

Torfaen - some interesting facts



The County Borough of Torfaen comprises a 12 mile long valley from Blaenavon in the north to Pontypool and Cwmbran in the South. The valley is linked by a series of mountainous roads that provide panoramic views. The Afon Llwyd, the river running down the valley, was in ancient times named Torfaen, which means “rock-breaker”.

Torfaen has a population of about 91,000. Population growth between 1991-2001 was just 2.4 % in Wales, 68,000 people.

01.1% of people in Torfaen speak Welsh compared to an average of 28.4% for Wales overall. (2001 census) Few of our tenants and staff speak Welsh as a first language.

Job density to population ratio at 0.71% is slightly lower than the Welsh average at 0.77% and the UK as a whole at 0.84% with 38,000 jobs available for a working age population of 53,900.

Torfaen has a rich heritage and there are many attractions and places of interest throughout the County Borough.

Cwmbran - A post war new town, established in the 50’s. It is perhaps most widely known now for its sports Stadium, home to national athletics and sporting events. It also has a large pedestrianised shopping centre which is home to many leading high street names.

Pontypool - In the heart of Torfaen, it boasts an historic park, a dry ski slope, traditional buildings that now house modern day shops following extensive regeneration plans and the leisure centre in Pontypool Park provides first class facilities for the surrounding area.

Blaenavon - A world heritage site, home to the award winning Big Pit: National Coal Museum, Blaenavon Iron Works, and the Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway.

