From: Redacted Official 4 WG
Sent: 01 September 2026 12:52
To: Redacted Official 3 WG; Redacted Official 1 WG
Subject: RE: Official Sensitive: Caerphilly further info

Hi Redacted Official 3 WG

Many thanks for this very thorough projected assessment. Apologies I hadn't read when we met. I found this very useful and suggest may be helpful as part of wider briefing for the Minister.

Cofion

Redacted Official 4 WG

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From: Redacted Official 3 WG
Sent: 28 August 2026 11:57
To: Redacted Official 4 WG; Redacted Official 1 WG
Subject: Official Sensitive: Caerphilly further info

Hi Both

I've looked at the Caerphilly Strategy document in the report pack submitted for Scrutiny for further information on how the expected closures will affect the WPLS.

Qis with Targets

A1 Up to date reading material. Target 200 items/capita Caerphilly does not currently meet this target at 113.97 No info is given about expected acquisitions budget so unable to clarify this

A2 Location of library service. Caerphilly will reduce this 88% but will still meet the target which is 75%

A3 Opening hours. Caerphilly are forecasting a drop to 102 hours over the 8 libraries. This does not meet the target and is a 38% drop in opening hours per capita overall. This would impact on CE 5 which requires suitable staffed opening hours

A4 Staffing. Although staffing numbers will reduce, the overall impact will remain the same in that this QI will be partially met. However availability of professional staff is linked to CE 2 – friendly and knowledgeable staffing so could impact this. The report also mentions that hub staffing will increase this number. That is not a given. It depends on whether the hub staff do library duties – if they have separate responsibilities then they would not be included as per the definitions and guidance document.

A5 Welsh Language. Reports that this will be met

CEs – The report suggests that the CEs will all remain met, however I would disagree with this. I believe that CE 5 will be partially met due to the large reduction in opening hours. Potentially CE5 will also be partially met – but this is not so clear cut.

In the 25-26 report currently being finalised Caerphilly has met all 13 CEs, and for the Qis with targets have met 3, partially met 1 and not met 1. With the proposals I would expect that Caerphilly would meet 11/12 CEs, partially meet 1 or 2. For Qis 2 would be met, 1 partially met, 2 not met. This would put them at risk of requiring a meeting dependent on the rest of the report and other service performance.

It should also be noted that the following Qis without targets will be affected

QI B1 Making a difference – there could be a drop in performance on this

QI B2 Library use – number of physical visits, website vists, active borrowers, library members, book issues and customers helped by informal support could all drop. Electronic downloads likely to increase

QIB3 Satisfaction – this may drop

QIB5 User attendance at events – this may reduce due to issues with travel

QIb6 Expenditure – this will reduce but no indication has been given of actual allocated amounts

There is also a lack of detail on exactly what the mitigation measures will entail in terms of community collections, order and collect locations, lib link capacity and school engagement. We would need more detail on these to make a comprehensive assessment of performance

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Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth Gymraeg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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