

The Good Life Alliance

Homes not Hospitals: Why We Must Do This – and How it is Being Done

www.goodlife.wales
contact@goodlife.wales

Cynghrair
Bywyd Da



Good Life
Alliance





About us

Wales-based alliance of individuals and organisations with 3 aims:

- 1. Bringing people back home from long-term hospitals and other institutions**
- 2. Improving local services (to prevent people from being sent away)**
- 3. Promoting people's right to choice and control**

We have skills and experience in housing, advocacy, health, social care commissioning, delivery and lived experience



Why this work is so important



Problems with long stay hospitals identified since the 1970's

It has a detrimental effect on people and their families

Increased risk of abuse

“Stolen Lives”

Higher cost than providing good services locally

The Problems



Not enough / inconsistent good local support services

Limited local understanding of what 'good' support should look like

Lack of joint planning and joint working between health and social care

People sent away 'out of area' and can't see families or be part of their communities

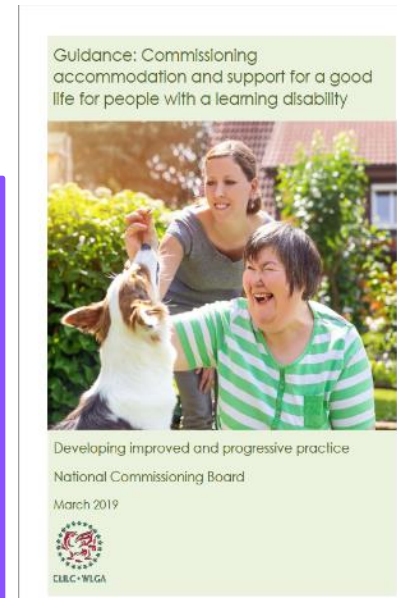
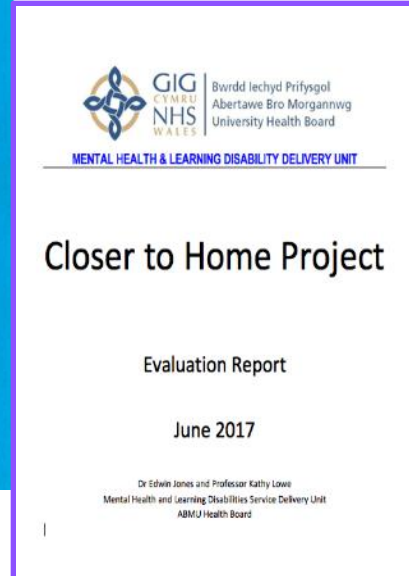
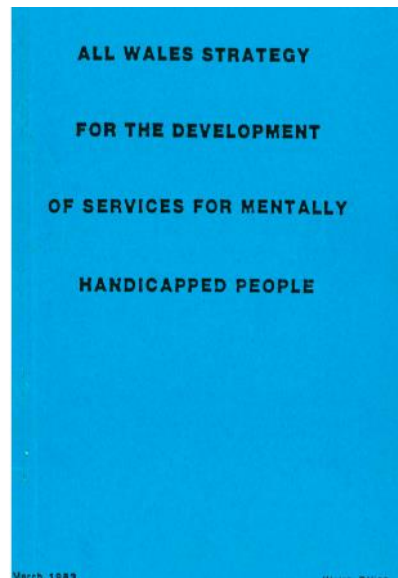
Out of area expensive services and some that are not that good

Money is being spent on the wrong type of support and provision

We can sort this
in Wales



Wales has a track record of supporting people with LD to enjoy good lives in their local communities. From the 1980's we have pioneered the replacement of hospitals with locally based infrastructures.



Example of Good Practice Closer to Home (est 2011)

- Partnership made up of 3 Local Authorities, one Health Board & 5 3rd sector not for profit Support Providers
- Focus on reducing out of county/country placements
- Providing non-institutionalised accommodation
- Person-centered approaches e.g. PBS



Closer to Home Outcomes



- 40 people live in their own adapted ordinary homes
- 30+ people returned from out of area or very costly local services
- Greater satisfaction and dramatic improvements in quality of life e.g. participation, social inclusion, relationships with family, material and physical wellbeing
- Better implementation of Positive Behaviour Support by providers
- Replicable throughout Wales



Closer to Home Value for Money



	Real case 1	Real case 2
Residential College	£311,00	£170,00
New Closer to Home	£85,000	£78,000
Saving	£226,00	£92,000

- Revenue funding reduced and did not flow out of Wales.
- Jobs and skills were developed locally, having a positive impact on communities and the economy.
- Families and people being supported were involved with the design of environments and individual support plans.

Bringing people back home



THE NORTH WALES ACCOMODATION STRATEGY

Scaling-up Support for a Good Life – A Regional Approach



1

Develop more specialist supported
living housing



2 Skilled support

3

Crisis prevention and response



Working
together

WORKING TOGETHER

'We've been heard'



"I've just seen that it changed how people were treating me before." – Ben

"We wanted people's stories in it to show the real journey, show people our eye view." – Kamar

It's made more difference than what we thought was possible



"It's not about just behaviour, it's about how we could support the person." – Kamar

"It's made me recognise I have a voice." – Kamar

"Made me feel like I want to stay in college." – Ben

"I'm proud of me... this is me, I'm happy." – Kamar

"We got lots of professionals in to help us" – Shell

Change happened through collaboration and learning from lived experience

- Genuine co-production
- Equal partnership between people and professionals
- Listening to different perspectives and being open to feedback
- Valuing lived experience
- Strong regional support

Greater confidence, voice and self-understanding

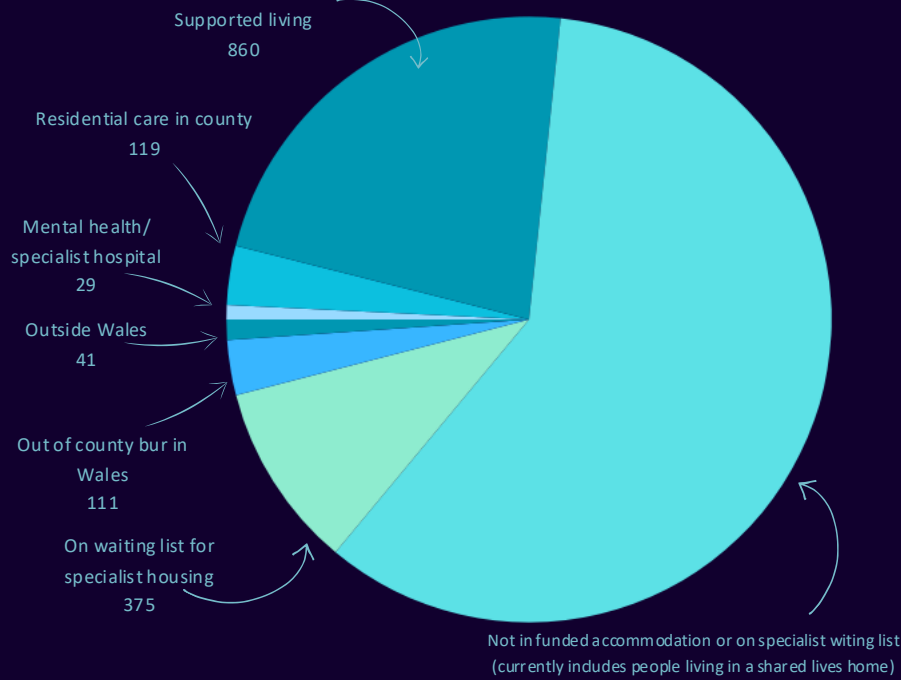
- Better understanding of self and support needs
- Feeling proud and confident
- Recognising personal voice and influence
- Greater involvement in decision-making
- Positive changes in education, employment and independence
- People have more control over their own lives and are active participants in decisions about their support.

ACCOMMODATION PLANNING

1

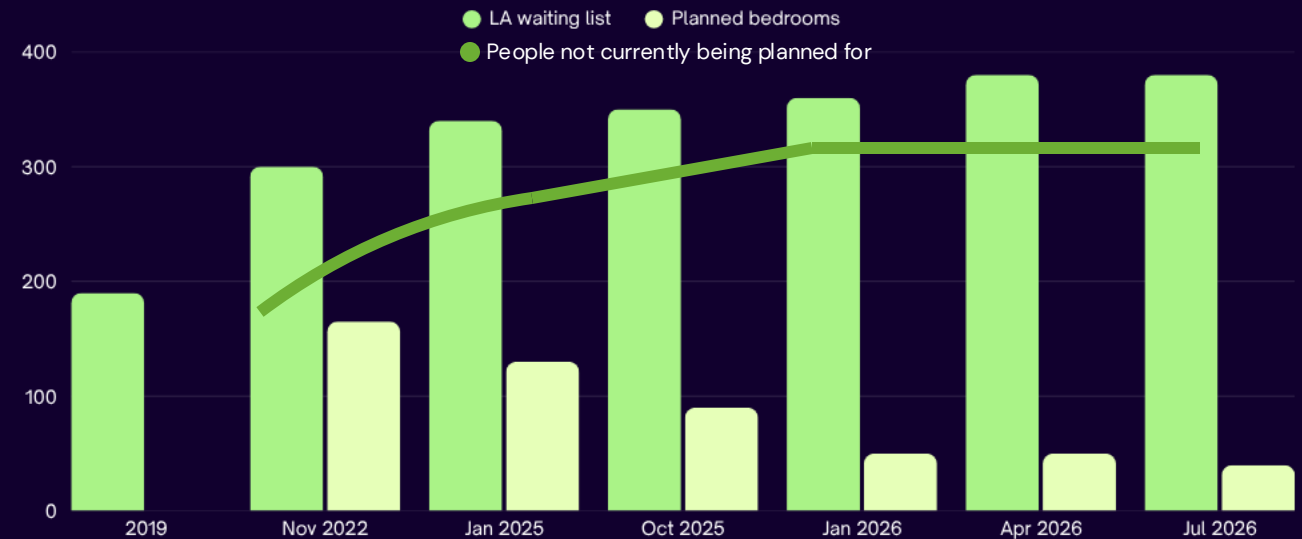


Where are people living?

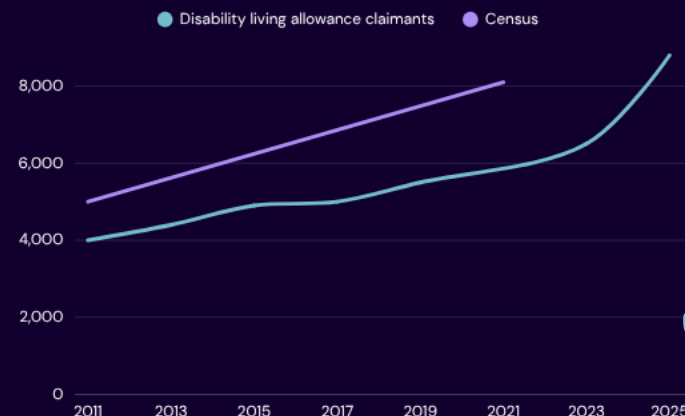


*Based on the total number of people with learning disabilities being 3627 (2020/21 LD register)

North Wales Regional Housing Needs vs Planning



Change in different measures of children aged 0 to 15 with a disability in North Wales, 2011 to 2025



Waiting lists for supported living

Waiting lists continue to grow – Investment has curbed the increase but more investment is needed to close the gap and prevent increasing residential placements

Future Projections

Source: Statistics about children with disabilities in North Wales, November 2025

www.northwalescollaborative.wales/statistics/

How much does it cost?

£ 1,722
Average for Supported Living

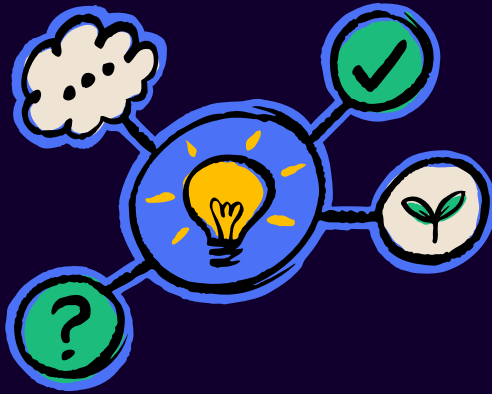
£ 3,993
Recent Supported Living budget (complex to meet needs)

£ 3,275
Average for Residential Care

£ 5,500 - 7,500
Recent Residential Care quote (complex to meet needs)



2 Skilled Support



North Wales Positive Behaviour Support commitment



**PBS is about understanding you
and getting your support right**



North Wales PBS Strategy

Community of Practice
Training
Resources
Co-production

Mentoring
Commissioning

Closer-to-home support

Shared 'good lives' focus

Valuing lived experience

Practice leadership

Confidence

Curiosity

Significant cost
avoidance

Working together

Improved support

Reflection >
meaningful change

Trauma-informed

High
engagement

Hope, confidence
and competence

Compassion

Collaboration

The biggest changes have been...

*'The sense that we could
build a multiagency
community guided by PBS'*

*'Our big win this quarter has
been supporting someone in
county with a level of need
we'd never have met before.
That's because of PBS'*

*'The biggest change has been feeling like I'm making a
difference and making my job meaningful.'*

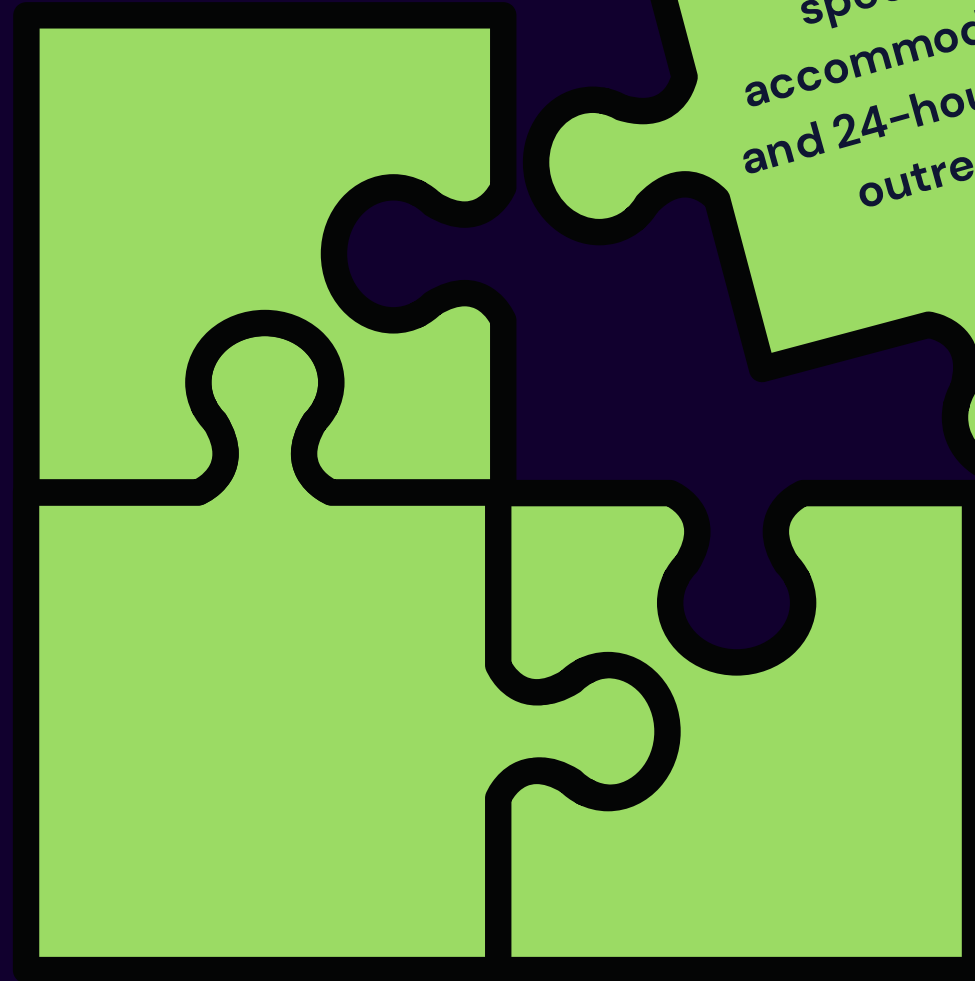
*'PBS has been like a
light bulb for me'*



Gogledd Cymru Gyda'n Gilydd
North Wales Together

Gwasanaethau Ddi-dori i bobl ag Anableddau Dysgu
Seamless services for people with Learning Disabilities

3 Crisis prevention and response



THE NORTH WALES ACCOMODATION STRATEGY

Scaling-up Support for a Good Life – A Regional Approach



1

Develop more specialist supported living housing



2

Upskill the local workforce

3

Crisis prevention and response



Working
together

**Together we
can do this**

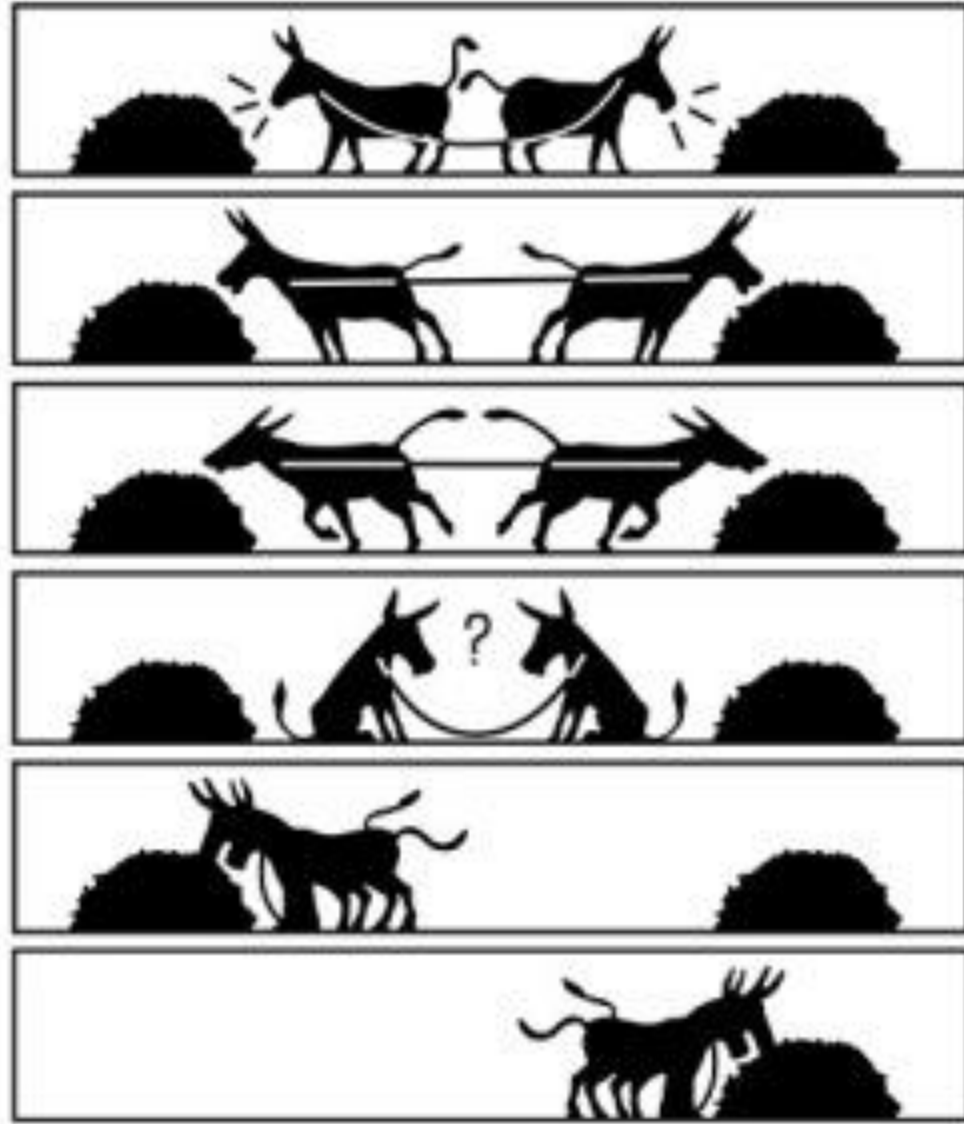


We need to collaborate across sectors to spend existing funding on the right things.

We have success stories across Wales showing how to bring people home and prevent them from being sent away.

We have done this before in Wales and can do it again.

Health and
social care
should work
better together



Thank you!



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