



"These are very exciting times for Bargoed."



Artist impression of the new multi-million pound retail development

Bonanza for Bargoed!

The future is looking bright for Bargoed thanks to a number of exciting schemes that are helping to breathe new life into the town centre.

Work is progressing well on a new multi-million pound retail development boasting a major Morrisons store as well as a number of smaller retail outlets in the heart of Bargoed.

Representatives from the council, Morrisons and developers Simons visited the site recently to view progress. "These are very exciting times for Bargoed," said Leader of Council, Cllr Harry Andrews, "Work on the Morrisons development is well underway with planned completion in Autumn 2013. This along with the cinema and restaurant development complements the wider regeneration work which is currently transforming the town centre."

The Morrisons/retail development is 'Phase 1' of the regeneration scheme. It will be followed by a second phase, consisting of the construction of a new multiplex cinema at the site.

Earlier this year the council agreed to fund the £6million cinema and associated retail development. The council will build the cinema itself and then lease it to a commercial cinema operator.

Cllr Ken James, cabinet member for regeneration said, "This is fantastic news for Bargoed and the whole of the Caerphilly county borough. We don't currently have a multiplex cinema within the county borough and, with a population of over 170,000, it is a much needed leisure facility for our residents."

Negotiations are currently underway and the name of the multi-national operator is due to be announced in the near future.

Work is also underway on the former bus interchange at Hanbury Square. The site is being transformed into an attractive new public space that will provide a new focal point in Bargoed town centre.



For more information and news about Bargoed regeneration visit www.bargoedsbigidea.co.uk

Caerphilly Delivers



BBC Proms in the Park, Tour of Britain, Big Cheese - these and other major events are attracting tens of thousands of people to the area resulting in a major boost to the local economy. Caerphilly is becoming a key destination for major events.

Leading the way - the first council to implement the Living Wage

CCBC is tackling poverty and improving living standards for the lowest paid employees. We have made a stand for the 3,000+ employees and ensure that none of our workforce earn below the living wage.

Bargoed cinema on track

CCBC has agreed exciting plans to fund a £6million cinema and retail development in Bargoed town centre. This is the latest announcement for the town and is a key part of the wider regeneration of Bargoed and the surrounding communities.

Working together to improve social services

CCBC is driving exciting new proposals that will see Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent councils leading the way in Wales. The two local authorities have agreed to integrate to deliver Social Services and sustain key services for all sections of the community.



Giving young people a head start



To date we have taken on over 260 young people either as a work placement, apprenticeship or trainee. We are providing real opportunities to get people on the career ladder by offering quality, paid work placements.

Centre for Sporting Excellence on way to Ystrad Mynach



Demolition work has started on a £6million project that will deliver state of the art sporting facilities in the heart of the county borough. The scheme will transform the former hospital site and provide a site of regional importance for sports development.

Transforming our council homes



We are improving the homes of all our tenants by delivering the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS). This is the council's flagship priority involving a budget of over £200m between 2012 and 2020.

Flying the Green Flag



We now boast FIVE green flags in our area - Morgan Jones Park, Waunfawr Park and Nelson Wern Park. Parc Cwm Darren and Cwmcarn Forest are the latest.

Cleaner and greener

CCBC continues to buck the national trend by consistently exceeding the Welsh Government's recycling targets thanks to our streamlined collection process and proactive approach to encourage greater participation.

Protecting staff through effective management

CCBC has avoided making any compulsory redundancies, despite making significant savings across the organisation. Our effective HR management means we are protecting jobs in these tough times.

Park and ride charges scrapped

We have decided against introducing charges for the use of park and ride facilities. This is great news for all commuters with free facilities making rail services more attractive and accessible to all.

Improving our performance

We continue to deliver on our targets which means we will receive a £1.9 million grant boost from the Welsh Government as part of this year's 'Outcome Agreement'.

School meal prices frozen

Meal prices in primary and secondary schools will remain unchanged - ensuring that our pupils get nutritious meals at an affordable price.

Tackling sickness absence

Staff sickness levels at the council continue to fall thanks to the dedication of the workforce and improvements arising from an ongoing drive by the organisation to tackle absence levels and improve staff health.

Facelift for Blackwood Stute



£1.3million is being spent transforming the much-loved Blackwood Miners Institute. An external facelift, improved facilities, better access and a major boost for this important arts and entertainment venue.

Library boost across the county borough



Major new developments are now open in Bargoed and Risca - extra provision planned for Aberbargoed, and exciting new developments on the way in Caerphilly, Newbridge and Abercarn.

Your Newsline

"Newsline is produced by the council to bring you all the latest news and information from across the county borough. We are keen to hear your views about the publication and we welcome any feedback.

Please contact me if you have any queries about the information featured in Newsline and I will pass on your comments to the relevant department. Don't forget - Audio and large print versions of Newsline are also available on request."

Stephen Pugh - Editor e-mail: pughs@caerphilly.gov.uk

Post: Communications Unit, Penallta House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG.

A greener place to live, work and visit
Man gwyrddach i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld



New centre for sporting excellence

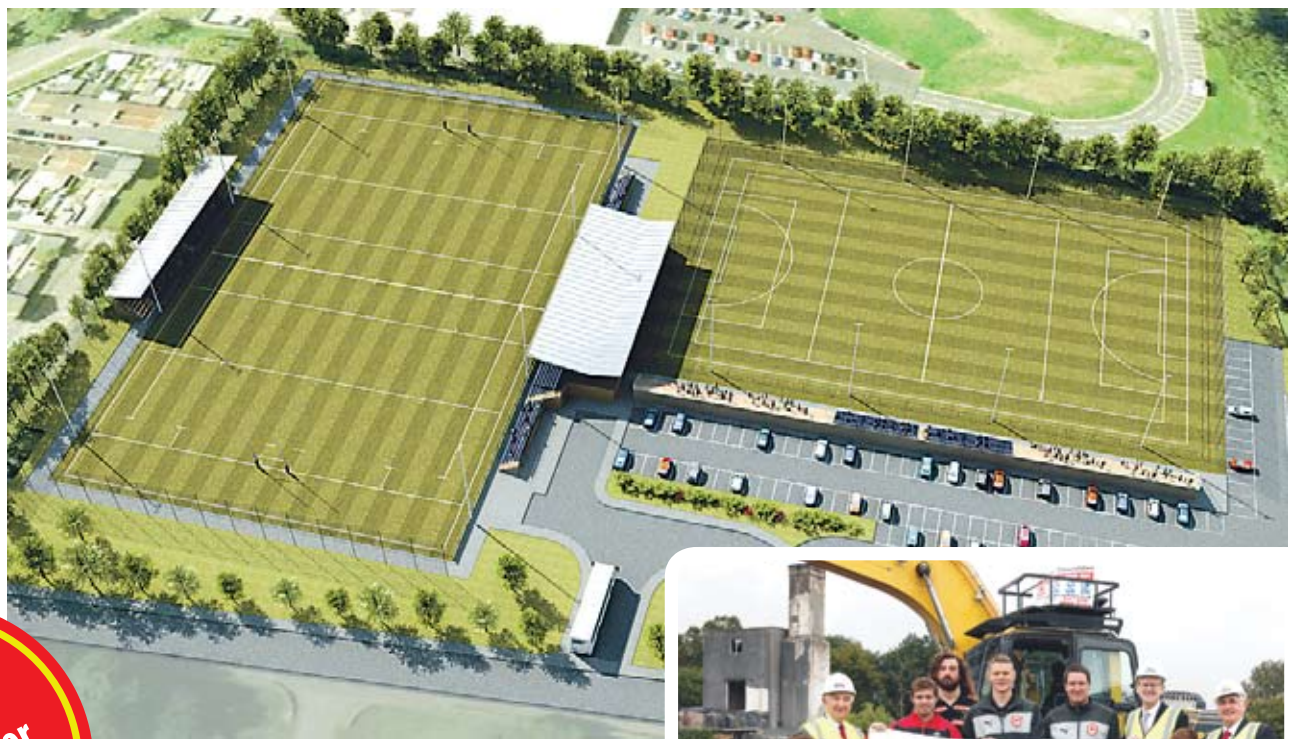
Representatives and players from the cream of Welsh sport have helped mark the demolition of an old hospital site in Ystrad Mynach to make way for a £6m Centre for Sporting Excellence.

Clearance works on the site of the old Ystrad Mynach Hospital (opposite the new Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr), have started in order for the construction works on the new sports facility to proceed.

Welsh rugby hero Leigh Halfpenny joined representatives from Newport Gwent Dragons, Cardiff City Football Club and the Welsh Rugby Union along with the Leader of Caerphilly Council, Cllr Harry Andrews to mark the special occasion.

"It's great to see demolition work start on the site and we now look forward to the development taking shape," said Cllr Harry Andrews. The state-of-the-art facility will boast two 3rd Generation (3G) artificial playing surfaces to support both football & rugby, supported by an exceptional level of infrastructure.

**£6m
centre for
sporting
excellence for
Ystrad
Mynach**



Cllr Dave Poole, Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure said, "We will be able to offer the local community use of this world class facility which complements our efforts to encourage greater sporting participation across all age groups within the area."



Shameful, Filthy, Selfish!

A striking new campaign aimed at tackling dog fouling and littering across Caerphilly county borough has been unveiled by Caerphilly County Borough Council.

The hard hitting campaign, 'Shameful, Filthy, Selfish' aims to shame the inconsiderate minority of county borough residents who feel it is acceptable to litter or fail to pick up after their dog into understanding that their behaviour is as the campaign suggests – 'shameful, filthy and selfish.'

It also appeals to responsible county borough residents to help tackle these important issues by reporting dog fouling and littering offenders to the council.

Cllr Dave Poole said, "We are already taking a very proactive approach to tackling litter and dog fouling in our county borough – over the last two years, the number of fixed penalty notices issued by our enforcement team for these offences has increased by over 400%." He continued, "This campaign aims to complement our existing work, and help those who continue to flout the law understand that their behaviour is nothing short of shameful, filthy and selfish."

To report offenders of dog fouling, littering and any other environmental offence in Caerphilly county borough, please contact Caerphilly StreetPride on **01443 866 566** or visit

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/streetpride



Unique Places Christmas Cards!

The festive season is now upon us... so why not support your local retailers by giving them a Christmas card and getting a discount in return?

Over the next few weeks, residents will be able to pick up a 'Unique Places Christmas Card' from various locations throughout the county borough – including libraries, Customer First Centres and at town centre Christmas events. This card will enable shoppers to access discounts and special offers from participating retailers in Bargoed, Blackwood, Caerphilly and Risca between 8th and 24th December. Details of the retailers taking part in the scheme can be found at **www.caerphilly.gov.uk** but also keep an eye out for a star window sticker in the window of participating retailers.

PASSPORT to Employment

An innovative training and employment scheme in Caerphilly is leading the way in Wales.

The Caerphilly PASSPORT Programme, aimed at ensuring young people have the right skills to get a job, has received a £372,000 grant boost.

The PASSPORT Programme has been developed by the Caerphilly Local Service Board, consisting of Caerphilly Council, Gwent Police, Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Caerphilly Business Forum and the Voluntary Sector.

The partnership submitted a bid for funding under the Local Service Board ESF Grant programme. Approval has now been given for funding of £372,219.58 in total to allow the scheme to progress.

Cllr Harry Andrews, Chair of the Caerphilly Local Service Board (LSB) said, "This money will be used to give young people a route into employment through quality work placements and training opportunities. The scheme has been fully endorsed by all partners in the Caerphilly Local Service Board and is best practice that should be replicated across Wales."

The council is leading the way in the UK by offering hundreds of young people the opportunity to join an ambitious Apprenticeship and Training programme.

Over the past year alone more than 260 young people have signed up to the popular scheme as a work placement, apprenticeship or trainee, helping them get onto the career ladder and gain valuable work experience.



CCBC already operates a hugely successful apprenticeship and training scheme.

Operation Santa needs your help!

A special Christmas appeal organised by the council called Operation Santa is aiming to support hundreds of local children again this year.



Local people can pledge to buy a toy and choose the age, gender and geographical area of the recipient.

It is easy to get involved – either call the pledge hotline on **01443 866577** or email operationsanta@caerphilly.gov.uk and pledge to buy a present for a child.

The pledge hotline will be open from **Monday 29th October to Friday 23rd November**.

Collection Centres

- Barclays Bank, Ystrad Mynach
- Lloyds TSB Bank, Rhymney
- Risca Family Centre, Risca
- Visit Caerphilly Centre, Caerphilly
- Customer First Blackwood
- Customer First Pontlottyn
- Harper and Wallis, Estate Agent, Hanbury Road, Bargoed

The gifts can then be delivered to one of the collection centres situated across the county borough between **Monday 29th October and Monday 3rd December**.

Pledge Hotline: 01443 866577

Operation Santa is aiming to support 650 children.

Keeping our children safe

Caerphilly Safeguarding Children Board is a multi-agency partnership involving Social Services, Health, the Police, Barnardos, GAVO, Education and other key agencies that work with children and their families.

"Protecting children and young people is one of our key priorities and the Board is responsible for making sure that the work these agencies do to keep children safe is efficient and effective," said Cllr Robin Woodyatt, Cabinet Member for Social Services.



Caerphilly Safeguarding Children Board
Bwrdd Diogelu Plant Caerffili

A large part of their work focuses on making sure that everyone knows what they need to do when they are worried about a child. This includes volunteers, professionals, members of the public, parents, carers and the children and young people themselves.

We have done this in a variety of ways including through our useful website www.caerphillysafeguarding.org.uk where you can find lots of information and advice. We have also published a number of leaflets for parents and carers about a range of issues such as using the internet safely. Most recently we have developed a safeguarding card for children and young people with contact details for Childline and other organisations like Social Services. We also deliver a lot of training and raise awareness about the need to keep children safe from abuse and neglect. We have trained many professionals and volunteers in the past few years, to identify and report child abuse.

If you are a member of a voluntary/community/faith group and require child protection awareness training we can work with GAVO to tailor our training to meet specific needs. We can also help groups develop child protection policies and procedures, advise on how to recruit volunteers safely and access free training etc.

Visit www.caerphillysafeguarding.org.uk or contact the Board Manager Zarah Newman on newmaz@caerphilly.gov.uk or **01443 864798**.

Transforming homes, lives & communities

More than £200million will be spent improving council homes and transforming communities across the Caerphilly county borough over the next few years.

Earlier this year council tenants were asked to vote on whether the council should continue to look after their homes – or whether their homes should be transferred to another landlord. Tenants voted to stay with the council and the authority is now planning a huge investment strategy to bring properties up to the requirements of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) by 2020.



Cllr Gerald Jones

The Deputy Leader of Council, Cllr. Gerald Jones said this is the biggest challenge facing the council, "We are making a pledge to ourselves, to our tenants and to the wider community - We are going to be doing different things and we're going to be doing things differently. We will work closely with our tenants and other stakeholders to ensure we work together for the benefit of everyone across the area."

Gerald was also clear that the £200 million budget will make a significant difference to the economy of the county borough and made his personal commitment to use this money to regenerate the area, create real jobs and improve the environments in our communities.



A series of special events took place in October for businesses to find out about the various contracts on offer and how they can become involved in the improvements works. Over 400 firms attended and the response was very positive from the business community. The total value of the internal works is £93m and the external works programme has a total value of £53.8m. The remaining £61 million will be used to deal with other matters such as non-traditional properties, asbestos, disabled adaptations and environmental improvements around our communities.

More than £200million will be spent improving council homes.

Who's looking out for you?

Tenants across the county borough have elected local people to work with the council to deliver the project and sit on a special Task Group to oversee the work.

There is still one vacancy in the Eastern Valleys Area, anyone interested should contact the Tenants Participation Office on **01495 235025**.

Eastern Valleys Area



Brian Hoskins - Pontywaun



Anna Lewis - Penllwyn

Lower Rhymney Valley Area



Amanda McConnell - Machen



Sandra Jones - Penyrheol

Upper Rhymney Valley Area



Clive Davies - Rhymney



Leslie Lewis - New Tredegar

Caerphilly Homes
Cartrefi Caerffili



www.caerphilly.gov.uk

Walk the *Gren* way!

A new walking route featuring the colourful cartoon creations of much-loved Valleys cartoonist Gren has been launched in Hengoed.

The 'Gren Way Walk' has been developed in memory of popular Welsh cartoonist Grenfell Jones. The route features Gren's quirky characters fixed to landmarks around his home village.

At the launch, the leader of council invited special guests including Gren's son Daryll and Roy Noble to join him on the walk. A special bench was unveiled along the route featuring one of Gren's much-loved creations as well as a plaque on Gren's childhood home.



Pupils from Hengoed Primary School also created their own Gren-style characters and comic strips for display at the launch.

Funding for the scheme has been made available through the Valleys Heart and Soul campaign managed by the Welsh Government on behalf of WEFO.



Cracking Christmas events!

Christmas is coming and the council is offering a magnificent festive events programme this year.



There will be Christmas Markets taking place in our key town centres, lantern parades flooding through the streets as well as Christmas festivities taking place at our popular tourist attractions.

Kick-starting the festivities on Sat 1st & Sun 2nd December is the Blackwood Christmas Market. There will be plenty to see and do with a variety of food & craft stalls, children's funfair rides and traditional entertainment in the town centre. Father Christmas and

his real reindeers will be a highlight of the weekend.

Also on Sat 1st December, Risca and Bargoed will be joining in the celebrations with a host of free events. The Christmas Market at Bargoed will take place from 10am until 4pm, which includes a Santa's Grotto, followed by a festive fireworks display at Hanbury Road car park. Risca brings a Victorian theme into the mix with the Dickens Christmas Carol & Lantern Parade at Tredegar Park Risca, the event starts at 2pm.

During the second weekend of December, brace yourself for some medieval fun and frolics in Caerphilly. On Sat 8th and Sun 9th December foodies will be in their element as the annual Caerphilly Medieval Christmas Fayre fills Caerphilly town centre and castle with over 120 stands overflowing with seasonal produce fit for a king's table.

Food and craft stalls will line the high street and castle grounds

together with fun activities and festive entertainment. Standard admission charges apply on entrance to the castle, one of the Great Medieval castles of Western Europe, although much of the entertainment around the town is free.

Returning by popular demand to Bargoed for 2012 is the fantastic outdoor ice rink. This is a great addition to the Christmas events programme, but get your skates on as its very popular! The ice rink will be in town from Thurs 13th to Sun 16th December and costs £3 per adult and £2 for under 16yrs and concessions.



During each weekend in December, leading up to the Caerphilly Lantern Parade on Thurs 20th, don't forget to pop into Caerphilly Leisure Centre to make a lantern. There are a number of other parades and workshops taking place throughout the county borough this winter, so make sure you are part of the action!

A full events listing can be found at www.caerphilly.gov.uk/christmas or call **029 2088 0011**. Various event organiser and community groups are hosting their own Christmas themed events making the calendar full to overflowing!

A new chapter for Abercarn Library

Abercarn's brand new state-of-the-art library has opened its doors.

The unique project has come to fruition as a result of a partnership between the council, Welsh Government, Seren Group and Carn Limited. Phase one of the site development included the construction of 23 apartments, offering a range of housing solutions for local people, delivering both low cost home ownership and below market rent.

The second phase of the Cwrt Dyffryn initiative saw the development of a purpose built library with 10 social rented older person apartments above. The council were able to transfer the land at no charge which helped to contribute approximately half of the cost of the new library.

Cllr Rhianon Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education & Lifelong Learning said, "This impressive construction is testament to what can be achieved when strong partnerships are created. The building is a great addition to the village, since opening in May the library has seen a 12% increase in book borrowing and a

25% increase in visitor numbers, these statistics indicate a promising future for the new facility."

The official opening of the library saw Huw Lewis AM, Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage accompanied by Cllr Harry Andrews Leader of Council and partners tour the impressive facility and engage with local library users.

The library facility boasts a range of new and improved services for local residents to enjoy including a dedicated events space, free wifi and the inclusion of the social enterprise café facility 'Bridging the Gap'.



Improving our communities

The council is currently consulting on the introduction of a **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for the county borough. This will be a charge paid by developers on certain types of developments within the county borough.**

The consultation, which runs until Wednesday 28th November, is seeking your views on the rate at which the levy should be set and also on the type of infrastructure that should be provided from any money raised.

What is Community Infrastructure Levy?

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a new charging system that will be introduced in April 2014, which will be applied to certain types of new development. The CIL charge is set by the council and the amount of money raised is based on simple formulae, which takes into account the size and type of development paying for it. The proceeds raised through the charge can then be used to fund infrastructure projects such as highway schemes, playing fields etc. The council also have to provide a map to indicate in what parts of the county borough the charge will apply.

Why Introduce CIL?

Once introduced, CIL is a non-negotiable fixed charge. Its introduction will give developers certainty on what they will have to pay towards providing infrastructure to support their new development schemes. CIL will be a significant tool for the delivery of the council aspirations in terms of social and community infrastructure and regeneration, for which there is no alternative funding mechanism.

How can I find out more

For more information visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk or call **01495 235 376**.

How to comment

Comments should be sent in writing to the Strategic & Development Plans Team, Caerphilly County Borough Council, Ty Pontllanfraith, Blackwood NP12 2YW, or sent by e-mail to ldp@caerphilly.gov.uk, by no later than 28 November 2012.

UK Government Changes to your Housing Benefits

Changes to housing benefits for council and other social landlord tenants of working age

The UK government is **reducing** the amount of housing benefit some people can claim based on the size of the rented property and the people who live there.

This page will help you find out:

- **Who** will be affected
- **Where** you can go for **help** and **advice**

These new rules only apply to **tenants of working age** (working age is where a person has not yet reached pension credit age). The UK government's Welfare Reform Act was approved in March 2012, one of the main changes relating to housing benefits. Many social housing tenants (who rent from the Council or Housing Association) will see a change to their housing benefit from April 2013.

From April 2013 housing benefit will be reduced for tenants of working age to allow just one bedroom for each of the following:

- A couple.
- A person who is not a child (aged 16 & over).
- Two children of the same sex.
- Two children under 10.
- Any other child (other than a foster child or child whose main home is elsewhere).
- A carer (or group of carers) providing overnight care.

Some examples:

Family make up	Bedrooms allowed
Couple with one child	2 bedrooms
Single parent with girl aged 6 and boy aged 8	2 bedrooms
Couple with a girl aged 6 and a boy aged 12	3 bedrooms
Single parent with a boy aged 17 & a boy aged 12	3 bedrooms
Couple with girls aged 17 and 14 & a boy aged 9	4 bedrooms

How much housing benefit will I lose?

Depending on your circumstances, if you have more bedrooms than this new rule allows this is called 'under occupying' and you could lose some or all of your housing benefit. If you are **under occupying by 1 bedroom** your housing benefit will be reduced by **14% of the rent amount**.

Some examples:

Rent Per week	Reduction in housing benefit/ shortfall if under occupying
£69	£9.66
£75	£10.50
£80	£11.20

If you are under occupying by **2 or more bedrooms**, your housing benefit will be reduced by 25% of your rent amount.

Rent Per week	Reduction in housing benefit/ shortfall if under occupying
£76	£19.00
£82	£20.50
£89	£22.25

This change will come into force from **1 April 2013** for all existing and new claimants of housing benefit, who are renting from the Council or a Housing Association.

It will be your responsibility to make up this shortfall and pay your rent in full.

How will I make up any shortfall in rent?

If you are under-occupying and will have your Housing benefit reduced there are several options you can take.

Staying in the same property

You may decide to pay the difference between your Housing Benefit and your rent yourself by:-

- Using other personal income.
- Asking non-dependants to contribute.
- Taking in a lodger.
- Increasing hours of work.
- Taking a job.
- Applying for a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) - In exceptional circumstances a claimant may be entitled to a payment for a temporary period from the Discretionary Housing Payment Fund. This is a fund administered by the local authority for those they consider in real need of additional help.

Moving to a different property

The council can support you to move to a smaller property, but we do not have enough properties to assist everyone immediately. You should also consider:-

- Mutual exchange - The council is a member of the national Homeswapper service which holds details of mutual exchanges within Caerphilly county borough as well as details of those from outside the area. Any tenant renting from Caerphilly County Borough Council can register free of charge on the Homeswapper website www.homeswapper.co.uk

- Registering with a Registered Social Landlord.
- Renting a private property.

Here to help YOU

We understand that this will be an uncertain and worrying time for some tenants, the new benefit rules will apply from April 2013, so now is the time to get help and support.

Who to contact

Council Tenants Call: **01495 235600**
e-mail: rents@caerphilly.gov.uk

Tenants of a Registered Social Landlord
Contact your landlord. The main ones are listed below:

Wales and West Housing Association
Call: **0800 0522526**

United Welsh Housing Association
Call: **0800 2940195**

Linc-Cymru Housing Association
Call: **029 2047 3767**

Charter Housing Association
Call: **01633 212375**

Aelwyd Housing Association
Call: **029 2048 1203**

Further information can be found on the Council website:
Housing benefit changes
www.caerphilly.gov.uk/underoccupation
Benefit changes - Welfare Reform Act 2012
www.caerphilly.gov.uk/benefitschanges



Useful Numbers Rhifau Defnyddiol

MAIN SWITCHBOARD PRIF SWITSWFRDD ☎ 01443 815588	Children's Social Services Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Blant ☎ 0808 100 1727
Minicom Minicom ☎ 01443 873626	Consumer Advice Cyngor i Defnyddwyr ☎ 01495 235111
Emergency number for all services: Rhif argyfwng ar gyfer pob gwasanaeth: ☎ 01443 875500 (Out of hours only - Allan o Oriau yn unig)	Council Tax Enquiries Ymholiadau Treth y Cyngor ☎ 01443 863002
Adult's Social Services Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Oedolion ☎ 0808 100 2500	Furniture Recycling Ailgylchu Dodrefn ☎ 01685 846830
StreetPride BalchderStryd ☎ 01443 866566	Housing & Council Tax Benefits Budd-daliadau Tai/Treth y Cyngor New Claims: Rhifau Newydd: ☎ 01443 866567 Existing Claimants: Rhifau Newydd: ☎ 01443 864099

Christmas Refuse & Recycling Collections

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
24th December	Collection as normal
25th Dec (No Collection)	27th December
26th Dec (No Collection)	28th December
27th December	29th December
28th December	30th December
31st December	Collection as normal
1st Jan (No Collection)	2nd January
2nd January	3rd January
3rd January	4th January
4th January	5th January
6th January	No collections
7th January	Normal collections

Please put your bins/boxes/bags/caddies out prior to 6am on your scheduled collection day. Additional waste (up to 2 bags) will be accepted over the holiday period.

Wrapping paper (non-foil based) and small amounts of cardboard can be placed in your recycling bin, larger amounts of cardboard can be deposited at Household Waste Recycling Centres.

Don't forget to take your Christmas Trees to these sites for recycling too!

Household Waste Recycling Centres will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day. Normal opening times for all other days 9am to 4-30 pm.



What's ON / Digwyddiadau

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/events • www.caerffili.gov.uk/digwyddiadau

Sign up to receive regular information about local events by e-mailing: events@caerphilly.gov.uk • Cofrestrwch i dderbyn gwybodaeth reolaidd am ddiwyddiadau lleol drwy e-bostio: digwyddiadau@caerffili.gov.uk

River of Light Parade Workshops • Gorymdaith Afon y Goleuni - Gweithdai 1-2/8-9/16-17 - 10am
Caerphilly Leisure Centre - Canolfan Hamdden Caerffili
A Chance to show off your artistic skills & make your very own lantern ready for the big parade on the 20th December.
Cyfle i ddangos eich sgiliau artistig a gwneud eich llusern eich hun yn barod ar gyfer yr orymdaith fawr ar 20fed Rhagfyr.
02920 880011

Business Funding Event • Digwyddiad Cyllid Busnes 21/11/2012 - 10am
Bargoed Library & Cafe - Bargoed Llyfrgell a llyfrbryf Caffi
Find out whether your business is eligible for financial assistance. Grant support for start-up businesses and established businesses. Call in anytime between 10.00am and 1.00pm to talk to us.
Dewch o hyd i os yw'ch busnes yn gymwys am gymorth ariannol. Cymorth grant ar gyfer dechrau busnesau newydd a busnesau sefydledig. Galwch heibio unrhyw bryd rhwng 10:00-13:00 i siarad â ni.
01443 866222

Caerphilly Christmas Lights Switch On • Cynnuau Goleuadau Nadolig Caerffili 23/11/2012 - 6pm
Twyn Community Centre - Canolfan Gymunedol Y Twyn
Sing Christmas carols and songs, and meet Father Christmas. Canwch garolau a chaneuon Nadolig, ac yna cwrdd â Siôn Corn.
02920 888777

Christmas Market • Marchnad Nadolig 24 - 25/11/2012 - 10am
Cwmarn Forest Drive - Ffordd Goedwig Cwmarn
Christmas Market at the visitor centre. This is the perfect opportunity to buy bespoke Christmas gifts.
Marchnad Nadolig yn y ganolfan ymwelwyr. Dyma'r cyfle perffaith i brynu anrhegion Nadolig pwrpasol.
01495 272001

Dealing with doorstep sellers:

The council and police advise residents to be wary of sellers who may offer goods and services on the doorstep:

- Think carefully about agreeing to a deal on the spot - It is always better to shop around and compare quotes.
- Use a reputable firm that you are happy you will be able to contact again should any faults need putting right.
- Be wary of any business literature that only gives a mobile phone number. They are difficult to trace. Look for a landline.
- Remember that you often have cancellation rights if you do agree to having work done or buying services when in your home.
- ID Cards are very easy to fake on a computer. Use a phone number from the yellow pages or directory enquires to call the head office and see if the caller is genuine. Never trust a number given to you by the caller, there could be an accomplice at the end of the phone.
- Trading Standards and Gwent Police support a 'Nominated Neighbour' scheme whereby vulnerable members of the community can nominate a neighbour who will check the callers' identity and then return with the caller.
- If you feel afraid, harassed, threatened or intimidated by a caller, call the Police on 999 straight away.

Deck the Halls

8th December 2012, 10am
Winding House
Explore Christmas through the ages with these days of festive fun! How was Christmas celebrated in the past and where do our own traditions come from? Admission: FREE.
01443 822666



8fed Rhagfyr 2012, 10am

Y Tŷ Weindio
Archwiliwch y Nadolig drwy'r oesoedd gyda'r diwrnodau o hwyl yr wyl! Sut gafodd y Nadolig dathlu yn y gorffennol a lle mae ein traddodiadau ein hunain yn dod? Mynediad: AM DDIM.
01443 822666

Addurnwch y Neuaddau

Dickens Christmas Carol & Lantern Parade



Saturday 1st December 2012, 2pm
Tredegar Park - Risca
A free, festive event for all the family.
01495 273255 / 270210
www.caerphilly.gov.uk/christmas

Sadwrn 1af Rhagfyr, 2012, 2pm
Parc Tredegar - Rhisga
Digwyddiad Nadolig rhad ac am ddim i'r teulu cyfan.
www.caerffili.gov.uk/ynadolig

Gorymdaith Carolau Dickens a Llusernau

River of Light Lantern Parade

20th December 2012 - 6.30pm
Caerphilly Town Centre
From Caerphilly Railway Station a festive parade through the town, followed by a spectacular fireworks display above the skies of Caerphilly Castle.
02920 880011



20fed Rhagfyr 2012 - 6.30pm
Canol Tref Caerffili
Dilynwch yr orymdaith Nadoligaidd o Orsaf Reilffordd Caerffili drwy'r dref, wedi'i ddilyn gan arddangosfa dân gwylt ysblennydd uwchben Castell Caerffili.
02920 880011

Gorymdaith Llusernau Afon y Goleuni

Jack and the Bean Stalk - Christmas Pantomime • Pantomeim Nadolig - "Jack and the Beanstalk" 30/11 - 09/12/2012 - 7pm
Blackwood Little Theatre - Theatr Fach Coed Duon
Family Pantomime - fun for all the family! Tickets - £10 adult, £8 Concession, £32 Family of four Early Bird offer - 5% off before 20th October * 10% off bookings of 10 or more Book via website: www.blackwoodlt.org.uk/tickets or hotline number.
Pantomeim Teulu - hwyl i'r teulu cyfan! Tocynnau - £10 i oedolion, £8 Coneswion, Cynnig Cynnar i deulu o bedwar £32 - 5% i ffwrdd cyn 20 Hydref* 10% oddi ar archebion o 10 lle neu fwy. Bwciwch drwy'r wefan: www.blackwoodlt.org.uk/tickets neu drwy ffônio'r llinell gymorth.
07930 599317

Rudry Kitchen Rural Christmas Market • Marchnad Nadolig Gwledig Cegin Rhydri 02/12/2012 - 10am
Rudry Parish Hall - Neuadd y Pwylf Rhydri
Rudry's Kitchen's Christmas Rural Market will be full of local foods & Crafts including The Preservation Society, BakedbyMel, Hapus Ice cream, Untapped Ale, Mimi Designs, Tracey Hoy's Art, Johnny Mutley and many more. The cafe will open and will be having a special visit from Father Christmas.

Bydd Marchnad Nadolig Gwledig Cegin Rhydri yn llawn o fwyddid a chrefftau lleol gan gynnwys y Gymdeithas Cadwraeth, BakedbyMel, hufen iâ Hapus, Untapped Ale, Mimi Designs, Tracey Hoy's Art, Johnny Mutley a llawer mwy. Bydd y caffi ar agor a bydd ymweliad arbennig gan Siôn Corn.
07779 187891

Christmas Crafts with the Christmas Fairy • Crefftau Nadolig gyda'r Tylwyth Teg Nadolig 1/8/15 & 22/12/12 - 11am - 4pm
Llancaich Fawr Manor - Maenordy Llancaich Fawr
Craft activities and games for children. Suitable for children up to 11yrs. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Gweithgareddau crefft a gemau i blant. Yn addas ar gyfer plant hyd at 11 oed. Rhaid i blant fod yn nghwmni oedolyn.
01443 412248

Yule Tide logs • Boncyffion Nadolig 15/12/12 - 10.30am - 1pm
Parc Cwm Darran Visitor Centre, Deri - Canolfan Ymwelwyr Parc Cwm Darran, Deri
Yule love making Yule Tide logs! Have a go at creating festive decorations using natural materials. Charge £2 to make a log. Booking required for this event.
Byddwch yn sicr o garu gwneud Boncyffion Nadolig! Rhowch gynnig ar greu addurniadau Nadolig gan ddefnyddio deunyddiau naturiol. Cost o £2 i wneud boncyff. Mae angen archebu lle ar gyfer y digwyddiad.
01443 875557

Council Tax: Don't Ignore It - Talk To Us

The council is sometimes contacted by people who are unhappy with the action being taken to collect overdue council tax.

Such action can involve automatic deductions from earnings or benefits, the placing of a charging order upon a dwelling or bailiffs visiting your home. As a last resort, committal to prison proceedings can be taken.

If your council tax payments are not received when they are due, we will issue several documents before taking court action and recovering your unpaid council tax. Additional legal and other costs are often payable by the person owing the council tax because of the work involved in recovering the debt. So if you want to avoid paying more than you have to, you must ensure your payments are made on time.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, don't ignore our letters, please talk to us on 01443 863002 / 863004 or e-mail counciltax@caerphilly.gov.uk.

From 1st April 2013 Council Tax Benefit becomes Local Council Tax Support.

You may have heard about the UK Government's plans to reform the welfare and benefits system from April 2013. Council Tax Benefit is one of the benefits that will be affected by the changes and from next year, the responsibility for helping people with their council tax bills is being transferred to the Welsh Government. We are working with the Welsh Government to develop a new scheme to replace Council Tax Benefit in Wales and will write to you with more information before the new scheme is introduced.

PROTECTING YOU

The council's Public Protection team aims to ensure that the county borough is a healthy, safe & fair place for people to live, work & visit. One of the team's key tasks is to expose and bring before the courts those individuals and businesses we discover acting illegally.

Below are examples of recent prosecutions:

Defendant	Offence	Court Decision
Violet Elaine Jones of Cefn Hengoed.	Possession for supply of counterfeit cigarettes and cigarettes not marked with health warnings. 9/10/2012 at Caerphilly Magistrates Court.	12 weeks imprisonment, suspended for 12 months, 12 month supervision order, forfeiture of all tobacco products & £500 costs to the Local Authority. Trade Marks Act 1994. The Tobacco Products (Manufacture, Presentation & Sale) (Safety) Regulations 2002.
Tammy Alison Thomas trading as Tee Dee Crazy Bargains of Caerphilly.	Sale and possession for supply of counterfeit clothing and bags. 1/10/2012 at Abergavenny Magistrates Court.	£200 fine, £285 costs to the Local Authority and £15 victim surcharge. Trade Marks Act 1994.
Alex Adrian Barwood trading as Tyre Co, Ystrad Mynach	Sale of a motor vehicle without declaring fact it was a Category D Insurance Write Off. 1/10/2012 at Caerphilly Magistrates Court.	£250 fine, £332.72 costs to the Local Authority and £15 victim surcharge. Further fine of £250 imposed in relation to previous conviction in July 11 (exposing a dangerous vehicle for sale) in breach of conditional discharge. Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008.
Kim Walker trading as the Newbridge Hotel	Sale of alcohol to person under the age of 18. 1/10/2012 at Caerphilly Magistrates Court.	£400 fine, £482.02 costs to the Local Authority and £15 victim surcharge. Licensing Act 2003

To view the full list, visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk/prosecutions
Prosecution results are provided for a limited period to promote the openness of the council's actions to local residents. Information provided must not be reused in any form without the agreement of CCBC.