

Communities, Equality and local Government Committee
CELG(4)–09–14 Paper 8

Additional Information provided by Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals: Inquiry into public libraries in Wales

The latest figures from CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) for public library usage in Wales in 2011–12 show that:

- Over 300 public libraries service points in Wales are open 10 hours a week or more, including mobiles
- Over 14.7 million visits were made to Welsh public libraries in 2011/12
- The number of active borrowers is 706,464, equating to 23% of the population
- Over 5 million books are available to borrow in Welsh public libraries and over 420,000 audio–visual items (CDs, talking books, DVDs, etc)
- Over 13.7 million books were borrowed from Welsh public libraries in 2011/12
- Over 915,000 audio–visual loans were made in 2011/12
- There are over 2800 terminals with free internet access in Welsh public libraries
- Over 1.9 million enquiries were handled by public libraries in Wales in 2011/12
- Over 2 million hours of free computer use in libraries were made by the public in 2011/12
- The busiest library in Wales in 2010/11 was Cardiff Central Library with over 579,000 total issues and over 598,000 visits.