



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Consultation Response Form (11.11.21)

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Questions

Q2 Do the actions in the Action Plan reflect the most effective high level steps that will enable the Welsh Government and its partners to end homelessness in Wales?

Yes

No

Partly

How can they be improved?

We strongly approve of adopting a housing first approach and prioritising getting people into housing, even when they do not have the rest of their life sorted out. We know that getting appropriate housing can often be hard for people with a learning disability and other people who have different accessibility needs to others. We also know people are often placed in housing in areas that are not suitable to them, either because there are factors that make them vulnerable in certain areas or because they are too far away from their support systems.

Q3 Does the Action Plan align with other relevant areas of policy and practice?

Yes

No

Partly

Please explain why it aligns well or outline how it could be made better?

It would be good to align this policy with other policies related to supported living. People with a learning disability often experience living situations in which their rights are not appropriately honoured and where they do not have control over their lives.

It is very important that people do not just have access to safe housing but also that they receive appropriate support within that housing. Making this possible needs to be about both policy based on a rights-based agenda as well as funding.

Q5 Do you think there are any key areas for action not captured by the high level actions? If so, what would they be?

Please provide additional comments

We believe there should be special provision within the policy for people with a learning disability to make sure their housing needs are met. While there is some mention of accessibility in the policy, there should be more concrete measures within the document to make sure that new housing is actually accessible and safe for disabled people.

While the policy does mention discrimination as one main reason that many people face homelessness, this point is not substantially addressed in the plan. What measures is Welsh Government planning to fight housing discrimination and stop public and private landlords from discriminating against renters? How will Welsh Government make sure renters are aware of their rights? What support will renters have to fight discrimination they are facing? We urge Welsh Government to address these questions in future developments of this policy.

Q8 We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them:

We are generally supportive of this policy and optimistic about the impact it might have on the people in Wales.

We are concerned though about the vagueness of some of the action points and lack of concrete outcomes. We urge Welsh Government to add specific outcomes that actually measure how well they are doing in reducing homelessness, rather than just about understanding the issue better.