



Chartered
Institute of
Housing

What you need to know about the Welsh Government's draft budget 2021-2022



What you need to know about the Welsh Government's draft budget 2021-2022



Chartered
Institute of
Housing
Cymru

Background

The Welsh Government announced the detail of its draft budget on December 21st 2020. In the context of Covid-19 this is a difficult budget round with the need to both facilitate economic recovery and growth during and following on from the pandemic whilst supporting improvements and the impact of public sector services – including housing.

What does the budget propose for housing?

This budget provides a strong showing of support for the sector and in particular the role of social housing in the context of the Covid-19 recovery. The Minister has outlined an **additional £37m for social housing** taking the **investment in 2020-2021 to £200m overall**.

In a bid to support greater mobility in the housing market the Minister has announced Phase 3 of **Help to Buy, underpinned by an investment of £74m**.

Recognising the **difficult situation many leaseholders face** in ensuring the building in which they live is safe, the budget has allocated **£32m towards addressing these issues**.

There is clear recognition of the role that housing support services have played, particularly in the context of the pandemic, in addressing and preventing homelessness. **Housing Support Grant has been boosted by an additional £40m** to ensure progress and momentum towards ending homelessness can be maintained.

With the efficiency of housing also under careful scrutiny, the budget has made available an additional **£20m focusing on measures to reduce fuel poverty**. And, with a bigger picture focus there's **£5m to support town centre regeneration** which includes a focus on housing and **£3m towards rapid spreading of best practice around the foundational economy**, including a focus on construction.

A view from CIH Cymru

We strongly welcome the emphasis on building within the budget – which taken quite literally has resulted in strong investment in social and affordable housing.

We are concerned that the static funding at a local authority level, where the impact of the pandemic has been particularly acute may not go far enough in helping professionals meet the needs of local communities.

Whilst, taken as a whole the budget shows welcome recognition the role that housing and housing support services play in communities across Wales, what is yet to be seen is how future investment will build on this momentum.

Further information

You can find further information about the Welsh Government draft budget [here](#).

CIH Cymru will continue to engage all political parties on how this budget can respond to the needs of housing professionals across Wales – drawing on the insight and expertise of members. If you would like to provide your view on the draft budget please contact matthew.kennedy@cih.org.