

Caerphilly County Borough Council

Caerphilly has become the first local authority in Wales, and only the second in the UK to obtain accredited certification for its information security management system (ISMS) against the internationally recognised BS7799 British Standard Information Security Standards.

Caerphilly is the fourth largest council in Wales, and its IT Services department provides a full range of IT Support services to both Corporate and Educational users. There are approximately 2900 Corporate users and 4800 Education users across 150 sites.

Caerphilly County Council has a very mature and established IT Services department, with a plethora of internal standards and procedures already in place. The decision was taken to adopt the BS7799 standards to adhere to central government guidelines to implement best practice security procedures, an important element of the Councils modernisation programme.

BSI was selected to conduct the assessment, due to their ability to provide a full and complete assessment service and internal BS7799 awareness training to all IT Services staff.

Certification was achieved within 6 months of BSI' s appointment and following this, a formal certificate presentation was held at the council chambers. Tony Matthews, BSI Management Systems, presented the certificate in the presence of the mayor and councillors.

Since gaining certification, the council are already reaping the benefits. Phil Evans, Head of IT commented:

'Since we took the decision to obtain certification, we have recorded and resolved over 100 security incidents. We can now be confident that we have handled these incidents in a controlled manner, and can evidence our corrective actions.

