

Overview

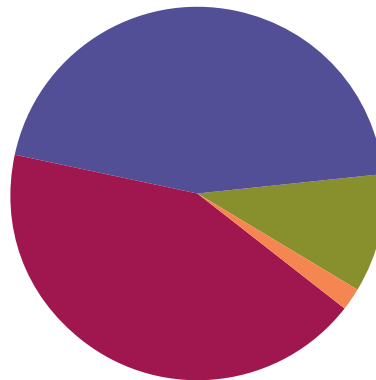
The Wallich has run the Anglesey Housing First Project since 2013. We were selected to deliver a 12-month pilot project based on the **identified need of supporting 25 people**, who were regularly sleeping rough and/or experiencing repeat homelessness on the island.

Over the past five years, 74% of those we've supported have successfully secured and maintained accommodation. Housing First works on the premise that, rather than expecting a person currently living on the streets to go through several steps to reach independence, they should instead be offered an independent tenancy first with no prerequisites for access and they should receive intensive and assertive support.

Our approach is trauma-informed and follows a therapeutic model of support. This is enhanced by the numerous creative interventions provided by our dedicated participation and progression department such as art therapy classes, heritage-based volunteering, practical qualifications and outdoor activities to name but a few.

Key figures 2018

This year we have supported:



Age brackets:

16-17:	0 (0%)
18-25:	1 (2%)
26-35:	22 (42%)
36-50:	23 (44%)
51-64:	5 (10%)
65+:	0 (0%)

42 male (81%)



10 female (19%)

Situations of people we are currently supporting (25)



60%

In accommodation



20%

In bed and breakfast



20%

Sofa-surfing



The Housing First Network Wales, alongside Cymorth Cymru, has drawn up a set of principles to determine to what extent a project delivers Housing First. The self-assessment comes with a maximum score of 30. The Wallich is pleased to say that Housing First Anglesey clearly operates according to Housing First principles and scores **28**, and we're putting measures in place to increase that even further. The Wallich is also an active member of the Housing First Network, working to promote and shape Housing First across the country.

Key events 2018



March – BBC Radio 4 feature - Sunday morning magazine programme

Feature on homelessness and in-depth case study where The Wallich client, Toby, was interviewed: "It was the best thing that ever happened to me – I was at the point of giving up"



April – Commissioned to support an extra five people with mental health issues facilitating discharge from the secure mental health unit – employing an additional Senior Support Worker



July – Rebecca Evans AM, former Minister for Housing and Regeneration, visits and comments: "Although this project is small in scale, it is helping to improve peoples' lives and is having a big impact."



August – Our Housing First project and the Anglesey community come together for a charity fun day at Amlwch Port, raising more than £1,000 for life-changing trips for our clients



October – Moved to bigger, more suitable offices within the community hub to enable better support and integration



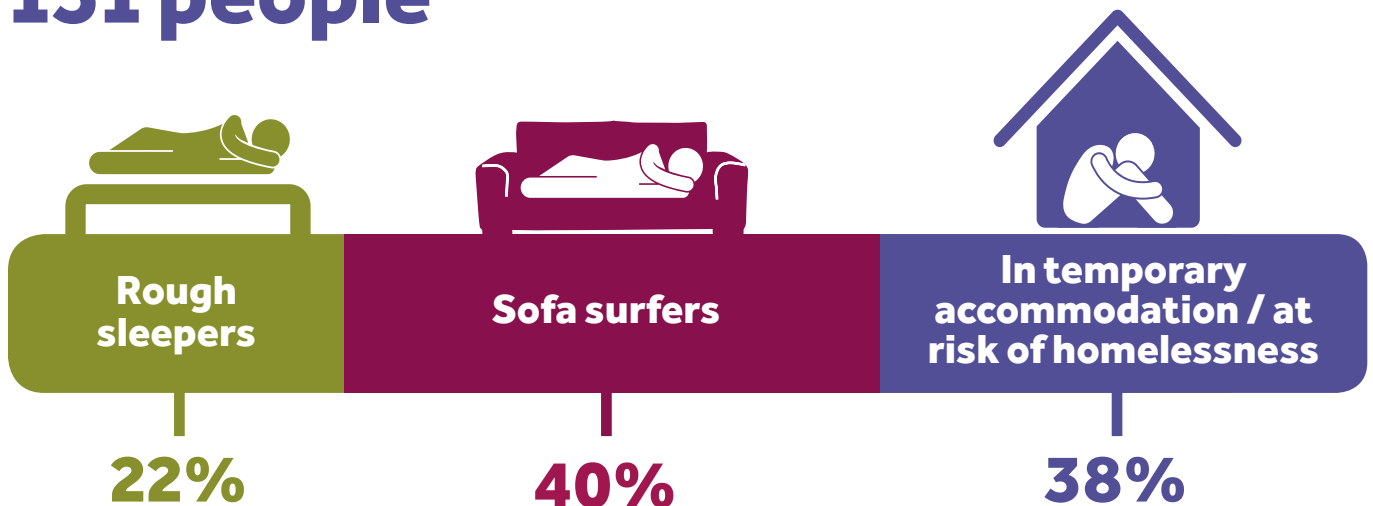
October – Employed Housing Interventions Officer, commissioned by Justice Cymru, working with low-medium risk offenders through Probation



November – Commissioned to support further five people into step-down accommodation with a lead support need of mental health

Key achievements 2013 - 2018

We have supported
151 people



74% of the people we have supported are still in accommodation



11 people found employment



5 people started volunteering

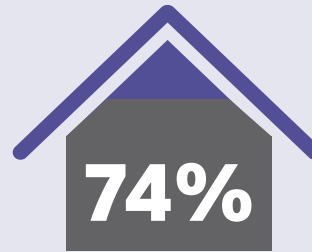


1 person is in education

Where are they now?



51% still in original accommodation



74% still maintaining a tenancy

"The effect on my life, the path it created and put me on, is immeasurable."

"I find it easy to engage. I couldn't engage with other support I've received in the past. The Wallich will always try their hardest to help me and any issues I've got."

Client feedback



"My time being supported by The Wallich is the fastest recovery I have ever had. It feels as though I have a road to follow to recovery, which I never had before."

"My support worker getting to know me. And I felt really comfortable receiving my support through my first language – which is Welsh."



Rebecca Evans AM, former Minister for Housing and Regeneration

"I am keen to see what lessons can be learned from this inspiring team, and what we can share with other pilot projects as we work with councils to spread best practice and develop Housing First approaches across Wales."