



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

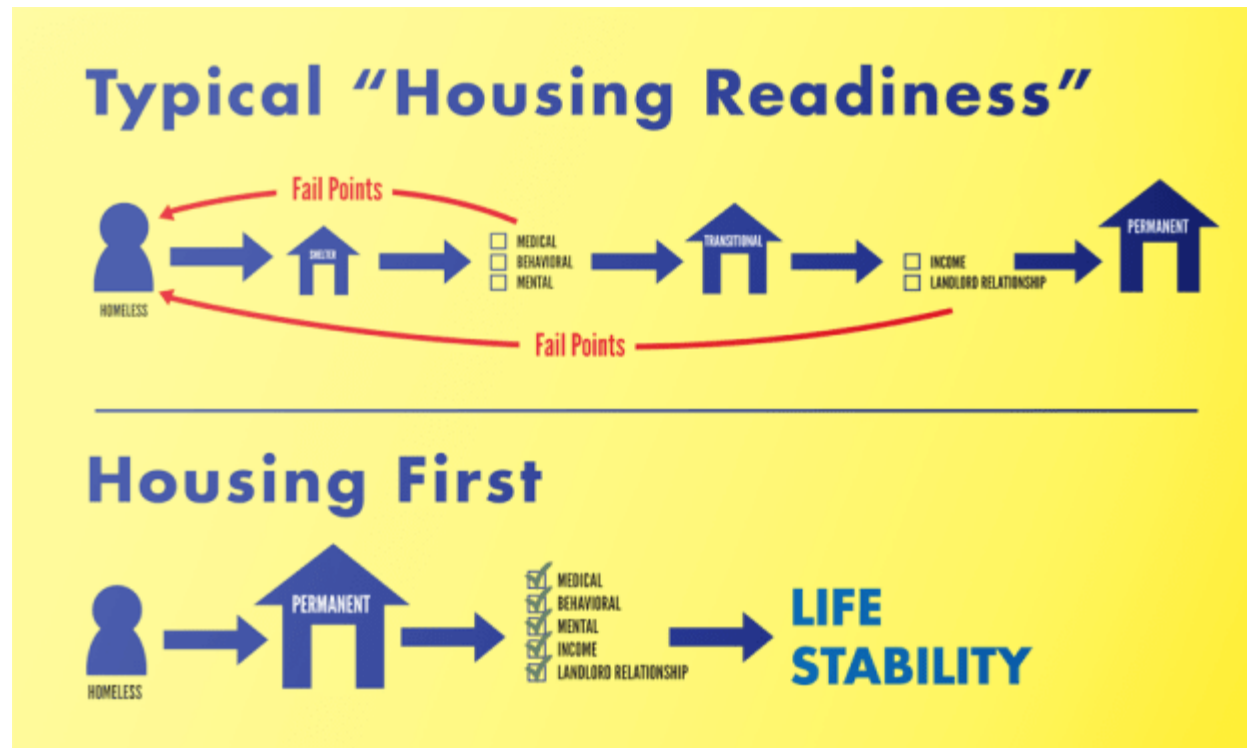
Housing First in Wales

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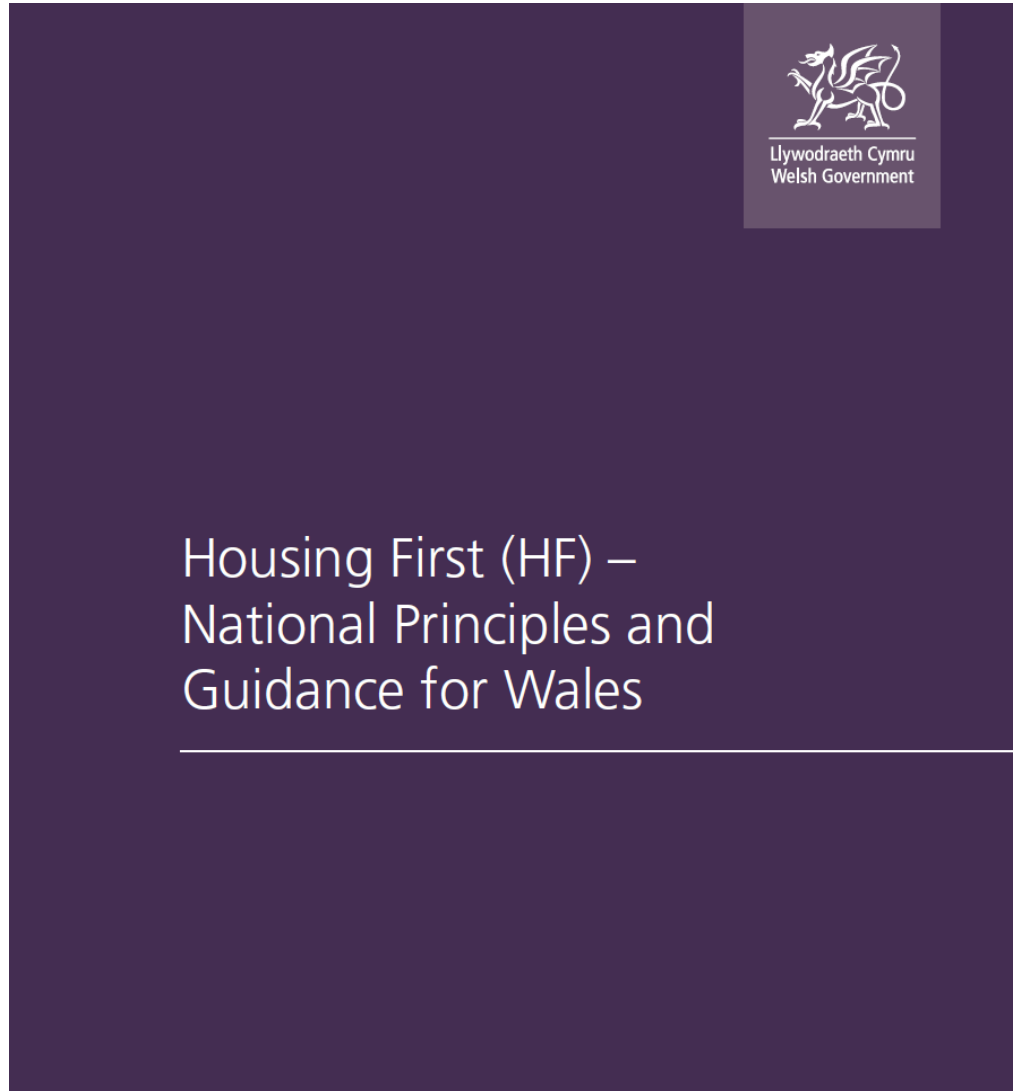
Housing First

'Housing First' is a recovery-oriented approach to ending homelessness that centres on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent and permanent housing and then providing additional support and services as needed.



- Principles and Guidance Feb 2017

Developed following policy workshops held at Cardiff University



The Rough Sleeping Action Plan



- Published February 2018
- High Level Document
- Developed with Stakeholders
- Sets out activity for the next 2 years
- Action is underway and being taken forward between WG, LAs and partners



The Welsh Government endorses the FEANTSA core 'principles'

- Housing is a human right
- Service users should have choice and control
- Housing not conditional on support or treatment
- The approach is recovery oriented
- The approach is one of harm reduction
- There is active engagement without coercion
- Planning is person-centred
- Flexible support is available as long as required

Likely key features

- Key worker approach
- Proactive approach to support engagement
- Individualised Budgets
- Tenancy and life skills support
- Trauma informed approach
- Support to access employment/training
- Engagement with other statutory services (health, mental health, substance misuse)



The advantages HF can offer for Wales include:

- A direct way of reducing rough sleeping
- Enabling and incentivising people who may not be suited or willing to live in a hostel environment to move into a more settled, 'normal' environment where their support needs may be more effectively addressed
- Encouraging the individual to take control of their lives individual budgets can support this
- Providing better stability from which employment and other goals can be more easily progressed
- Reduced pressures on health and other services

Where are we now?

- 8 Initial short-term pilots funded in 2017/18
- Engagement between Ministers and RSL partners
- Housing First Network
- Development of a Housing First Registration process
- Homelessness Task and Finish Group
- Monitoring of English and Scottish HF developments

Challenges

- Criteria for selection
- Getting buy in from all partners
- How will it work with the PRS
- How will HF fit into the work of housing options
- Allocation policies
- The public reaction

What's next?

- Housing First Trailblazers
- Evaluation
- Reflection
- Plan

We do not learn from
experience... we learn
from reflecting on
experience.

- John Dewey

**Any Questions...
Just Ask!**



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