

Local Authority Parking Finances in Wales 2016 - 17

1 Introduction

This note covers parking finances for the 22 local authorities in Wales. As in England and Scotland, local authorities are required to submit details of all their finances to the Welsh Government in a standard format. They are normally published in October, seven months after the financial year end. This report looks at the section on parking income and expenditure from 2012-13 to 2016-17.

The published data is less comprehensive than in England and does not split out on- and off-street parking or show penalty income separately. The figures do not include any commercial off-street parking. In 2016-17,

Nineteen councils showed surpluses and three showed deficits (the same three councils as 2015-16). All councils are now receiving income from parking, although councils such as Blaenau Gwent (Ebbw Vale and Abertillery) and Torfaen (Pontypool and Cwmbran) offer free parking but still issue penalty charge notices.

2 Summary

Table 1: Summary of parking accounts for Wales

		2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Change 2016-17 on 2015-16
Parking	Income	30.42	31.55	33.91	35.82	37.41	4.45 %
	Expenditure	21.75	22.25	21.82	22.00	23.43	6.49 %
	Surplus	8.67	9.30	12.10	13.81	13.98	1.20 %
Total transport	Net cost	314.69	306.75	278.89	271.22	270.50	-0.26 %
Parking surplus as percentage of all transport costs		2.75	3.03	4.34	5.09	5.17	

Table 1 above shows the summary accounts for local authorities in Wales of the incomes and expenditures arising from parking charges and penalty income both for on- and off-street parking. The income has increased by 4.4 %, the expenditure has increased by 6.5 % and the surplus has increased by 1.2 % compared to the previous fiscal year. Total transport fallen by 0.26 % and the surplus now represents 5.2 % of transport costs.

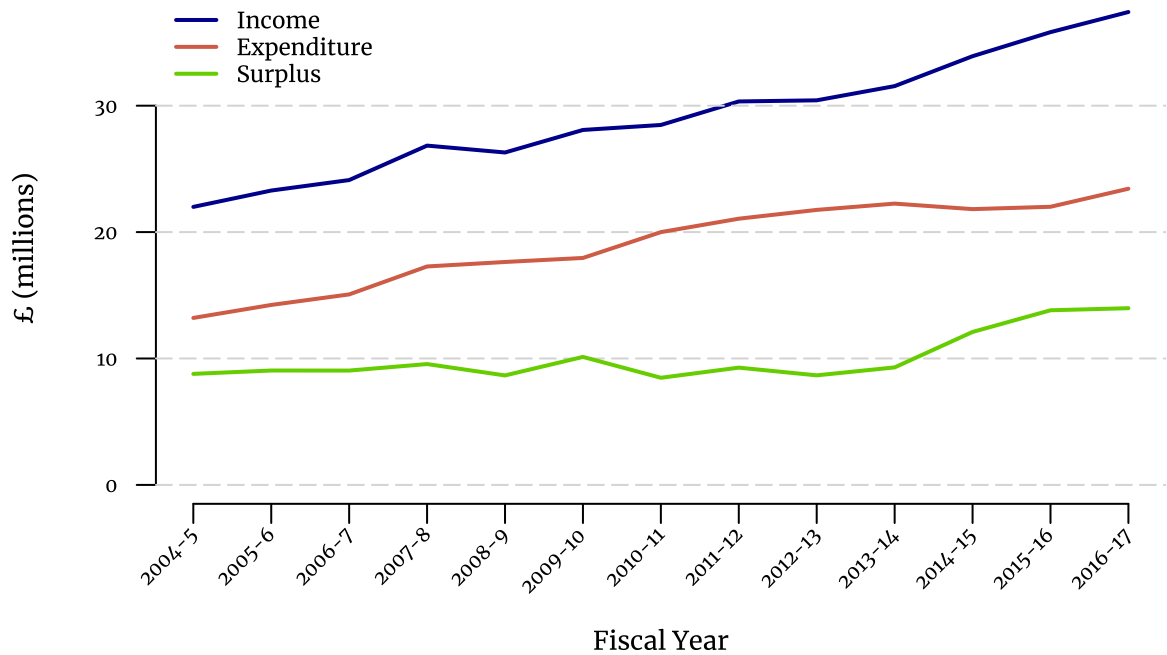


Figure 1: Parking revenues–Wales

Parking makes a smaller contribution to overall transport costs in Wales compared with England where it is around 20 % of total transport. Figure 1 gives a longer term overview of the trends in incomes, expenditures and surpluses.

3 Income

Total council parking income from all sources in 2016-17 was £37 million, 4.4 % higher than 2015-16. Note that this includes penalty income, which is not shown separately, but does not include off-street income received by commercial off-street parking facilities. Table 2 ranks the Welsh councils in terms of parking income.

Sixteen councils increased their income over the past year and six decreased their income. Torfaen saw income increase by 200 % while Flintshire increased its income by 36 %. The largest falls were in Merthyr Tydfil (-12 %), and Bridgend (-8 %).

Table 2: Parking income for Wales (£,000)

Local Authority	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Change 2016-17 on 2015-16
Cardiff	6,178	6,613	6,900	7,257	7,599	4.7 %
Swansea	4,422	4,618	5,171	5,446	5,666	4.0 %
Carmarthenshire	2,137	2,448	2,815	3,106	3,092	-0.5 %
Gwynedd	2,098	2,097	2,027	2,538	2,490	-1.9 %
Conwy	1,368	1,392	1,419	1,886	1,935	2.6 %
Pembrokeshire	1,297	1,360	1,521	1,783	1,867	4.7 %
Denbighshire	1,458	1,300	1,251	1,300	1,711	31.6 %
Powys	1,207	1,196	1,363	1,602	1,684	5.1 %
Monmouthshire	1,147	1,183	1,250	1,421	1,522	7.1 %
Neath Port Talbot	1,736	1,507	1,494	1,376	1,375	-0.1 %
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1,290	1,384	1,410	1,291	1,322	2.4 %
Bridgend	1,138	1,357	1,268	1,220	1,127	-7.6 %
Ceredigion	1,032	1,123	1,150	980	1,109	13.1 %
Wrexham	847	155	1,045	896	974	8.7 %
Vale of Glamorgan	318	955	788	686	764	11.4 %
Caerphilly	659	702	721	702	675	-3.8 %
Newport	660	605	621	640	643	0.4 %
Merthyr Tydfil	885	832	745	690	608	-11.9 %
Isle of Anglesey	330	388	456	523	605	15.7 %
Flintshire	209	296	450	439	599	36.4 %
Blaenau Gwent	0	30	38	30	30	0.0 %
Torfaen	7	9	12	5	15	200.0 %
Total	30,423	31,549	33,915	35,817	37,410	4.4 %

4 Expenditures

Table 3 ranks the councils in terms of expenditure on parking.

Overall expenditure has risen by £1.4m (6.5 %) after a rise of £0.2m last year, with seventeen councils having increased their and five reduced their costs.

Blaenau Gwent increased expenditure by 154 % while Wrexham and Caerphilly increased by 44 % and 29 % respectively. The biggest decreases were in Ceredigion (39 %), and Flintshire (16 %).

The table also shows the proportion of income taken up by costs in 2016-17. Nationally in Wales it is 62.6 % with Cardiff at 51.9 %.

Table 3: Parking expenditure for Wales (£,000)

Local Authority	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Change 2016-17 on 2015-16	Expenditure as proportion of income
Cardiff	3,592	3,688	3,474	3,763	3,941	4.7 %	51.9 %
Swansea	3,166	3,362	3,220	3,044	3,199	5.1 %	56.5 %
Carmarthenshire	1,650	1,652	2,026	1,712	1,764	3.1 %	57.1 %
Pembrokeshire	1,033	984	1,029	1,200	1,270	5.8 %	68.0 %
Neath Port Talbot	1,489	1,262	1,308	1,168	1,256	7.6 %	91.4 %
Gwynedd	1,294	1,300	1,100	1,130	1,135	0.4 %	45.6 %
Denbighshire	781	759	767	842	1,053	25.0 %	61.5 %
Conwy	808	812	760	828	916	10.6 %	47.3 %
Blaenau Gwent	311	274	262	340	866	154.4 %	2887.2 %
Wrexham	607	304	580	580	838	44.4 %	86.0 %
Bridgend	838	861	1,156	988	833	-15.8 %	73.8 %
Rhondda Cynon Taf	812	991	864	794	791	-0.4 %	59.8 %
Powys	849	761	748	763	789	3.4 %	46.9 %
Flintshire	309	807	458	862	726	-15.8 %	121.3 %
Caerphilly	497	491	523	512	658	28.5 %	97.5 %
Newport	867	589	556	503	633	26.0 %	98.5 %
Vale of Glamorgan	556	902	637	578	632	9.3 %	82.7 %
Monmouthshire	686	598	510	490	594	21.1 %	39.0 %
Ceredigion	745	845	825	964	589	-39.0 %	53.1 %
Merthyr Tydfil	545	631	651	519	504	-2.8 %	82.9 %
Isle of Anglesey	275	303	299	337	358	6.2 %	59.2 %
Torfaen	46	77	63	86	87	1.2 %	580.0 %
Total	21,755	22,253	21,816	22,003	23,431	6.5 %	62.6 %

5 Surpluses

Table 4 shows the parking surpluses from from 2012-13 to 2016-17 and the change from 2015-16 to 2016-17. It also shows the proportion that parking surpluses represent of total transport expenditure.

Table 4: Parking surpluses for Wales (£,000)

Local Authority	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Change 2016-17 on 2015-16	Surplus as pro- portion of trans- port spending
Cardiff	2,586	2,924	3,426	3,494	3,658	4.7 %	14.9 %
Swansea	1,256	1,256	1,951	2,402	2,467	2.7 %	9.9 %
Gwynedd	804	797	927	1,408	1,355	-3.8 %	8.4 %
Carmarthenshire	487	795	790	1,394	1,328	-4.8 %	8.0 %
Conwy	560	580	659	1,058	1,019	-3.7 %	11.8 %
Monmouthshire	461	585	741	931	929	-0.2 %	14.9 %
Powys	358	436	615	839	895	6.7 %	8.0 %
Denbighshire	677	541	484	458	658	43.7 %	7.7 %
Pembrokeshire	264	376	492	583	597	2.4 %	6.2 %
Rhondda Cynon Taf	478	393	545	497	531	6.9 %	3.2 %
Ceredigion	287	278	325	16	520	3178.0 %	4.9 %
Bridgend	300	496	111	232	295	27.3 %	2.6 %
Isle of Anglesey	55	85	157	186	247	32.8 %	2.9 %
Wrexham	240	-149	465	316	136	-56.9 %	1.5 %
Vale of Glamorgan	-238	53	151	108	132	22.2 %	1.4 %
Neath Port Talbot	247	245	186	208	118	-43.2 %	0.9 %
Merthyr Tydfil	340	201	93	171	104	-39.4 %	1.8 %
Caerphilly	162	211	198	190	17	-91.0 %	0.1 %
Newport	-206	16	65	137	9	-93.1 %	0.1 %
Torfaen	-39	-68	-51	-81	-72	-11.1 %	-0.8 %
Flintshire	-100	-511	-8	-423	-127	-69.9 %	-0.7 %
Blaenau Gwent	-311	-244	-223	-310	-836	169.4 %	-13.3 %
Total deficit	-895	-972	-282	-814	-1,035	27.2 %	-3.1 %
Total surplus	9,563	10,268	12,381	14,628	15,015	2.6 %	6.3 %
Total	8,668	9,296	12,099	13,814	13,979	1.2 %	5.2 %

* Where the change in surplus is actually a change in deficit, the values are in italics

The total *net surplus* for Wales was £14.0m. Total parking surpluses amount to £15.0m between 19 authorities of which Cardiff, Swansea and Gwynedd contribute 49.8%. **XXXX increased its surplus significantly because of the sharp reduction in cost.** Three councils made

a loss with the total of parking deficits rising to £1.0m from £0.8m last year mainly because of a reduction in the loss in XXXX with its big fall in expenditure.

References

Still to come