

## MOLD - SETTLEMENT SERVICE AUDIT

### Settlement Commentary

Mold is a key town within the County whose services and facilities serve Mold and surrounding settlements including Nercwys, Gwernymynydd, Gwernaffield, Pantymwyn, Cilcain, Rhydymwyn, Sychdyn, Mynydd Isa, New Brighton, Leeswood and Treuddyn. Mold benefits from a well-developed and attractive town centre together with a number of key facilities including the only Welsh Medium High School in the County. The built form of the town is relatively easily defined with a clear rural edge which provides an attractive setting to the town at the base of the Alyn Valley below the Clwydian AONB.

Mold developed around Mold Castle. The motte and bailey was built by the Norman Robert de Montalt in around 1140. By the 17<sup>th</sup> century the town developed as a result of the nearby coal mining industry. By the 18<sup>th</sup> century the town developed as a result of lead mining in the area. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century the town grew further by the growth of coal mining in and around the town and it also had its own cotton mill and later a tin plate works.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Mold became the administrative centre for the County of Flintshire, by the 1760s Quarter Sessions were held in the town, by 1833 there was a County Hall and by 1871 the county gaol was established. The town continues to be the home of Flintshire County Councils County Hall and is the administrative centre of the county.

The nearest station is at Buckley which has connections to Wrexham and Liverpool. Flint railway station, to which Mold is connected by regular bus services, is not much further, and has direct services to Cardiff, London and Manchester. Throughout the day, there are many bus services each hour from Mold Bus Station to Chester and Wrexham as well as other nearby towns (including Denbigh, Holywell and Ruthin) and villages.

Attractions in Mold include St Mary's Church (a 15<sup>th</sup>-century parish church), a small museum and the renowned Clwyd Theatr Cymru which houses two theatres, the Emlyn Williams theatre and the Anthony Hopkins Theatre. It also houses the town's only cinema.

The town centre has a good mix of shops, pubs and restaurants. Mold has a diverse street market every Wednesday and Saturday at which much fresh produce and many other goods can be obtained as well as a cattle market. For speciality and fresh local food, the Celyn Farmers Market is held on the first and third Saturdays of every month in Mold. There is also The Mold Food & Drink Festival which is held during September each year. In addition to the street market, Mold has a livestock market on Mondays and Fridays. The town boasts 6 supermarkets, 7 Community Centres or halls, 4 doctors' surgeries, a library, a community hospital, 5 dental practises and 9 places of worship. The town has a sports centre with a swimming pool and a range of sports facilities including rugby cricket and football clubs.

Mold has two secondary schools serve the town and the surrounding villages. With approximately 1,800 pupils, the Alun School is the largest school in the county. It is adjoined by the only Welsh Language secondary school in Flintshire, Ysgol Maes

Garmon. It is also home to 4 primary schools the largest being, Ysgol Bryn Coch, with approximately 650 pupils.

In terms of employment opportunities Mold has the Community hospital, County Hall, Theatre Clwyd and the County Law Courts. There are also many retail uses and Mold Business Park houses the Tate and Lyle and Mondi Packaging factories whilst Bromfield Industrial estate has other smaller units with a variety of retail, service and industrial uses.

	<b>Settlement No. of Dwellings</b>
2000 UDP Baseline Figure	4,100
2014 Housing Land Study	4,487

	<b>Settlement Population</b>
2001 Census	9,578
2011 Census	10,058

## Summary of Recorded Service Provision

The survey work was undertaken in November 2014 and has since been updated to take account of new information or feedback from Members / Town and Community Councils.

<b>Education Facilities</b>		Primary school	Yes, Bryn Coch School, Victoria Road / Bryn Gwalia School, Clayton Road / St Davids Roman Catholic School St Davids Lane / Glanrafon Welsh Medium School /Bryn Coch Lane.	Other Education Facility	No
Pre-School / Nursery Provision	Yes, Bryn Coch School, Victoria Road / Bryn Gwalia School, Clayton Road / St Davids Roman Catholic School St Davids Lane / Glanrafon Welsh Medium School /Bryn Coch Lane. Buttercups Nursery Upper Bryn Coch Lane, The Mill, Nercwys Road, Podlings, Wrexham Road,	Secondary school	Yes, Alun High School, Wrexham Road, Maes Garmon, Welsh Medium, High School, Conwy Street	<b>Leisure &amp; Recreation Facilities</b>	
		College	No	Indoor leisure centre / sports facility	Yes, Mold Leisure Centre
				Swimming pool	Yes, Mold Leisure Centre
				Formal outdoor sports facility	Yes, Mold Cricket Club, Mold Rugby Club, Mold Alex Football Ground, Mold Leisure Centre. Tennis Club and bowling green, The Recreation ground Maes Bodlonfa.

Formal outdoor play facility /area	Yes, Various Play Areas around the town see Open Space Survey 2005 map. The Recreation ground Maes Bodlonfa
<b>Community &amp; Health</b>	
Community centre / hall	Yes, Parkfields Community Centre, Ash Grove, / Daniel Owen Community Association, Earl Road, / Glanrafon Youth and Community Centre, Glanrafon / Grosvenor Hall, Grosvenor Street / Drill Hall High Street Church Hall / The Club House, Park Avenue/ St Marys Church Hall King Street/ St Davids Church Hall , St Davids Lane/ Tyddyn Street Church, Tyddyn Street/ Bethesda Chapel, New Street/ Bethel Chapel New Street/ Methodist Church , Wrexham Street/
Civic offices / facility	Yes, County Hall Raikes Lane, Town Hall Earl Road
Library	Yes, Mold Library, Daniel Owen Square

Hospital	Yes, Mold Community Hospital
Doctors surgery	Pendre Surgey, Clayton Road, / Grosvenor Surgery, Glanrafon Medical Centre, Glanrafon, / Bradleys Practise, Glanrafon Medical Centre, Glanrafon, / Bromfield Medical Practise, Bryn Hilyn Lane,
Dentist surgery	Yes, Oasis Mold Dental Practise 25 Chester Street Mold / Grosvenor Place Dental Surgery, 4 Grosvenor Street / Coperson Dental Surgery, 12 Grosvenor Street / Bryn Siriol, Pwll Glas / North Wales Community Dental Clinic, Mold Dental Clinic Mold Community Hospital, Ash Grove
Pharmacy	Yes, Boots 19-19a High Street / Boots 32 High Street / Hughes Daniel Owen Precinct / Tesco,

Place of worship	Ebenezer Baptist Chapel, Glanrafon Road / The Church of St Mary the Virgin, High Street / St Davids RC Church, St Davids Lane / Bethesda Chapel Welsh Presbyterian, New Street, Bethel Chapel, Welsh Independants, New Street / Kings Church Pwll Glas / Tyddyn Street Church English Presbyterians / Welsh Wesleyan Methodists, Mold Methodist Church, Wrexham Street / Salvation Army Centre, Wrexham Street.
<b>Retail &amp; Commercial Related</b>	
Supermarket	Yes, Tesco / Co-Op / Aldi / Lidl / Iceland / Farmfoods
Non-food retail units	Yes, many (including a wide range of independent shops)
Convenience shop	Yes, Bargain Booze / The One Stop, Convenience Shop Wrexham Road

Other shops	Yes, many (including a wide range of independent shops)
Café / Take away	Yes, even more
Bank/Building Society	Yes, Nat West /HSBC /Barclays /Lloyds /Principality /Halifax /Nationwide/ Santander / Credit Union, Town Hall
Free Standing of a Bank - Cashpoint	Yes

Public house / club / restaurant	"Yes / The Drovers Arms /Dolphin /Griffin /Delyn Wine Bar, and Tapas Bar /Wetherspoons /The Red Lion /The Ruthin Castle /Ex Servicemans Club Wrexham Street /Bryn Griffiths Club, High Street /Delyn Wine Bar Tapas/Saffron Indian Restaurant/ The Fat Boar, Chester Street/ The Glasfryn, Raikes Lane/ Pen Y Bont Farm (about to open) Chinese Restaurant, Grosvenor Street, new restaurant about to open at Chicagos, Grosvenor Street / Pen y Bont.
Post office	Yes, Post Office
Post box	Yes

Petrol Filling Station	Yes, 3 at Tesco, Chester Road Roundabout and Wylfa Roundabout, King Street Roundabout
<b>Employment</b>	
Employment	Yes, local shops and offices, County Hall, Theatr Clwyd, County Library, Law Courts, Retail, industrial -Tate and Lyle, Mondi Packaging.
<b>Transport</b>	
Rail station	No, Nearest Flint or Buckley
Bus station / stop	Yes
Bus service frequency	Yes, Many bus services to all the settlements in the county and to Chester and Wrexham. Mold has the main bus station in the county.
Cycle route	Mold to Flint
Access to main highway network	Yes

## Broadband Provision

According to the latest OFCOM data (2013) Mold post codes (where data is available) have a median average broadband range of 4.8 – 23.7 megabytes per second with most postcodes at around 12 mbps. Clearly broadband provision in Mold is mixed with the majority of the settlement having less than good broadband provision. Broadband provision is important even for a town like this because of the impacts of slow speeds upon the ability of businesses to operate within the area and to provide investment and local employment.

## Other Comments

None

## Previous Surveys of Service Provision

Mold has a town centre and supporting local centres with many services and facilities. There have been many surveys of Mold, and services and facilities have changed considerably within the town since 2000. Generally speaking the town centre has expanded considerably over the last 15 years to the benefit of the town eg Homebase, Lidl and new Daniel Owen Precinct (eg Argos & Peacocks).

## Mapping Service Provision

It is considered that Mold benefits from an excellent range of services and facilities, some of these services are illustrated on the map overleaf.

