![Cymorth Cymru logo — connect • strengthen • influence]

a HOME

for EVERYONE

**Cymorth Cymru
Annual Conference**

22 January 2026

Temple of Peace, Cardiff

Programme

9:30	**Welcome**
	• Katie Dalton, Cymorth Cymru

9:45 — Promoting inclusivity and empathy in our services and communities

• Alicja Zalesinska, Tai Pawb
• Selima Bahadur, EYST
• Yvonne Connolly, Llamau

Over the last few years, the discourse within the UK has grown increasing hostile for people of colour and people seeking asylum and refuge. Throughout this time, homelessness, housing and support providers have tried to ensure that their services remain as inclusive as possible. Increasingly, services are having to navigate racism, xenophobia and misinformation, whilst ensuring tenants, clients and staff feel safe and supported. This panel discussion will reflect on these challenges and how we can continue to promote an inclusive approach within the housing sector.

10:30 — Providing a good home for people with a learning disability

• Rhian Jones, Drive
• Oliver Townsend, Mirus
• Adrian Burke FCHA
• Lisa Morgan, Dimensions/Restraint Reduction Network

The supported living model provides invaluable opportunities for people with a learning disability to live independent, fulfilled lives in their own communities, with their own tenancy and person-centred support. However, unsustainable social care funding and insufficient housing supply pose a significant challenge to the ambition of providing a home for everyone, despite the ability to plan longer term to meet people's needs. In this session, we will explore movements in Wales that are working to address these challenges, hear about the power of supported living in providing a home for people with a learning disability, and consider how government, public services and the housing sector can support the continuation of this model.

11:15 — Refreshment break

11:45 — Workshops

Tackling misinformation within communities
• Catherine Evans, Trivallis

Following on from our first session about inclusivity, we are delighted to welcome Catherine Evans, Head of Communications at Trviallis, who will be sharing their approach to tackling misinformation within their tenant population and wider community.

Community-led housing: A solution to homelessness?
• Joy Kent, Joy Unlimited
• Casey Edwards, Cwmpas

We are really pleased to welcome Casey Edwards from Cwmpas and Joy Kent, who will explore whether community-led housing could play a greater role in preventing and responding to homelessness, with particularly for people with support needs.

Choice and control: Piloting personalised grants
• Sian Aldridge and Phill Stapley, The Wallich

The Wallich has been part of a Centre for Homelessness Impact pilot that has explored how cash transfers affect people's housing and financial security, wellbeing and interaction with other services. In this workshop we will learn about the impact on people in south Wales.

12:45	**Lunch and networking**

13:45 — Election 2026: Cymorth's priorities

- **Katie Dalton, Cymorth Cymru**

The Senedd election in May 2026 presents a valuable opportunity to inform and influence political parties, as they seek a mandate to form the next Welsh Government. With recent polling suggesting a change of government and an influx of new members and parties, this election is a chance for a fresh perspective on policy development. In this session, we will outline Cymorth's manifesto, which has been developed following engagement with our members, frontline workers and experts by experience.

14:05 — In conversation with Siân Gwenllian MS

- **Siân Gwenllian MS, Chair of the Cross Party Group on Housing**

We are delighted to welcome Siân Gwenllian MS, who has been Shadow Housing Minister and Chair of the Cross Party Group on Housing since 2023. In her role as cross party group chair, she has held a range of discussions on homelessness, housing supply and planning, involving Members of the Senedd, local councillors and key stakeholders. We have invited Sian to reflect on housing and homelessness policy over the last Senedd term, as well as her thoughts on how policy and legislation could be further developed by a new government. This session will also feature a Q&A with Siân, who is really keen to hear the views and expertise from people within the housing and homelessness sector.

14:55 — Reflections on the 6th Senedd and hopes for the 7th

- **Katie Dalton, Cymorth Cymru**
- **Elly Lock, Community Housing Cymru**
- **Ruth Power, Shelter Cymru**

Looking forward to the Senedd election, we are really pleased to be joined by colleagues from two of our most important partners in the housing and homelessness sector, Shelter Cymru and Community Housing Cymru. Ruth and Elly will be reflecting on key policy and legislative developments during the current Senedd term, as well as outlining their organisations' priorities for the next Welsh Government. As Chair of Homes for All Cymru, Ruth will also highlight the manifesto developed by a collaboration of third sector housing organisations, demonstrating the shared ambition for the next Welsh Government to deliver a home for everyone in Wales.

15:40	**Closing remarks**

Share your views and ask questions during the conference:

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- Visit slido.com and enter the number #22126