



**Do Something** about Homelessness



**35%** of UK residents  
are only **one pay cheque** away  
from **homelessness**<sup>1</sup>

**Homelessness can happen to anyone**



## Get people off the streets

Homelessness, whether living on the street, sofa surfing or living in temporary accommodation can be extremely damaging to health, both physical and mental. People living on the street are over 70 times more likely to die from substance misuse, and 11 times as likely to lose their lives to alcohol, compared to the general population<sup>2</sup>.

### To get people off the streets as soon as they end up sleeping on them the Welsh Government should:

- Develop a joined up system of recording rough sleeping across Wales
- Make fair the test for determining vulnerability when assessing whether someone qualifies for homeless assistance
- Increase the use of the Housing First model nationwide to give people who have been homeless for some time a stable home before addressing other issues they may have



## Keep people off the streets

There is no one-size-fits-all solution to homelessness. We need diverse services to prevent homelessness in Wales; from supported accommodation such as hostels, to floating support, to schemes keeping people from losing their homes in the first place. Too many people are waiting too long in unsuitable temporary accommodation such as B&Bs for a permanent home due to the lack of social housing and the high cost of the private rented sector.

### The Welsh Government can help keep people off the streets by:

- Supporting the Homes for Wales campaign to increase the supply of affordable housing both social rented and for people to buy
- Increasing the budget for the Supporting People and Homelessness Prevention grants
- Banning letting agency fees to bring down the cost of starting a private rented tenancy



## Create opportunities for people

For those who can work, stable employment is often the best route out of poverty and homelessness. The Welsh Government is leading the way with employability programmes but there is always more that can be done to get people the jobs they need to rebuild their lives. An adult in Wales aged 18-24 will have 100 times more spent on their education than someone aged 50-74<sup>3</sup>. Learning should be for life and everyone should have the right to an education.

### The Welsh Government can help create opportunities for people by:

- Placing adult learning on an equal footing with 16-19 education and investing in programmes to give adult learners the skills they need to benefit themselves and Welsh economy
- Expanding Jobs Growth Wales to provide even more unemployed young people with a chance at real paid work experience
- Increasing resources for employability programmes aimed at the most vulnerable in society including those living in temporary accommodation, ex-offenders and older unemployed people who want to get back into work



Heb y Lloches Nos, byddwn i naill ai'n gorfod cysgu allan neu droseddu er mwyn mynd i'r carchar. Dyma'r cam pwysicaf i gael trefn ar eich bywyd, a'r cam cyntaf yw'r pwysicaf bob amser. Heb y lloches, byddai pobl yn troi at fyd o drosedd, alcohol a chyffuriau – wedi'r cyfan, be' arall allan nhw ei wneud?

 *Darren*

If I didn't have the Night Shelter, I'd either have to sleep on the streets or commit a crime so I can go to prison. This is the most important step into sorting your life out, the first step always is. Without it, people would turn to crime, drink and drugs because what else do they have to do?

 *Darren*

Mae'n anodd sicrhau gwarantwr ac yna mae'n rhaid talu ffioedd yr asiantaeth gosod tai sy'n llawer rhy ddrud. Hyd yn oed os gallwch chi eu fforddio, 'does dim sicrwydd y byddwch chi'n cael yr eiddo ar ôl talu.

 *Kelly*

It's hard to secure a guarantor and then you've got the letting agency fees which are just too expensive. Even if you can afford it, there's no guarantee that you'll still get the property after paying up.

 *Kelly*

Roedd fy nghwrs coleg yn costio £600 i'w dalu ymlaen llaw. Pe na bawn i wedi bod yn ddigon lwcus i gael ad-daliad treth, byddai wedi bod yn amhosib dychwelyd i addysg.

 *Gemma*

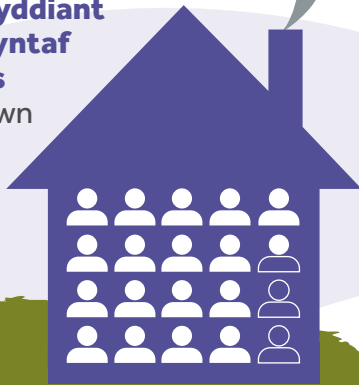
My college course cost £600 in fees up front. If I hadn't just been lucky enough to receive a tax rebate I'd never have been able to get back into education.

 *Gemma*



Mae cyfradd llwyddiant Prosiect Tai'n Gyntaf y Wallich ar Ynys Môn yn 88% mewn perthynas â rhoi tai cynaliadwy i bobl ddigartref ar yr Ynys<sup>4</sup>

88%



The Wallich Housing First Project on Anglesey has an 88% success rate in sustainably housing homeless people on the island<sup>4</sup>



Bydd yr hyn sy'n cael ei wario ar ddysgwyr yng Nghymru sydd rhwng 16 a 19 oed 100 gwaith yn fwy na'r hyn sy'n cael ei wario ar rai 50 a 74 oed<sup>5</sup>

Learners in Wales aged 16-19 will have 100 times more spent on their education than someone aged 50-74<sup>5</sup>

AWST/AUG

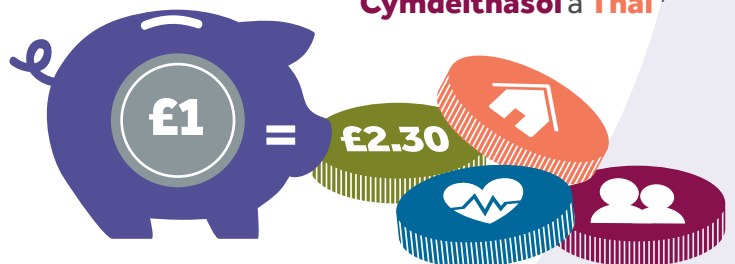
39



Daethpwyd ar draws 39 o bobl yn cysgu ar strydoedd Caerdydd un bore ym mis Awst 2015<sup>6</sup>

39 people were found sleeping on the streets of Cardiff on one morning in August 2015<sup>6</sup>

Mae pob £1 a fuddsoddir yn Y Rhaglen Cefnogi Pobl yn arbed £2.30 i'r meysydd Iechyd, Gofal Cymdeithasol a Thai<sup>7</sup>



Every £1 invested in the Supporting People Programme saves £2.30 across health, social care & housing<sup>7</sup>

### Sources:

- 1) YouGov
- 2) Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru / Public Health Wales
- 3) NIACE Cymru
- 4) The Wallich
- 5) NIACE Cymru
- 6) The Wallich
- 7) Cyngor Sir Gâr / Carmarthenshire County Council



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