



You matter | Ti'n cyfri

Disability Network

November 23rd 2023



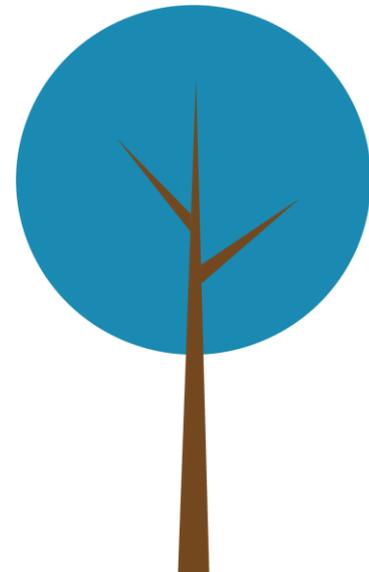
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A stylized illustration of a village scene. In the foreground, a green hill curves across the bottom. On the hill, there are three houses: a pink one on the left, an orange one in the middle, and a red one on the right. The houses have black roofs and white window frames. Several trees with circular canopies in shades of orange, yellow, and green are scattered around the houses. In the top left corner, there is a large white cloud against a light blue sky.

Croeso/Welcome

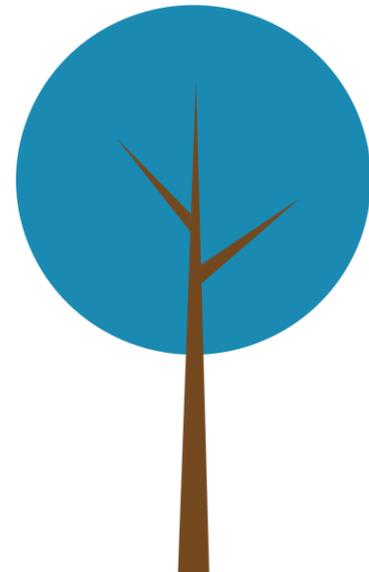
About today's session....

- Informal
- Share information
- Sharing thoughts & ideas



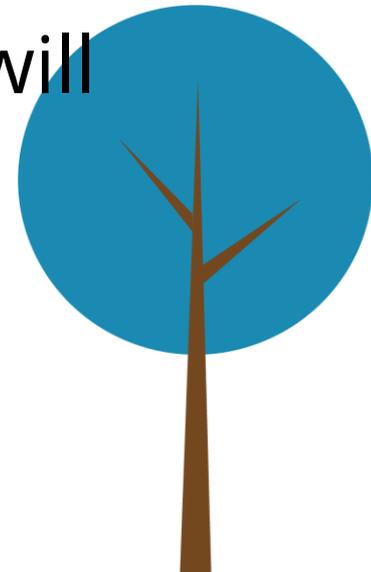
Yesterday's budget

People with mobility and mental health problems will be asked to work from home or lose benefits as part of what a UK government minister described today as doing “their duty”.



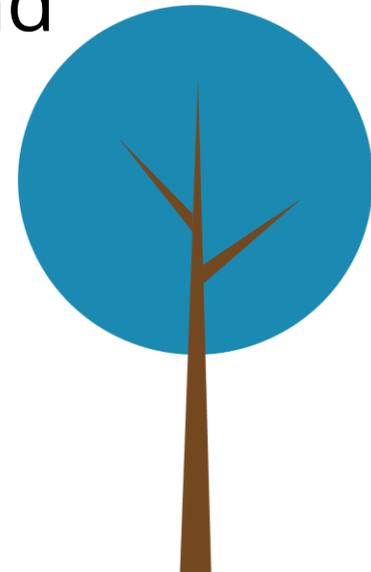
Yesterday's budget

Disabled people's organisations have expressed concerns over the Chancellors plans, as he added that disability benefit claimants who do not find a job within 18 months will also be forced to "mandatory" work placements. Those who don't comply with the new rules will have their benefits cut off.

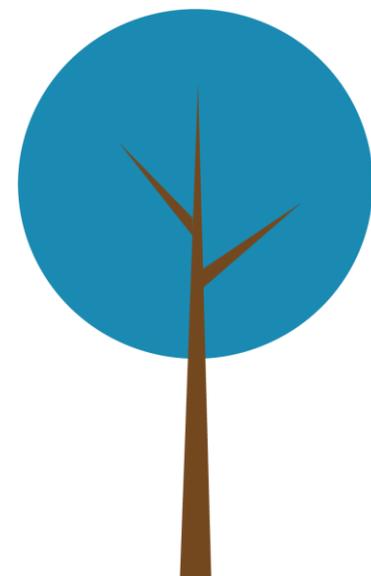


Yesterday's budget

He added: "If after 18 months of intensive support, job seekers have not found a job, we will roll out a programme requiring them to take part in mandatory work placement. If they choose not to engage with the work search process for six months. We will close their case and stop their benefits."



We, the members of the TPAS Cymru Disability Network want to voice our concerns about the proposed changes to the Disability claimant criteria announced in yesterday's budget. We object in the strongest terms to the proposals to force disability benefit claimants to "mandatory" work placements or risk having their benefits cut.



Disabled people must work from home to do 'their duty', says UK minister

People with mobility and mental health problems should work from home or lose benefits under new policy

● **[UK politics live - latest updates](#)**



Our statement:

Yesterday's #AutumnStatement outlined new a new UK Government 'crackdown' on benefit sanctions, with the aim to reform the benefits system and work capability assessments. TPAS Cymru's Tenant Disability Network met today and condemns these reforms as they pose not only a threat to the security of tenants' homes, but will also increase the vulnerability and put incredible strain on tenants' quality of life.

Heading into the winter, and deep into the current cost-of-living crisis, this news comes at a time where tenants are already concerned about a significant imminent rent rise. ([Inside Housing - News - Welsh government announces 6.7% rent cap from April 2024](#)) Along with an announced energy price rise from January 2024 of £94 for the typical annual household bill. ([Energy price cap will rise in January adding pressure on households - BBC News](#))

At a time where housing associations are already stretched to provide financial support to tenants, the Westminster Government must support tenants' with the lowest incomes in order to prevent another rise in homelessness from these decisions.

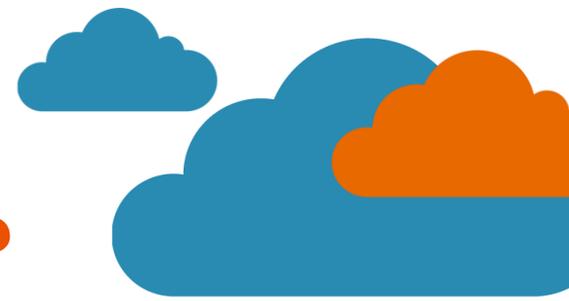
TPAS Cymru recently closed it's latest Tenant Pulse survey, which shares the voices of over 1000 tenants across Wales. Of the tenants who's main income comes from welfare benefits, 36% of tenants said that their payments were already too low to make rent affordable and over half (52%) of tenants explained that they want their landlord's main priority to be to keep rent affordable.

Tenants' voices matter and the UK & Welsh Government must consider the impact of actions such as these, and prioritise supporting the most vulnerable in society.



**HAVE YOUR SAY ON
YOUR HOME AND
COMMUNITY**

Q1. What is the best thing about your home?



Please select your top 3 options

- Location - It's near to services and support
- Feeling safe and secure
- Affordability - the cost of paying for and running your home
- Size - the number of bedrooms and space for living
- Accessibility - it's easy to get in and out of your home and move around
- Other - please explain

Q2. What would you change about your home?



Please select your top 3 options

- Location - It's near to services and support
- Feeling safe and secure
- Affordability - the cost of paying for and running your home
- Size - the number of bedrooms and space for living
- Accessibility - it's easy to get in and out of your home and move around
- Other - please explain



Q3. Thinking back to when you moved into your home, were you given any support to get to know your neighbours and/or wider community?

Yes? No?

Q4. Do you think that communities need to have more of a say about the homes which are built in their area?

