

# Welsh Government housing statistics and research update, June 2021

## Welsh Government housing research

The following research projects are underway:

- An evidence review of literature on overcrowding for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities is underway. It aims to assess evidence on how overcrowding may impact households.
- Research to develop an evidence base on Second Homes is underway. It aims to understand the available evidence on interventions or approaches relating to Second Homes.
- An Evaluation of the Private Rented Sector (PRS) Leasing Scheme Pathfinders is underway. The aim of the evaluation is to understand how the scheme is operating in the Pathfinder local authorities, including the views of landlords and tenants.
- A Spending Analysis of Aids and Adaptations in Wales will be published soon. The aim of the project is to understand if and how the current system of adaptations reflects need, provides a quality service to users and value for money for tax payers.
- A survey of Tenant's views and experiences of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) will be published soon. The aim of the survey is to understand tenant's views of the current Standard in order to inform development of a new iteration of the WHQS.

All housing research reports can be found on the [Statistics and Research website](#).

## Housing statistics

As the demand increased for statistics and data to measure the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, we had to change our data gathering and release practices, focusing efforts on priority analysis and statistics.

Our [statement](#) explains this further and, in line with [guidance from the Office for Statistics Regulation](#), decisions were been made to cancel or postpone some publications.

Discussions to agree a timescale for resuming the publication of key statistical outputs are currently ongoing.

## Recent publications

All releases are available from [the Statistics and Research website](#)

## **New monthly management information on homelessness accommodation provision and rough sleeping**

We have continued to publish [monthly management information](#) on rough sleeping and provision of accommodation for the homeless.

This management information has not undergone the same level of quality assurance as official statistics.

## **Affordable Housing Provision**

On 3 February 2021, we published [provisional headline statistics for 2019-20](#), with figures at the Wales level only.

This was followed by the publication of final 2019-20 statistics on 11 March 2021. This publication included the statistical release '[Affordable Housing Provision: April 2019 to March 2020](#)' which included further breakdowns of the figures as well as data on StatsWales.

## **Help to Buy**

On 28 January we published [quarterly Help to Buy statistics for October to December 2020](#).

On 29 April, we published [annual Help to Buy statistics for April 2020 to March 2021](#).

## **Housing Supply Statistics – interactive dashboard**

On 11 March, we published an [interactive dashboard](#) bringing together data about housing supply in Wales.

Data is available at a regional and national level and will be updated periodically as new data becomes available

We welcome feedback on the content and presentation of any of these statistics and management information to [stats.housing@gov.wales](mailto:stats.housing@gov.wales).

## **Housing Conditions Evidence Programme**

Plans for the next Welsh Housing Conditions Survey are on hold as a result of the pandemic. As such the team are focusing on using admin data in HSAR to assess the quality and energy efficiency of the housing stock. We will be producing some statistical articles, blogs, infographics etc. based on analysis of this data in the near future.

We are working with the fuel poverty policy team to provide analytical support to monitor the [plan for tackling fuel poverty 2021 to 2035](#) and commission work to update the 2017-18 fuel poverty estimates based on estimated changes in income, fuel prices and energy efficiency since the 2017-18 survey.

We continue to work with the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) Team to provide analytical support on their work to develop the post 2020 WHQS. Similarly we are working with the Innovative Models & Housing Decarbonisation Team on the development and delivery of a programme of action to decarbonise all Welsh homes by 2050.

A non-disclosive set of WHCS data is now available on the UK [Data Archive](#), with more detailed data available direct from the WHCS team. We plan to deposit the WHCS data on SAIL to allow researchers access to anonymised data under special licence.

### **Housing Stock Analytical Resource for Wales (HSAR)**

The existing Housing Stock Analytical Resource, HSAR, data has been migrated to the Welsh Governments UK Secure eResearch Platform (UKSeRP) which is now live and being used by wider stats teams. This means that we are able to grant access to Welsh Government datasets for researchers.

We have submitted a business case to ONS regarding sharing relevant data under the Digital Economy Act, such as Council Tax information. We continue to exploring accessing other data sources under the Digital Economy Act such as BEIS energy consumption data.

If anyone has any suggestions for pieces of analysis we could look at, or is interested in getting access to data for their own projects please do get in touch.

### **Next Housing Information Group (HIG) meeting**

The next meeting will take place via Microsoft Teams on 23 September 2021. An agenda and meeting invite will follow closer to the date.

### **Queries**

If you have any queries on the above, or would like statistical advice on using housing data (including for example in the absence of data), please contact:

[stats.housing@gov.wales](mailto:stats.housing@gov.wales).