

**Jayne Bryant AS/MS**  
**Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government**



**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

Ein cyf/Our ref OQ63398

Llyr Gruffydd MS  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

19 November 2025

Dear Llyr,

Thank you for the question you asked on 12 November in relation to access to social housing for people in custody. In my response I offered to provide further clarification about the legal arrangements in Wales in relation to local connection.

Local connection is relevant to two areas of housing practice; it is used to determine whether a local housing authority can refer a person to a different authority for homelessness assistance, and is also central to decisions taken by local authorities relating to the prioritisation of social housing allocation.

Section 81(3) of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 makes clear that local connection is not established through imprisonment. The Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation (Wales) Bill makes no change to this provision. This means no person held in HMP Berwyn, or any other Welsh prison, will establish a local connection to Wrexham or Wales solely through a period in custody. Local connection will continue to be determined predominantly by factors including normal residency, employment and family associations.

Should the Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation (Wales) Bill achieve Royal Assent, a new local connection test to Wales will determine who is entitled to the main homelessness duty. This will ensure the changes we make in this Bill, and the resources required to make these changes, benefit people in Wales.

Yours sincerely,

**Jayne Bryant AS/MS**  
**Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government**

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

[Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.