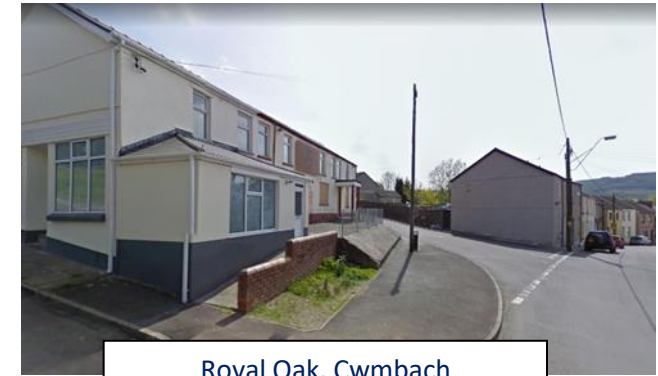


Community Profile – Cwmbach

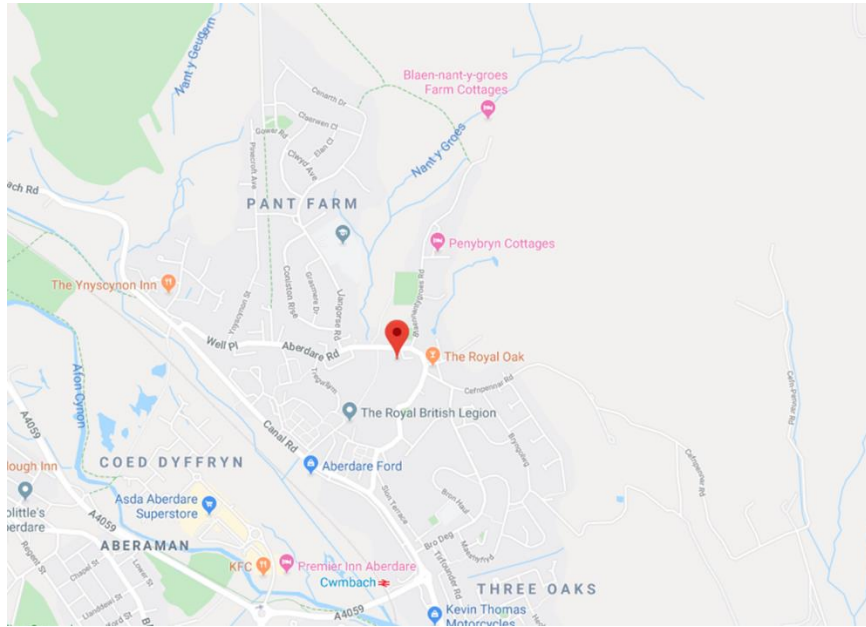
Cwmbach is a small village just across from Aberdare. At one end is Aberdare train station and Abernant and at the other is Cefnpennar. Cwmbach means 'Little Valley' in Welsh (Cwm = valley, Bach = little). Cwmbach has a population of 5,117

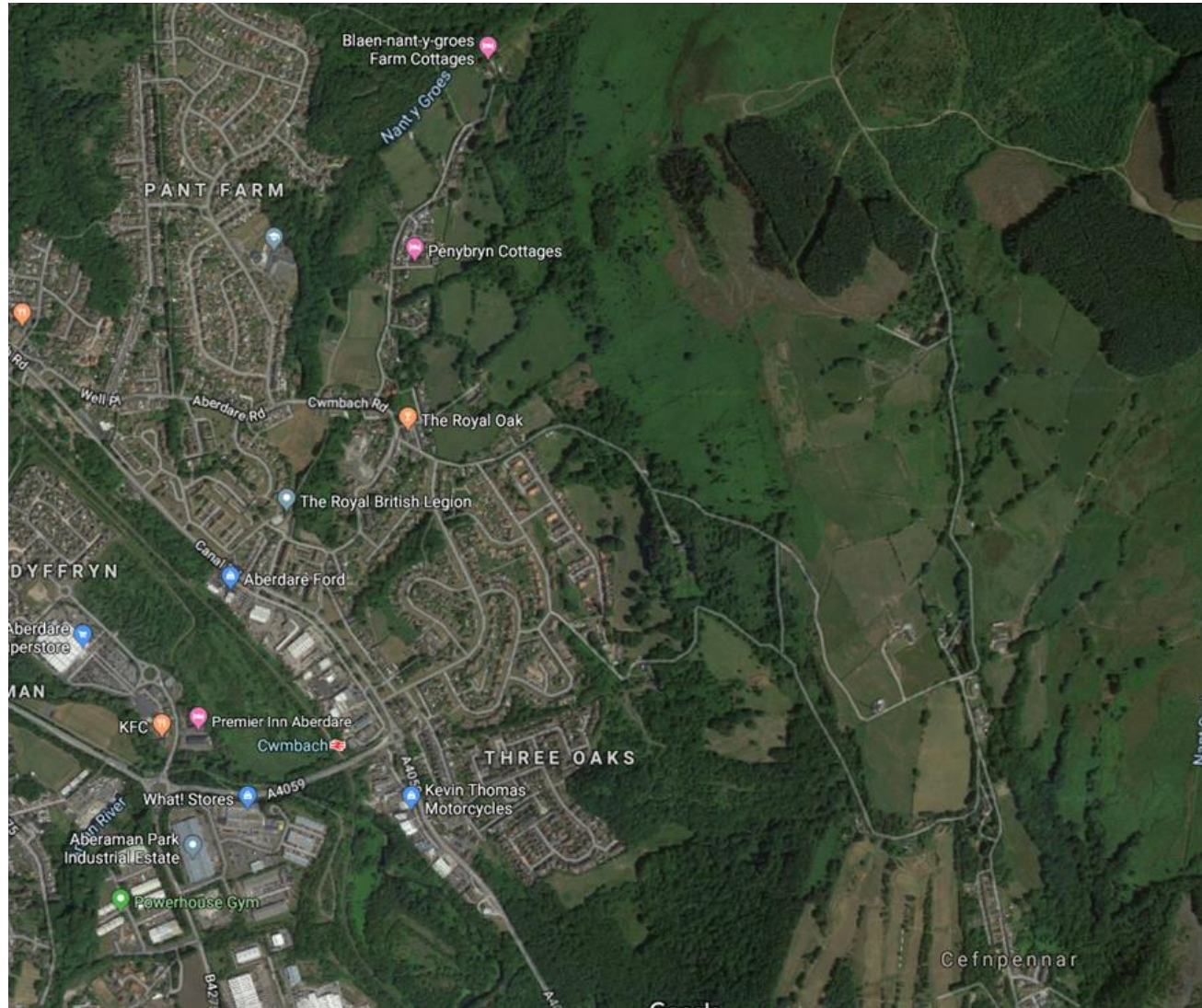


Prior to the industrial revolution, Cwmbach consisted of a number of farms and homesteads; in the mid-19th century it became a significant coal mining community. Aberdare is a town in the Cynon valley area of Rhondda Cynon Taf. Aberdare is 4 miles south-west of Merthyr Tydfil, 20 miles north west of Cardiff and 22 miles east north east of Swansea.

The village is served by Aberdare railway station and Aberdare bus station, opposite each other in the town centre. As the collieries expanded so did the village of Cwmbach. However, the closures of the pits (the final colliery Lletty Shenkin closed in 1922) resulted in high emigration and poverty. In the 1950s Cwmbach prospered with a large number of new council houses that were built at the lower end of Cwmbach and to the south. This housing stock was transferred to RCT Homes in 2010 a private not for profit social housing provider. The 1950s also brought building on the site of the former Pant Farm; these were all private houses made of up houses and bungalows.

Today's Cwmbach is a mixture of both social and private housing. An area known as Tirfounder Fields was cleared in 2001 for a retail park including Asda and several other shops as well as a large new build estate. In Cwmbach, the 1st Cooperative Shop in Wales was established in 1850.





PyC Awards

1	Population	5117 UK Office of National Statistics, 2011 Census (2018)																																				
2	Demographics	0-17 years 956 18-64 years 3164 65+ years 997 UK Office of National Statistics, 2011 Census (2018)																																				
3	Deprivation Ranking (WIMD)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Cwmbach</th> </tr> <tr> <th>WIMD</th> <th>Income</th> <th>Employment</th> <th>Health</th> <th>Education</th> <th>Access to Services</th> <th>Community Safety</th> <th>Physical Environment</th> <th>Housing</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>667</td> <td>619</td> <td>573</td> <td>556</td> <td>850</td> <td>970</td> <td>892</td> <td>890</td> <td>611</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81</td> <td>185</td> <td>55</td> <td>55</td> <td>253</td> <td>325</td> <td>126</td> <td>162</td> <td>970</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Cwmbach									WIMD	Income	Employment	Health	Education	Access to Services	Community Safety	Physical Environment	Housing	667	619	573	556	850	970	892	890	611	81	185	55	55	253	325	126	162	970
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4	Employment & Local Economy (where do people work)	<p>Over half of the population are in employment, a quarter of the population are retired, the remainder of the population are a mix of either unemployed, full-time student, looked after at home, sick or disabled.</p> <p>The most popular employment industries are manufacturing and retail. Followed by residents working for energy suppliers, water suppliers and construction.</p> <p>UK Office of National Statistics, (Census, 2011)</p>																																				
5	Active Community Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cynon Valley Church Cornerstone • Royal Oak FC • Cwmbach Royal Stars FC • Royal British Legion • Cwmbach OAP Group • Cwmbach Male Voice Choir (in Cwmbach Community School) • 60+ Fitness (Canal Road) 																																				

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwmbach Scout Hall (army cadets and brownies) • Cwmbach Wetlands https://www.facebook.com/groups/1423774654490133/
6	Schools – primary, secondary, Welsh, special needs, nurseries (including Cylchoedd Meithrin), childcare providers – number of pupils in each, current Estyn ratings	<p>In area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwmbach Church in Wales Primary school – Estyn rating (2017) – Unsatisfactory - 111 pupils • Cwmbach Community Primary School (mother and toddler group / Musical Bears) • Pant Primary School <p>Closest Welsh Language Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun – (1.2 miles away) Estyn rating (2016) – Adequate / 961 pupils, 171 of which attend sixth form. <p>Closest English Language Secondary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St John Baptist High School – Estyn rating (2014) – Excellent – 1014 pupils. • Aberdare Community School (main comprehensive serving all of the upper Cynon Valley)– Estyn rating (2018) – Adequate needs improvement – 1133 pupils. • Coleg y Cymoedd – Aberdare Campus (this new campus and main base is now in Aberdare) <p>Closest Special educational school Closest Special educational school is Ysgol Maesgwyn which is 1.2 miles from Aberdare.</p> <p>Closest Childcare providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ginger Bread House – CF44 0DL (Cwmbach) – holiday club / full and part time childcare / healthy meals
7	Leisure facilities and activities for Children & Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cynon Valley Church Cornerstone – Tuesday parent and toddler group • Cwmbach Royal Stars FC Mini Football • Cwmbach play Group St Magdalene’s Parish Hall • Messy Church at St Magdalene’s Parish Hall • Cwmbach Scout Hall (army cadets and brownies) • Cwmbach Wetlands https://www.facebook.com/groups/1423774654490133/

8	Transport Connections	<p>Roads Cwmbach can be reached in a car from Cardiff City in 38 minutes via the A470.</p> <p>Rail The town is served by Aberdare railway station and Aberdare bus station, opposite each other in the town centre. It takes about 4 minutes to walk from Aberdare train station to the Aberdare bus station. The train service runs between Monday to Saturday, daytimes, the service from Aberdare is a half-hourly service to Barry Island, via Cardiff Queen Street. In the evenings this drops to hourly and certain late-night trains run to Penarth rather than Barry Island. On Sundays there is a general 2-hourly service to Barry Island with an hourly service in the morning and in the late afternoon. There are regular buses to the local villages of Penywaun, Cwmbach and Penderyn, there are buses to Merthyr Tydfil, Pontypridd and Cardiff 7 days a week.</p> <p>Buses The Aberdare bus station is a 4-minute walk from the Aberdare train station.</p> <p>There is a community transport service for the residents of Aberdare which provide a door to door bus service called RangeRider which offer transport to Prince Charles Hospital for Clinics and visiting.</p>
9	Health Provision (GP practices, hospitals, clinics, other services)	<p>In area None</p> <p>Closest hospitals Prince Charles Hospital, Merthyr (8.7 miles away) - Major acute / Major A&E / Open 24 hours Ysbyty Cwm Cynon, Mountain Ash (7.12 miles away) – New Community and minor injuries hospital</p> <p>Dentists and opticians There are dentists and opticians in Aberdare town centre</p>
10	External services brought into the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slimming world at St Mary Magdalene’s Parish Hall

11	Community Facilities (including postcodes) Include pharmacies, libraries and petrol stations Main buildings Sports facilities & Clubs Playgrounds Playing fields Heritage sites allotments	<p>The Co-op and Post Office are situated at bottom of Canal Road</p> <p>Play Areas at Coed Dyffryn/Tirfounder Fields, Three Oaks, Crown Row and Blaennantygroes Road.</p>
11a	Parks & green spaces (and Green Flag Awards where applicable) Footpaths and Active Travel networks	<p>See 'opportunities' below</p> <p>Note: Aberdare Canal comes through Cwmbach and the Cynon Trail.</p>
12	Places of worship (description, denomination, how buildings used)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now called Cynon Valley Church Cornerstone part of Cynon Valley Church Fernhill– Foodbank Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 12pm, Tuesday 7pm prayer meeting, Tuesday Purpose Group, Wednesday 9.30am parent and toddler group, Tuesday 6.30pm – 8.30pm art class, Thursday 9.00am – 10am CAB drop in surgery, 10am 2pm camera group, 12pm – 2pm next steps craft group, 1pm – 4pm beginners computer group, every Sunday fellowship 6pm crèche provided. Community picnics in the Park. • St Mary Magdalene's Parish Church and Hall (Hall is available to hire). Mothers Union and Bible Study Groups.
13	Local businesses & shops	<p>Cwmbach has a Co-op and some small general stores. At the far end is the retail park that includes Asda, Halfords, Greggs etc as well as several car garages and but the majority of shops are in Aberdare itself. Aberdare has a very busy town centre with an active chamber of trade (ABTA).</p>

14	Tourism facilities (including tourism websites)	<p> https://www.standbrook-guides.com/aberdare/ https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Tourism/Thingstodo/TownsandVillages/Aberdare.aspx https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g670206-Activities-Aberdare_Rhondda_Cynon_Taf_South_Wales_Wales.html </p> <p>Llwydcoed to Cwmbach Railway Path</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Cwmbach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwmbach Railway Tunnel looks set to open: Currently looking at the lighting within the tunnel and carrying out bat surveys. The Tunnel will be for cycling and walking. • Tunnel Cottages at Blaen Nant Yr Groes Farm – Self-catering holidays. • Ynyscynon Inn – Very popular with families and for Sunday meals. • Coed Morgannwg Way passes through Cwmbach. • Llwydcoed to Cwmbach Railway Path open for walkers • The Cynon Trail runs to Cwmbach (from Mountain Ash to Cwmbach). • Heritage Trail board describing Abernant –Yr –Groes as the first Cynon Valley Deep Mine Coalmine 1837 – 1895 • Aberdare Canal comes through Cwmbach • Brodeg Woodland Trail looked after by Tre-Telynog Environmental Group supported by Trivallis. <p>Friends of Cwmbach Wetlands are accruing the wetlands (Tir Founder), and local people will be able to buy shares. The Wetlands will become a nature reserve, educational centre and café:</p> <p>‘Parts of Ynys Cynon and Tirfounder Fields are defined as S.I.N.C. (Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation) and support a wide variety of birds, insects and plants. Some notable examples are otter, mink, kingfisher, dipper, willow tit, bogbean, lesser water plantain, six dragonfly species and a variety of wading birds and summer migrants’.</p> </div>
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15	Leisure premises, pubs, clubs etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal British Legion • The Ynyscynon Inn • The Royal Oak
16	Derelict buildings and areas of land that are problematic or affect people’s view of the community?	There is nothing that is apparent at the moment.
17	Housing – current and planned? Who	Cwmbach, with an overall average price of £130,509 was more expensive than nearby Aberdare (£115,828), Mountain Ash (£98,536) and Aberaman (£86,977).
18	Analysing all that – what are the main gaps in provision?	
19	What’s likely to come up? What might change?	
20	Politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwmbach: Cllr Jeffrey Elliott - Labour • AM – Vikki Howells – Welsh Labour • MP – Beth Winter - Labour • Council – RCT CBC – Labour Town / Community Council - none

FUND AREA OF BENEFIT

The Fund's area of benefit covers the upper reaches of the Neath, Afan, Rhondda and Cynon Valleys – the main communities are shown on the map.



Applicants can be based outside this area – they need to explain clearly how their proposals will benefit people living in the Fund communities.

