

Quick over view of TPAS Cymru

We work with tenants and social landlords to encourage them to work collaboratively to improve their housing and community.

We want the people who live in social housing to have an active say/part in how the housing is developed, maintained and in decision making (note: there are much better definitions on this)

Very roughly, we are 50% funded from Welsh Government, about 25% from membership and 25% from earned income from training, events and consultancy.

The Welsh government funding is shrinking each year, keeping membership remains a challenge. We need to do better in getting people to our events, training and consultancy. There is plenty of scope for doing better at this and we see website key to that.

We are based in Cardiff and Colwyn Bay. 7 staff and an experienced Board.

We are totally independent. There are TPAS Scotland and TPAS England who we are good friends with but they are each standalone. NI have a different approach.

TPAS stands for 'Tenant Participation Advisory Service' but we don't really use that anymore

We know our stuff but we need to be seen and heard more.

Social housing explained.

All social housing used to be provided by your local Council ie Council Houses. It can be family homes, flats, sheltered accommodation of elderly etc. places like Cardiff have numerous Housing associations operating across the city and beyond.

A lot of social housing stock was transferred out into stand alone Housing Associations

Plenty of Council stock still remains but varies considerably per local authority. ie some have none, some still have all housing with Council.

Council or Housing Association providing housing are referred to an RSL (Registered Social landlord).

We work with tenants and landlords to improve tenant voice, input into the improvement of the social housing and its local environment

Audiences

One of the challenges is tenant audience. People who have time to get involved in meetings, attend events during the day etc tend to be retired (often quite elderly) and people with disabilities. Means audience is not representative of low income families, young people etc. We hope digital will widen this.

Staff at social landlords have significant influence on our future. They pay the membership fees, decide on who attends training, events and consultancy,