

The Chief Financial Officer

Welsh County and County Borough Councils
Welsh Police and Crime Commissioners
Welsh Combined Fire Authorities
Welsh National Park Authorities



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Parc Cathays / Cathays Park,
Caerdydd / Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ.

Dyddiad/Date: 07 July 2023

Dear Colleague,

ANNUAL REVENUE OUTTURN SUITE OF RETURNS, 2022-23

We will shortly be issuing the Revenue Outturn (RO) returns, in the form of a link to an Excel Spreadsheet, together with full notes for guidance, to our contact in your finance department.

Please note that RO data must be provided to the Welsh Government under section 168 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

1. Uses of the data

The data collected on the RO returns are an essential part of the RSG Settlement calculations and for this reason particular emphasis should be placed on the accurate and timely completion of these returns.

Figures supplied on the returns are also used extensively within National Accounts, and within the Welsh Government to monitor trends in revenue expenditure and financing and to assess the effects of government policy.

Summary information is also published via a [statistical first release](#) and in greater detail on our [StatsWales website](#).

2. Children's Centres/Flying Start and Early Years

Many Local Authorities are increasingly integrating services between education and social services. This is particularly prevalent in areas such as Flying Start. Because of this, trying to apportion costs across both traditional service areas is becoming increasingly difficult.

3. Completing the Returns

We recommend that officers responsible for completing the returns read all the relevant notes for guidance before completion of the forms.

It is an audit requirement that the suite of returns is fully populated with data, using zeros where necessary.

Please record all Flying Start, Integrated Children's Centres, Team around the Family and Early Years expenditure (and grants) as Social Services expenditure. This will ensure consistent treatment across authorities.

This expenditure should be recorded as social services and not within education services.

4. Other issues

Where services have been contracted out, it is the authority's responsibility to ensure that it is provided with sufficient information to enable completion of the returns.

5. Deadline

I would be grateful if you could ensure that a fully completed spreadsheet for the full suite of returns is provided to the address below by **4 August 2023**.

The timeliness of this return is of particular importance as Local Government Finance colleagues will be using more up-to-date RO data within the Settlement calculations and will need sight of the data shortly after the deadline.

Settlement data will be presented to the Distribution sub-group (DSG) in September 2023.

If authorities are likely to have difficulty in meeting this deadline could they please inform us as soon as possible.

6. Contact Details

Please send a copy of the completed spreadsheet by 4 August 2023 and any other correspondence and enquiries, in the first instance to: lgfs.transfer@gov.wales

Phone enquiries: Frank Kelly – 03000 255673 or Bruce Anderson – 03000 259169

Postal address: Local Government Finance Statistics
Knowledge and Analytical Services
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Kind regards,

Anthony Newby

Local Government Finance Statistics / Ystadegau Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol,
Knowledge and Analytical Services / Gwasanaethau Gwybodaeth a Dadansoddi,
Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru