

Llamau

Imagine a World Without
Homelessness

united
welsh

Project Board Member Recruitment



The Youth Housing Choices project is being developed and delivered by United Welsh and Llamau with Welsh Government Innovation Funding.

Through this project, we will work alongside young people to design communities and accommodation specifically for youth housing, supporting young people to develop skills and make progress emotionally and cognitively in a safe environment.

Now, we need Project Board Members to help us shape this new offer of housing and support for young people in South Wales.



About Us

Caerphilly-based housing association United Welsh provides over 6,000 homes and related services across 11 local authority areas and is the largest provider of supported accommodation in Wales.

With a commitment to building homes, creating communities and transforming lives, United Welsh's supported housing includes accommodation for people with learning disabilities; physical disabilities; people with mental health challenges; substance misuse; people fleeing domestic abuse; individuals with complex needs and young people.

Llamau is the leading homelessness charity in Wales for young people and has extensive experience of providing accommodation-based services as well as a range of other homelessness prevention interventions that are highly regarded across Wales.

We recognise the wide variety of challenges that young people experience and we provide unprejudiced support that respects the backgrounds, circumstances and future aspirations of those we work with.

This is a natural partnership working together to provide a creative and innovative model of housing and support, forming a long-term housing and support solution to sit alongside already established supported accommodation services.

The core element of the new Youth Housing Choices project is that it is co-produced with young people and will:

- Be located in places that young people want to live
- Be priced at sub-market rents
- Support young people as part of the wider community
- Use an easy and straightforward application process
- Provide a responsible, safe and flexible landlord for young people
- Provide a psychologically-informed environment with support and guidance based on Housing First for Youth principles of support and engagement
- Not reinvent an existing model of supported accommodation



United Welsh



Llamau

Be Part of Something New

We're looking for people who share our values and can use their skills, knowledge and strategic vision to make a real difference to the development of this project and youth housing now, and in the future.

If you're an inspirational, progressive and strategic thinker with an interest in developing and shaping a new model of accommodation and support-based services, we'd love to hear from you.

The Role of the Project Board

The Project Board has responsibility for the leadership and governance of the Youth Housing Choices Project on behalf of United Welsh and Llamau.

While the parent Boards will maintain ultimate oversight, the Project Board has delegated responsibility to make decisions on the project in key areas.

The Project Board operates under the leadership of a Chair and works in partnership with key individuals in the Senior Management Team (Project Sponsors) in both parent organisations, as well as the Project Manager to set the strategic direction of the service; review performance; ensure risk is managed effectively and any statutory and legal obligations are fulfilled.

The Project Board is vital to ensuring that both the commercial and operational interests of the parent organisations are protected, and that most importantly, the project operates within the following values:

- Young people are at the centre of decision making
- Young people's voices are heard
- The model can be flexible enough to meet the needs of a variety of young people
- The decision making is transparent and the views of each and every Project Board member are heard
- Project Board meetings are conducted in an inclusive manner, at times that are accessible for all, and in an environment that ensures that everyone can contribute and thrive.



The overall purpose of the Project Board is to:

- Work collaboratively with the Project Management team in overseeing strategic planning and vision setting for the Youth Housing Choices project
- Lead on the strategic decision making and direction of travel for the Youth Housing Choices Project
- Oversee the management of risk across a range of key areas, safeguarding the project and the partnership organisations
- Undertake scrutiny of key decisions in relation to the project, both strategic and operational
- Have financial oversight and management, including budget setting and review
- Ensure the integrity of the operational delivery model and associated performance
- Set a positive transparent culture of customer engagement and involvement at all levels of the project
- Maintain a consistency of approach to strong governance arrangements, including reporting up to the parent Boards, and Welsh Government
- Support cross-boundary integration of the Youth Housing Choices Project
- Act as ambassadors for the Youth Housing Choices Project, building relationships and communicating with stakeholders external to the project.

Each member of the Project Board, has a responsibility to:

- Attend and contribute to meetings unless reasonably otherwise constrained
- Contribute to work-streams relevant to their field
- Share information and best practice
- Support and advise the Youth Housing Choices Project Sponsors and Project Manager in enabling the delivery of agreed objectives
- Respect and observe the normal codes of behaviour for meetings
- Respond to correspondence on issues relative to the partnership.



Person Specification

We are looking for people who are committed to delivering the vision for the service, ensuring that young people in Wales have access to aspirational, attractive and affordable housing and support to maintain that when needed, whatever their personal circumstances and story.

The table below outlines the experience, qualities and values that we believe are vital to making this a success.

Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates understanding of the purpose of the social housing sector and empathy for young people and/or social housing residents • Demonstrates understanding about the challenges that young people may face transitioning into adulthood • Experience of working with young people experiencing challenges • Experience of project management • Committed to ensuring that the voices of young people are heard, and that their views and experience drive service design and improvement • Demonstrates understanding of the relationship between a parent and Project Board
Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates passion for the work of the social housing sector • Demonstrates passion for seeing young people succeed • Demonstrates a passion for championing diversity, equality and fairness • Conveys a determination to improve the wellbeing and life opportunities of young people within the housing systems and is committed to ensuring that young people's voices are heard • Takes a meaningful interest in the wellbeing and resilience of other Board Members and project staff; building a culture that values, supports and nurtures people
Leadership and People Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works collaboratively with other project and parent Board Members and senior colleagues to build a clear vision and sense of purpose • Oversees the setting of strategic objectives, understanding roles and empowering people to support optimum performance • Communicates clearly, and contributes towards discussions in order to promote understanding of key business information by all members • An effective ambassador for the project, representing and promoting the service to external stakeholders • Strong collaborative skills to ensure effective positive relationships with other Project Board Members and staff. • Values and respects others, demonstrating emotional intelligence and interpersonal flexibility
Abilities and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands and applies the principles of effective governance • Understands the role of the project within the wider business and the wider organisation's business model, and ensures that accurate financial systems and appropriate strategic risk management processes are in place for the Youth Housing Choices Project • Secures the best possible results through rational and robust analysis and collaborative decision-making. Uses the expertise of senior colleagues and others to find optimal solutions in complex situations • Ensures the project is making real progress and is part of developing a positive challenge and support culture • Commits to continuous improvement and is open to innovation and change • Horizon scans beyond the sector for fresh thinking.

Interested?

Please apply via an expression of interest to: peopleteam@unitedwelsh.com including your CV and a supporting statement telling us:

- Why you're interested in the Project Board member position for the Youth Housing Choices Project
- How you would add value if appointed, with your relevant experience and knowledge.

The closing date for applications is Monday 20th July 2020 and shortlisted candidates will be invited for an informal meeting with the Project Team on Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th July. *We are actively seeking applications from a wide range of people, including from the LGBTQ+ and BAME communities.*

If you're interested and would like to know more about becoming part of the Youth Housing Choices Project Board, please contact:

- Amanda Oliver, Project Manager (Youth Housing Choices)

✉ amanda.oliver@unitedwelsh.com ☎ 07890 395342

- Karen Tipple, Deputy Director for Specialist Housing, Support and Wellbeing, United Welsh

✉ karen.tipple@unitedwelsh.com ☎ 07572 557706

- Kirsty Ellis, Director of Business Development, Llamau

✉ kirstyellis@llamau.org.uk ☎ 07970 048851

You will join a team of amazing people working to make a real difference to young people in South Wales and be involved in shaping the development of a new housing offer.

Commitment will be a minimum of 15 days per year including a mixture of Project Board Meetings, site visits, CPD and other learning opportunities.

