

The Programme for Government 2026 - 2030



Hello – Wales has a new government

After the Senedd election in May 2026, Plaid Cymru formed the new Welsh Government.

i Senedd — The Welsh parliament. It makes decisions and laws about many things in Wales.

The government is led by Rhun ap Iorwerth,  the First Minister of Wales.



Our first 100 days

In our first 100 days, we got straight to work on the things that matter most to people in Wales!



A vision for Wales



-  We want Wales to be a strong, confident nation with high hopes for the future.
-  We want people in Wales to have better lives and better public services.
-  We want people to live healthier lives, with the support they need.
-  We want a stronger economy with more opportunities.
-  We want people to feel proud of our Welsh culture and language.
-  We want Wales to have the funding and powers it needs.
 - i** Wales can make many decisions, but some are made by the UK Government.
-  We want a fairer, greener future where people and communities can do well.

This is a new chapter for Wales.

Our Programme for Government sets out what we want to do for Wales.

-  **This booklet tells you what we'll focus on over the next 4 years! We have 6 main priorities. Here are some of the things we'll do.**



1 Improving health and care services, and cutting waiting times

Here are some of the things we will do.

>> We will:

Make sure care meets people's needs

We want people to get the right support, in the right place and as close to home as possible.

We also want people to get mental health support earlier, including same-day help when it is needed.

We also want better support for neurodivergent people and to improve waiting times for assessments.

i Neurodivergent — when someone's brain works in a different way.

Reduce waiting lists

We want people to get tests and treatment more quickly.

Support health and care staff

We want skilled staff and good services people can trust. We also want more GPs (family doctors) and to make it easier for people to get a dentist.

Improve social care services

We want people to stay independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

Support unpaid carers

We want better support for unpaid carers, including young people who help look after someone in their family.

Keep children and adults safe

We want children and adults at risk of harm to get the protection and support they need.



2 Helping people cope with the cost of living

Here are some of the things we will do.

» We will:

Make childcare more affordable

We will introduce a new funded childcare offer for children aged 9 months to 4 years. It will build towards 20 hours of funded childcare a week for 48 weeks of the year.

Good childcare can help parents work, study or earn more money.

Make homes more affordable

We want more people to have a safe, secure and affordable home. We will increase the number of social homes by at least 20,000 by 2030. We also want stronger rights and protections for people who rent their homes.

i Social housing — a home that people rent from the council or a housing association. It usually costs less than renting privately.

Help with everyday costs

We will continue to help with some everyday costs like:

- free prescriptions
- reduced bus fares
- free entry to places like museums.

Help people get the support they need

We want people to get financial support when they need it. We also want more decisions about benefits and financial support to be made in Wales – a Welsh welfare system. This will help us give people better support.

Manage taxes fairly

We want taxes to be fair. We want the money raised through taxes to help pay for services people need in Wales.

We will look at ways to make Council Tax fairer and how we can use taxes to support things like buying a home and reducing waste.

i Taxes — The Welsh Government doesn't decide all taxes. Some tax decisions, like Council Tax, can be made in Wales, but many others are made by the UK Government.



3 Building the Welsh economy and creating good, well-paid jobs

Here are some of the things we will do.

» We will:

Make the most of our skills, time and resources

This can help businesses grow, create jobs and pay people more.

Support Welsh businesses

We will help businesses grow, develop new ideas and create well-paid jobs.

Spend money with Welsh businesses

We want organisations and services in Wales to buy more from Welsh businesses.

Support businesses and high streets

We want towns and city centres to grow and be good places to work, shop and spend time.

Help communities own buildings and businesses

We want to make it easier for communities to buy and run local places.

Help people get the skills they need now and in the future

We want training and apprenticeships to help people prepare for work. We also want young people to have chances to live, study and work in Europe.

Improve digital connections across Wales

We want every home and business to have superfast broadband or better.

We also want AI and new technology to improve public services and help businesses grow.

Improve transport

We want transport to make it easier for people to get to work, school, college, services and activities. We'll continue to offer £1 single bus fares and £3 day tickets for children and young people aged 5 to 21.

Support rural communities

We will support farming, fishing, food businesses and rural communities. We will also look at ways to provide more affordable homes in rural areas.

Produce more energy in Wales for Wales

We want Wales to produce more renewable energy. We also want communities to own more energy projects and benefit from the money they make.

Make tourism work better for communities

We want tourism to support local jobs. It should also celebrate Welsh culture, heritage and language.

Improve planning

We want planning decisions to meet the needs of people, communities and businesses.



4 Improving schools and helping young people learn

Here are some of the things we will do.

>> We will:

Raise standards in schools

We want children and young people to leave education with strong skills. We will improve reading, writing and maths. We will also make the curriculum and assessments clearer.

Support pupils' wellbeing and learning

i Wellbeing — how healthy, happy and safe you feel.

We want children and young people to feel safe, supported and able to learn. We will help schools and other services work together to support young people.

We will also improve support for Additional Learning Needs.

Give young people more choices

We want young people to have clear choices about what they can do next. This could include college, university, apprenticeships, training or work.

Help more young people learn through Welsh

We want every child in Wales to have the chance to become a confident Welsh speaker.

We will give more children and young people the chance to learn in the Welsh language, including after they leave school.

Support teachers and school staff

We want teaching to be a respected and rewarding career. We will give teachers and school staff better training, including how to keep children safe.

We also want them to have less workload and more flexibility to plan and prepare lessons.

Help young people stay safe

Young people will also learn more about staying safe online and understanding the information they see in the media. We want young people to know when something is wrong, speak up and get help. Teachers and staff will help them recognise and report grooming.

i Grooming — when someone builds trust with you so they can control or harm you.





5 Dealing with child poverty so every child has the best future

i **Child poverty** — when a family doesn't have enough money for things children need, such as food, housing, clothes, heating and everyday activities.

Here are some of the things we will do.

>> We will:

Reduce child poverty

We will develop a new plan to deal with child poverty. We will also ask the UK Government to make changes to benefits to help families.

We want every child to be able to learn, take part and fulfil their potential, whatever their family's income.

Test a new Welsh Child Payment

We want to see if giving families extra money each week can help children living in poverty.

We want to test Cynnal, a Welsh Child Payment. It would give extra money each week to families with young children who get Universal Credit.

i **Universal Credit** — money from the government to help people on a low income or who are out of work.

Give more children free school meals

We don't want children and young people to miss out on learning because they are hungry.

We will make sure all pupils in Years 7 to 11 from families getting Universal Credit can get free school meals.

Help create a fair and equal society

We want everyone in Wales to be treated fairly and feel like they belong. We will:

- work to stop violence and abuse and support people affected by it
- support LGBTQ+ rights
- support disabled people's rights
- deal with racism
- support a UK-wide ban on conversion therapy
- support people who come to Wales to rebuild their lives safely.

i **LGBTQ+** — people with different sexual orientations or gender identities.

i **Conversion therapy** — trying to change or stop someone being LGBTQ+.



6 Standing up for Wales — asking Westminster to be fair and respectful

i Westminster — the UK Government and Parliament in London. They make some decisions that affect Wales, including decisions about money, benefits and some laws.

Here are some of the things we will do.

>> We will:

Ask Westminster for fair funding

We want Wales to get a fair share of money from the UK Government.

Ask for more powers for Wales

We want more decisions about Wales to be made in Wales. This includes areas like transport, policing, justice, water, energy and welfare.

We will set up a National Commission for Wales — a group that will help people have a say about Wales's future.

The government also wants Wales to have the power to decide how any future independence referendum would happen.

i Independence referendum — a public vote on whether Wales should become an independent country, separate from the UK.

Make the most of our culture, heritage and sport

We want more people to enjoy culture, heritage and sport. These can also support health, communities and the Welsh language.

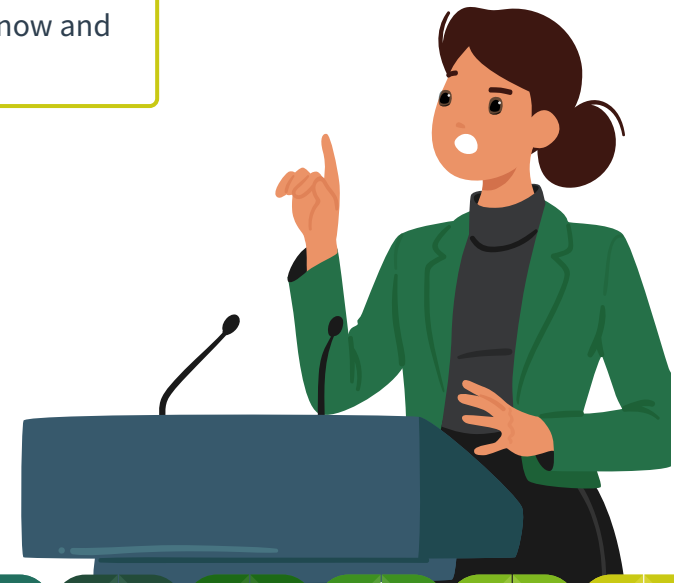
Build Wales's place in the world

We want Wales to have strong links with other countries and bring more big international events to Wales. This includes the Tour de France in 2027 and Euro (European Football Championship) 2028.

We also want to work with other countries, share ideas and learn from what they do well. This can help us find better ways to improve life in Wales.

Make services work better together

We want services and organisations across Wales to work together better. We want them to focus on improving people's lives now and in the future.





Delivering our 6 priorities – bringing real change to Wales

Here are some of the things we will do.

» We will:

Help people live healthier lives

We want to help people stay healthier and prevent poor health before it starts. We will:

- improve public health
- make health and wellbeing part of decisions across government
- work to prevent and reduce the spread of serious diseases
- support people who are homeless
- use culture, heritage and sport to help people stay healthy
- deliver a swimming and water safety programme for schools.

Take action on climate change and protect the environment

We want to protect nature and the environment, and prepare Wales for climate change. We will:

- reduce pollution and waste
- improve air and water
- help nature recover
- work towards net zero by 2040
- set targets to help nature recover by 2050
- help communities prepare for floods and extreme weather.

i Net zero — when we cut the pollution that causes climate change and balance out what is left.

Support the Welsh language

We want everyone to have the chance to learn, use and enjoy Cymraeg. We will:

- work towards one million Welsh speakers by 2050
- work towards doubling the number of people using Welsh every day
- help protect Welsh place names.

Make sure our plans are working

We will:

- check that our plans are making a difference
- work with councils, charities and other organisations across Wales.

We will also make new laws when they are needed.

All of this will help us deliver this Programme for Government and reach our goals.

Thanks for reading this

You can read the full [Programme for Government](#) here

