

Promoting
equality and
social justice in
housing in
Wales



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THE CHAMPIONS NETWORK

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GWENT BOOST
Building On Our Strengths Together

WHAT IS THE CHAMPIONS NETWORK?

The Champions Network part of Gwent BOOST, a five-year Lottery-funded project running across Gwent (Newport, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen and Monmouthshire).

The Champions Network is all about making improvements in the Private Rented Sector. It aims to create a fairer and more accessible system that works for everyone, regardless of background, income level or protected characteristic. That means finding out what the key issues are and working towards solutions. It means working with landlords as well as tenants towards outcomes that are helpful for both groups. It also means making sure that everyone in private renting knows their rights and responsibilities and can get support or advice whenever they need it. The Champions Network is about reducing inequality and discrimination.

The Champions Network will:

- Recruit a panel of volunteer Tenant and Landlord Champions. They will work together to discuss the priority issues and themes in private renting, especially around equality and discrimination.
- Support the panel of Champions to run social media campaigns, events and other awareness-raising activities to tell everyone what they have discussed.
- With the Champions, co-produce information guides, training materials and social media content to share with landlords and tenants all across Gwent.
- Use what the panels have discussed to feed back to Welsh Government. This might be by contributing to public consultations or giving opportunities to be involved in focus groups.
- Signpost people to relevant and helpful services to reduce tenancy problems and evictions.



Tenants



Landlords



GET IN TOUCH TO FIND OUT MORE:



ANNA@TAIPAWB.ORG



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WHY IS THE NETWORK NEEDED?

The Private Rented Sector (PRS) in Wales is growing, and demand is now far outstripping supply. Waiting lists for social housing are at unprecedented levels.

Many tenants are finding private renting less and less affordable, and some are struggling even to access a home at all. Recent changes in legislation mean that landlords are also concerned about their responsibilities, and see the PRS as an increasingly unattractive option.

Landlords and tenants both have concerns about the current state of private renting:

- Over half of tenants surveyed had encountered problems living in the private rented sector.
- 46% of those surveyed did not/would not know where to access support or advice.
- 85% of landlords surveyed felt there was a need for additional support for private sector landlords on equality issues.

The Champions Network will provide a platform for addressing these issues. It will give both tenants and landlords in private renting the space and opportunity to shape solutions. It will give tenants and landlords a stronger voice, and facilitate a supportive network for both groups.

To find out more about the Network and how to become a Champion, get in touch using the contact details below.



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INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED?

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES YOU COULD BE INVOLVED IN AS A NETWORK CHAMPION...

Write a blog or create a vlog, to be shared across South Wales

If you are passionate about this subject area and know of people that have been affected by discrimination then why not feed in to our project by creating some digital content? This will help us raise awareness through our networks about the issues people are facing. If you are a landlord and have experience of working with diverse tenants then why not share it with us so that we can promote your good practice? If you are a tenant with diverse needs, why not do the same and let us know what helped?

Attend Panel meetings and be involved with creating a new Renter's Manifesto or Landlord's Diversity Leaders' Guide

Join up with other members of the Network at Panel meetings to write a brand new 2023 Renter's Manifesto setting out exactly what tenants in private renting need and want in 2023. Or, if you are a landlord, work with the Panel to create a Diversity Leader's Guide for landlords across Wales to showcase best practise and lead on equality in the PRS.

Speak at events hosted by Tai Pawb

Your voice is powerful - use it! Both landlords and tenants are encouraged to speak at our events to raise awareness of the issues they are facing and how to overcome them. Since the introduction of the Renting Homes (Wales) Act last year, more emphasis is placed on the private rented sector to house people and the need for tenants and landlords to work together. Why not speak at our events to bring to light your experiences of the private rented sector and contribute to important debate for change?

Contribute to public consultations and influence policy

Here at Tai Pawb we work closely with Welsh Government on a range of equality and social justice issues in housing. Be a part of this vital work by contributing to consultations and government inquiries about the PRS. You will see exactly how your voice is being heard and the impact it will have. You will find out more about housing policy and how this relates to you. Get your voice heard!

Contact us for more information

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Tai Pawb is a company limited by guarantee (5282554) and a registered charity (1110078)

