

CARTREF YW POPETH HOME IS EVERYTHING



Dear John,

We hope this finds you and your team well.

We wanted to take the opportunity to write to you and the wider Local Government and Housing Committee in light of recent developments in relation to housing in Wales. We were broadly pleased with the proposals in the Welsh Government & Plaid Cymru co-operation agreement and look forward to working with you and the committee as we all play our part in tackling our shared housing emergency.

Shelter Cymru provides secretariat for the Senedd Cross Party Group on Housing on behalf of the Homes For All Cymru coalition. We wanted to draw your attention to the developing work of the group, which plans to run evidence and information sessions relating to the affordability crisis impacting upon housing in Wales. We believe that the sessions will complement the ongoing work of the committee and warmly invite you and colleagues to engage with the debate. We would also like to extend the opportunity for the CPG to provide the committee with a written report of the sessions, to help support the committee's work over the Senedd term.

One of the most pleasing aspects of the revised Programme for Government is the commitment to a White Paper on the right to adequate housing in Wales. Thank you for being a sponsor of the launch of the first of two elements of the related cost benefit analysis by Alma Economics last week. A right to adequate housing in Welsh law is something that Shelter Cymru, alongside colleagues in CIH Cymru and Tai Pawb have long called for and we understand that the committee has planned associated work. We look forward to engaging with yourself and colleagues to support this.

In particular, we would like to draw the committee's attention to the [Living Home Standard](#), produced by Shelter Cymru. The standard was published in 2017 and was the result of joint working between Shelter Cymru and British Gas, engaging the public to paint a picture of what people perceive an acceptable home to be. We believe that there are many aspects of this research transferrable to today's context and would welcome the opportunity to discuss how we may be able to use the standard to help inform thinking in this space.

Our housing emergency is a sizeable challenge and we look forward to working further with you, and the committee, to help scrutinise and support, with the aim of ensuring that everybody in Wales has a good home of their own.

Merry Christmas and wishes for a healthy and happy new year,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth Power".

Ruth Power, CEO | Shelter Cymru