



National Pathway for Homelessness Services to Children, Young People and Adults in the Secure Estate

September 2015



WLGA • CLILC

INTRODUCTION

1. The Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) represents the 22 local authorities in Wales. The three fire and rescue authorities and the three national park authorities are associate members.
2. It seeks to provide representation to local authorities within an emerging policy framework that satisfies the key priorities of our members and delivers a broad range of services that add value to Welsh Local Government and the communities they serve.
3. This is the WLGA's response to the Welsh Government consultation document "National Pathway for Homelessness Services to Children, Young People and Adults in the Secure Estate".
4. The WLGA welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposals contained within the consultation document, and is supportive of the proposals. In providing responses, we have used the format provided the Response Form contained within the consultation document.

1. Is the process outlined in the Pathway clear for you to establish who is responsible for each stage?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If not, why not?

The process clearly sets out roles and responsibilities, and is understood by local authority housing practitioners

2. Does the process outlined in the Pathway adequately address the requirements of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If not, why not?

The Pathway adequately addresses the requirements of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, and appears to set out the requirements of the Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014. However, consultation with housing practitioners suggest that there may be further scope for setting out and clarifying the roles and responsibilities of Social Services in relation to 16 and 17 year olds.

3. Does the Pathway adequately explain how organisations should work together to tackle homelessness for those due to leave the secure estate?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If not, why not?

There needs to be further clarity and emphasis in the Pathway on the importance of accurate and detailed assessments. Without a clear and accurate understanding of the needs of the prisoner being released, local authorities will find it difficult to ensure that appropriate accommodation is available at the time that it is required. Consultation with housing practitioners revealed concerns that Community Rehabilitation Company colleagues currently have sufficient time with each prisoner to complete a detailed and accurate assessment of housing needs.

4. Do you feel the Pathway could be strengthened or made easier to use? If so, please explain.

Yes ☒

No ☐

If yes, how?

There needs to be greater emphasis within the Pathway on ensuring the accuracy and completeness of information being shared. This will help to minimise the need for re-assessment, re-checking, etc., and will better meet the needs of those leaving prison.

5. Are there any other comments you would like to make about the Pathway?	
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

For further information please contact:

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