

People and Homes 2019

At this year's People and Homes conference we'll be wrestling with the difficult questions: what more can we do to end homelessness in Wales? What powers should we be seeking from Westminster? How high can we aim?

Over the last year the public debate around housing has exploded. More and more people are questioning why homes are scarce and expensive. Rough sleeping is in the news almost every day. We'll be looking at how to harness this renewed public concern to get things done.

8.45 **Registration**

Refreshments, exhibition viewing and networking

Morning plenary

9.30 **Welcome to People and Homes 2019**

Conference opening

Charlotte Waite, Director of Transformation, Gofal

9.45 **Setting the scene**

John Puzey, Director, Shelter Cymru

10.20 **Hard hitting truths**

Evrah Rose, an injustice driven poet and spoken word performer from Wrexham. Using a mix of her own experiences and perspectives of others, Evrah confronts issues such as rape, mental health, addiction and domestic violence to evoke conversation.

10.50 **Break and exhibition viewing**

11.20

Learning sessions - choose one

1. Homelessness prevention: developments across the UK nations

Dr Peter Mackie, Cardiff University, discusses new research comparing how the homelessness prevention agenda has developed across the UK. How can the nations learn from each other how to prevent more effectively?

Sharing the learning: Jen Barfoot, Chief Executive, Homes in Sedgemoor, shows how the housing association met their ambitious target of zero evictions for rent arrears in 2018/19 despite Universal Credit.

Chair Joy Williams, Local Authority Homelessness and Supporting People Network

2. Selective solidarities? Housing, homelessness and the far-right in times of austerity

In this session Dr Anthony Ince, Cardiff University, explores how the far right in the UK and Europe have used housing issues and activism to further their cause in the nexus of migration and austerity. Drawing on recent research in the social sciences and psychology, as well as his own work, he introduces some ways the housing sector can begin to address these troubling discourses in the midst of uncertain times.

Chair Nuria Zolle, Trustee, Shelter Cymru

3. Ending no-fault evictions: lessons from Scotland

It's been over a year since Scotland introduced secure tenancies for private tenants and a specialist private rented sector tribunal. Fiona King and Natasha Miller of Shelter Scotland discuss progress and share insights relevant to Wales as we embark on our own journey to improve private tenant security.

Chair Jules Birch, Editor, Welsh Housing Quarterly

4. Ending youth homelessness: what young people need from a home

We all want to see an end to youth homelessness. The question is how do we get there? SYSHP, an organisation working with young people, will share their experiences of why they introduced peer led research within the organisation and the vital role this participatory approach has played in their current research project. This will be an interactive workshop with delegates, led by the Cyfle Newydd, Cyfle Oes Peer Researchers, exploring the construction of home and what this means to young people.

Contributors SYSHP research project and young people

Plenary

12.20 Inclusion Health: an Irish answer

Dr Cliona Ni Cheallaigh, hospital consultant, St James's Dublin

Hear about how a Dublin experiment is trying to close the revolving door that recycles people from

the street to the hospital ward, and back again.

12.50 Lunch

Please make a visit to the exhibitors room

1.50 Welcome back from the chair – Charlotte Waite

2.00 Keynote address

Julie James AM, Minister for Housing and Local Government on her priorities for housing and homelessness prevention

2.30 Learning sessions – choose one

5. How can social tenants have a bigger say in their housing?

Last year's Shelter commission on the future of social housing found that only 19% of tenants felt able to influence decisions made by their landlord about their home. Tenant activists Lizzie Spring and Steve Clarke discuss what needs to change.

Chair Ross Thomas, Policy & Public Affairs Manager, Tai Pawb

6. A review of priority need in Wales: an opportunity to input your views

This session looks at progress on the Welsh Government commissioned review of priority need in Wales. Independent housing consultant Tamsin Stirling will update on the emerging evidence and seek views to further develop the evidence base.

Chair Dr Peter Mackie, Cardiff University

7. The Commission review of the justice system in Wales

Sarah Payne CBE, Commissioner

The Commission for Justice has been set up by Welsh Government to examine the operation of the justice system in Wales. What can be done to improve housing justice? What scope is there for further devolution? Hear progress, ask questions and take part in discussion.

Chair Katie White, Senior Solicitor Shelter Cymru

8. In conversation: wisdom from the street

Support provider Mayday Trust has been through a remarkable transformation. Through conversations with hundreds of people experiencing homelessness the Trust developed a new

approach, the Personal Transitions Service – and the results are calling into question many widely-held assumptions about service provision for homeless people.

Hear Pat McArdle, CEO of Mayday Trust, in conversation with Serena Jones, Director of Homes, Communities and Services, Coastal Housing.

3.30 Refreshment break and exhibition viewing

Afternoon plenary - What's next?

4.00 The conference debate: can we end evictions into homelessness from social housing?

Chair Daran Hill, Positif

John Puzey, Director, Shelter Cymru

Clarissa Corbisiero-Peters, Director of Policy/Deputy Chief Executive, Community Housing Cymru

WLGA housing spokesperson TBC

Jen Barfoot, Chief Executive, Homes in Sedgemoor

4.40 Final comments and close

John Puzey, Director and Shayne Hembrow, Chair, Board of Trustees, Shelter Cymru