

B2–C1 Worksheet: A New Approach to Homelessness in Wales - 28

February 2026

Article

Rhiannon still remembers the afternoon she realised she might lose her flat. At the time, she was juggling part-time work and rising rent, and the pressure was beginning to build up. Under the previous system, she had only a short window to sort things out before she would be classed as homeless. Looking back, she says the support felt rushed and hard to pin down. Now, with the Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation (Wales) Bill passing through the Senedd, she believes things could be different for others in her position.

The new law is designed to step in earlier, offering help up to six months before someone is at risk of losing their home. It also requires public services to join forces rather than pass the buck. Ministers argue that by cutting red tape and widening eligibility, fewer people will slip through the net. Housing charities have welcomed the change, saying it marks a turning point in how Wales deals with housing insecurity.

For Rhiannon, the shift is about more than policy. It is about giving people breathing space and a fair chance to get back on their feet. While no system is foolproof, supporters say the legislation sends a clear message that prevention is better than crisis management. If it works as intended, the reform could pave the way for a more stable housing landscape across Wales.

True/False

Decide if each statement is True (T) or False (F).

1. Rhiannon had secure housing with no financial pressure.
2. Under the old system, support could feel rushed.
3. The new law offers assistance earlier than before.
4. Public services are now encouraged to avoid cooperation.
5. The reform aims to prevent people slipping through the net.
6. Housing charities criticised the Bill strongly.
7. The article suggests the system will solve every problem completely.
8. The reform could improve long-term housing stability in Wales.

Phrase Match

Phrases (1-10)	Definitions (A-J)
1. build up	A. to become involved to help
2. sort things out	B. a moment of significant change
3. step in	C. to avoid responsibility
4. join forces	D. to increase gradually
5. pass the buck	E. to create the conditions for something to happen
6. slip through the net	F. to fail to be helped or noticed
7. cut red tape	G. to recover after difficulty
8. turning point	H. to resolve a problem
9. get back on one's feet	I. to reduce bureaucracy
10. pave the way	J. to work together

Synonym Match

Words (1-10)	Synonyms (A-J)
1. eligibility	A. action taken to stop something happening
2. prevention	B. working together
3. stability	C. a law or set of laws
4. legislation	D. assistance or help
5. insecurity	E. qualification for something
6. crisis	F. a time of intense difficulty
7. cooperation	G. mental or financial strain
8. reform	H. lack of safety or certainty
9. support	I. condition of being steady or secure
10. pressure	J. change designed to improve a system

Discussion Questions

Student A

1. Have you ever worried about housing costs? What happened?
2. What makes a place feel stable and secure to you?
3. Do you prefer renting or owning? Why?
4. What challenges do young people face when trying to find accommodation?
5. How important is location when choosing where to live?
6. Would you move to another city for cheaper housing?
7. What support systems exist in your country for people at risk of homelessness?
8. How does financial pressure affect housing decisions?

Student B

1. Should governments intervene earlier to prevent homelessness?
2. Is housing a basic right or a market commodity?
3. How can communities join forces to reduce housing insecurity?
4. What long-term reforms could improve housing stability?
5. Should landlords face stricter regulations?
6. Can cutting red tape sometimes create new problems?
7. What balance should exist between private property and social housing?
8. What would an ideal housing system look like in your country?

Answer Key

True/False: 1=F, 2=T, 3=T, 4=F, 5=T, 6=F, 7=F, 8=T

Phrase Match: 1=D, 2=H, 3=A, 4=J, 5=C, 6=F, 7=I, 8=B, 9=G, 10=E

Synonym Match: 1=E, 2=A, 3=I, 4=C, 5=H, 6=F, 7=B, 8=J, 9=D, 10=G