Community Housing Cymru



General Election 2019

December 2019

The general election results are in, and Boris Johnson and the Conservative Party have won with a large majority.

The full results are as follows:

- Conservative Party 364 (+47 from 2017)
- Labour Party 203 (-59)
- SNP 48 (+13)
- Liberal Democrats 11 (-1)
- DUP 8 (-2)
- Others 15 (+2)

In Wales:

- Labour Party 22 (-6)
- Conservative Party 14 (+6)
- Liberal Democrats 0 (-1)
- Plaid Cymru 4 (+/-0)

So what does this mean for housing association in Wales?

Housing is devolved to Wales, but powers relating to welfare policy and negotiations over leaving the European Union are retained by Westminster.



Brexit will now be a priority for Johnson. The Prime Minister has stated that this means no more renegotiations and no further referendums. The Conservatives will be looking to put a deal through Parliament in order to leave the European Union early next year. See our paper on Preparing for a No Deal Brexit here

The Conservative manifesto pledges to get a fair deal for Wales with major investments in infrastructure and industry.

As well as prioritising Brexit, the NHS, police, and immigration, the manifesto also pledges to reach net zero by 2050 with investment in clean energy solutions and green infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions and pollution.

What are we calling for?

CHC is calling on the next UK Government to:

- Ensure that investment in social housing remains a priority across the whole
 of the UK
- Reform Universal Credit
- Ensure Wales retains existing levels of regional funding following a departure from the EU

What have we done?

During this election campaign, CHC has been delivering important policy messages to key audiences, positioning housing associations as a partner of choice.

We have produced a weekly 'election special' <u>blog</u> to update members on what's been happening on the campaign trail.

We also developed template letters to support the sector's engagement with parliamentary candidates and delivered consistent message to prospective MPs. You can find these templates here



How can I get involved?

Contact your MP

We are urging members to get in touch with their newly elected MPs.

The most influential way to do this is to meet face-to-face. This could be something like meeting for a coffee and a catch up, or inviting your MP to visit a project, a service or a new development. You could introduce them to someone impacted by welfare reform, or show them how you are working to improve the lives of their constituents.

We have created a <u>template letter</u> to start your engagement. For new candidates, this is a great opportunity to start your relationship in a positive way. It's best not to assume they know about your association or that they have detailed information on what we are calling for.

You can find the details on your newly elected MP here

Any questions?

If you need any further information, please contact CHC's Policy & External Affairs Manager, Bethan Proctor, on Bethan-Proctor@chcymru.org.uk or by calling 029 2067 4800.