

Expert Review Panel: Meeting 8

Minutes of meeting

Date: Monday 24 April 2023

Present:

Chair: Professor Suzanne Fitzpatrick (Heriot-Watt University).

Members: Liz Davies KC (Garden Court Chambers), Professor Peter Mackie (Cardiff University), Jennie Bibbings (Shelter Cymru), Katie Dalton (Cymorth Cymru), Jim McKirdle (Welsh Local Government Association), Emily James (Pembrokeshire Council), Nazia Azad (Tai Pawb), Hannah Fisher (Welsh Government), Huw Charles (Welsh Government).

In attendance: Jordan Brewer (Crisis), Abi Renshaw (Crisis), Debbie Thomas (Crisis), Anna Mann (Conwy Council), Carl Spiller (Welsh Government), David Rowlands (Tai Pawb).

Apologies: Matt Downie (Crisis), Angela Bowen (Carmarthenshire Council), Clarissa Corbisiero (Community Housing Cymru), Sam Parry (Conwy Council), Roger Middleton (HMPPS Wales HM Prison and Probation Service), Cerys Gage (Welsh Government).

1. Welcome, introductions, minutes and additional papers

The Chair welcomed new colleagues and members of the panel to the eighth meeting of the Expert Review Panel. The panel were thanked for preparing and reading the papers ahead of the meeting.

Minutes meeting 7: The minutes were accepted.

2. Update from Welsh Government

HF gave a brief update from the Welsh Government.

Work on suitability continues. A formal announcement of findings from the 2022 Suitability Order consultation is expected in the Summer.

The Welsh Government is developing new guidance on reducing temporary accommodation usage in Wales.

New data is being collected to understand who is in unsuitable accommodation.

Work also continues on the allocations research. Thanks were given to the panel for moving the allocations meeting to later in June to allow more time for this research to take place.

Five local authorities are secured for engagement in the research – Wrexham, the SARTH partnership in North Wales, Cardiff, Carmarthenshire and Neath Port Talbot – representing a variety of approaches to allocations. All registered social landlords (RSLs) from each region are being contacted and an anonymous national survey is also out to every local authority and RSL. Findings will be presented at events on 7 June (national stakeholders) and 8 June (the panel).

A member of the panel asked specifically what data is being collected for temporary accommodation. Data at a local level could provide information on health outcomes and suitability. Welsh Government confirmed that making significant changes to the data collection will not be easy, but additions to data collation are being considered.

The panel agreed to be mindful of the barriers faced by those with protected characteristics considering the Welsh Government’s plan to reduce temporary accommodation. There must be the right financial support in place to get suitable accommodation where long-term options are not available. The panel did not want local connection exemptions leading to a discharge of duty.

Panel member(s)	Action	Timeframe
Hannah Fisher	Within Welsh Government’s update at the next meeting, include updates on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Summer date to present the 2022 Suitability Order consultation findings. • Planning for new guidance on reducing temporary accommodation in Wales. • How data is being collected on temporary accommodation and if there is room for suggestions on what to capture. • Progress on allocations work. • Temporary accommodation and suitability ahead of the topics being discussed at length, including what is currently happening and the plans to improve quality. 	Next meeting, 10.05.2023
Hannah Fisher	Share allocations report with panel.	Ahead of allocations and evictions meeting in late June, date TBC
Hannah Fisher, Abi Renshaw	Share with the panel the diary invites for the two events connected to allocations research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 June – National stakeholder event seeking views on the findings on allocations. (HF to share). • 8 June – One-hour session for the panel held by the consultant to present findings on allocations, including Q&A. (AR to share). 	Immediate
Carl Spiller, Pete Mackie	Discuss the data to be collected by Welsh Government on temporary accommodation, considering the pros and cons to the two sets of data.	Next meeting, 10.05.2023
Hannah Fisher, Jennie Bibbings	Discuss linking the Welsh Government’s consultation work on allocations with Shelter Cymru’s workshop on allocations at their annual conference on 20 June.	TBC

3. Update from Tai Pawb

DR from Tai Pawb gave an overview of research looking at housing inequality and homelessness in Wales for people with protected characteristics, and how they were engaging with services and the law.

The report was circulated to panel members ahead of the meeting It asks: can Welsh Government’s goal to ‘make homelessness rare, brief and unrepeatable’ and ‘end all forms of homelessness’ be achieved without consideration of people with protected characteristics within legislation?

For particular groups, such as Gypsies, Travellers, and the LGBTQ+ community, interacting with the law, local authorities and other services is leading to more hidden forms of homelessness. Additional advocacy is often needed to support these groups, but how can we ensure those who don't have access to advocacy receive the support they need?

How can the law influence policy at a holistic level of housing? The strategy needs to meet future housing and tenures of different groups.

The report includes a powerful quote: "If somebody had the opportunity to step back, look at the situation and observe what was actually going on, then perhaps it could have been resolved sooner." There is a real opportunity to consider how legislation can enable looking at the whole situation rather than simply the individual level.

DR added the need for solutions to the intersectionality of housing and homelessness law, given there are many different policy areas, some devolved.

The panel reflected on the report:

- It echoes points raised by Experts by Experience around housing standards for marginalised groups, Social Services and Well-being Act legislation, and raising awareness of different characteristics through a new duty to provide support.
- The need for accessible communication was raised.
- Local authorities and support services identified that advocacy and support is needed for particular groups facing inequity. Awareness of protected characteristic groups is required.
- The report also backs up what the panel have already discussed around: lack of trauma-informed approaches, limited housing supply, local connection exemptions for LGBTQ+ communities, and the need for advocacy upon point of access or application.
- The Social Services and Well-being Act should include 'homelessness' in its wording so this can be taken into consideration within care and support plans. Better clarity would help avoid prejudice by social services.
- There is a lack of appropriate housing for disabled people offered by local authorities.
- The question was raised whether legislation could assist in encouraging improvements to the housing stock, but it was also highlighted that increased resources are required for this.
- Better data collection on settled and temporary accommodation is needed to understand currently housing stock.
- Services should be culturally appropriate.
- A duty could be placed on institutions such as prisons or children's services to prevent homelessness for people exiting their care, but the panel noted that the nature of legal intervention differs between population groups.
- The panel noted success in Wales with the Rights of Children. The law can set a minimum standard and act upstream to influence both policy and culture change in the long term.
- Could the panel discuss scope for how the law can support the provision of affordable and social homes? Scottish and Welsh Government are discussing implementing housing as a human right. Legal questions often come back to resources.
- The Institute of Welsh Affairs has published a paper¹ identifying housing as an area that would benefit from greater borrowing powers. Could the panel look at increasing, reviewing or removing powers? Some local authorities also struggle to gain interest in tenders for homes due to cost of labour and materials. To build good quality housing, even if local authorities had the funds, there are also ecology hurdles to overcome.

¹ See <https://www.iwa.wales/our-work/work/fiscal-firepower/>

Panel member(s)	Action	Timeframe
Jordan Brewer, Suzanne Fitzpatrick	Add discussion on advocacy rights to agenda of Meeting 10: Regulation and enforcement.	16.05.2023, meeting date TBC
Liz Davies KC	Provide legal advice on these areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In regards to the Social Services and Well-being Act, where is the best place to reinforce references to improved awareness of marginalised groups. • Hurdles for local authorities to build good quality new builds. 	TBC

4. Update from Experts by Experience and frontline workers – the criminal justice system and homelessness

a. Frontline workers

KD provided an overview of the Frontline Network Wales paper, which collates views from frontline workers in relation to the criminal justice system and homelessness, shared in online regional meetings in March 2023.

The paper was circulated to the panel in advance of the meeting. KD shared some key themes:

Public services

- A consistent finding for all public services, including health and criminal justice sectors, is a lack of trauma-informed support. There is a lack of understanding of the challenges people experiencing homelessness face to be able to travel to places, access systems and other basic practicalities.
- Over recent years, the homelessness and housing support sector has made significant steps towards being trauma-informed but other services do not have the same level of understanding. There needs to be consistency. People currently risk being thrown out of a service for not engaging as expected, but this is really a result of the service not being trauma-informed..
- More thinking is needed by the panel around a duty to refer.
- Young people are bounced between social services and housing due to their age, falling between the cracks of young persons and adult services.
- Frontline workers are struggling to be taken seriously and recognised for their expertise and knowledge.
- Better information sharing across the services is critical.

Health

- General access to primary healthcare is particularly problematic for people carrying trauma, young people, people with learning disabilities and people who are neurodiverse. Online services are more challenging.
- High thresholds for accessing mental health services and social services stop people getting help.
- Difficulties include not getting the right information with regards to referrals.
- People are dismissed and told to sort out their substance use before being able to access any mental health services, when the two things should be treated together and in parallel.
- Multi-disciplinary homelessness teams are effective. If a person needs to use the mainstream system, a specialist is there to help navigate the system with them.

Criminal justice

- Positive community police relationships have been built.
- Release into the community from prison is happening without accommodation and information is not being passed on in a timely manner to ensure a home is lined-up upon release.
- Significant issues were raised around risk assessments (and a lack of information) being communicated by probation to support providers.

b. Experts by Experience

The Experts by Experience (EbE) project has engaged with over 300 people with lived experience, which has far exceeded what Cymorth Cymru thought was possible within the timescale. Thanks were given to Freya Reynolds-Feeney, the Experts by Experience Project Officer.

The EbE paper on the criminal justice system and homelessness was circulated to the panel in advance of the meeting. Around 70 EbE shared their views, 25 of which were currently in prison. KD shared some key themes:

Health and social care

- It is difficult to register with a GP and there are long waiting lists for mental health services.
- People are unable to access services due to concurrent mental health and substance use issues – they are being told to deal with one first.
- Better information sharing and partnership working between agencies is needed.

Education and youth services

- There were positive examples of the role that education and youth services could play in helping to prevent and respond to homelessness, but more could be done in this space.
- More understanding is needed on adverse childhood experiences, neurodiversity and learning difficulties. Young people in these groups are exiting the school system due to trauma and a lack of support and understanding, leading to homelessness and the criminal justice system years later.
- There is a lack of learning and skills training available to young people on managing a tenancy, finances and housing.

Criminal justice system: Prison and probation

This group felt the most failed by systems. People in prison took responsibility for their actions but highlighted how hard it was to see a 'way out' when it felt as though there were a lack of options to help them settle into a home and get their lives back on track after serving their sentences. Many felt stuck in a cycle of homelessness and the criminal justice system.

People with learning difficulties, learning disabilities or neurodiversity are particularly vulnerable to exploitation, making mistakes and unable to navigate the system. Advocacy was regularly cited for people to get support with housing.

Entering the criminal justice system and in prison:

- Entering prison sometimes leads to losing your home. Experts by experience gave examples of some social and private landlords being unhelpful, applying pressure and legal threats to give up tenancies. Many people faced issues trying to manage rent arrears and housing costs whilst in prison.
- Better support and guidance could be made available, including around prisoner housing rights and accessing the benefits system.

- Many reported losing belongings from the home that they left behind when entering the prison system. This had a profound psychological and traumatic impact and added to their difficulty in rebuilding their lives and identity upon release.
- Many people faced issues trying to manage rent arrears and housing costs whilst in prison.
- Lack of access to health support, especially mental health support, was a problem. People cited that on release that their health impacted their housing. However, health managed whilst in the prison estate could help prevent homelessness.
- The Prison Pathway is meant to address housing on entry but something isn't joined up as this isn't happening. Housing needs to be dealt with on entry into the prison estate, as intended by the Prison Pathway, much further in advance than it is currently actioned. Positive stories included release into lower-level prisons and resettlement wings, establishing employment and independent living before release.

Housing on release:

- Experts by experience cited a real lack of communication between local authority and probation and prison services. People have been released with a tent as accommodation or feel they have no option but to commit crimes in exchange for staying on a sofa.
- Friday releases from prison are unhelpful as it gives the local authority very limited time to secure accommodation before the weekend.
- Inappropriate emergency or temporary housing is often given, for example, unsuitable 'wet' accommodation or far away from pharmacies or probation appointments.

Post-release:

- Ongoing support from peers (support workers) should continue after release.
- People serving longer sentences are ill-equipped upon release to use technology and access services.
- People are having difficulty in navigating the probation system due to rigid systems and a lack of trauma-informed provision. Risk assessments carried out by probation is disrupting or can result in cancelled private rented accommodation.

Homelessness tests:

- Assessment of priority need under the Housing Act was felt to be hugely subjective rather than guaranteed, with vulnerability being a deciding factor.
- Intentionality should be removed.
- Local authority and social landlord systems and restrictions are not aligned in relation to local connection and there is an information sharing issue. Local connection needs to be more flexible for people's safety and temptation to re-offend being back in a certain area.

Criminal justice system: Police

- The police's intervention can be negative by ineffective action, for example the wait for a risk assessment on a property meant that one of the people consulted lost the bond they had put on a property. There's a lack of duty of care and empathy, especially for those who are homeless and in crisis due to poor mental health and/or vulnerable.
- People experiencing homelessness are often criminalised, especially if sleeping rough.
- People experiencing homelessness who are victims of crime are not receiving the same treatment and help by the police compared to another member of public. Consultees felt that, in some instances, stigmatisation is linked to race.

c. Panel responses

The panel responded to KD's summaries of key themes raised by both frontline workers and people with lived experience in relation to the criminal justice system and homelessness:

- 'Hard Edges' research in Scotland raised similar points but the criminal justice system feels in a much better position than in Wales. In Scotland, criminal justice social workers were identified as a positive force, offering a holistic approach and a stable influence.
- Stakeholder engagement with this group of people proved they felt 'set up to fail' as vulnerable and unsupported. This group in particular do not know what their rights are and advocacy is important.
- Although the statistics suggest that people leaving the system have secure accommodation, under the surface that accommodation is temporary and therefore not secure for very long.
- Planning for housing on release isn't currently meeting need and needs to take place earlier, ideally with a key coordinator. People are being placed in temporary accommodation which breaches their release restrictions, often out of desperation by the local authority for accommodation. People leaving prison are likely to be banned from entering social housing for up to ten years.
- The Offender Rehabilitation Act was an improvement on paper, but it resulted in a dramatic reduction in probation officers.
- The work within the pathway became reliant on referrals made in custody. People in custody are receiving significantly less support and then passed onto local authorities at short notice or with no notice. Legislation needs to make sure people have the right level of support in custody.
- A prison cell is not suitable accommodation, so a person can apply for homelessness support at any time during the length of their sentence. However, 56 days offers no benefit in being triggered long before release. The pathway asks the resettlement service to gather those applications 10 days earlier at 66 days prior to release, but it is still nowhere near enough time.
- The panel asked: If we're limited on the support that can be provided to people in custody, when is the best time for support to take place? When should the relief duty start if not 56 days? Is the time limit duty for people in custody suitable?
- There is nothing in law for local authorities to continue to provide their duty beyond the 56 days. The panel recommended increasing this to six months.
- Prevention should take place immediately on arrival into custody. The prisons in the Cymru service would be funded by Welsh Government to fulfil this duty. Suggestions included a commitment to support individuals to retain accommodation by accessing benefit entitlements (short-term sentences) or offering support to leave tenancies so as not to accrue rent arrears (as a known barrier when leaving custody).
- Social housing policies can create further barriers for prison-leavers in accessing housing.

5. Discussion on key housing barriers faced by people leaving the criminal justice system which can be addressed through core housing legislation and duties on wider public bodies.

The panel discussed emerging positions and recommendations for reform, concerning a) core homelessness legislation and b) duties on wider public bodies, with the aim to try to gain consensus on recommendations.

The chair commented that people leaving the criminal justice system often have complex needs and that this is an important area for reform. Firm recommendations need to come out of the discussion, especially if the panel want to address rough sleeping, as the more extreme end of homelessness.

The panel agreed they should be prioritised, “prioritising rehabilitation above punishment.”

It was emphasised that the criminal justice system, including prisons, is not devolved in Wales. The panel must be mindful that although recommendations could be made for duties on prisons – for example, identify risk and accommodation (ask and act), prevention, relief, etc. – it may not be realistic to impose new or revised duties with Welsh Government’s limited control over prison resources without Home Office agreement. If the panel changes a law in Wales, Wales must resource it.

a. Core homelessness legislation

Prison pathway

- Although a little outdated, there is some good practice coming from the prison pathway. It was intended to be clear that where an assessment took place while someone was in custody, that if they were still homeless on release, they would be eligible for a new assessment based on change of circumstances.
- The timing of implementing the pathway is crucial in its successful delivery. The panel could recommend that this is revised and consider making it statutory, reinforced by regulation.
- The NICE guidance and good practice demonstrate value in supporting local prisoner pathway planning, backed up with a co-operation duty to include probation.
- However, the panel noted that some local authorities find it difficult to follow the pathway if they don’t have a prison in their county, as they cannot visit it easily.
- Welsh Government is committed to looking at the pathway. The first workshop is being held this Summer to start the process.

Prevention and main duty

- It wasn’t clear to the panel whether the prevention or relief duty helps people in prison who are or will become homeless. The distinction could be clarified – prisoners should be under both.
- Prevention duties can be applied by staff present on arrival to prison, but relief duty applies once someone is in a prison cell. Local authorities should be under a duty to accommodate fully.
- The main duty is to provide temporary accommodation, discharged through settled accommodation. The three stages are: prevention duty, acceptance of main duty, and discharge of the main duty. There should be a bespoke section for people in prison with specific legal recommendations different to those for other groups.
- The panel suggested specific clauses be applied as part of the prevention duty about actions that need to be taken at the point of entry into prison. This would also lend itself to guidance.
- A big challenge for Prison Link Cymru is prisons resettlement teams’ service provision and low numbers of staff. Prison Link Cymru is in effect boosting what the prisons are supposed to do around resettlement. The panel need to be mindful of their resources if creating a duty around people receiving advice at point of entry into custody.
- The panel discussed amending the legal definition of homeless to accommodate clarity around this being from point of entry to a prison cell. The Court of Appeal decided 20 years ago that a prison cell is not ‘accommodation’ for the purposes of homelessness and therefore it is always a relief duty, even while the person is in prison. A homelessness application therefore needs to be met and a main duty is needed – with something on release from prison – if the panel is looking to recommend abolishing the relief duty.

- Specifically, there is no gain in extending the prevention duty from 56 days to six months to help people in prison, as this is not the duty that is applied and will have no impact on them.
- A recommendation from the panel could be made to clarify which duty and when.

Maintaining tenancies in prison

- For those serving shorter sentences, accommodation could be secured whilst avoiding rent arrears. People could be supported to make arrangements with family or make sure they have maximised the housing element of Universal Credit (a prisoner has 13 weeks once sentenced and 52 weeks when on remand). Any other means of making sure that people retain accommodation and don't lose it because of rent arrears would mean a recommendation that Universal Credit rules are extended.
- Local authorities need bonds, rent in advance and additional financial support for six months for people in prison. Local authority support for sustaining tenancies could be introduced and potentially come within statutory guidance for this group. The panel suggested the local authority could act as a guarantor.

Disability

- Allocation for people with physical disability is very difficult, as accommodation needs to be adapted and suitable for them. An occupational therapist will conduct an assessment but who deploys that, the local authority from their home county or where someone offended?
- A prison assessment will be different to an assessment made at home.

Rights and advocacy

- Experts by Experience strongly identified that this group would benefit from being informed of their rights and having advocacy support.
- Other legislation clearly outlines key people to be involved in assessments and this could also be within the Housing Act legislation.

Allocations policies

- There is nothing in allocations law that stops people in prison being registered on social housing lists while still in prison. There is often misunderstanding around this.
- There are so many people from this cohort who feel they cannot go for social housing. Could something be added to the guidance to make this more flexible.
- One local authority panel member confirmed they wouldn't stop a person in prison from joining the housing register, however some people might be suspended from joining it for a length of time due to safety risks and protecting victims. People are steered towards the private rented sector to prove a change in behaviour.
- The panel may wish to recommend that exclusions to joining the housing register are avoided.
- As much as it would be good for local authorities to have properties kept aside for people on release, empty homes are not ideal. Local authorities must also think of loss of income from vacant properties. At a time when housing stock is scarce, it is not practical.
- It was noted that elected members can place extra pressure on avoidance of housing prison leavers in their local area where they have a history of anti-social behaviour.

Preferences on accommodation

- The Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 states that "prisoner[s] can't cannot express preference for accommodation while they're detained in prison, youth detention or proof premises."
- Involving someone in these housing conversations and a Personal Housing Plan (PHP) would help empower them and counteract the stigma and helplessness they feel.

- Release from prison is to someone's area of offending, not their local connection. People are being forced to live where they do not want to be. Could it be realistic to ask people before release where they want to live?

Bail Accommodation and Support Services (BASS) properties

- When accommodation is reviewed at different urgency levels in multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) meetings, local authorities and prison officers are all under pressure and this creates friction.
- What has come across strongly from people placed in approved premises or BASS accommodation is that it is always a temporary placement and their next step for settled accommodation is completely missing. The BASS accommodation or approved premises could be disregarded as an accommodation solution due to not being settled.

Local connection

- Current local connection laws cause lots of issues for people leaving prison. Welsh Government has confirmed that there is scope to make local connection more flexible.
- The panel could recommend an exemption for prison leavers from local connection and give local authorities clarity. Or if not an exemption, the local authority considers on a case-by-case basis when an application is made. The panel could put together a guiding list of exemptions for local authorities to follow within their recommendations.
- Probation services need to be happy about where people are released from prison. The assessment should be taken with a holistic approach with decisions to help a person succeed factored in, rather than viewed as a risk assessment.

Housing First

- More funding is needed for move Housing First provision for people leaving prison and it needs to be supported by RSLs and local authority landlords to achieve the goals the panel have identified. This is along the lines of the successful Scandinavian-type models.

b. Duties on wider public bodies

Assessments

- Legislation could be more robust on assessments taking place once the person enters the prison estate, which will cover those on remand and serving short-term sentences, emphasising more multi-agency working.
- Assessments need to take place long before release and involve frontline workers to understand needs in relation to mental health, health, occupational therapy, and financial support.

Release from prison

- Release on Fridays, Bank Holidays and holiday periods are incredibly difficult. These days set people up to fail, with such a lack of staff resources and shortage of stock at local authority level.
- Release dates are no surprise to the prison estates, so why are they to local authorities? If the communication is there, case workers could be in place make sure implementation is arranged.

Notifying local authorities of recalled prisoners

- Local authorities need to be notified as soon as possible about people who are recalled to prison because when this doesn't happen, they enter into rent arrears without the local authority knowing they are out of the property.

- There needs to be an understanding of why people are being recalled and what could be done within the community to prevent this.
- It's complex and difficult to rehouse registered sex offenders, as often value moving areas due to safety and anonymity.

Duty to co-operate

- A panel member suggested that there is a power imbalance between homelessness and housing options teams and their HMPPS colleagues. Local authorities find the process of finding suitable accommodation and being rejected by criminal justice system partners incredibly difficult. This ultimately keeps people in temporary accommodation and in damaging circumstances.
- The co-operation duty should be a responsibility on others to stay with homelessness services to find a solution to the problem together.
- There are culture issues within probation and local authorities that need addressing. A person being recalled to prison should not be seen as 'a short-term success' for homelessness teams, simply because it gives them more time.

Police

- It is critical police ask and act to prevent, refer people, and co-operate to share relevant information with other services. The police service is an important resource and needs to be brought into the duty to co-operate and duty to refer.
- Capacity, empathy, understanding and training on a trauma-informed approach needs to be improved to provide a more positive experience from police services.

Social services

- Housing should be part of social services training programmes. Social workers would benefit from placements within housing.

Panel member(s)	Action	Timeframe
Liz Davies KC	Provide legal advice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether planning law has scope to help address supply issues. • Can people in prison express a preference of accommodation? • Around the duty to refer, duty to co-operate, and multi-agency approach. • Around retaining existing accommodation following remand or a sentence. • Consideration of when the prevention duty becomes the relief duty. • What happens during the prevention duty, including: assessment of need (on entering prison?); Personal Housing Plan (PHP) and prisoner's voice/rights; key coordinator; reviewing assessment and PHP on change of circumstances; imminent release; retaining existing accommodation; planning for accommodation on release. • People in prison – are they homeless or threatened with homelessness? • Stewart v Lambeth, R (B) v Southwark. 	TBC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the abolishment of the relief duty impact on prevention duties? • Ending the main housing duty – how to assist if it's an informal arrangement, for example, with family. • Abolishment of intentionality in current law. • Local connection and how this could be amended for people in prison. • Abolition of priority need • Pathway plan and legal obligation. • Support upon release • Aim to get into settled accommodation rather than discharging main housing duty. • Looking at longer-term accommodation for prison leavers, including allocations and exclusion from housing register; councillors making decisions; RSL policies. • Consideration of how this might dovetail with SSWBA – NB ss 185 – 188 and preferences. 	
Peter Mackie	Share with the panel the Scandinavian model on Housing First and prisoners.	Immediate
Hannah Fisher, Carl Spiller	Inform the panel on the details of stopping Friday prison releases when the information is known.	TBC
Suzanne Fitzpatrick, Jordan Brewer	Add discussion on specific issues for people with higher risk (sex offenders, arsonists) to agenda of Meeting 5.2: Allocations and evictions.	Mid-June
Suzanne Fitzpatrick, Jordan Brewer	Identify space in a future meeting for further discussion on key themes identified from all meetings to date.	TBC
All	Panel members to highlight to Crisis any areas to revisit that are missing from the future discussions list.	Immediate

6. AOB

JB thanked the panel for a rich discussion, which will feed into the recommendations meeting planned for 16 June.

The timeline for additional meetings:

- Temporary accommodation and suitability – 10 May
- Allocations and evictions – TBC
- Regulation and enforcement – TBC

The panel were informed of the upcoming stakeholder engagement sessions held by Crisis on 23 May and 6 June.

The Chair confirmed that there is still some significant work to do in the remaining meetings. Panel members were encouraged to offer any further thoughts on the guiding questions from today's

meeting. The panel were thanked for coming to the meeting so well prepared and with concrete ideas to move things forward. Thanks were also given to the additional expert input from CS and AM.

Panel member(s)	Action	Timeframe
Abi Renshaw	Analyse the doodle polls and find two future meeting dates in mid-May and late June for Meeting 10: Regulation and enforcement and Meeting 5.2: Allocations and evictions.	Immediate
Jordan Brewer, Abi Renshaw	Re-circulate details of Crisis' two future stakeholder engagement meetings (23 May and 6 June).	ASAP
All	Panel members to share both stakeholder engagement invites from Crisis on a summary of the work of ERP with their networks.	ASAP
All	Members of the panel to send any further thoughts on today's guiding questions over to Crisis.	ASAP
All	Panel members to update AR on their dietary requirements, to be collated for the Cardiff in-person meeting on 16 June.	Immediate

The next meeting will be held on Zoom on Wednesday 10 May 2023.