

Chapter 6: Welsh Homes

Commitment Number	Standing up for Wales Commitment	Lead Department	2011-12	2012-13	2013-16	Commentary
Chapter and commitment in sequential order e.g. 1/1 RED = Core Pledge	Details		Planned progress for each year is coded, as follows: 1. Preparatory Work (PW) 2. Implementation (I) 3. Completed (C) 4. Activity Dependent on outcome of initial stage (AD).			Progress to date
6/001	Secure a further £1.2bn to deliver the Welsh Housing Quality Standard for all council and housing association tenants across Wales. Use this massive investment not only to improve housing stock but also maximise its impact on local and community economic development through imaginative procurement to promote skills development and employability.	HRH	PW	AD	AD	Local authorities and housing associations are continuing to work towards achieving the Standard. Progress is being monitored by way of a new survey (this action similar to 1/011). Housing to take forward the recommendations of the sustainable community investment work group, working jointly with partners. Value Wales promotion of Community Benefits methodology via Construction Steering Group, which will signpost the use of Can Do toolkit where appropriate.
6/002	Support the development of interest-free Property Appreciation Loans to allow low income homeowners to borrow to improve their properties.	HRH	PW	I	I	Initial discussions have been held with the WLGA and individual authorities. Currently deciding on next steps.
6/003	Work with councils and landlords to improve housing standard and tenants' rights in the Private Rented Sector.	HRH	PW	AD	AD	Issue likely to be covered under forthcoming legislation. Officials meeting relevant stakeholders to discuss proposals/options.
6/004	Support Tenant Participation services.	HRH	I	I	I	Supporting the work of Welsh Tenants Federation and Welsh Tenant Advisory Service through Social Housing Management Grant. Action with social landlords to assess their Local Tenant Participation Strategies. The National Tenant Participation Strategy will be assessed in 2011-12.
6/005	We will increase the supply of new affordable, energy efficient homes through Social Housing Grant together with accessing innovative forms of finance such as the Welsh Housing Partnership and housing bonds and by making public land available for housing.	HRH	I	AD	AD	Welsh Housing Partnership due to launch in autumn. Social Housing Grant being made available through local authorities to support new affordable housing. Work on the transfer of public sites for affordable housing is continuing.
6/006	Introduce a new Empty Properties initiative in partnership with local authorities to target the thousands of homes in Wales that have been empty for more than 6 months.	HRH (Housing)	PW	I	I	Arrangements for new programme well advanced. Strong support from local authorities.

Commitment Number	Standing up for Wales Commitment	Lead Department	2011-12	2012-13	2013-16	Commentary
6/007	Support local authorities who wish to build new homes for rent and encourage innovation through Community Land Trusts and other new ways of providing land and funding for housing.	HRH (Housing)	PW	I	I	Working with Carmarthenshire on new build bungalows. Work started on development of an appropriate model of Co-operative Housing/Mutual Home Ownership. Awareness-raising seminar in September 2011. Developments elsewhere being reviewed after which the development of pilot schemes is envisaged.
6/008	Work with stakeholders to ensure that Local Development Plans and planning policy at a local level helps address the shortfall in homes.	ESD Planning	PW	I	I	Local Development Plans (LDPs) are scrutinised by the Welsh Government on an on-going basis. Engagement with housing and planning partners reinforces the importance of LDPs in the delivery of house building.
6/009	Build on our ten-year Homelessness Plan and continue to invest in vulnerable people - whether they are young people leaving care, older people who are becoming frail, or people who are experiencing mental ill health - to avert homelessness, to have and keep in their homes and build the kind of life we all want for ourselves, friends and families.	HRH	PW	I	I	Tender for review of homelessness legislation is underway. Collaborative commissioning of services funded by the Supporting People programme is being developed. Grant conditions and guidance being drafted in partnership with stakeholders. Discussions in hand on targeting further investment in preventing homelessness.
6/010	Take forward a range of projects to tackle homelessness across Wales, including local Bond Boards, and we will seek to ensure that best practice is spread across Wales.	HRH (Housing)	PW	I	I	Local Authorities have received confirmation of funding to mitigate impact of housing benefit reform, Welsh Government now receiving confirmation of acceptance. Funding also confirmed for bond schemes and other PRS access services. Evaluation report identifying good practice will be issued in Autumn 2011.
6/011	Improve services and opportunities for groups within the community who experience discrimination/require particular attention: lesbian, gay and bisexual people, people in black and ethnic minority groups, and the needs of gypsy-travellers.	Housing (Lead) EDID (More Generally)	PW	I	I	Priorities will be set through the Strategic Equality Plan to be published by 2 April 2012. Progress will also be supported by work with the Race Forum and with the Framework for Action on Gypsy Travellers.
6/012	Ensure that housing investment delivers a minimum of 2,000 additional jobs and training through the i2i Can Do Toolkit and will work across Welsh Government departments to embed this imaginative, flexible approach to procurement in other investment programmes.	HRH (Housing) and Value Wales	I	AD	AD	Housing to promote the use of the Can Do Tool kit to create jobs and training, working with Value Wales and through the sustainable community investment group. Value Wales promotion of Community Benefits methodology via Construction Steering Group, which will signpost the use of Can Do toolkit where appropriate.
6/013	Invest a further £50m in the ARBED programme to increase the energy performance of our existing homes and help combat fuel poverty.	ESD SP, Housing and Regeneration	PW	I	I	ERDF funding for Convergence funding agreed. Business Plan for Competiveness at final stages of consideration by WEFO. The procurement process to select scheme managers for the programme is underway. Local authorities have been invited to develop project proposals by Mid November 2011, which will then be assessed and selected by the Welsh Government Panel. Survey work and detailed specification of measures will take place over the winter with measures installed from the spring.

Commitment Number	Standing up for Wales Commitment	Lead Department	2011-12	2012-13	2013-16	Commentary
6/014	Introduce a new Flexible Tenure initiative that will allow people to move between renting, home ownership and shared ownership as their life circumstances change.	HRH (Housing)	PW	AD	AD	Scoping exercise being taken forward with stakeholders.
6/015	Promote Mutual Ownership of housing, including consideration of the 'New Foundations' model, and work with social landlords to ensure they are more accountable to their tenants and local communities.	HRH (Housing)	PW	I	I	Work started on development of an appropriate model of Co-operative Housing/Mutual Home Ownership. Awareness-raising seminar in September 2011. Developments elsewhere being reviewed after which the development of pilot schemes is envisaged.