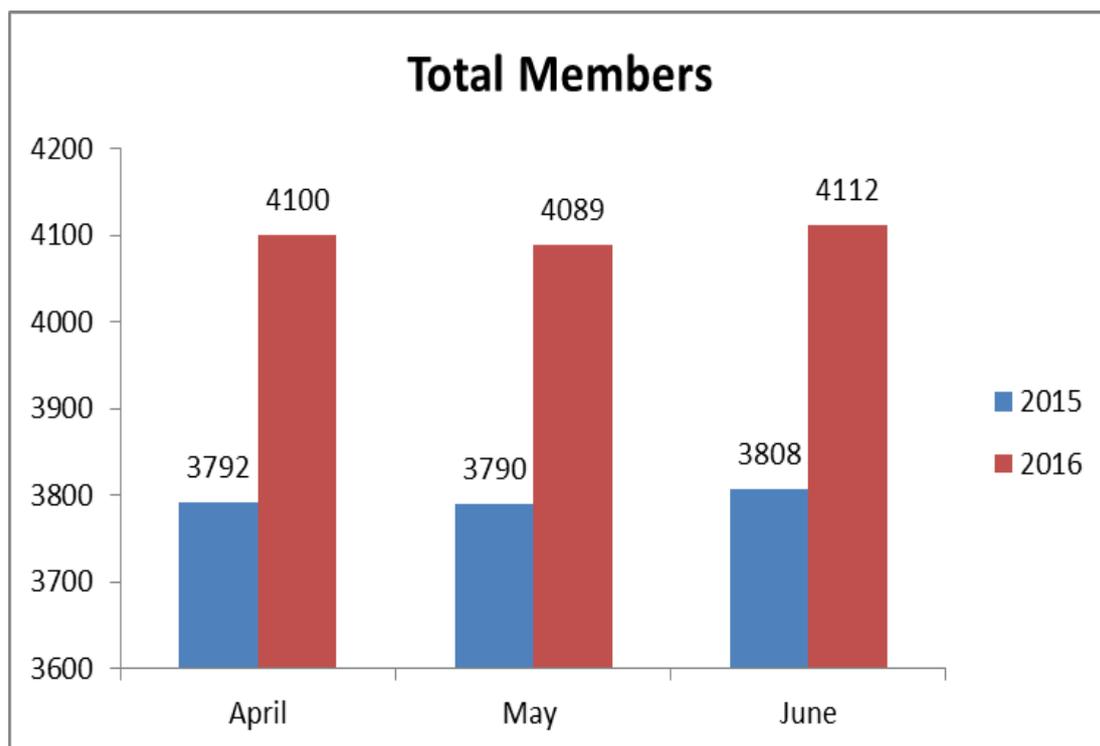
Each month throughout quarter 1 has shown an increase in attendance at cultural venues from 5,322 in April 2016 to 8,329 in June 2016. There was also an increase compared to the same period in 2015/16.

- **Percentage of Time Allocated for use of Public Access ICT Facilities Taken up by Users at Public Libraries**

In quarter 1 April to June 2016 this indicator has seen an increase from 36% in May to 41% in June 2016. The figure is above the Welsh average of 36%.

- **Life Card Membership**

The total numbers of Life card members has seen a large increase in 2016 when compared to the same period in 2015 as demonstrated by the chart below;

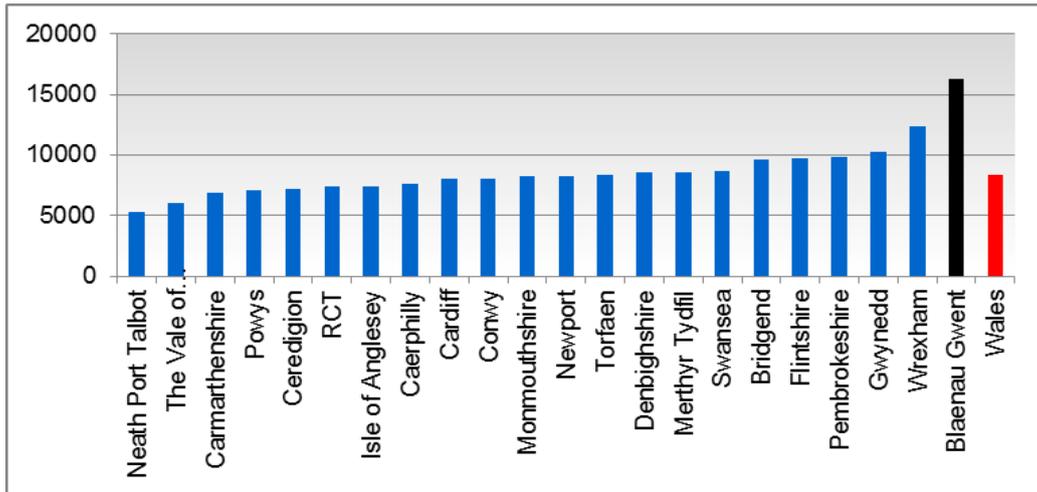


- Total Visits per 1,000 Population to Sports Centres**

From April to June 2016 there has been an overall growth in terms of attendance in the numbers per 1,000 population visiting the Leisure Centres which is demonstrated by the table below;

Performance Indicator	Type	Improve. Direction	2013-14 Actual	2014-15		2015-16				
				Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank	Quartile	Trend	Wales Avg.
LCS/002b - Visits to sports facilities per 1,000 population	NSI	>	13,945	13,914	1	16,306	1	Upper	□	8,409

High usage of sports facilities continues to be experienced in 2015/16 with an increase of 2391.37 visits, ensuring Blaenau Gwent remains ranked the number 1 authority across Wales for this indicator as shown below;



- **Growth of the Education Programmes by 50%**

This figure is showing an increase month on month for quarter 1 April to June 2016/17.

	April 2016	May 2016	June 2016	Total	Annual Target	% Achieved
No. of Educational visits, courses, etc.	30	152	354	536	1,000	54%

- **Measures for Inclusion**

Performance against inclusion targets has in the first quarter 2016/17 performed exceptionally well against the annual target as demonstrated below;

	April - June	Annual Target	% Achieved
To engage 300 people in disability sport opportunities	180	300	60%
To engage with 120 new participants aged 13-19 from Communities First areas	226	120	188%
To establish an Us Girls hub in each Communities First cluster (4 in total) to engage with 120 females aged 13-19	121	120	101%

- **GP Exercise Referral Scheme**

The National Exercise Referral Scheme (NERS) targets for Quarter 1 2016/17 are set by Public Health Wales (PHW) and are shown below:

	Referrals	Target 1 <sup>st</sup> Consultations	Target Take Up	16 Week Completions	12 month Completion
PHW Target	180	126	100	50	34
Actual	215	140	133	50	57

A target of 180 referrals for each quarter of 2016/17 was set by Public Health Wales (PHW), with Quarter 1 being very successful, receiving 215 referrals, a 20% increase on the target set.

### 3. What we know from engagement



During Phase 1 of the Blaenau Gwent We Want Engagement programme numerous engagement activities and events were undertaken throughout the borough to gather people's views around the following key areas:

- Citizen values, aspirations and priorities;
- Citizen needs – insight into the needs they and their communities encounter within daily life and what the best solutions may be and
- Citizen assets – what people can and already contribute themselves such as self-care, citizen and community action and volunteering.

Views were captured via a questionnaire, which was also made readily available through a variety of channels including Public Services Boards partner representatives' websites and social media (for example, Blaenau Gwent We Want Facebook page) etc.

Furthermore, links to an online questionnaire were also distributed to the Blaenau Gwent Citizen Panel, a panel of Blaenau Gwent residents who voluntarily agree to get involved and take part in partnership engagement activities.

Questions put to residents included:-

- Q1. What do you think is special about Blaenau Gwent?
- Q2. What things are important to you to live well and enjoy life?
- Q3. What would make Blaenau Gwent a better place?
- Q4. What can you do to help make Blaenau Gwent a better place?

Approximately 1,000 residents were participated during Phase 1 of the Blaenau Gwent We Want Engagement Programme.

It is worth noting that whilst social activities featured as one of the top themes for the general population sports and leisure did not feature in any significant way for people. However engagement with younger members of the population through such forums as the Children's grand council and the Youth Forum. Young people recognised the assets the area has and valued outside space, the mountains and forests in the area. Interestingly one suggestion made to improve young people's activity and use of sports and leisure was to link the activity to use of technology.e.g laser tag. Others wanted to see a facilities such as bowling alleys, an outdoor swimming pool , indoor skate parks, bicycle tracks and astro turfs to name but a few. Some young people felt less safe at night and requested a greater police presence. Others highlighted the need for the area to be cleaner with less litter and for anti-social behaviour. It is not known how these issues might be preventing young people from being more active outdoors and in the street. This ought to though be explored in view of the data from parents in the community safety section that only 51% feel it is safe for children to play outside. A strong theme that emerged from sessions with the Children's Grand Council suggest affordability might be an issue for young people accessing leisure services and out of school sports activities. It may be of value to explore what work is being done to address what might be an accessibility gap for socially deprived communities.

#### **4. What we know from existing research**

Research within this area will be cross cutting in nature so this section should be read in conjunction with the sections in the Well Being Assessment that focus on:

- Life expectancy
- Healthy lifestyles
- Baby and children's health
- Ageing well
- Emotional health and well being

Further research will be examined dependant on priorities determined by the Public Service Board on 21 March 2017.

#### **5. What this tells us about Well-being in Blaenau Gwent**

The information provided above tells of an improving picture for the local residents of Blaenau with respect to local people's Health & Well-being. Providing access to local Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture facilities where individual choices can be made on a range of activities taking place on an inclusive basis.