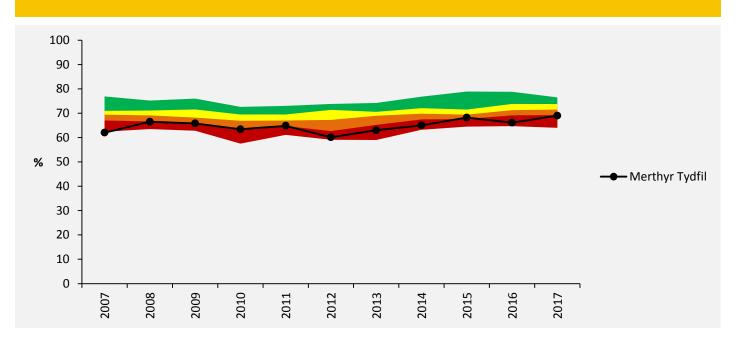
UNSATISFACTORY

The % of working age population in employment



STORY BEHIND THE DATA

Latest Published Comparable Data: Year to 31 March 2017 Latest Local Data Period: Year to 31 March 2017

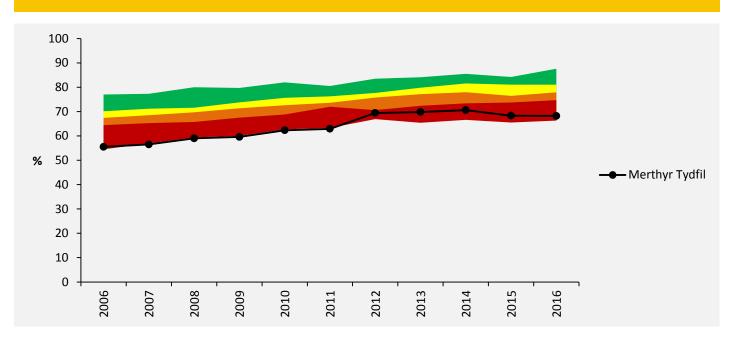
Data Frequency: Quarterly Source: StatsWales

The percentage of the working age population in employment is taken from the annual datasets from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Data are presented for working age adults (i.e. including males aged 16-64 and females aged 16-59) according to their age at the start of the academic year.

This is a retrospective evaluation on March 2016 data. The percentage of the working age population in employment in Merthyr Tydfil increased to 69.0 percent, which is 2.4 percent below the Wales average of 71.4 percent. The key message is that performance has declined; we have remained in the lowest quartile for local authorities in Wales.

UNSATISFACTORY

The % of the working age population who are qualified to NVQ level 2 and above



STORY BEHIND THE DATA

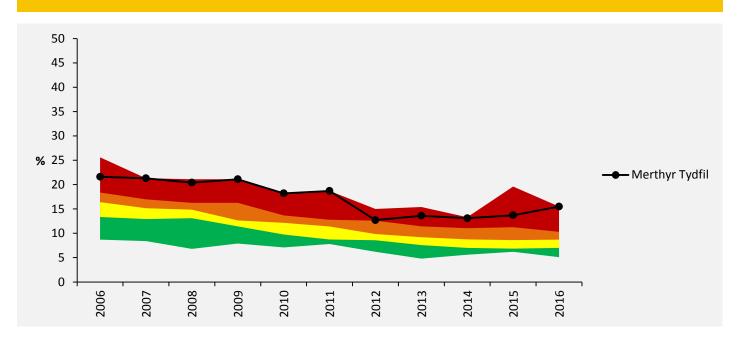
Latest Published Comparable Data: Year to 31 December 2016 Latest Local Data Period: Year to 31 December 2016

Data Frequency: Annual Source: StatsWales

The percentage of the working age population who are qualified to NVQ level 2 and above is taken from the annual datasets from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Data are presented for working age adults (i.e. including males aged 16-64 and females aged 16-59) according to their age at the start of the academic year.

UNSATISFACTORY

The % of the working age population with no qualifications



STORY BEHIND THE DATA

Latest Published Comparable Data: Year to 31 December 2016 Latest Local Data Period: Year to 31 December 2016

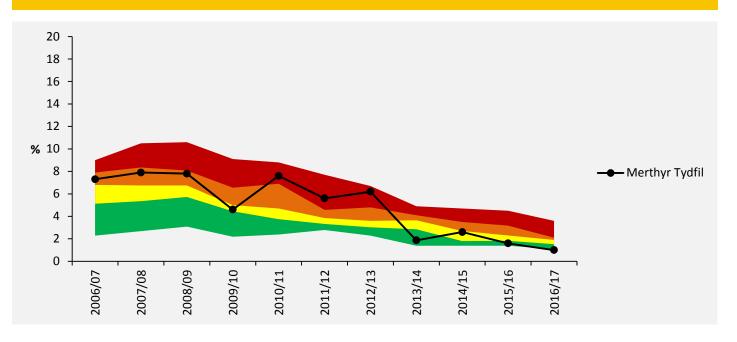
Data Frequency: Annual Source: StatsWales

The percentage of the working age population who do not have a qualification is taken from the annual datasets from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Data are presented for working age adults (i.e. including males aged 16-64 and females aged 16-59) according to their age at the start of the academic year.

This is a retrospective evaluation on December 2015 data. The percentage of the working age population with no qualifications in Merthyr Tydfil has increased to 13.7 percent, which is 4.2 percent above the Wales average of 9.5 percent. The key message is that performance has declined; we have remained in the lowest quartile for local authorities in Wales.

EXCELLENT

The % of 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training



STORY BEHIND THE DATA

Latest Published Comparable Data: Year to 31 March 2017 Latest Local Data Period: Year to 31 March 2017

Data Frequency: Annual

Source: Welsh Government

The percentage of 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment, or training is derived from an annual survey of school leavers undertaken by Careers Wales on behalf of the Welsh Government, and provides a useful snapshot of pupil destinations which informs careers staff in their work with clients, parents, teachers, and employers.

The Statistical First Release (SFR) Participation of young people in education and the labour market is published annually in July. It contains the definitive source for estimates of the proportion of young people who are NEET in Wales. The proportion of young people who are NEET is one of the measures included within the recently published Programme for Government in the context of Tackling Poverty.

The percentage of 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training has reduced to 1 percent, which is the lowest in Wales and half of the Wales average of 2 percent. The key message is that performance continues to improve.

Bridges into Work 2					
START DATE	April 2016	GOOD			
FINISH DATE	March 2019				

This is a 36-month project to support adults into employment. The focus is on adults who are economically inactive and adults who are long-term unemployed. The expected outcome from this project is to support 250 adults with 50 percent gaining employment.

Where are we now

The project is operational, and seeks to support long term unemployed and economically inactive living in the non-communities first post coded areas and in most cases individuals who have complex barriers such as:

- Substance misuse
- Significant health conditions
- Numeracy and literacy issues
- Issues with Mental Health

The project has successfully engaged and signed up 90 people, all of whom are experiencing complex barriers. So far seven people have secured employment, which is a great achievement and 54 people have achieved a work related qualification.

The project is limited to a small geographical area, so the target to engage with 250 individuals presents a significant challenge. The project is completely reliant on potential participants providing the adequate elements of evidence in line with EU requirements.

Working Skills for Adults 2					
START DATE	November 2015	GOOD			
FINISH DATE	March 2019				

This is a 36-month project to support progression for people in employment. The expected outcome from this project is to support 720 individuals with progression in employment.

Where are we now

Extensive marketing of the provision has been undertaken by the Administration Team. Since January 2016 the focus has been on establishing a full delivery team in Partnership with Adult Community Learning with a view to ACL hosting a broad range of tutors to deliver recognised qualifications that are on the Qualification Credit Framework.

To date 283 people have been deemed as eligible and signed up to the provision – exceeding expectations across the region and with Merthyr Tydfil CBC having the most people signed up to date.

The development of the Procurement Framework, linked to Torfaen County Borough Council, will extend the offer to local people for more specialised provision. This aims to increase availability of support for local people to upskills whilst in work allowing them to progress with an employer, earn more money or make a career change if they are at risk.

Inspire 2 Achieve					
START DATE	April 2016	EXCELLENT			
FINISH DATE	June 2019				

This is a 38-month project to support 11 to 18 year olds at risk of not entering into education, employment or training. The project has a clear focus on retaining young people in mainstream education who have been identified as a risk using the early identification toolkit. Inspire 2 Achieve provides early interventions aimed at identifying individual barriers and providing supportive actions to reduce the risk of young people dropping out of education.

Where are we now

Inspire 2 Achieve rolled out with effect from 01 April 2016. The programme is fully operational supporting young people who are at risk. This has been critical to ensuring that young people leaving school in the July of 2016 took up a positive destination.

The percentage of 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training has reduced to 1 percent, which is the lowest in Wales and half of the Wales average of 2 percent. The key message is that performance continues to improve.

Inspire 2 Work					
START DATE	October 2016	ADEQUATE			
FINISH DATE	March 2019				

This is a 32-month project to support 16 to 24 year olds into employment. This project is intrinsically linked to Inspire 2 Achieve whereby those young people at risk of not entering into education, employment or training upon exiting school will transition into Inspire 2 Work, identified using the Careers Wales 5 tier model whilst also making links with 18 – 24 year olds who are unemployed.

Where are we now

The approval of the Communities 4 Work programme impacted on the level of need across some regional partners. The programme has been re-profiled in terms of levels of need and financial commitments. A report is in development for Elected Members to review and agree the programme and its financial commitments.