



HOUSING FIRST WALES TRACKER

FEBRUARY 2018 - MARCH 2023

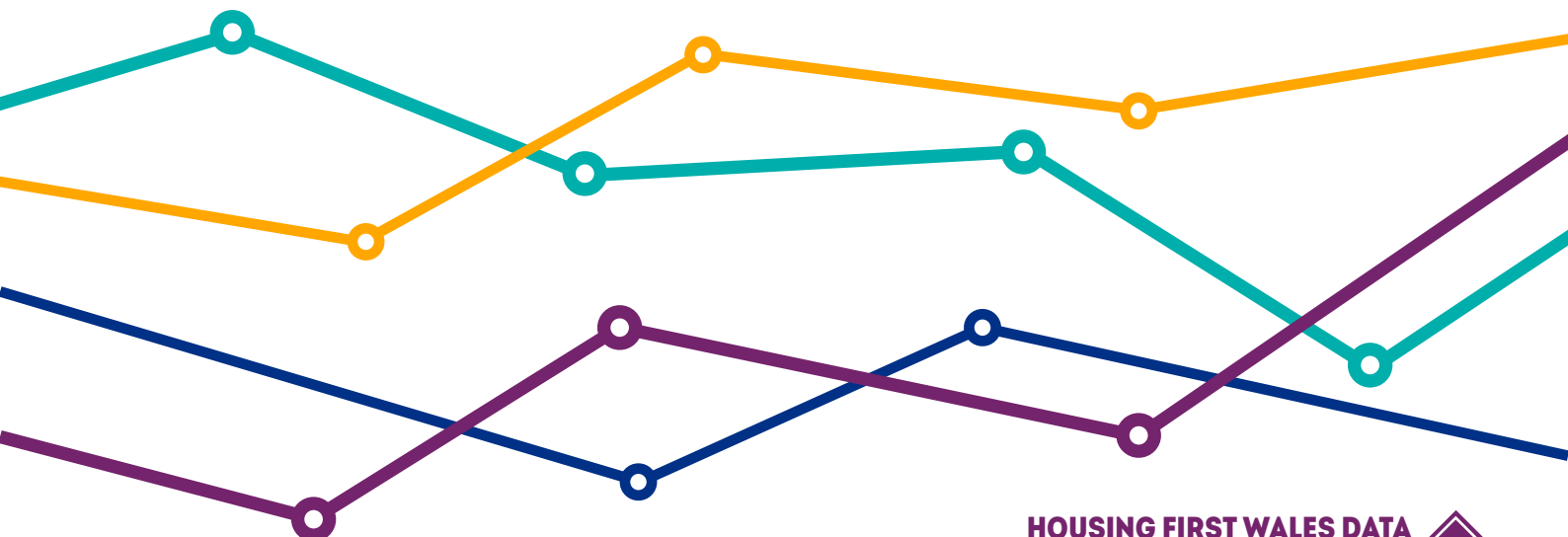
Housing First is an internationally proven model which aims to provide a settled home and intensive support as quickly as possible to people who have experienced repeat homelessness, trauma, mental health issues, substance use issues, and/or engagement with the criminal justice system. This often includes people who have been failed by traditional approaches and systems.

In February 2018 the Welsh Government first published policy guidance about Housing First and provided funding to support the development of the model in Wales. Over the last few years, the number of Housing First projects in Wales has grown significantly and there is a commitment in the Welsh Government's [Ending Homelessness Action Plan](#) to support further expansion.

In order to quantify the scale and impact of these projects, Cymorth Cymru started to collect and publish data on the number of people being supported, the number of tenancies started, tenancy sustainment and the number of people in temporary accommodation who are waiting to be matched with a Housing First tenancy. The data is published on a Wales-wide basis, due to the small sample sizes for some projects, and includes generic Housing First projects but not Housing First for Youth or Housing First for Women projects.

Housing First projects, identified through their engagement with the Housing First Wales Network, were contacted by Cymorth Cymru and asked to submit data for their project. They were also asked to confirm that their projects are being delivered in line with the Housing First Wales principles. While these statistics have been scrutinised and we have sought clarification where the data triggered questions, the accuracy of these statistics depends primarily on the accuracy of the data collected by the Housing First projects. We should also note that where longer term clients have ceased to need regular support, the project has used their knowledge, experience and expertise to surmise that they are likely to be maintaining their tenancy.

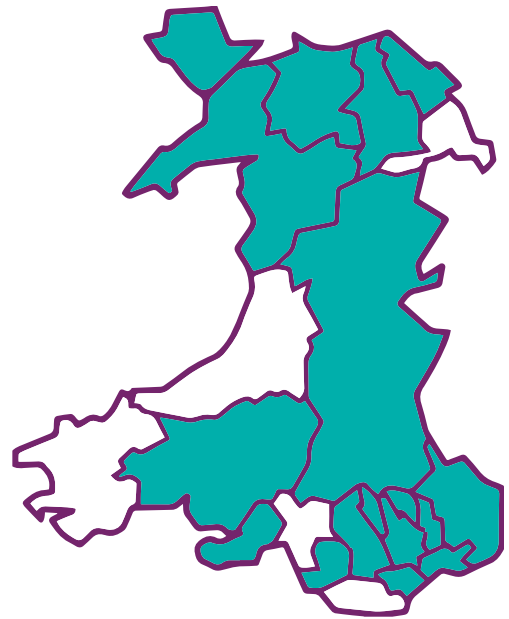
Any questions should be directed to housingfirst@cymorthcymru.org.uk



HOUSING FIRST PROJECTS IN WALES

FEBRUARY 2018 - MARCH 2023

- 17 Housing First projects operating across 17 local authorities
- 792 people have been supported by Housing First projects since February 2018
- 380 people have started Housing First tenancies since February 2018
- 335 people were sustaining their Housing First tenancies as of 31st March 2023
- 92% tenancy sustainment rate across all Housing First projects in Wales
- 78 people in temporary accommodation waiting for a HF tenancy on 31st March 2023
- 3 projects have achieved the Housing First Wales Accreditation



Thank you to all of the organisations delivering Housing First in Wales, which have helped us to compile these statistics:

- **Anglesey Housing First:** Led by The Wallich
- **Blaenau Gwent Housing First:** Led by Pobl
- **Bridgend Housing First:** Led by Adferiad
- **Caerphilly Housing First:** Led by Pobl
- **Cardiff Housing First:** Led by the Salvation Army
- **Cardiff Housing First:** Led by Cardiff Council
- **Cardiff Housing First (for prison leavers):** Led by Cardiff Council
- **Carmarthenshire Housing First:** Led by Nacro and Stori
- **Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire Housing First:** Led by Denbighshire Council
- **Gwynedd Housing First:** Led by Shelter Cymru
- **Merthyr Housing First:** Led by The Salvation Army
- **Monmouthshire Housing First:** Led by Pobl
- **Newport Housing First:** Led by Pobl
- **Powys Housing First:** Led by Powys Council
- **RCT Housing First:** Led by Pobl
- **Swansea Housing First:** Led by The Wallich
- **Torfaen Housing First:** Led by Pobl



HOUSING FIRST WALES ACCREDITATION

Three projects have gained the Housing First Wales accreditation:

- Housing First Conwy Denbighshire, led by Denbighshire Council
- Housing First Cardiff, led by the Salvation Army
- Housing First Anglesey, led by The Wallich

PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY HOUSING FIRST PROJECTS IN WALES

FEBRUARY 2018 - MARCH 2023



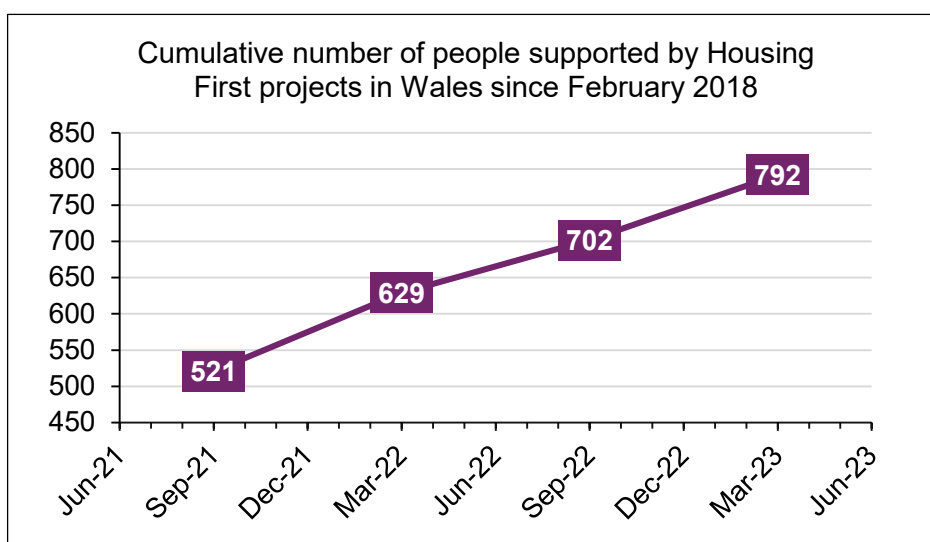
A total of 792 people have been supported by Housing First projects in Wales between 1st February 2018 and 31st March 2023.

This includes people engaging with Housing First through assertive outreach and pre-tenancy support, as well as people being supported in a Housing First tenancy.

Cumulative number of people supported by Housing First in Wales

The following chart shows the cumulative number of people who have been supported by Housing First projects in Wales since February 2018.

This includes people engaging with Housing First through assertive outreach and pre-tenancy support, as well as people being supported in a Housing First tenancy.

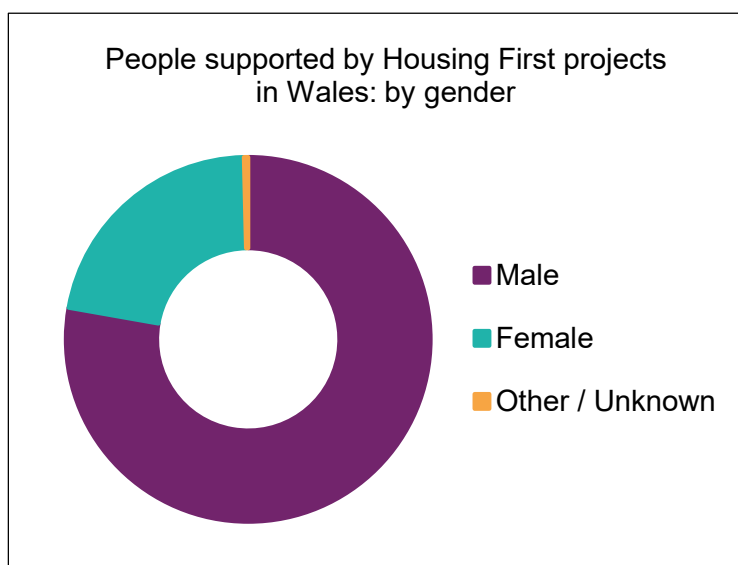


Number of people supported by Housing First projects: by gender

The following statistics show the number of people who have been supported by Housing First projects in Wales since February 2018, broken down by gender.

The majority of people being supported are men, but the proportion of women supported has grown from 16.5% in September 2021.

Men	616	78%
Women	173	22%
Other / unknown	3	0.4%
TOTAL	792	



HOUSING FIRST TENANCIES IN WALES

FEBRUARY 2018 - MARCH 2023



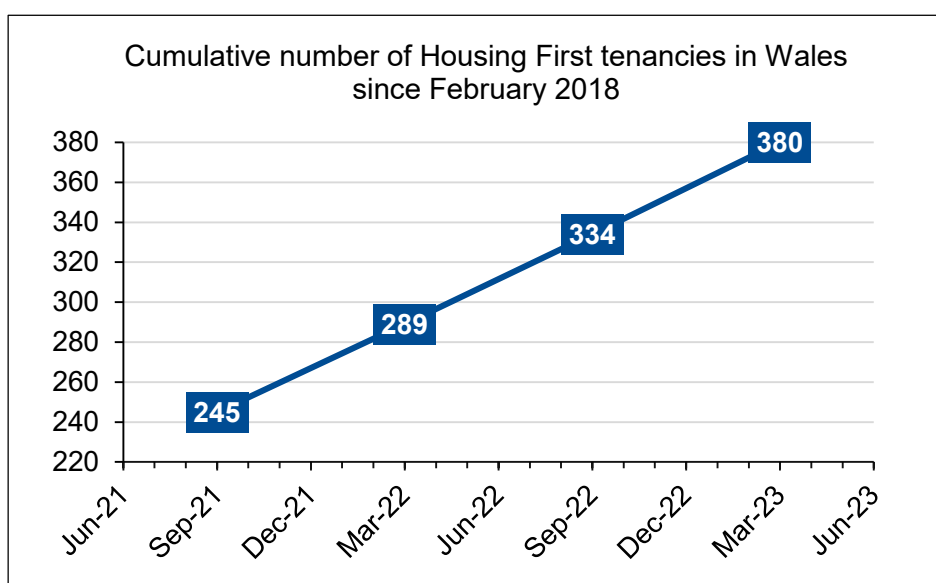
A total of 380 people started a Housing First tenancy in Wales between 1st February 2018 and 31st March 2023.

This includes tenancies with housing associations, local authorities and the private rented sector.

Cumulative number of Housing First tenancies started in Wales

The following chart shows the cumulative number of people who have started Housing First tenancies since February 2018.

The number of tenancies has grown by over 40 in each six month period since we started collecting the data.

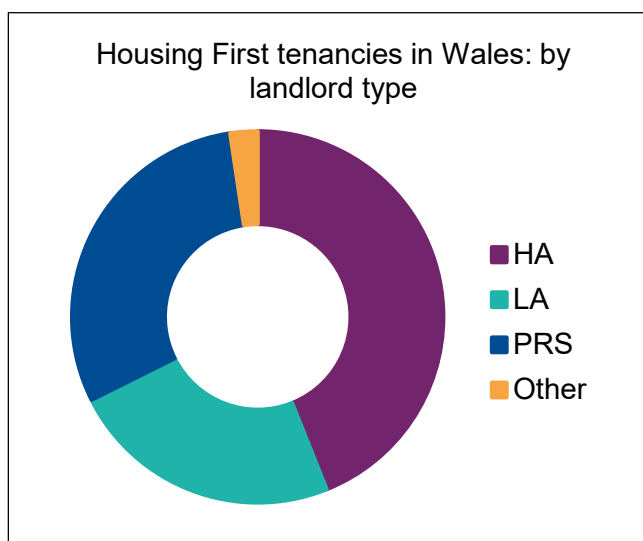


Housing First tenancies started in Wales: by landlord type

The following statistics show the number of Housing First tenancies started in Wales since February 2018, broken down by landlord type.

The proportion of tenancies provided by housing associations has grown from 37% in February 2018 to 44% in March 2023.

Housing Association	167	44%
Local Authority	90	24%
Private Rented Sector	114	30%
Other	9	2%
TOTAL	380	



HOUSING FIRST TENANCY SUSTAINMENT RATE

FEBRUARY 2018 - MARCH 2023



92% of Housing First tenancies were being sustained as of 31st March 2023.

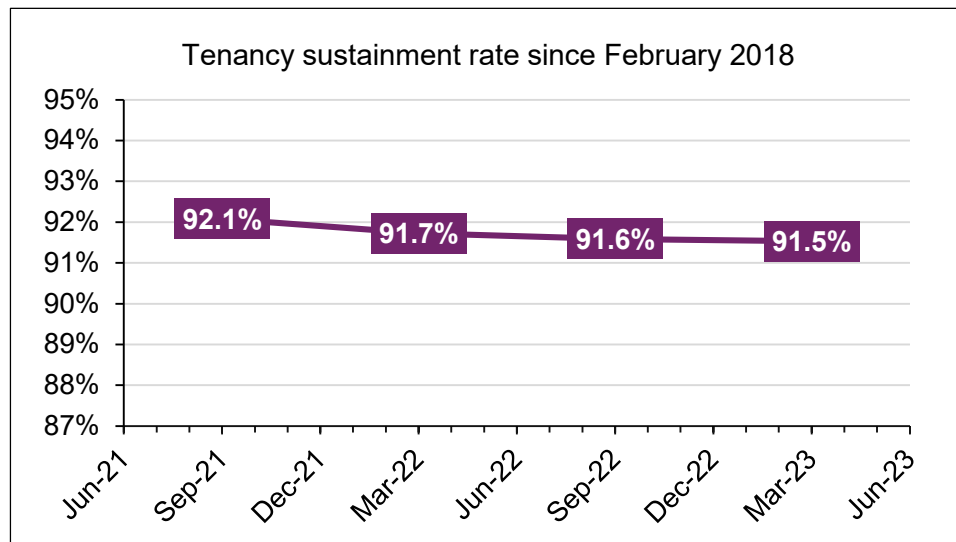
The tenancy sustainment rate is the percentage of tenancies being sustained out of the total number of tenancies started, excluding the number of tenancies that ended due to the person dying.

The percentage for individual projects where more than ten people have been housed ranges from 71% - 100%.

Tenancy sustainment rate for Housing First projects in Wales

The following chart shows the tenancy sustainment rate for Housing First in Wales since February 2018.

Where longer term clients have ceased to need regular support, the project has used their knowledge, experience and expertise to surmise that they are likely to be maintaining their tenancy.



Reasons for Housing First tenancies ending since February 2018

Forty-five Housing First tenancies ended between 1st February 2018 and 31st March 2023. Some of these people will continue to be supported by Housing First projects or will be supported by alternative services within health and care settings.

Reason for Housing First tenancy ending		
Death	14	31%
Prison	10	22%
Move to health / social care placement or institution	7	16%
Client chose to leave tenancy / abandonment	5	11%
Planned move to non-Housing First tenancy	4	9%
Eviction	2	4%
Other / unknown	3	7%
TOTAL	45	

PEOPLE WAITING FOR HOUSING FIRST TENANCIES

FEBRUARY 2018 - MARCH 2023

78

On 31st March 2023 there were 78 people in temporary accommodation who were waiting to be matched with a Housing First tenancy.

This compares to 74 people on 30th September 2021, 92 people on 31st March 2022 and 87 people on 30th September 2022.

