

Jayne Bryant AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ref: PO/JB/623/2025

All Members of the Senedd
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

2 December 2025

Dear Colleague,

Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation (Wales) Bill – Government Amendments

I am enclosing detail of the Government amendments tabled to the Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation (Wales) Bill, together with an explanation of their purpose and effect.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Bryant AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Jayne.Bryant@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Jayne.Bryant@gov.Wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

HOMELESSNESS AND SOCIAL HOUSING ALLOCATION (WALES) BILL – STAGE 2 GOVERNMENT AMENDMENTS

The information below is designed to explain the purpose and effect of the amendments tabled in the name of Jayne Bryant MS on 01 December 2025 – [Notice of amendments - 1 December 2025.pdf](#).

Adt.	Explanation
19.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
20.	This amendment replaces amendment 1 which has been withdrawn and replaced by amendment 20. Previous references in amendment 1 to “section 76A” have been replaced with references to “section 76A(2)” in consequence of amendment 22 (see below). Amendment 20 replaces section 5(3) of the Bill with a substitute of section 85 in the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, which deals with an applicant’s right to a review. This new substitute section 85 incorporates the amendments made by the Bill as introduced to the existing section 85, as well as imposing a new duty on local housing authorities to consider all relevant grounds when considering an applicant’s request for review. See also amendments 2, 3 and 17.
21.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
22.	This amendment has been made following a recommendation by the Local Government and Housing Committee in relation to the new duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation. It provides local housing authorities with a discretionary power to continue offering assistance beyond the 12-month period after the statutory duty has ended. See also amendments 19, 21 and 23 to 32
23.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
24.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
25.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
26.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
27.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
28.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
29.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
30.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.

31.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
32.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 22 to section 18(2) of the Bill in relation to the duty to provide help to retain suitable accommodation.
33.	This amendment will enable the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to designate roles in Jobcentre Plus offices in Wales for the purpose of complying with the duty to ask act.
34.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 36 to section 21 of the Bill in relation to the duty to ask and act.
35.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 36 to section 21 of the Bill in relation to the duty to ask and act.
36.	This amendment enables the Welsh Ministers to use regulations in future to impose the duty to ask and act on additional reserved bodies, or modify how it applies to them, with the consent of, or consultation with, the relevant Secretary of State. Consent or consultation will not be needed to remove reserved authorities from scope of the duty. See also amendments 34, 35 and 43.
37.	This amendment will enable the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to designate roles in Jobcentre Plus offices in Wales and England for the purpose of complying with the duty to cooperate.
38.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 40 to section 32 of the Bill in relation to the duty to cooperate.
39.	This amendment is consequential to amendment 40 to section 32 of the Bill in relation to the duty to cooperate.
40.	This amendment enables the Welsh Ministers to use regulations in future to impose the duty to cooperate on additional reserved bodies, or modify how it applies to them, with the consent of, or consultation with, the relevant Secretary of State. Consent or consultation will not be needed to remove reserved authorities from scope of the duty. See also amendments 38, 39 and 43.
41.	This amendment inserts a new section following a recommendation by the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee on the implementation and evaluation of the Bill. The effect of this amendment is that Welsh Ministers will be required to conduct a review, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, of the operation and effect of the Act, prepare and publish a report of the review, and lay a copy of it before the Senedd within four years of it coming fully into force. The Welsh Ministers can choose to discharge this duty sooner at a time they consider the Act to be substantially in force.
42.	This amendment inserts a new section into the Bill following a recommendation by the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee on the progress of commencement of the Bill. The effect of this amendment is that Welsh Ministers will be required to prepare a report, and lay a copy before the Senedd, as soon as reasonably practicable after 31 December 2028, 31 December 2029 and biennially thereafter if the Act is not fully in force on any of these dates. The report must specify any progress made on bringing the Act fully into force and set out any further steps to be taken to do so.

43. This amendment is consequential to amendments 36 and 40 in relation to the regulation-making powers conferred by section 21 (Duty of a public authority to ask and act) and section 32 (Cooperation) of the Bill.
