

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

All Members of the Senedd
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
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17 November 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

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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 13 November 2025 - [Notice of amendments - 17 November 2025.pdf](#)

Further amendments for consideration at Stage 2 will be tabled by the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government in due course.

Adt.	Explanation
1	This amendment replaces section 5(3) of the Bill; it substitutes section 85 in the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. This amendment replaces section 85 in its entirety. The new section 85 incorporates the amendments made by the Bill as introduced to the existing section 85, as well as conferring a new duty on local housing authorities to consider all relevant grounds for an applicant's right to review. See also amendments 2, 3 and 17.
2	This amendment made to section 85 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 by section 17 of the Bill as introduced has been incorporated into new section 85 (see amendment 1, which substitutes existing amendment 85). As a result, section 17 of the Bill as introduced is no longer needed.
3	This amendment made to section 85 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 by section 17 of the Bill as introduced has been incorporated into new section 85 (see amendment 1, which substitutes existing amendment 85). As a result, section 17 of the Bill as introduced is no longer needed.
4	This amendment requires that referrals to Welsh local housing authorities made by any English public authority that is subject to the duty to refer a person that authority considers may be homeless, or threatened with homelessness, under section 213B of the Housing Act 1996, is treated as a homelessness application. This provides consistency with the requirements of the new ask and act duty where the referral comes from a specified public authority in Wales, as inserted into the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 by section 21 of the Bill.
5	This amendment has been made following an agreement at the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in relation to the new duty of co-operation between social landlords and local housing authorities. The effect of this amendment will require the Welsh Ministers to give guidance on certain specified matters, replacing the previous discretionary power to issue guidance on those matters.
6	This amendment is consequential to amendment 7 in relation to no reasonable preference for persons who try to manipulate the housing system.
7	This amendment provides that where an applicant is found to have deliberately manipulated the system to gain enhanced priority for social housing due to homelessness, only the reasonable preference due to homelessness will be lost. Any other reasonable preference category that an applicant may qualify for will be retained. See also amendments 6, 8 and 9.
8	This amendment is consequential to amendment 7 in relation to no reasonable preference for persons who try to manipulate the housing system.

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9. This amendment is consequential to amendment 7 in relation to no reasonable preference for persons who try to manipulate the housing system.
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10. This amendment narrows the scope of section 38 of the Bill in relation to Common Housing Registers so that registered social landlords and private registered providers of social housing are required to only offer housing within a local authority's area to individuals on that area's Common Housing Register, where the accommodation is allocated to nominees of a Welsh local housing authority. This would enable registered social landlords and private registered providers of social housing to offer other forms of accommodation, that does not usually fall within the scope of traditional social housing, to other applicants. The amendment introduces a new regulation making power subject to the Senedd approval procedure to allow further exceptions to this duty.
See also amendment 11 and 16.
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11. This amendment is consequential to amendment 10 in relation to Common Housing Registers to ensure consistency of terminology.
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12. This amendment omits data protection provisions from the regulation making powers inserted by section 38 of the Bill relating to Common Housing Registers as they are no longer required as a consequence of section 183A of the Data Protection Act 2018, which was inserted by section 106 of the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025.
See also amendment 14.
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13. This amendment broadens the scope of the duty in section 38 of the Bill in relation to Accessible Housing Registers by requiring local housing authorities to include all accommodation in their area, that is available, or may in future become available for allocation under Part 6 of the Housing Act 1996 that includes features which may support disabled individuals – not just that accommodation held by the local authority and other social landlords.
See also amendment 15
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14. This amendment omits data protection provisions from the regulation making powers inserted by section 38 of the Bill relating to Accessible Housing Registers as they are no longer required as a consequence of section 183A of the Data Protection Act 2018, which was inserted by section 106 of the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025.
See also amendment 12.
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15. This amendment is consequential to amendment 13 which makes amendments to section 38 of the Bill relating to Accessible Housing Registers to ensure consistency of terminology.
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16. The purpose of this amendment is to make several regulation making powers inserted by the Bill into the Housing Act 1996 subject to the Senedd approval procedure. This addresses recommendations 4 and 5 of the Legislation and Justice Committee Report on the Bill. The effect is that regulations under the new section 160A(6C) (allocation to eligible persons), section 160B(3) (circumstances in which the duty in section 160B(2) does not apply), section 160D(1) (common housing register) and section 160E(2) (accessible housing register) of the Housing Act 1996 will be subject to the Senedd approval procedure.
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17. This amendment made to section 85 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 by section 17 of the Bill as introduced has been incorporated into new section 85 (see
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amendment 1, which substitutes existing amendment 85). As a result, section 17 of the Bill as introduced is no longer needed.

18. This amendment is a consequential amendment. It amends paragraph 12(5) of Schedule 2 to the Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 to omit a reference to the duty under section 73 as a consequence of the removal of that duty by section 6 of the Bill.
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