

Dear Chair,

As this Senedd term draws to a close, I wanted to write to thank you and the Committee for your engagement and thoughtful consideration of homelessness issues over the past few years.

I appreciate that you may currently be considering the Legacy Report for the incoming Committee following the election in May. In anticipation of this, I thought it might be helpful to share a copy of the Crisis manifesto (available in [English](#) and [Welsh](#)). The key themes set out in the manifesto closely align with priorities identified across the wider sector.

In particular, Crisis is keen to see the next Welsh Government ensure that the new Homelessness and Social Housing Allocations (Wales) Bill is effectively implemented and properly resourced. Following the Committee's careful scrutiny of the Bill during this Senedd term, we hope the incoming Committee will continue to play an important role in reviewing progress with implementation and ensuring the legislation delivers the greatest possible impact.

Furthermore, as highlighted in the Committee's recent inquiry into social housing supply, it will be essential for the next Welsh Government to hold a strong focus on increasing the supply of social housing at pace. With around 94,000 people on social housing waiting lists across Wales and approximately 11,000 people living in temporary accommodation each month, there is a clear need to expand the availability of affordable homes. In particular, boosting housing supply in line with local need — especially for those experiencing homelessness — will be critical.

To underpin this work, Crisis believes it will also be important to renew a national action plan to end homelessness. The annual report from the Ending Homelessness National Advisory Board has not yet been published; however, it will highlight the important role the current national action plan has played in setting a clear direction for a housing-led, trauma-informed and person-centred approach, as well as laying key foundations for progress. It will also emphasise the value of renewing this strategy in the next Senedd term to maintain momentum and accelerate progress towards ending homelessness in Wales.

The report will also include recommendations from the Board's Task and Finish Groups, which have focused on areas such as building a resilient homelessness workforce, health inclusion, race and homelessness, and the transition to a rapid rehousing approach — whereby systems and infrastructure enable people experiencing homelessness to access settled housing as quickly as possible, alongside the support needed to rebuild their lives. I hope these recommendations will be of interest to the incoming Committee as it considers the next steps towards ending homelessness in Wales.

I hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can provide any further information in the meantime.

Many thanks again to Committee members for their collaboration and commitment to addressing homelessness throughout this Senedd term.

Best wishes,

Debbie Thomas

Head of Policy in Wales, Crisis