

TAKE NOTICE!

#1
JUNE 2023

Written by and for people who have experienced homelessness, or know what it's like to live in unsafe, unaffordable, unsuitable housing. Together we can make a real difference to the housing crisis in Wales.



PETS AND HOME



The Take Notice team understand how important pets can be for our wellbeing and creating a sense of home. It can be incredibly traumatic when people have to give up their pets in order to secure a home. The Welsh Government is looking closely at this and we want to hear your thoughts on this issue.

As our members know, "Companion animals are often a source of emotional comfort, reassurance and stability, that might be absent in complex human relationships - they may indeed be a lifeline in many people's lives during times of deep trauma."

"We went through a very hard situation when we were homeless and in temporary housing for nearly two years and, if it wasn't for a wonderful animal sanctuary, we would have had to re-home our beloved dog. It was a traumatic time already without the knowledge that we'd lose a member of our family too!"

www.sheltercymru.org.uk
Registered charity no. 515902

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Email getinvolved@sheltercymru.org.uk if you are interested in any of the following:

20 June

People & Homes Conference

Our annual conference where guest speakers start inspiring conversations is taking place.

28 June

Take Notice Virtual Get-Together

Join the Take Notice network online for:

- work on Shelter Cymru's factsheet on disrepair
- free training to help you to spot the early signs of a mental health problem and encourage people to seek support

6 July

Communication Focus group

Join us online to discuss ways to improve our communication with the people we support.

23 August

Take Notice Team Meeting

Join us in person (location tbc) for:

- facilitation training - half-day training session to help you feel more confident in speaking to groups of people
- work on Shelter Cymru's online advice about the Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016

1 September

Newsletter Content Deadline

If you have ideas or content for the next edition of this newsletter, please let us know by 1 September!

MORTGAGE RESCUE:

"It saved our family"

Mum-of-three Amanda was unable to pay her mortgage after becoming unwell and was overwhelmed with trying to navigate bailiffs and mortgage lenders. She contacted Shelter Cymru and was supported to access the mortgage rescue scheme. 15 years later they're still in their family home and Amanda has joined the call to bring back the scheme that saved her home.

She said: "Home, to us, is stability and safety – our sanctuary. I wish they would bring the scheme back. It saved our family. We were lucky, but I know of other people who have lost their homes."

You can read Amanda's story [here](#). If you would like to share your story with us to help in the fight for home, email getinvolved@sheltercymru.org.uk and a member of the team will get back to you.



BEN RUNS FOR FUNDS

A big thank you to Ben who ran the London Marathon for Shelter Cymru and raised over £300! This money will help our ongoing fight for home.

If you're feeling inspired or energetic, there are spaces available to run the Cardiff Half Marathon or the Snowdonia Marathon Eryri for Shelter Cymru this October. Find out more about our running events [here](#).

If you'd like to support our fundraising efforts in any way, we would love to hear from you. Please email fundraising@sheltercymru.org.uk.

GET INVOLVED WITH SHELTER CYMRU

There are lots of ways that you can support the fight for home and we're always happy to welcome both new and experienced volunteers.

- We run regular focus groups with people who have used Shelter Cymru services so that we're continually improving what we do. We are looking for participants and facilitators to help to run these sessions.
- We need your help to review our Shelter Cymru Advice Online webpages to make them as accessible, useful and informative as possible.
- Join Take Notice to work with local authorities so that they can better understand how to improve their housing services.
- Our Fundraising team organise regular bucket collections across Wales. These help us raise funds and spread the word about our fight for home. Why not join us?

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