

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Cymorth Cymru calls on new Conservative government to protect the most vulnerable

Cymorth Cymru, the representative body for over 120 homelessness, support and social care organisations in Wales, is calling on the newly elected Conservative government to ensure that already vulnerable and marginalised people are protected from the impacts of any further cuts.

In the run up to the election, the polls indicated that no party would win a majority and predictions were made about how the make-up of the new government might look. But as the results rolled in overnight, it became increasingly apparent that the next UK government would be formed by a Conservative majority.

Throughout the election, the Conservatives have pledged to continue to reduce the deficit, and Cymorth recognises and appreciates this commitment to tackling poverty by seeking to grow the economy. However, as this will be done primarily through spending cuts, Cymorth has concerns that those at the edges of society are suffering disproportionately from austerity and are urging the new government to consider this carefully before implementing further cuts to welfare and public services.

Cymorth Cymru Director, Auriol Miller, said;

‘Prior to the election, the Conservatives pledged to cut a further £12bn from the welfare bill. We know that Wales has been one of the places most disproportionately affected by welfare reform, and some of the most vulnerable people in Wales have already been hit very hard.

As a sector, we have serious concerns about what potentially even deeper and harder cuts will mean to the people our members support.

We know that all MPs go into politics to make a difference to those in need. We would call on all Conservative MPs to ensure the most marginalised individuals in our society are protected from cuts. In a majority government, they are well placed to make changes to people crying out for that support.

Here in Wales we are lucky enough to have the Supporting People Programme which plays, and will continue to play, a key role in mitigating the impact of welfare reform and reducing and preventing homelessness. Now, more than ever, we would urge the Welsh Government to recognise the benefits of Supporting People and do all they can to ensure this essential safety net continues to be protected.’

NOTES

1. Cymorth Cymru is the umbrella body for providers of homelessness, housing related support and social care services in Wales. Our members provide a wide range of support and assistance to enable people to live as independently as they possibly can, or build a positive future after a housing crisis or stressful period in their lives. We work in partnership with members and other stakeholders to

prevent and reduce homelessness and improve the quality of life for people who are marginalised or at risk of housing crisis across Wales.

www.cymorthcymru.org.uk

2. Read our full response to the election result [here](#)
3. The Supporting People (SP) Programme is a flagship Welsh Government programme that supports more than 60,000 people each year to live as independently as they can. It funds a variety of services to support a wide range of marginalised people at risk of housing crisis, including people at risk of homelessness; families fleeing domestic abuse; people dealing with mental or physical health problems, or learning disabilities; ex-service personnel; care leavers; and older people in need of support. SP services play a crucial role in preventing homelessness in Wales, enabling people to manage their own lives and live confidently in safe, secure homes. [Read more](#)

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